

Ljubljana, 18 Nov 2020

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen!

Welcome to the Annual Conference of ETIP PV, which is our very first on-line event!

ETIP-PV with more than 250 experts on board advocates to European Commission within the SET-plan for Solar PV as the key technology for clean energy. We decided the ETIP-PV conference 2020 to focus on triple-I PV – integrated, innovative and intelligent Phovoltaics. Let me start with the background.

Photovoltaics is experiencing a worldwide boom, since it reached economic and environmental competitiveness and proves to be the most important source of electricity for the sustainable future. Currently more than 600 GW of PV power plants are in operation globally and installation of around 150 GW is underway this year. IEA published last week their renowned “World Energy Outlook” where they called or better to say crowned Solar PV as the “king of electricity”. Not only for a year, but for the next decades. Their outlook confirms the ETIP PV Vision and Claims published two years ago. Solar PV will carry the lion share in clean energy transition.

PV penetrates to the electric grid, but also to our lives. With proven quality, reliability and sustainability in the pipeline of research and innovation PV is not a problem, but part of the solution to transform the energy system. Within European Green Deal we should assure that the solar PV technology across the whole value chain, upstream by re-strengthening manufacturing, and downstream by accelerating deployment, contributes substantially to the energy transition, not only in the segment of electricity, but to all “power to X” options.

More PV component manufacturing on one side and PV generating capacity on the other side is needed in Europe to seize economic opportunities and nonetheless also to reduce dependence on energy imports.

With this conference we are aiming at identification and demonstration how fascinating the progress and how huge the potential of integrated Photovoltaics is in current niche applications that promise to grow big and beyond.



OPENING MESSAGE

I believe our conference will serve also as a proof that Europe acts as a unique hub of innovation in PV and can make us proud that European PV science, engineering and technology proves to be at the cutting edge.

I am grateful to Prof. Rutger Schlatmann, a Steering Committee member and the leader of the WG on Integrated Photovoltaics who took the lead in shaping the conference program.

I cordially thank also all session chairs who have contributed significantly in the conference preparation phase twice (in spring time for the originally planned conference in May and in autumn for the on-line event in the middle of the second covid-19 pandemic wave that we just started).

The first of a kind on-line ETIP PV conference strongly relies on the pre-recorded talks and I hope you found time to watch them, while the on-line sessions of the conference are reduced to panel discussions moderated by session chairs and speakers on the on-line stage. On behalf of the whole ETIP PV I express sincere gratitude to all conference speakers for accepting the invitation and their effort with recording their latest results and sharing their valuable views.

I am honored and humbled, dear session chairs and speakers, to ask you to serve as charismatic ambassadors of integrated, innovative and intelligent Photovoltaics for the benefit of Europe and our only planet.

I look forward to the four sessions ahead of us today and tomorrow. I wish you a fruitful on-line meeting and I invite you to actively participate through chats and discussions. Finally, I formally announce the ETIP PV conference open.

Prof. Marko Topič
ETIP PV Chair

