



Press Release

5.6 GWp of additional photovoltaic capacity installed in the EU in 2017 – PV covers 7% of demand in Italy and Germany

EurObserv'ER releases PHOTOVOLTAIC BAROMETER

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Paris, April 2018

Key data for European Union (EU) photovoltaic energy in 2017

5.6 GW	New photovoltaic capacity installed in the EU during 2017 (6.1 GWp in 2016)
106.6 GW	Cumulative photovoltaic capacity in the EU end of 2017 (100.9 GWp in 2016)
113.9TWh	Electricity production from PV in the EU in 2017 (105.3 TWh in 2016)

Main findings of the 2018 EurObserv'ER Photovoltaic Barometer

With over 100 GWp of new installed capacity, the global solar photovoltaic market has once more set a new record. Half of this on-grid capacity (52.9 GW) was realized in China, followed by the USA (10.6 GW), India (9.6 GW), Japan (7 GW) and Turkey (2.6 GW). 5.6 GW of additional capacity was connected in the European Union in 2017, i.e. a year-on-year drop of 10.8%. The EU ended the year 2017 at 106.6 GW of cumulated capacity, being thus overtaken by China that has reached an installation base of 130.2 GW.

Development of the solar photovoltaic market in the EU

Germany has regained the top slot in the European Union PV market as it connected 1 678 MW to the grid in 2017. Second ranked France that showed a very positive momentum with 875 MW of new installations. After a three-year run as Europe's top photovoltaic performer, the UK's major solar power plant market has gradually stalled with 861 MW of capacity connected in 2017 compared to 2 364 MW in 2016. The Netherlands - with 700 MW of new capacity - climbed to an impressive 4th place while Italy saw some positive market development with 409 MW after years of stagnation. While at just over 2% in 2017 solar photovoltaic output may still seem negligible on a global level, photovoltaic already supplies more than 7% in Germany and Italy. Electricity generation from solar PV in the EU increased to 113.9 TWh in 2017 (105.2 TWh in 2016).

Tabl. n° 3

Connected and cumulated photovoltaic capacity in the European Union countries at the end of 2016 and 2017 (in MW)

	2016			2017		
	On-grid	Off-grid	Total	On-grid	Off-grid	Total
Germany	40 716,0	n.a.	40 716,0	42 394,0	n.a.	42 394,0
Italy	19 283,0	n.a.	19 283,0	19 692,4	n.a.	19 692,4
United Kingdom	11 898,7	n.a.	11 898,7	12 759,7	n.a.	12 759,7
France**	7 169,0	30,6	7 399,6	8 044,0	30,6	8 074,6
Spain	4 944,2	28,7	4 972,9	5 078,5	29,4	5 107,9
Belgium	3 561,0	n.a.	3 561,0	3 846,0	n.a.	3 846,0
Netherlands	2 049,0	n.a.	2 049,0	2 749,0	n.a.	2 749,0
Greece	2 444,3	159,5	2 603,7	2 445,0	160,5	2 605,5
Czech rep.	2 067,9	n.a.	2 067,9	2 040,3	n.a.	2 040,3
Romania	1 372,3	0,0	1 372,3	1 374,0	0,0	1 374,0
Austria	1 090,0	6,0	1 096,0	1 242,0	6,0	1 248,0
Bulgaria	1 028,0	n.a.	1 028,0	1 028,2	0,0	1 028,2
Denmark	848,4	2,6	851,0	907,0	2,9	909,9
Portugal	497,0	13,0	510,0	541,0	28,0	569,0
Slovakia	533,0	0,0	533,0	533,0	0,0	533,0
Hungary	273,0	15,0	288,0	350,0	18,0	368,0
Poland	191,0	2,9	193,9	268,3	2,9	271,2
Slovenia	233,0	0,1	233,1	258,0	0,1	258,1
Sweden	140,0	13,0	153,0	218,0	13,0	231,0
Luxembourg	122,0	0,0	122,0	127,0	0,0	127,0
Malta	93,6	0,0	93,6	109,2	0,0	109,2
Cyprus	84,0	n.a.	84,0	105,3	n.a.	105,3
Lithuania	80,0	0,1	80,1	82,0	0,1	82,1
Finland	35,0	n.a.	35,0	61,0	n.a.	61,0
Croatia	49,5	0,9	50,4	51,5	0,1	51,5
Ireland	5,0	1,0	6,0	8,0	1,0	9,0
Latvia	1,3	0,0	1,3	1,3	0,0	1,3
Estonia	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0	0,0
European Union	109 809,1	273,4	101 082,5	106 313,7	292,6	106 606,2

**Overseas departments included for France. Source: EurObserv'ER 2018



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The topic of the next Barometer will be:

Solar thermal / Concentrated Solar Power (CSP)



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About EurObserv’ER

EurObserv’ER regularly publishes market reports (Barometers) containing energy data reflecting the current dynamics in renewable sources of energy in 10 sectors (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal, biogas, solid biomass, biofuels, heat pumps, small hydro, renewable waste) within the European Union and worldwide.

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