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Press release

NEW: From now on, the EurObserv'ER thematic barometers will be published in unilingual versions: French and English Barometers will be separate documents. All versions are freely downloadable at: www.eurobserv-er.org

From: EurObserv'ER

Subject: **Released: Solar Photovoltaic Barometer**
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/photovoltaic-barometer-2015-en/>

(PDF, English, 16 pages)

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Date: April 2015

Pages: 4

PHOTOVOLTAIC BAROMETER



Key data for the European Union (EU) in the year 2014:

- Photovoltaic capacity connected in the EU in 2014: 6.9 GWp (10.2 GWp in 2013)
- Installed PV capacity 86.7 GWp in the European Union at the end of 2014 (79.8 GWp end 2013)
- Photovoltaic electricity generated in the EU in 2014: 91.3 TWh (80.9 TWh in 2013)

New EurObserv'ER report: Solar Photovoltaic Barometer

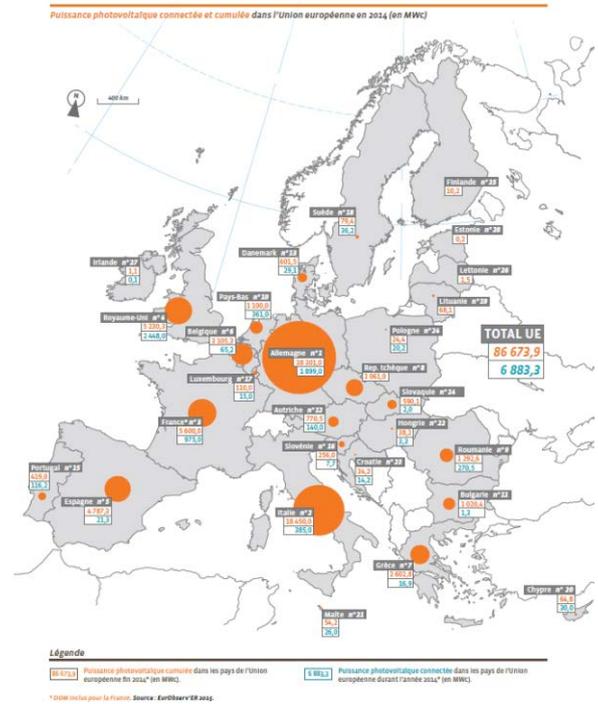
The European solar photovoltaic (PV) market is shrinking; the EurObserv'ER estimate of the European photovoltaic market is about 6.9 GWp in 2014, a 32.3 %

drop on 2013. Yet three years earlier, in 2011, the PV market hovered around the 22 GW mark.

First available European Union market estimates give no cause for cheer. EurObserv'ER puts newly-installed capacity at about 6883 MW, which is a 32.3% year-on-year drop and takes its capacity to date to 86.7 GW. In 2011, the European market established an installation record of almost 22 GW and has been in free-fall ever since.

This new European slowdown was expected by the specialists and can be put down to a number of factors:

- The first is that many leading PV countries have opted to curb its development.
- Another factor that is specific to the European energy market, also explains this slowdown. The recession that followed the 2008 financial crunch, has reduced European demand for electricity and created imbalance in that market.
- The push of renewable energy coupled with the drop in conventional electricity output poses major economic problems for energy operators, whose conventional production facilities profitability has declined. These players are now putting extreme pressure on the decision makers to limit the increase in new renewable energy capacity growth, especially when sources are as decentralized as photovoltaic for self-consumption.



News from around the main European Union countries:

- The UK, top European market in 2014
- The German market dips below 2 GW
- French solar power output 1.2% of national electricity production
- Feed-in tariffs retroactively lowered in Italy

Top ten countries for total installed capacity end 2014 (in MWp)*

	Annual installed capacity	Cumulative capacity
Germany	1 899	38 301
China	10 560	28 199
Japan	9 700	23 300
Italy	385	18 450
United-States	6 201	18 280
Spain	21	4 787
France	975	5 600
United-Kingdom	2 448	5 230
Australia	910	4 136
Belgium	65	3 105

Provisional figures. *Estimate. Source: EurObserv'ER 2015 for European Union figures, IEA PVPS 2015 for others.

Asia now dominates the **global market**, with roughly 60% of the volumes. China's market, whose installation data was revised downwards in 2013, stabilized in 2014 at around 10.6 GW, and is set to pick up sharply. In March 2015, the Chinese government announced a twelve-month target of 17.8 GW, with specific province installation quotas. Japan's market also put on a strong spurt by installing about 10 GW in 2014.

Top ten countries for installation during 2014* (in MWp)

China	10 600
Japan	9 700
United-States	6 201
United-Kingdom	2 448
Germany	1 899
France	975
Australia	910
South Korea	909
South Africa	800
India	616

Provisional figures. *Estimate. Source: EurObserv'ER 2015 for European Union figures, IEA PVPS 2015 for others.

Besides the 2014 realisations per EU Member State other subjects that are discussed in the new barometer are:

- Renewable energy policy
- Industry overview
- Comparison with National Renewable Energy Action Plans

For additional information on renewable energy issues (data referring to 2013, among others EU Member State renewable energy employment, turnover and investments) see also the annual

EurObserv'ER publication 'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe', 2014 edition:
<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/annual-overview-2014-en/> (PDF, English, 200 pages).

Note: the interactive database on the website (click on 'Interactive EurObserv'ER Database' on the www.eurobserv-er.org homepage) allows you to download the Barometer data separately.
This will allow you to create your own graphs to be used in your publication.

About the EurObserv'ER Barometer

The EurObserv'ER Barometer regularly publishes indicators reflecting the current dynamics in renewable energies (solar, wind, hydropower, geothermal and biomass, biogas, biofuels) worldwide and within the European Union.

Barometers published are all available for download. Direct links to all 2014/2013/2012 EurObserv'ER publications:

Solar Photovoltaic Barometer
(April 2015, PDF, 16 pages, English language)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/photovoltaic-barometer-2015-en/>

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Wind Power Barometer
(February 2015, PDF, English, 16 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/wind-energy-barometer-2015-en/>

'The State of Renewable Energies in Europe', 2014 edition
(January 2014, PDF, English language, 200 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/annual-overview-2014-en/>

Solid Biomass Barometer
(December 2014, PDF, English language, 14 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/solid-biomass-barometer-2014-en/>

Biogas Barometer
(November 2014, PDF, English language, 12 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/biogas-barometer-2014-en/>

Renewable Municipal Waste Barometer
(November 2014, PDF, English language, 10 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/renewable-municipal-waste-barometer-2014-en/>

Biofuels Barometer
(July 2014, PDF, English language, 14 pages)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/euroserver-biofuels-barometer-2014-en/>

Solar Thermal Barometer (CSP and solar water heaters)
(May 2014, PDF, 18 pages, English language, 3.6 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/solar-thermal-and-csp-barometer-2014-en/>

Solid Biomass Barometer
(December 2013, PDF, English language, 14 pages, 2.9 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/solid-biomass-barometer-2013-en/>

Heat Pump Barometer
(October 2013, PDF, English language, 18 pages, 2.5 MB)

<http://www.eurobserv-er.org/pdf/heat-pumps-barometer-2013-en/>

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