



Press Release

## European Union sets a new wind installation record in 2017

**EurObserv'ER releases wind energy barometer**

Free Download: <https://www.eurobserv-er.org/category/all-wind-energy-barometers/>

Paris, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### Key data for European Union (EU) wind energy in 2017

- **14.8 GW** Wind power capacity installed in EU during 2017 (13 GW in 2016)
- **169 GW** Cumulative wind power capacity in the EU at end of 2017 (155 GW in 2016)
- **353.5 TWh** Electricity production from wind power in the EU in 2017 (260 TWh in 2016)
- **15.2 GW** Installed offshore wind power capacity (EU) at the end of 2017 (12.6 GW in 2016)
- **539. GW** Wind power capacity installed worldwide at the end of 2017 (412 GW in 2016)

### Main findings of the 2018 EurObserv'ER Wind Power Barometer

In 2017, the wind energy market in the European Union achieved a 14.1 GW installation peak as compared to 13.2 GW in 2016, setting a new European installation record.

Wind power production output across the EU expanded once again to pre-2016 levels as weather conditions returned to 'normal' in 2017. This resulted in a spike in of 16.7% in terms of output as compared to 2016. Consequently, the EU output attained was 353.5 TWh, which amounted to a 50.6 TWh year-on-year gain. The rebound in 2017 has also been attributed to new regulatory frameworks that incentivizes renewable energy production. In addition, several projects in Germany, France and the UK were accelerated to utilize prevalent support schemes and feed-in tariffs.

It was also a good year for European Union offshore development as the wind turbine capacity expanded by at least 2 568.7 MW in 2017 (1 650 MW in 2016). The cumulative capacity of its offshore fleet being about 15 200 MW, the European Union gathers more than 83% of the worldwide offshore capacity installed.

### Trends in global wind energy

The installed wind energy capacity set a new record and passed the half million megawatts mark globally. This is despite the decline in global wind energy installations from 2016 to 2017 - 8% compared to 13.2% within the same period between 2015 and 2016. The additional capacity figure also declined to 51 GW in 2017 from 55.5 GW. The top three wind energy markets were China (19 500 MW), followed by the USA (7 017 MW) and Germany (6 440 MW).



**The next Barometer will cover the topic:**

## **PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY**

### **Links**

- Free download of the [report \*State of renewable energy in Europe, 17<sup>th</sup> edition\*](#) (PDF, ENG, 5 MB)
- Free download of [all Barometers](#) (PV, Wind, solar thermal/CSP, Biomass, Biogas, Biofuels)
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*Further Information:*

- <https://www.eurobserv-er.org>

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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.

### **Note for editors**

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