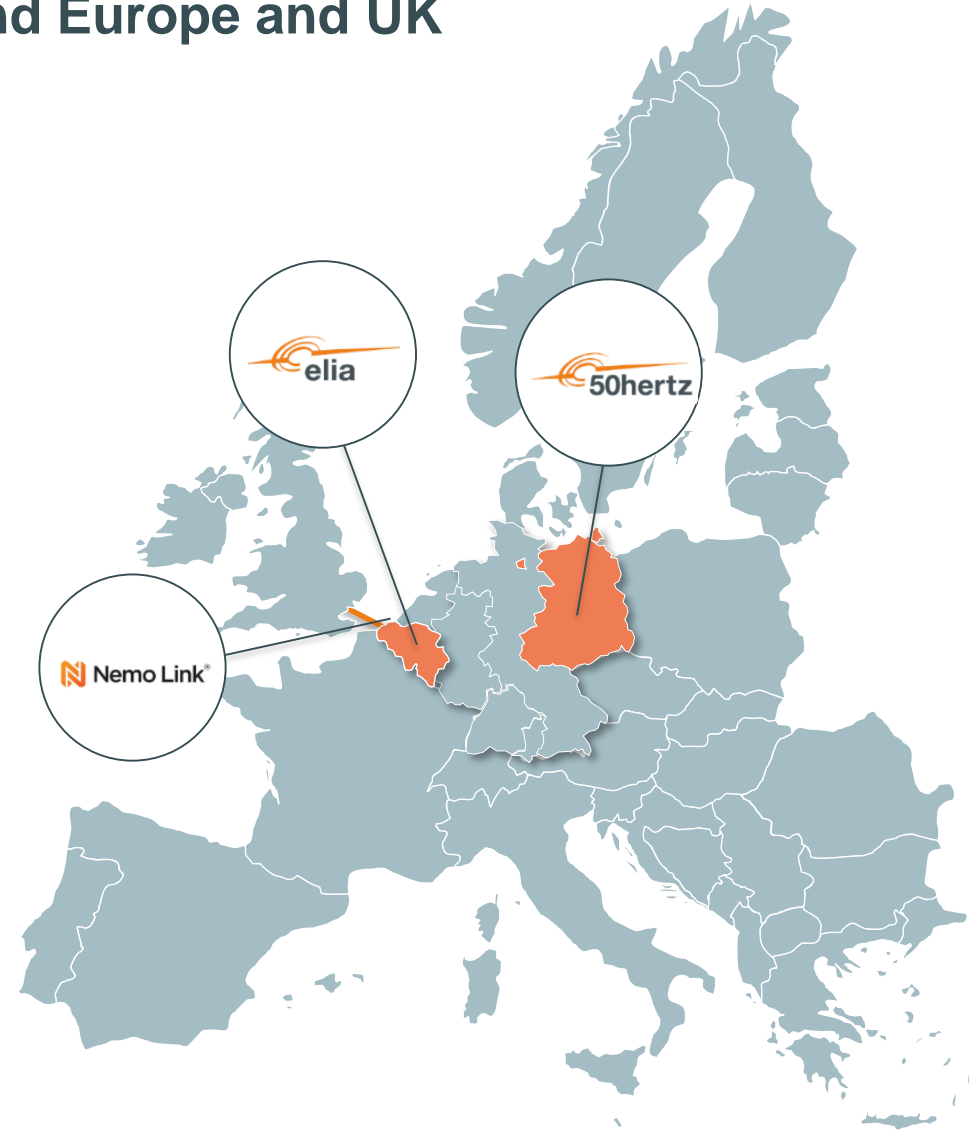


# Energy infrastructure forum 2021: Session 3 on coordinated on- and offshore infrastructure planning

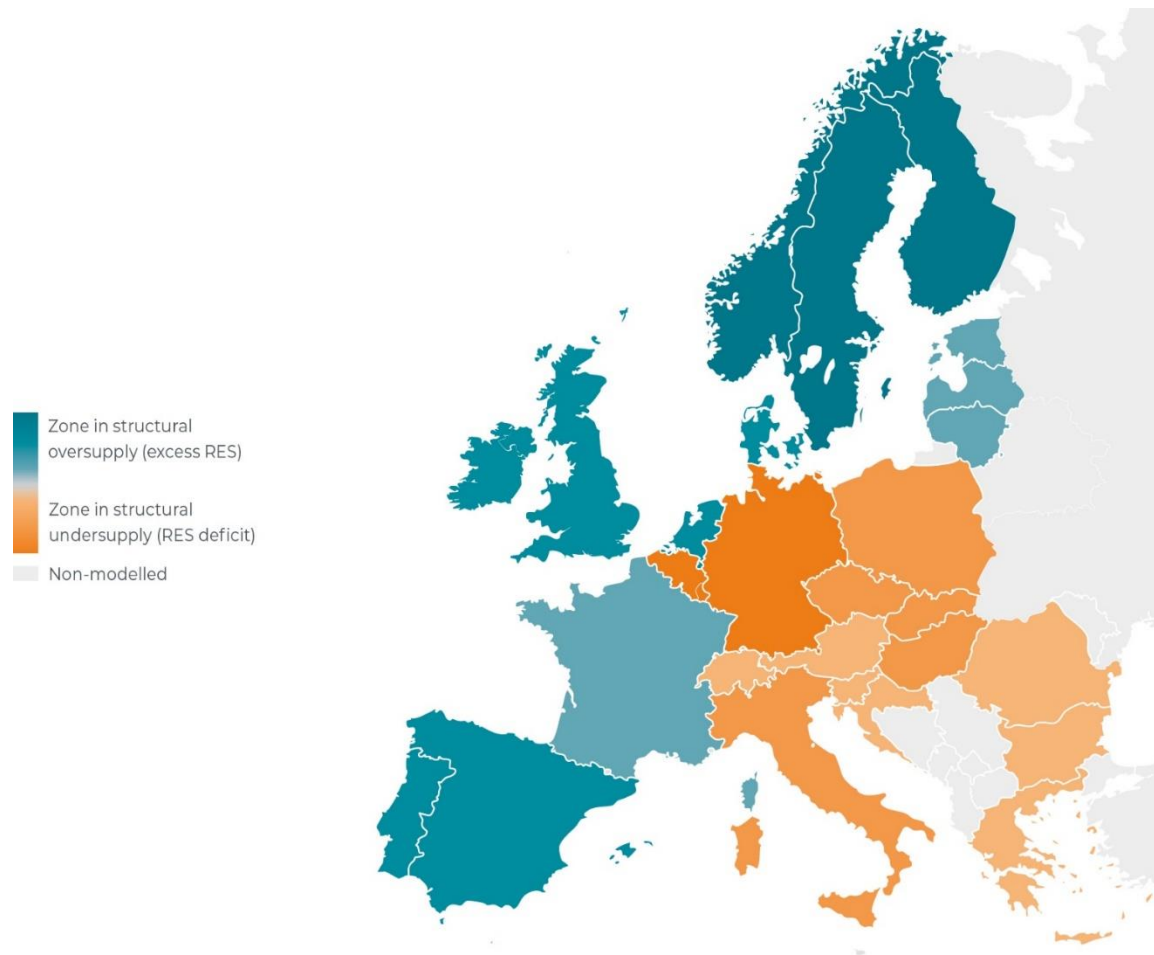
Bernard De Clercq – Elia Group Head of European Affairs  
25/11/2021

# Elia Group, active in Belgium and Germany with access to the North and Baltic Seas and interconnecting towards mainland Europe and UK

- We operate **19,276 km** of high-voltage infrastructure with subsidiaries in Belgium (**Elia**) and northeast Germany (**50Hertz**)
- Elia is part of the **Nemo Link** consortium that operates the first subsea interconnector between Belgium and the UK
- Elia Group provides various consulting services to international customers through our subsidiary **Elia Grid International**
- Except national reinforcements, **further interconnectors are being planned/analysed** with UK, SE, DK, PL



# The uneven distribution of renewable energy across Europe make interconnectors essential tools for electrification and decarbonisation.



The over- and undersupply of direct electricity using regional resources and demand.

The renewable energy potential is **unevenly distributed over Europe**.

Largest potentials are in the **Nordics** and along the **west coast of Europe**



## Focus points for the coming years



To make optimal use of the continent's scarce capacity of RES, Europe needs to set up frameworks for partnerships between countries with different levels of RES potential



Policymakers at all institutional levels need to focus on measures that create the right investment framework and reduce the throughput time of RES expansion projects and the realisation of the necessary grid infrastructure



The electrification of mobility, heating and end-use appliances should be prioritised, as it is key for reaching climate neutrality. Electrification unlocks flexibility to facilitate the further integration of RES and reduces the final energy demand



The use of green molecules to replace grey hydrogen and decarbonise sectors where electrification is not an option is a priority