

Newsletter

EUROPEAN
ENERGY
FORUM



FORUM
EUROPÉEN
DE L'ÉNERGIE



May 2011

Letter from the Publisher:

Published on 1 May 2011

[See all the previous Letters from the Publisher](#)

My friend Luis Martín Oar



The majority of our monthly newsletter readership know Luis Martín Oar and appreciate his expertise and efficiency. A great

many of them are also aware of his refinement and discretion. Many members of the European Parliament consider that his departure will see them lose an important "mediator", an influential person able to propose compromises between the opposing positions of different political groups, which everyone finds acceptable while still remaining faithful to the essential ideas behind each position. Within the context of national parliaments, we are quite used to diehard oppositions, for example between the right and left of the political spectrum. In the European Parliament, each subject is dealt with on its own merits in the eyes of the different groups and a consensus must be found on a case by case basis. An effective mediator therefore plays an invaluable role.

Our readers have known Luis Martín Oar since he became Head of Secretariat of the European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee, which is primarily responsible for the energy sector. That takes us back to 1999. But the majority may not be aware that his first role was as Head of Secretariat for the Committee on Budgets back in 1988. This is how he has been involved in the Homeric wranglings between the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament relating to the Parliament's competency in budgetary matters. Many hot topics are still fresh in our minds, such as the EP right of veto, structural funds and non-compulsory expenditure.

What few people are aware of is that Luis Martín Oar's entry into the European institutional system goes back further than 1988. In fact, it goes all the way back to 1986, when Spain joined the European Union. This is when Luis came to the European Investment Bank. Prior to that, he worked for several Spanish ministries as an economist. Then he was just turning 40.

But Luis Martín Oar's international vocation goes back further still. Even earlier, as regards the European dimension of his vocation, to when Spain joined the Council of Europe - [the oldest European institution](#) - which took place on 24 November 1977, two years after the death of General Franco. To become a member of the Council of Europe, an institution which is an active proponent of democracy, a State must adhere to criteria which are not the same as those required for the European Union, more oriented towards the economy.

In reality, Luis was immersed in international life from the age of four, when his father became Vice-Consul for Spain in Toulouse (FR) and two years later in Bordeaux (FR) where he remained for five years. This is how he learnt French by attending school in the country, as well as picking up English from his American friends.

Finally, I should add that at this time Luis had his first encounters with energy and cutting-edge technologies by reading the French periodicals dedicated to young people such as "Coeurs Vaillants" as well as the complete collection of the "Tintin" adventures, published by Hergé, the world-famous Belgian author, particularly "Land of Black Gold" or "The Red Sea Sharks".



Luis Martín Oar has left the European Parliament and the following photos were taken at the leaving reception hosted by Herbert Reul, President of the ITRE Committee. But our high esteem and affection for him still remains - and I say this on my behalf and on that of my team at the European Energy Forum - and we sincerely hope to keep in touch with him in the future.

Jean-Claude Charrault
Director General



Atmosphere of the reception on 13 April 2011, European Parliament

News from the EEF

Upcoming events

11.05.2011 Lunch-debate Strasbourg — **How to start building and financing the European Supergrid?** , at the invitation of Friends of the Supergrid

25.05.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — **Which Energy mix by 2050?** , at the invitation of ENEL

07.06.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Transport Fuels in Europe : Energy for the Mobility of the Future**, at the invitation of ExxonMobil

08.06.2011 Lunch-debate Strasbourg — **US Energy Policy - Why so different from the EU?**, at the invitation of ENERCON

15.06.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — **Energy Trading in the EU: Sector specific regulation and market oversight**, at the invitation of E-CONTROL Austria

05.07.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Coordinating national energy policies: a must for a successful energy future**, at the invitation of EURELECTRIC

Past events

05.04.2011 Dinner-debate Strasbourg — **Bringing Caspian Gas to Europe – the Southern Corridor projects**, at the invitation of Statoil, EON Ruhrgas, RWE and IGI Poseidon

Exceptionally, given the scope of the topic, a panel of 4 speakers made short presentations followed by our usual question and answer time.

- ✓ Introductory remarks by the European Commission: Jean-Arnold Vinois, Head of Unit, Security of Supply and Networks of the Directorate General for Energy
- ✓ Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP): Kjetil Tunland, CEO, Trans Adriatic Pipeline
- ✓ Nabucco: Stefan Judisch, CEO, RWE Supply & Trading
- ✓ ITGI and IGB (Interconnector Turkey Greece Italy): Elio Ruggeri, CEO of IGI Poseidon SA

As new gas discoveries are being prepared for development in the Caspian Region, several projects are competing for the task of bringing the gas to the European markets. The EU Commission in its energy infrastructure communication "Priorities for 2020 and beyond – A Blueprint for an Integrated European



Energy Network” lists the development of transportation solutions along the Southern Corridor as one of its top priorities for gas infrastructure for the coming years. Developing Caspian gas reserves and bringing the gas to Europe through the Southern Corridor will improve security of supply by providing added diversity with regards to supply sources and transportation routes.

The dinner debate took place as the European Parliament is working on its report on the energy infrastructure Communication. It provided timely information about the Southern Corridor projects – the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP), Nabucco and the Interconnector Turkey Greece Italy (ITGI) – as well as an opportunity to discuss the issues related to the development of a new important gas supply route to Europe and the relative merits of the projects under consideration.



Cocktail before the dinner-debate:

Bringing Caspian Gas to Europe – the Southern Corridor projects - 05.04.2011



Anil Srivastava, CEO AREVA Renewables addressing the audience - 12.04.2011

12.04.2011 Dinner-debate Brussels — Offshore wind energy: realising the potential, at the invitation of AREVA

Offshore wind energy is expected to play a significant role in the future low CO2 energy mix to be developed in Europe. With the National Renewable Energy Action Plans, a total of about 40 GW of capacity by 2020 is expected to be reached if we add all Members States targets.

However, some barriers remain to be addressed to “realise this potential”, in particular financing and technology development. As China and the USA are pursuing an ambitious industrial strategy in offshore wind technologies, the EU needs to make sure it sustains its technology leadership and to ensure that its domestic

market develops at a cost-effective and fast pace.

Among the initiatives to be pursued are: - an adequate budget for EU R&D, facilitation of project financing through innovative financing instruments, and promotion of international performance standards. A holistic regulatory and investment support is needed for key elements of the value chain, including offshore logistics/ heavy lift vessel construction in European ports and accelerated availability of grid connection.



EEF internal meeting

06.04.2011 General Assembly:



The annual General Assembly of the EEF took place in Strasbourg on 6 April.

Active Members and EEF Secretariat attended. The report of the Board of Directors was presented; the balance sheet 2010 and the budget 2011 were approved. Discharge was granted to the Board of Directors. During this General Assembly, Active

Members had the opportunity to discuss the programme of EEF dinner-debates and visits.



New EEF Associate Member

The Technical Association of the European Lubricants Industry (ATIEL)



ATIEL represents the combined knowledge and experience of Europe's leading engine oil manufacturers.

Its expertise in engine lubricants technology has helped to establish industry best practices and quality standards for both vehicle manufacturers and consumers.

By drawing on the technical know-how of its membership it promotes consensus on key technical issues, ensuring that engine oils continue to contribute to improved wear protection, deposit control, lower emissions and fuel economy needs.

The contact person of ATIEL to the EEF is :

Peter Tjan

Boulevard du Souverain 165

B-1160 Auderghem, Belgium

Telephone: +32 2 566 91 37

Fax: +32 2 566 91 36

Email: peter.tjan@atiel.org