

Report on SEERC Activities during Bosnia and Herzegovina's Chairmanship

CIGRE SEERC Management Board (MB)/Technical Advisory
Committee (TAC) Meeting

June 3, 2025, Sarajevo



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SEERC

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Table of Contents

1. SEERC and CIGRE – Overview
2. SEERC Structure and Governance
3. Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Chairmanship of SEERC
4. **Overview of Key Events during Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Chairmanship (2023–2025)**
5. **5th SEERC Conference Sarajevo 2025**



SEERC and CIGRE – Overview

- SEERC (South East European Regional Council) operates under the umbrella of CIGRE, a globally recognized technical organization in the field of electric power systems.
- CIGRE has a long-standing tradition in Central and Southeast Europe, promoting knowledge exchange and collaboration in the energy sector.
- SEERC currently includes 17 national committees, with the Czech Republic and Slovakia represented jointly.
- Member countries span from Austria and Italy to Turkey and Ukraine, reflecting a diverse and strategic regional network.
- The council fosters regional cooperation on technical, regulatory, and strategic energy issues.

SEERC Structure and Governance

- SEERC's organizational structure is composed of:
 - **Management Board (MB)** – responsible for strategic decisions and coordination.
 - **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** – oversees technical content and conference themes.
 - **Regional Working Groups (RWGs)** – focus on specific technical challenges and regional collaboration.
- The presidency of SEERC rotates every two years among member countries, following alphabetical order.
- The transition of presidency is formalized during the SEERC Conference at the end of each term, unless otherwise agreed due to special circumstances.

Bosnia and Herzegovina's Chairmanship of SEERC

- The SEERC chairmanship rotates alphabetically every two years.
- Bosnia and Herzegovina assumed the SEERC Chairmanship on **October 11, 2023**, during the opening ceremony of the **4th SEERC Conference in Istanbul**.
- The chairmanship was transferred from the Turkish National Committee to Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- The chairmanship will conclude with the **5th SEERC Conference in Sarajevo**, scheduled for 4-5 June 2025.
- SEERC leadership during Bosnia and Herzegovina's Chairmanship of SEERC :
 - President: Mr. Edhem Bičakčić
 - TAC President: Sabina Dacić-Lepara
 - Secretary: Maja Muftić Dedović

Overview of Key Events during Bosnia and Herzegovina's Chairmanship (2023–2025)



Joint MB/TAC Meeting – Ljubljana (Slovenia), February 28, 2024

- Key outcomes:
 - **Appointment of new TAC members**
 - **Election of TAC President**
 - **Adoption of the activity plan for BiH's presidency**

2nd SEERC Colloquium - Ljubljana (Slovenia), February 29, 2024

- Theme: **National Strategies for Decarbonization and Power System Impacts**
- **11 SEERC national committees** (Croatia, Turkey, Kosovo, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Italy Greece, Austria and Georgia)
- **Keynote by Philippe Adam**, CIGRE Secretary General

TAC Meeting – Cavtat (Croatia), May 27, 2024

- **Focused on finalizing the structure and themes of the 5th SEERC Conference**
- Discussed the structure of technical sessions and the balance between oral and poster presentations.
- Confirmed the **key conference deadlines** for abstract and paper submissions.

SEERC Workshop – Cavtat (Croatia) May 28, 2024

- Theme: **Spatial, Environmental, and Legal Challenges in Energy Infrastructure**
- Included expert lectures and **10 national committee presentations** (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, and Turkey)
- Addressed permitting, EMF regulations, and public acceptance

Consultative MB Meeting – Paris, August 2024

- Held on **August 28, 2024**, in Paris, with participation from SEERC Management Board members.
- Reviewed progress in organizing the 5th SEERC Conference.
- Discussed:
 - Registration fees and categories
 - Sponsorship packages and outreach
 - Abstract and paper submission process
- Presented the updated **SEERC Questionnaire 2024** and discussed next steps.
- Confirmed the date and location of the next TAC meeting: **Rome, January 22, 2025**.

TAC Meeting – Rome, January 22, 2025

- Held at the Faculty of Engineering, University of Rome "La Sapienza", with participation from **11 SEERC national committees**.
- Main focus: final coordination for the 5th SEERC Conference in Sarajevo.
- Key points:
 - Two keynote speakers confirmed; additional proposals discussed.
 - Reviewed **175 submitted abstracts** and topic-specific updates.
 - Introduced a fifth session for cross-cutting papers: "Functionality of Power Systems and Equipment."
 - Agreed on presentation formats: Topic 3 – oral only; others – oral and poster.
 - Planned four panels: History, Women in Energy, NGN, and GIZ.
- Also presented: results of the **2024 SEERC Questionnaire**, showing progress toward 2030 goals and reinforcing regional cooperation.

2024 SEERC Questionnaire

Purpose

- Developed by Prof. Massimo Pompili (La Sapienza University)
- Aimed to assess energy system status in SEERC countries
- Focused on 2023 data: generation, consumption, infrastructure

Results presented during TAC Meeting – Rome (January 22, 2025).

Questionnaire – Participation

- 14 out of 17 national committees submitted responses
- Non-respondents: Czech Republic/Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine
- High engagement reflects regional commitment.

Key Insights

- Progress toward 2030 climate and energy goals
- Increase in renewable energy share
- Reduction in GHG emissions
- Need for stronger cross-border cooperation

RWG Meetings – Rome, January 22, 2025

💧 RWG 04 (Technical & Economic Aspects of Hydro Pumped Storage Power Plants) Kick-off Meeting

- Introductions and national updates
- Sharing of innovations and best practices
- Presentation of RWG-04 objectives
- Open discussion on HPSPPs in modern power systems

⚡ RWG History of Electricity Meeting

- Recap of previous sessions
- Selection of topics for the **Sarajevo History Panel**
- Nomination of speakers
- Presentation on the history of **UCPTE** (Union for the Coordination of Production and Transmission of Electricity)

4th CIGRE SEERC Grid Resilience Workshop

- Held on **January 23, 2025**, at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”.
- Theme: **Best practices and lessons learned from critical grid events.**
- Covered:
 - Cybersecurity and physical security of power systems
 - Strategic planning for extreme weather and geopolitical risks
 - Regulatory perspectives on resilience
- Featured 14 presentations from 10 countries (Slovenia, Italy, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Greece, Austria, Montenegro, Romania) , including online contributions from Georgia and Kosovo.
- Topics included:
 - Case studies on war, cyber, and climate-related grid disruptions
 - Regulatory roles in enhancing physical resilience
 - Strategic planning for extreme events (e.g., floods, wildfires)

5th SEERC Conference, Sarajevo 2025



Conference Planning and Digital Tools

- Following the Cavtat meetings, BiH established the **Conference Organizing Committee**.
- In **July 2024**, the official website www.seerc2025.com was launched.
- The **Conftool System** was implemented to manage:
 - Participant registration
 - Abstract and paper submission
 - Peer review and communication with authors
- A comprehensive technical program was developed, including pre-conference activities, sessions, and sponsor engagement.

5th SEERC Conference – Overview, Topics & Special Session

Conference Overview

- **Dates:** June 4–5, 2025
- **Venue:** Hotel Hills, Sarajevo
- **Organizer:** NC CIGRE Bosnia and Herzegovina

Conference Topics

- I. Increasing energy efficiency of existing facilities and increasing renewable energy capacities
- II. New technologies and methodologies for accelerated decarbonization and digitalization of electric power systems
- III. Development of the electricity market balancing and dynamic regulation
- IV. Resilience issues of the electric power systems

Special Session: *Functionality of Power Systems and Equipment*

- Created to accommodate **out-of-scope or cross-cutting papers**

Registration Fees

Category	Until May 10, 2025	After May 10, 2025
CIGRE Members	€350	€400
Non-members	€450	€500
Students	€100	€150

- Additionally, it was defined that **authors and co-authors are entitled to a €100 discount**, while **student authors/co-authors receive a €50 discount**.

Call for Papers & Submission Statistics

Call for Papers & Timeline

- **Abstract deadline extended:** December 19, 2024
- **Full paper deadline:** March 15, 2025
- **Acceptance notifications:** April 15, 2025

Submission Statistics

- **175** abstracts submitted
- **137** full papers accepted
- **22** international (multi-country) papers
- **448** unique authors and co-authors

Abstract Review & Presentation Format

Abstract Distribution by Topic

- **Topic I:** 41 abstracts
- **Topic II:** 36 abstracts
- **Topic III:** 18 abstracts
- **Topic IV:** 38 abstracts
- **Session:** 42 abstracts
- Highest number of submissions by country: **BiH:** 37, **Turkey:** 25 **Croatia:** 20
- 20 abstracts submitted from non-SEERC countries.

Review & Acceptance Process

- All abstracts **provisionally accepted**
- Final decisions based on **full paper reviews**
- Review process managed via **Conftool System**

Paper Review and Presentation Format

- Final paper submission deadline: **March 31, 2025**
- Notification of acceptance: **April 25, 2025**

Full Papers Submission and Acceptance Overview

Topic	Abstracts	Papers	Revised	Review Notices	Accepted	Oral/Poster
Topic 1	41	28	28	28	28	20 / 8
Topic 2	36	30	30	30	30	20 / 10
Topic 3	18	15	15	15	14	14 / 0
Topic 4	38	29	29	29	29	20 / 9
Session	42	37	37	37	37	0 / 36
Total	175	139	139	139	138	74 / 63

One paper from Topic 3 was withdrawn.

Presentation Format

- **Topic III:** Oral presentations only
- **Topics I, II, IV:** ~20 oral presentations, remainder as posters
- **Session:** Poster presentations only

International Participation & Author Statistics

International Participation

- Authors from **24 countries**
- **15 SEERC member countries**
- No submissions from **Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Ukraine**
- **9 non-SEERC countries** (Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Belgium, USA, United Kingdom, India, Bahrain, and Canada).

Author Statistics

- **448 unique authors and co-authors**
- **38 authors** contributed to **2 papers**
- **5 authors** contributed to **3 papers**

Top Contributing Countries & International Collaboration

Top Contributing Countries (by Number of Papers)

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** 33 papers
- **Turkey:** 19
- **Croatia:** 18
- **Georgia:** 14
- **Italy:** 12
- **Slovenia:** 12

International Collaboration

22 joint papers involving authors from multiple countries

Reflects growing cross-border cooperation in energy research and development

Keynote Speakers

Keynote Speakers

- Mladen Kezunović (USA), **Risk Management of Future Large-Scale Electrification**
- Angelo Ferante (Secretary General, MedTSO), **New Interconnection Projects Between Europe and Nord Africa**
- Ajla Merzić (Bosnia and Herzegovina), **Strengthening Cross-Border Collaboration for Energy Transition: The Case of B&H and the Surrounding Region**

Conference Panels

- Four thematic panels will be held during the conference:
 - **History Panel:** Evolution of electrification in the region.
 - **Women in Energy (WiE):** Role of women in energy and academia-industry collaboration.
 - **Next Generation Network (NGN):** Involvement of young professionals in the power sector.
 - **GIZ Panel:** Challenges and developments in electric power distribution systems in the Western Balkans and EU.
- Panels aim to foster dialogue across generations, sectors, and disciplines.

Thank you for your attention !

