

*Courtesy translation*

**Opinion**  
**of the Foreign and European Union Affairs Committee**  
**of the Senate of the Republic of Poland**  
**on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council**  
**on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)**  
**COM(2016) 767**  
**adopted at the meeting of 25.04.2017.**

1. The Foreign and European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland (FEUAC) supports the collective EU goal to ensure that the share of renewable energy in the EU gross final energy consumption reaches at least 27% by 2030. At the same time, the FEUAC draws attention to the fact that many of the measures outlined in the proposed Directive with the view to achieving this goal fail to take into account the specific features of individual Member States and need to be altered and/or formulated more precisely.
2. In the opinion of the FEUAC, it is unacceptable to impose a linear RES development trajectory on Member States, since such approach might expose some of them, i.a. Poland, to unjustified and excessive financial sanctions, including mandatory contributions to the financial platform managed by the EC. The solution put forward by the EC indirectly imposes very specific financial commitments on Member States, while the FEUAC believes that these should reflect national realities, i.a. local RSE resources and consumer purchasing power.
3. The FEUAC is of the opinion that at the current stage of single electricity market development, the opening of support schemes to cross-border participation should be voluntary, not mandatory. Locally generated and locally consumed energy from renewable sources has a far more beneficial climatic and environmental impact, whilst cross-border participation might lead to a significant drop in domestic RSE.
4. The FEUAC points to an inconsistency between the RSE directive proposal and Waste Directive No. 2008/98/EC: the former promotes the use of the biodegradable fraction of municipal waste for energy purposes and the latter gives priority to its recycling. Such incoherence leads to a situation where two systems of law compete for the same raw material.
5. In the opinion of the FEUAC, the main focus should be on the full use of locally available biomass resources, as biomass is a significant instrument for the transition to a low-emission fuel mix. The EC's proposal to create a conditionality for future classification of biomass as an energy source for RSE and cogeneration might lead to a slowdown in RSE development in Poland and creates an unjustified preference for uncontrollable RSE. Therefore, the FEUAC does not support the new restrictions on biomass use, which are unjustified and infringe on the right to freely determine the energy mix.
6. The FEUAC supports the concept of limiting further the use of food and feed commodities to produce biofuels, as further RSE development cannot compete against food production. Nevertheless, the FEUAC believes that the proposal to reduce the use of such biofuels to 3.8% in 2030 is too radical and goes beyond the policy framework for climate and energy agreed by the European Council in October 2014.