

Mr. Martin Tlapa, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Czech Republic

In his contribution, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Mr. Martin Tlapa, focused on the relationship between regulatory policy and competitiveness. In his analysis, he explained the term 'competitiveness' as it is defined by the OECD and by the World Economic Forum and concluded that regulation is an instrument that the government and its agencies or supranational bodies use to define legally binding requirements for its citizens and businesses. The regulatory policy, according to Mr. Tlapa, includes instruments ranging from primary legislation to administrative formalities. Therefore, the regulatory policy represents one of three main policy levers of state, besides fiscal and monetary policy. He stressed that while competitiveness is the strategic goal, adequate regulation must be the right instrument. In the Czech Republic, Mr. Tlapa said, several regulatory mistakes were made, including inadequate support of photovoltaic industry, where excessive support for the producers of the renewable photovoltaic energy led to unacceptable increase of energy prices. Now the government has to consider additional measures that would restore the balance in the energy market.