



Press release

LNG LEADING IN GENOVA AND LIGURIA FOR NEW INTERCONNECTIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

With 700 participants and 18 hours of live coverage over two days, the International Forum "LNG in the Euro-Mediterranean corridor and the role of the logistics system of Genoa and Liguria" ends, among the requests for greater simplification of the regulation of the gas market and the opportunities not only for maritime but also road transport.

20 November 2020 - Two days of debates focused on the prospects for the maritime transport of liquefied natural gas (LNG) and fuel storage opportunities in the Mediterranean region. Through the port of Genoa and the logistics system of the Liguria Region, a leading energy hub and for the transport of gas from Africa to Europe can be consolidated.

The International Forum "LNG in the Euro-Mediterranean corridor and the role of the logistics system of Genoa and Liguria", promoted by the Metropolitan City of Genoa and the Liguria Region, organized by ConferenzaGNL/Mirumir with the support of WEC Italia and under the high patronage of Mise and Maeci, highlighted the opportunities and challenges that await the gas logistics sector also in light of the European Green Deal and the objective of decarbonizing energy sources by 2040. The event was streamed live and had national and international speakers of great experience and at the top of companies operating in the sector, national and European institutions.

On the first day of Thursday 19 November, after the institutional greetings of Marco Bucci, Mayor of Metropolitan City of Genoa and the declared willingness to pursue the LNG hypothesis, the first session was dedicated to the theme of the use of LNG in the maritime transport sector in a global perspective. The new fuel represents also in this area one of the keys to promote the reduction of emissions and contribute to decarbonisation objectives by 2040.

In this context, the Mediterranean confirms itself as an area of strategic importance as a bridge in trade routes between Africa and Europe and the ports of call in the region are candidates for a leading role in the perspective of a European sustainable development program, as also highlighted by speakers from Egypt and Morocco.

In the second session, space was given to the prospects in the light of the Green Deal of the European Union and the indications for Liguria given by the Regional Councillor for Economic Development, Andrea Benveduti, and then continued with interventions focused on the need for the development of a liquefied natural gas distribution network in Italy to be implemented through investments in infrastructure and market expansion.

The second day of Friday, November 20 opened with a session dedicated to bioLNG, on which several experts have been confronted for its revolutionary impact, already allowing transport with zero environmental and climate impact, which can then evolve with the use of synthetic gases, in particular with green hydrogen and CO₂ removed from the environment. LNG can therefore play a key role in the integration of energy systems and Euro-Mediterranean collaboration.

It has emerged that operators are calling for greater simplification of regulations at national and European level in order to meet infrastructure needs, especially for the construction of storage

facilities. In the second session the virtual tables that alternated in the afternoon saw first at the center of the discussions the perspectives of LNG for Genoa and Liguria and then the use of the energy carrier in international collaboration programs.

A challenge, that of the transition to LNG, that the Metropolitan City of Genova intends to take up while waiting for the national strategic guidelines on hydrogen, as said by the Strategic Plan Delegate Claudio Garbarino. From the point of view of cooperation between all business and institutional actors, the integration between gas demand and decarbonisation process remains fundamental.

Much attention must be given to the activity and proposals of the European Commission, which must address the issue of energy transition with realism and without interventions that could prove counterproductive. The Italian and European natural gas system, which includes LNG, is a useful resource for energy transition. Thus becomes fundamental the role of control and proposal of the European Parliament, recalled in conclusion by the MEP Marco Campomenosi, member of the Transport Commission.

Video and presentations will be soon available on www.conferenzagnl.com