

## **Conference, April 27 and 28, 2009 in Lucerne pointer to the event**

### **Europa Forum Luzern – „Energy – a conflict area: Trends and horizons“**

#### **Are we running out of energy?**

**To take the elevator instead of climbing the stairs, to brew coffee, to turn up the heater and to manufacture our products with machines is taken for granted today. Just, for how many more years will we be able to take it for granted? Oil, natural gas and coal deposits are diminishing at a fast rate and the authorisations for Swiss nuclear power stations are expiring one after the other. Are renewable energies such as water, wind or solar power, but also biogas plants reasonable alternatives?**

“Energy scarcity”, “gaps in electricity supply” or “the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub>” are key words in energy policy currently treated worldwide. In spite of the financial crisis, the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris expects energy consumption to grow by 45% by the year 2030, as they state in their report *World Energy Outlook 2008*. According to the IEA, China and India will more than double their energy consumption by that year. Oil, coal and gas as energy sources will still be available, but notably the increased use of coal will result in massive emissions of carbon dioxide. The IEA suggests that the use of renewable energies such as biomass, water, wind and solar power will not increase significantly. By 2030, they predict that the worldwide consumption of power will have increased by 80%.

#### **The course has to be set today!**

Uncertainty about the changes that are needed in order to be able to secure enough energy on the one hand, and at the same time reduce the emission of CO<sub>2</sub>, is rising worldwide. It is the aim of the 16<sup>th</sup> international Europa Forum Luzern to provide the interested public with an overview of the current global situation in terms of the energy question, Europe’s stance as well as the perspectives and options that Switzerland has.

Over the next five years, important decisions about the safeguarding of energy will have to be made by the Swiss people. At the public event, taking place on April 27, 2009, federal councillor **Moritz Leuenberger**, member of the EU-commission **Andris Piebalgs** (to be confirmed) and the former director of the IEA **Claude Mandil**, together with a representative of the energy industry, **Heinz Karrer**, CEO of Axpo, will speak about and discuss topical questions evolving around the conflict field "energy".

On April 28, 2009, the interested public has the opportunity to discuss issues relating to possible energy scenarios, energy efficiency and renewable energies with experts such as **Fatih Birol**, from the IEA in Paris, **Jiang Kejun**, working for the Chinese Energy Research Institute in Beijing, the German energy expert **Werner Zittel** as well as **Wolfgang Clement**, the former German federal minister of Economics and Labour, or **Walter Steinmann**, Director of the Swiss Federal Office of Energy, **Jasmin Staiblin**, CEO of ABB Switzerland, **Prof. Andreas Fischlin**, co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize 2007 and many more.

Given the diversity of speakers present at the conference, controversial discussions about the current state of the art of Swiss energy policy in view of the European and global development are to be expected. The exchange of ideas and experiences as well as networking between representatives from the industry, politics and society should also be on the fore during the pauses.

*Europa Forum Luzern in the KKL Luzern:*

**public event** (no entry fee): Monday, April 27, 2009, 17.30 till 20.00

**Buffet-Dinner** (CHF 100/€ 70.00) Monday, April 27, 2009, as of 20.00

**Symposium** (CHF 280.00/€ 150.00), Tuesday, April 28, 2009.

*Please contact us for further information or for a subscription to the event:*

*[www.europa-forum-luzern.ch](http://www.europa-forum-luzern.ch) or Tel. +41 (0)41 318 37 87.*

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