

## PRESS RELEASE

### **ENERGY: REGULATORS IN THE BALKANS FOR A SINGLE EU MARKET. IN SOFIA PHASE 3 OF THE “KEP”.**

Milan, 21 February 2020 - The first technical seminar held today in Sofia saw the start of the third phase of the KEP (Know How Exchange Programme) project funded by the CEI (Central European Initiative) through an Italian government fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and dedicated to the transfer of technical and regulatory knowledge to the countries of the Balkans area.

The project implemented by ARERA in cooperation with TERN, GME and the support of I-COM (Institute for Competitiveness), will also see in 2020 the collaboration of the Bulgarian regulator (EWRC), which hosted the meeting.

The seminar was attended by regulators, TSOs and Power Exchanges from the countries involved. This year, among the beneficiaries, in addition to Albania, Montenegro and Serbia, there will also be North Macedonia, demonstrating the importance of increasing integration in the area.

“Entry into operation of the Italy-Montenegro interconnection cable has brought the European and Balkan energy markets even closer. The strengthening of regulator expertise, with adequate support that provides a permanent exchange of technical knowledge and best practices, will be crucial for the definitive transition to a perfectly integrated Euro-Balkan market” stated Stefano Saglia, member of the Board of the Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment.

In the margins of the seminar, a bilateral meeting was held with the Bulgarian regulator to strengthen cooperation between European regulators bordering the Balkans, with the aim of promoting cooperation to encourage the integration of the Balkan energy market into the single European market.