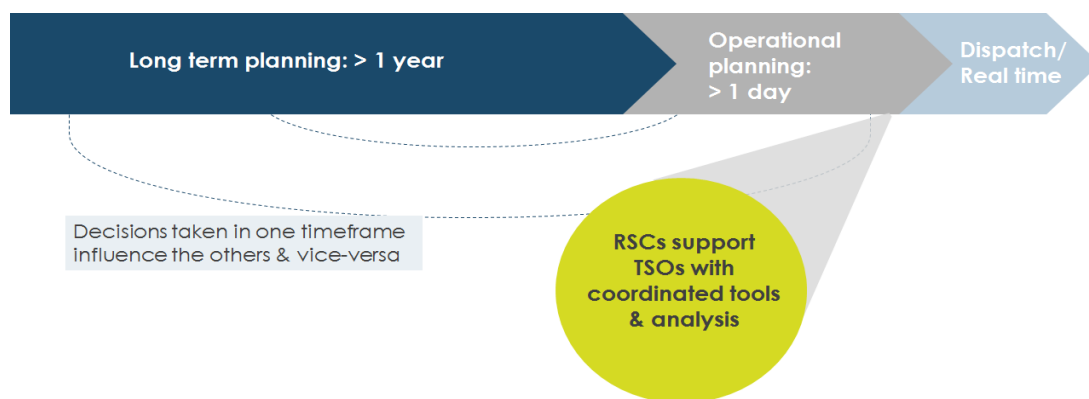


Explanatory Paper: Decision-Making and the Role of the RSCs

This short paper is aimed at explaining of the Regional Security Coordinators in the context of decision-making by TSOs in operating the power system. It is hoped that this paper would better explain why there is a need to better understand the roles of RSCs in the development of coordinated actions.

Firstly, the RSCs are wholly owned and governed by the TSOs and as such the analysis, ideas and learning of the RSCs is in fact the learning, ideas and knowledge of the TSOs. The Regional Coordination Centre (RCCs), as Mr Karins has proposed, is one of service provision towards a ‘decision-making TSO’ which is supported by its Member State and NRA. The triangle of decision-making, liability and responsibility from a legal and regulatory framework are fundamental building blocks of the IEM.

The RSC by being already part of the decision-making process means that the RSC supports the coordination of actions taken by TSOs in managing real-time operation. RSCs provide analysis and guidance in operational planning timeframe (typically in day-ahead and in some relevant intraday, and in some regions and support the TSOs in the coordination of their processes up to one hour before real time). In the Figure below, we provide an illustration of how the RSC provides support to the activities leading up to real-time.



The RSC provides an important and critical support service to TSOs and at present this can be seen with the [Managing Critical Grid Situations Report](#) whereby the adequacy shortages in France in January 2017 were mitigated by the supporting analysis of the RSC. Indeed, the whole process of risk identification under the draft RPP regulation is best to be carried out collectively since insights at European, Regional and National levels are required. The suggestion that one entity such as a ROC has a better view than another is creating a risk in itself and very much restrictive and limited in insight if one entity is to solely be relied upon. Logically more coordination at all levels is required to develop robust risk scenarios and to ensure that all scenarios would be tested from all perspectives.

In the proposed amendment contained within the Estonian Presidency regarding ‘coordinated actions’ (Article 38) have replaced binding decisions (Art 38) taken by ROCs. In this sense, **it is important to clarify that ‘coordinated actions’ are decisions made by TSOs as a result of the coordinated processes for which the RCCs provide vital services.** Also, it is important to emphasize the decisions and recommendations will be transparent and reported as is now required under the EC Regulation for System Operation which came into force on 14 September 2017.

ENTSO-E’s own position on RSCs is one of evolution and systematic development according to the needs of the power system which is changing dynamically. The role for the RSCs/RCCs is vital in terms of the services it provides and the value it adds to the industry serving the interests of consumers across Europe.