



WORKGROUP LEGAL AFFAIRS

The legal group's main mission is to provide a high quality, creative, and result-oriented legal work to both the association and its working groups. This is accomplished by providing strategic legal advice and seeking to ensure that the association conducts its activities in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and consistently with the articles of association and the internal regulations of UCTE.

According to the mission statement of the group, the lawyers perform the following core-tasks:

- Improvement of the legal framework of UCTE, including for the reliability and security standards.
- Identification of possible legal and regulatory issues interesting for the association and its members.
- Providing legal support for the association's decisions.
- Providing legal advice in case of problems arising among members of UCTE or between members and UCTE.
- Identification of all possible relevant legal issues for the association.
- Support the enforcement of UCTE decisions.
- Gather legal know how for the association.
- Etc.

UCTE - History III

Unifying force in times of political instability

When the former Republic of Yugoslavia split up into 5 independent states also the UCTE grid was separated in two due to the war destruction of key substations and associated transmission lines. On September 26, Serbia and Montenegro, parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Macedonia, Albania and Greece formed the second synchronous UCTE zone. As a result of the disintegration of the IPS/UPS system Romania and Bulgaria were provisionally also interconnected to this second synchronous zone. Following their application for membership and upon successful completion of trial parallel operation in 2003 Bulgaria and Romania became full members of UCTE.

Also the application of the so-called Burshtyn Island, a part of the Ukrainian high-voltage grid, that had been carrying out electricity deliveries to the UCTE system in radial operation since 1995, was accepted and following the necessary trial period Burshtyn was synchronously interconnected in 2003.

The successful reconnection of the first and second UCTE synchronous zones was completed on October 10, 2004 and the same 50 Hertz-rhythm pulsed again in the by then 24 UCTE member countries.

Over the last year, the lawyers have more specifically contributed to the:

- Improvement of the Security Package, including drafting amendments of the Multilateral Agreement (**MLA**) and follow up of addenda to the MLA.
- Improvement of protection of confidentiality for information exchanges taking place in the framework of UCTE, including drafting/reviewing non disclosure agreements and confidentiality undertakings.
- Preparation of the transfer of UCTE rights, obligations and activities into ETNSO-E;
- Drafting of the contractual framework necessary for the contemplated synchronous interconnection with the Turkish Transmission System Operator (**TSO**) TEIAS.
- Drafting the contractual framework for synchronous operations with the Albanian TSO OST.
- Review, from the legal point of view, of documents prepared by the other working groups of the association.
- Etc.

Through its activities, WGLA thus actively contributes to the evolution of the nature of the activities of the association (from voluntary to binding) and to the geographical extension of the UCTE synchronous area.

