The Organisation, its history, and its future in international energy governance

1990 - 1991
- 25-26 June 1990: Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers proposes the creation of a European Energy Community
- 16-17 December 1991: the European Energy Charter political declaration is signed in The Hague

1994
- 17 December 1994: the Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) and the Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA) are signed in Lisbon

1998
- Modernisation of the Energy Charter Process is mandated. The Energy Charter Constituency deems that the Charter should be compatible to present day global energy challenges
- 16 April 1998: the ECT and the PEEREA enter into force, following ratification by the first 40 Members. The Trade Amendment to the Treaty is adopted, in line with WTO rules

2009 - 2010
- 21 January 2010: the Trade Amendment enters into force
- Further expansion of the geographical base of the Energy Charter in progress

2012
- 27 November 2012: Through the Warsaw process, the Energy Charter Conference, the deciding body, engages in ‘updating’ the 1991 European Energy Charter political declaration

2012 - 2014
- Negotiations involving close to one hundred countries take place throughout the year in order to agree upon an updated political declaration aiming to reinvigorate the Energy Charter
2015

High-Level Ministerial Conference to take place in The Hague to endorse the International Energy Charter declaration

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CHARTER

A political declaration negotiated by close to hundred countries from all corners of the world

A commitment to:
- political and economic cooperation
- sovereignty over energy resources
- development of efficient energy markets
- non-discrimination
- promotion of a favourable climate for enterprises operation and for the flow of investments and technology
- environmental issues

The Energy Charter will play a leading role in the evolving architecture of global energy governance

A document confirming, reinforcing and enhancing established principles of energy cooperation

A declaration of political intention aiming at strengthening energy cooperation which does not bear legally binding or financial obligations

A political declaration reflecting the trilemma of energy security, economic development and environmental protection

A complementary document to the 1991 European Energy Charter, reflecting modern energy challenges while reaffirming the 1994 ECT

A document promoting mutually beneficial energy cooperation among nations for the sake of energy security and sustainability
Benefits of Signing the International Energy Charter for 1991 Signatories

**At the Political Level**
- A new Energy Charter declaration will offer enhanced areas of energy governance and cooperation.
- Sending a clear message to newcomers on the importance of the process.

**Benefits of the IEC**
- The IEC reflects new developments and challenges found in today’s energy markets.
- A global focus means a broader and more secure investment framework, and not strictly Eurasia-centric.

**At the Strategic Level**
- The IEC principles on liberalisation of energy trade will give new opportunities in new markets.

**At the Practical Level**
- A global scope would lead to enhanced political will behind global energy cooperation.
Benefits of Signing the International Energy Charter for Newcomers

**At the Strategic Level**
- It shows commitment to a secure investment framework which makes the country more attractive
- The country can use the IEC for its own foreign trade and investment initiatives
- Signing gives access to a broad platform to develop relationships and strategies to tackle challenges which are unsolvable unilaterally
- It will strengthen regional energy cooperation and market design

**Benefits of the IEC**

**At the Political Level**
- Signing sends a message of respect of trade, transit, investment, and energy efficiency principles to the international community
- Signing gives a reassuring message to potential investors
- The signing country becomes part of an established international framework of long-term energy cooperation

**At the Practical Level**
- Signing grants Observer status, allowing participation in Energy Charter meetings, fora, training programmes, etc.
- Countries signing the IEC will be granted the right to initiate the Early Warning Mechanism and make use of a set of Model Agreements
- Signing is a beginning step, and does not commit the country to further obligations but opens the door for future accession to the ECT
How to Get Invited to Sign the International Energy Charter at The Hague

STEP 1
A country or international organisation interested in being invited to sign the International Energy Charter should send a letter to the Energy Charter Secretariat indicating its intentions.

STEP 2
The Energy Charter Secretariat will ask the 1991 Signatories their opinion on the request expressed by the interested country or international organisation.

STEP 3
If the request to be invited to sign the International Energy Charter is approved by the 1991 Signatories, the interested country or international organisation will be formally invited to the Conference in The Hague on 20-21 May 2015.
After The Hague: How to Sign the International Energy Charter

**STEP 1**
A country or international organisation interested in being invited to sign the International Energy Charter should send a letter to the Energy Charter Secretariat indicating its intentions.

**STEP 2**
The Energy Charter Secretariat will ask the Energy Charter Conference its opinion on the request expressed by the interested country or international organisation.

**STEP 3**
If no opposition is received by the Secretariat in the following 30 days, the interested country or international organisation will be formally invited to sign the International Energy Charter.