What does the Energy Charter do?

The Energy Charter Treaty establishes a legal framework that attracts foreign investment to promote efficient and sustainable energy markets, and allows the development of secure and diversified sources of energy. This framework guarantees the commitment to observe principles of openness and non-discrimination in the energy market.

International dispute settlement, including investor-state arbitration and inter-state arbitration

Energy Investment
Promotion of foreign investment in member countries by protecting investors against the most important political risks in the host country. Granting of non-discriminatory treatment

Trade and Transit
Trade in energy, energy products & energy related equipment based on WTO rules. Obligation to facilitate energy transit on a non-discriminatory basis

Energy Efficiency
The Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA) defines guidance and commitments concerning the development & implementation of energy efficiency programmes

Freedom of Transit

Non-discriminatory treatment of all parties and actors in energy markets

Respect of the principle of state sovereignty over natural resources

The Treaty is a comprehensive multilateral agreement covering all aspects of energy cooperation, promoting openness of energy markets and security of energy supply, while establishing an international forum for energy-related issues

Quick Facts

European Energy Charter, 17 December 1991

Energy Charter Treaty, 17 December 1994

55 Members
37 Observers

Common Rules for Global Energy Security