

## TEACHENER Project: Integrating Social Sciences and Humanities into Teaching about Energy

TEACHENER Project (2016-2019) has really started to progress. After the first meeting in Torun (Poland) the partners have developed an overview of the relations between social sciences and humanities and teaching about energy in higher education institutions practice in their countries (Czech Republic, Germany, Poland and Spain).



Partners at the first meeting in Torun (September 2016)

### What have we done so far?

The first output of TEACHENER provides an overview of the relations between social sciences and humanities (SSH) and energy teaching programmes in technical higher education institutions. For this, an analysis of energy related curricula, interviews with teaching staff and PhD and last year Master's students at the partner institutions and an online survey of teachers at technical institutions were undertaken.



At present, the integration of SSH issues in engineering education depend not only on the country but also on the specific institution and curricula. Two key topics that need up to date education in all countries analysed are: relation between the public and the energy production and energy awareness. In general, teachers are more aware of the relevance of SSH issues in natural scientific and engineering energy teaching than students. However, teachers tend to reduce social scientific disciplines to marketing, human resources, management or soft skills such as communication.

### Next steps

Based on the first output, TEACHENER partners are now working to develop **training modules on socio-technical aspects of energy** to be integrated in existing courses.

These modules will highlight SSH issues in technology development and research in energy issues and will improve the quality of existing SSH contents of the energy curricula. They will strongly focus on improving the teachers' knowledge on relevant SSH issues and their lifelong education. The modules consist of ready to be used materials for the teachers during their lessons. They will have an interactive format and will be partially web-based. They will be available on a web platform to be developed by TEACHENER.

The modules will focus on the following topics:

- Conflict management
- Technology assessment
- Energy presumption
- Smart grids and smart metering
- Energy and the public: governance, participation, communication
- Ethics and philosophy of energy development
- Social sustainability assessment
- Awareness of SSH issues in energy

### Next TEACHENER events

Next meeting of the TEACHENER consortium will be held in Leipzig on 19-20 September 2017.

### TEACHENER coordinator

If you are interested in TEACHENER, please contact the project coordinator:

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### TEACHENER Partners



More information about TEACHENER: [www.teachener.edu](http://www.teachener.edu)

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