Biography of Benoît Esnault  
(CRE, France)

Holding a PhD in economics, Benoît Esnault has 20 years of experience in energy regulation.

After 8 years as a researcher and senior analyst, he joined the National Regulatory Authority of France (CRE) in 2008. As Head of the Interconnections and European Affairs Department, he is responsible for gas and electricity interconnections and the development and implementation of European guidelines and regulations.

Benoît Esnault has directly contributed to the development and application of the third legislative package and the TEN-E guidelines. He has chaired several European task forces and is Vice Chair of the European regulators’ gas working group. He is also involved in several bilateral or multilateral cooperation programmes with non-EU countries.

He has been chairing the MEDREG Electricity Working Group since 2016. Before joining CRE, he was senior economist at the Observatoire Méditerranéen de l’Energie (OME) for more than 6 years, working specifically on gas geopolitics, gas and electricity regulation and project financing in Mediterranean countries. He was a post doc researcher at the University of Paris Dauphine where his researches focused on gas and electricity liberalisation in Europe. He has published many articles and reports on energy economics and regulation; he teaches industrial organisation and energy governance in French universities.