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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **DVGW holds Key Position in Technical Association of the European Natural Gas Industry**

#### **Gerald Linke elected new Marcogaz president**

Brussels, 20 September 2018 – The Technical Association of the European Natural Gas Industry elected Prof Gerald Linke, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches (DVGW), new president of Marcogaz at its general assembly at 19<sup>th</sup> September in Brussels . According to schedule, Linke succeeds Mr Erwin Mollink of the Dutch gas transmission grid operator Gasunie. The post has a term of office of two years.

“Gas and gas infrastructures are coming increasingly into the focus of European committees; with increasing frequency, EU institutions make decisions with far-reaching consequences for the member states. Being the voice of the European Gas Industry, Marcogaz is an indispensable partner that helps us build a pan-European regulatory framework and advance the cause of a common European energy strategy”, said Linke, on occasion of his appointment.

Building a common European gas market to ensure a safe, secure and affordable supply of energy for all of Europe is top on the regulatory agenda of Brussels. The European Energy Union strives to reach the global climate protection targets outlined in the Paris agreement and thus provide future climate neutral energy supplies as soon as possible. The sustainable reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emission levels required to reach this goal can be achieved only by combining renewable energies – e.g. solar and wind power – with fossil and green gases; this goes especially for the European nations, most of which are highly industrialised countries. Integrating renewable energies into the existing gas infrastructure will be crucial in the process. A consistent regulatory framework is urgently needed for power to gas units, which are key in sector coupling.

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The technical expertise provided by Marcogaz and its members is essential for harmonising the regulatory environment.

The Marcogaz association, which currently celebrates its 50th anniversary of existence, represents the interests of the European gas industry. It counts 23 national organisations from 18 European countries among its members, with the DVGW being one of them.

**DVGW** (Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V. – Technisch-wissenschaftlicher Verein = DVGW German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water – Technical-scientific association) has worked successfully in the gas and water industry for more than 150 years. Safety, hygiene and environmental protection are the main focuses of all the association's activities. DVGW is an association with more than 13,600 members which establishes the generally accepted rules of technology for gas and water systems, initiates research projects and provides training on a full range of gas and water industry topics. Moreover DVGW provides an inspection and certification unit for products, individuals and companies. DVGW codes of practice lay the foundation for technical self-regulation and for the responsibility of the gas and water industry in Germany. They ensure safe gas and water supplies to the highest international standards. The not-for-profit organization was established in Frankfurt am Main in 1859. DVGW is economically independent and politically impartial.