



... TRIBUNE ...

« 2017: Shared resources. 2018: Sharing to recharge the batteries ? »

by Pierre-Jean CRASTES, *Vice-Chairman of the French Geneva Metropolitan Pole responsible for spatial planning and energy transition, Co-Chairman of the Energy Cross-Border Community of Greater Geneva*



“Shared resources...On coming to Bordeaux, that is the topic and the approach that we readily agreed upon, my Geneva colleagues and I, for the presentation of our so special cross-border region of Greater Geneva.

Astride two countries (France and Switzerland), two cantons (Geneva and Vaud), and two Departments (Ain and Haute-Savoie), today we are 1 million inhabitants living their daily lives in this common living space, the so unique Geography of which was shaped by nature, but which History meticulously embarked on cutting up, separating and delimiting. Yet here the waters run down from the French glaciers, join those of the Rhône in the heart of Geneva, before going on to feed a few kilometres downstream the French turbines of the hydroelectric power dam in Génissiat... This simple example, because I could mention dozens of others, illustrates the obvious interpenetrability of our problems and the necessary cross-border solidarity to be implemented in order to solve our issues of air quality, preservation of biodiversity, mobility, consumption of land... and thus follow together a transition pathway.

On coming to Bordeaux, we also wanted to share, through our contacts with the organizers and the 3500 other participants, this communicative enthusiasm that the Energy Conference has been inspiring for nearly twenty years now, and which renews in all those who take part in it the individual and collective energies put under such great strain in the field in the process or urging our elected representatives, inhabitants and companies to take this delicate, but exciting energy transition path.

On coming to Bordeaux, I did not dare imagine that our colleagues - I should now say our Bordeaux and Dunkirk friends – would accept our joining forces with them to organize, with them and thanks to the unfailing support of ADEME, the next edition of this tremendous annual event. In the name of all the inhabitants of Greater Geneva, I would like here to sincerely and warmly thank our friends for thus trust they have showed in us.

And so it is with immense pleasure, tinted with all the humility required for us to show ourselves worthy of our hosts, that I invite you here and now to come to the shores of Lake Geneva in January 2018, to celebrate and share the 19th edition of the more than ever European Energy Transition Conference.”

Websites : www.grand-geneve.org, <http://www.arcdugenevois.fr/>

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