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# SEERMAP

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South-East Europe Electricity Roadmap

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## **The European Power System in 2030: Flexibility needs & integration benefits**

*Insights from an analysis with a Focus on the Central Western European power market*

**Christian Redl**

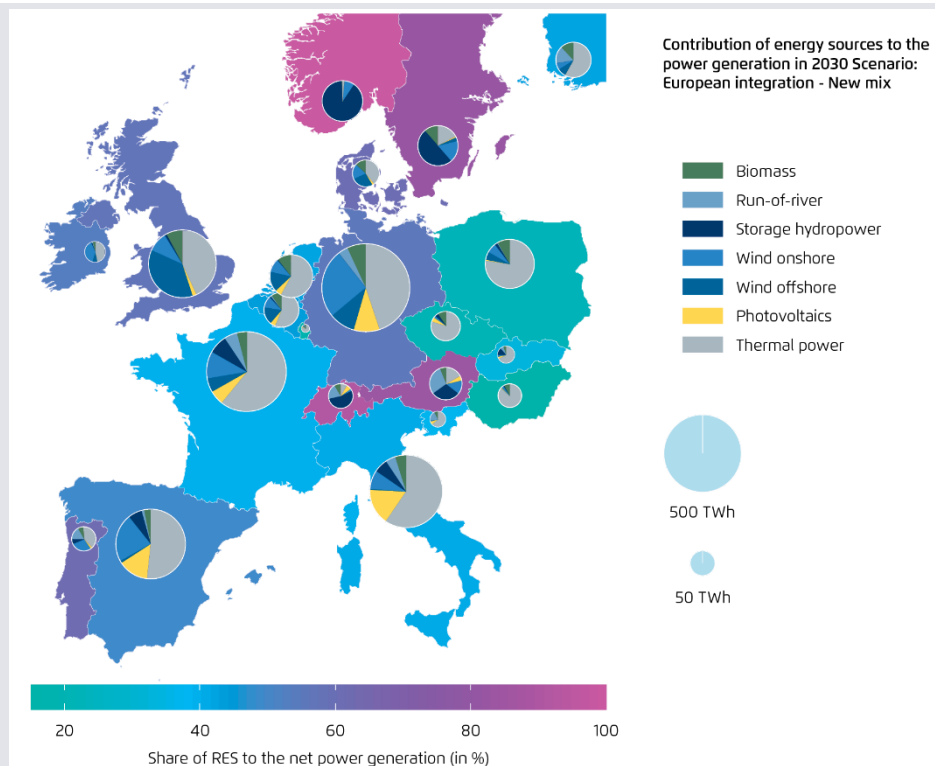
**PODGORICA, 17 NOVEMBER 2016**



# Starting point 1: Power systems shaped by wind & PV

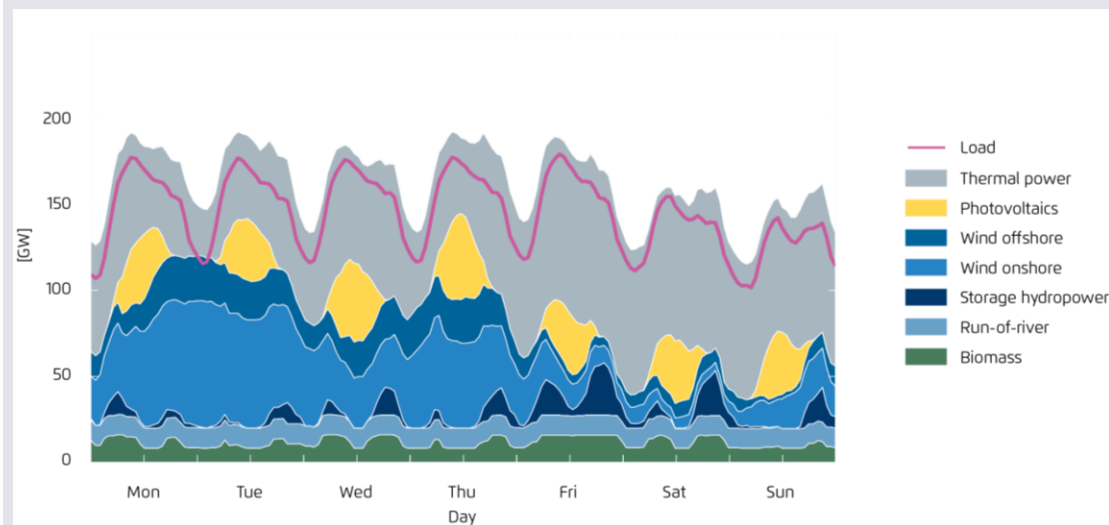
## Flexibility becomes the new paradigm of power systems

EU 2030: 50% RES-E, 30% Wind & PV in the overall generation mix



National energy strategies and scenarios in line with EU 2030 targets

Power generation CWE region (calendar week 32, 2030)\*



Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

\* Weather data 2011

## ***Starting point 2: Regional cooperation becomes key***

Central Western European power market / Pentalateral Energy Forum region



Regional approaches increasingly important to minimize total system costs and maximize system adequacy (and to achieve EU wide integration...)

Pentalateral Energy Forum (PLEF) / CWE important role model for the EU

Parallel “bottom-up” governance with larger / neighbouring regions (“12 electrical neighbours”, CEE, NSCOGI, CESEC,...)

Growing common understanding of medium and long-term challenges and no-regret ways forward



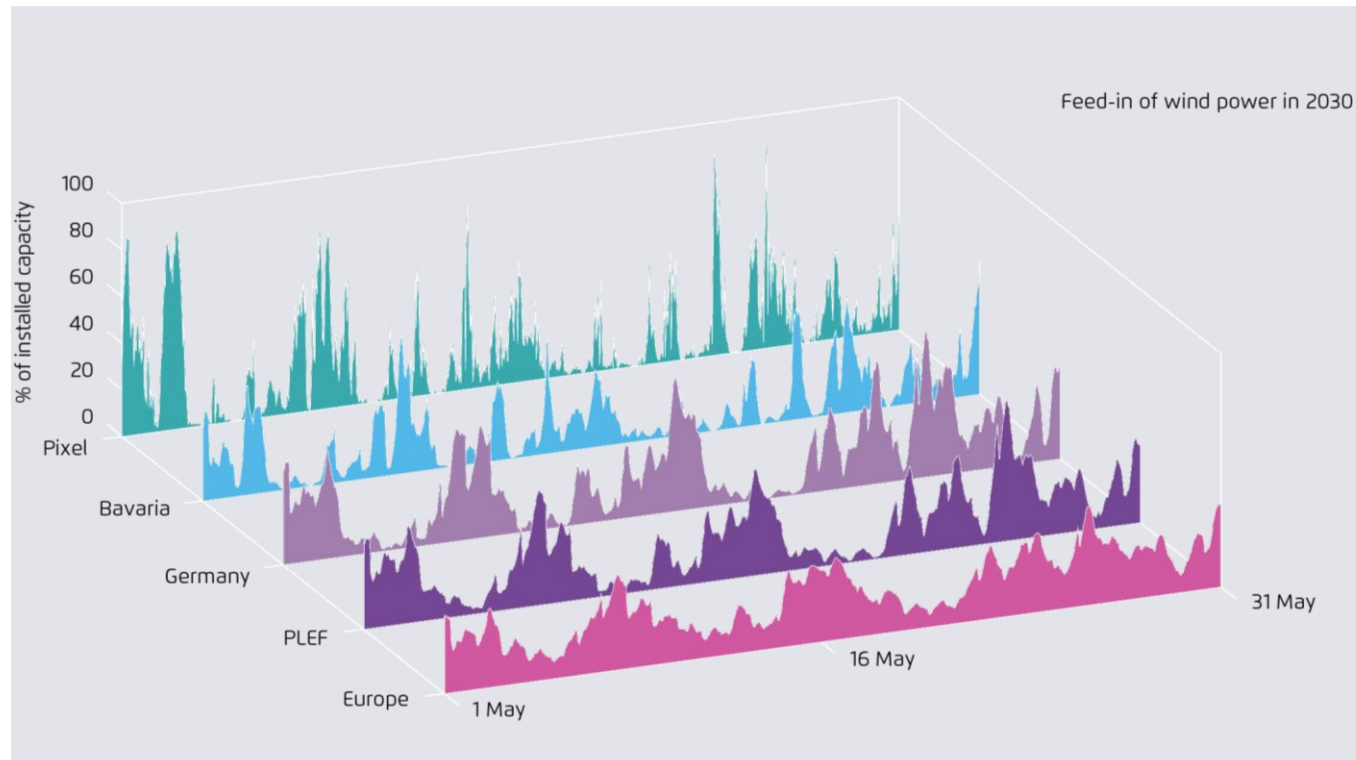
The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of a dense pile of tangled red rubber bands, creating a complex, interwoven pattern.

# Cross-border system integration

## Minimising the flexibility challenge

## Mitigating flexibility needs through market integration: Cross-border electricity flows enable geographical smoothing

Wind onshore generation in May 2030 at different levels of aggregation



Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

\* One pixel is equivalent to an area of 2.8 x 2.8 km

### EU-wide aggregation

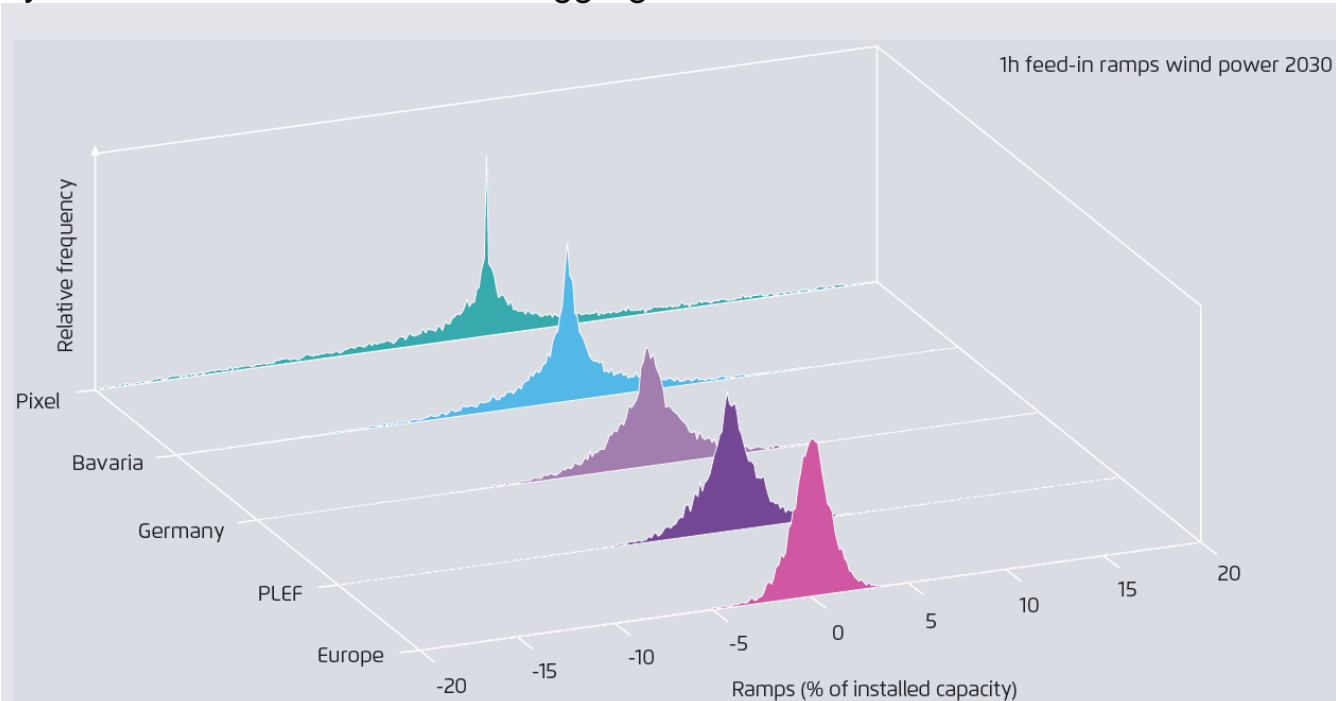
Instantaneous total wind power output is much less volatile and lacks extremely high and low values

Largest EU-wide hourly wind ramp is -10% of installed capacity

For comparison, largest hourly wind ramp in France is 21% of installed capacity

## Mitigating flexibility needs through market integration: Cross-border electricity flows enable geographical smoothing

Relative frequencies of hourly changes in onshore wind power output for the year 2030 at different levels of aggregation



Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

\* One pixel is equivalent to an area of 2.8 x 2.8 km

### EU-wide aggregation

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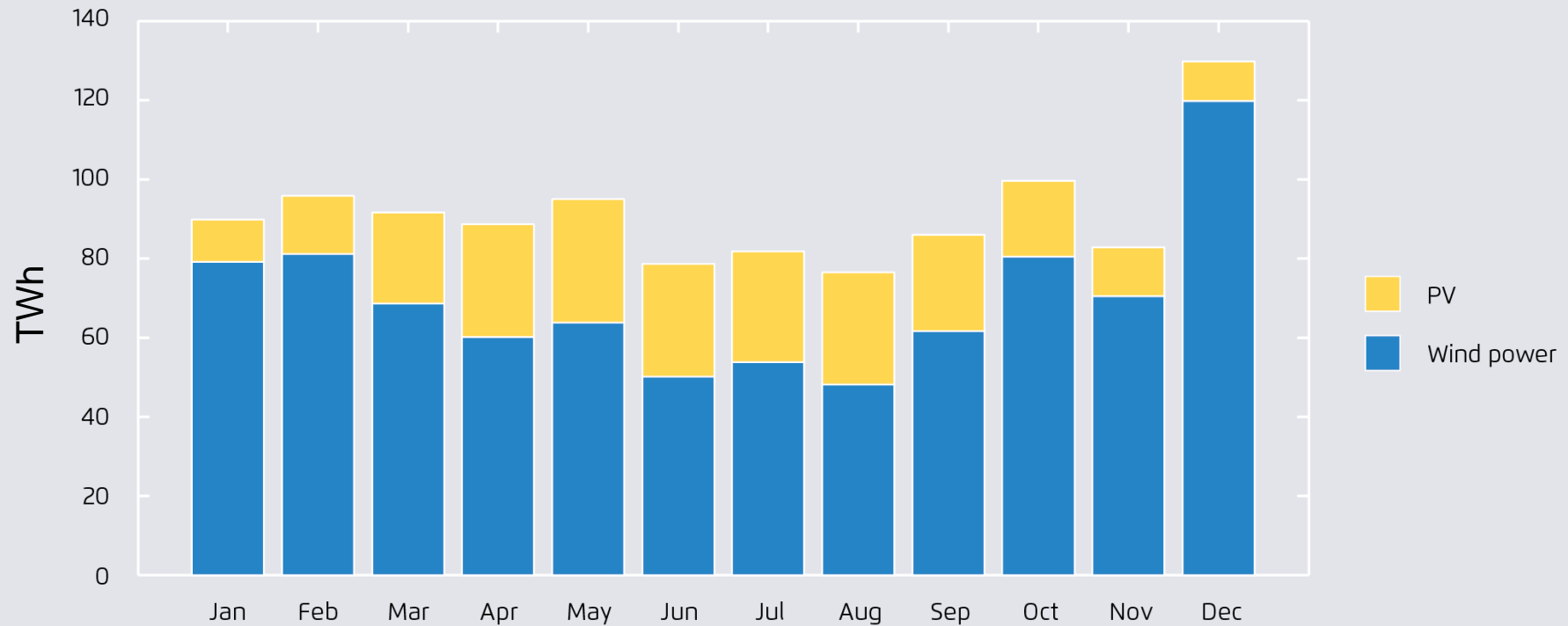
For comparison, largest hourly wind ramp in France is 21% of installed capacity

EU-wide wind ramps larger  $\pm 5\%$  of inst. capacity in only 23hrs of the year



## Seasonal weather patterns match monthly wind and PV generation yielding a more stable total renewables output

Monthly wind power and PV generation in Europe in 2030

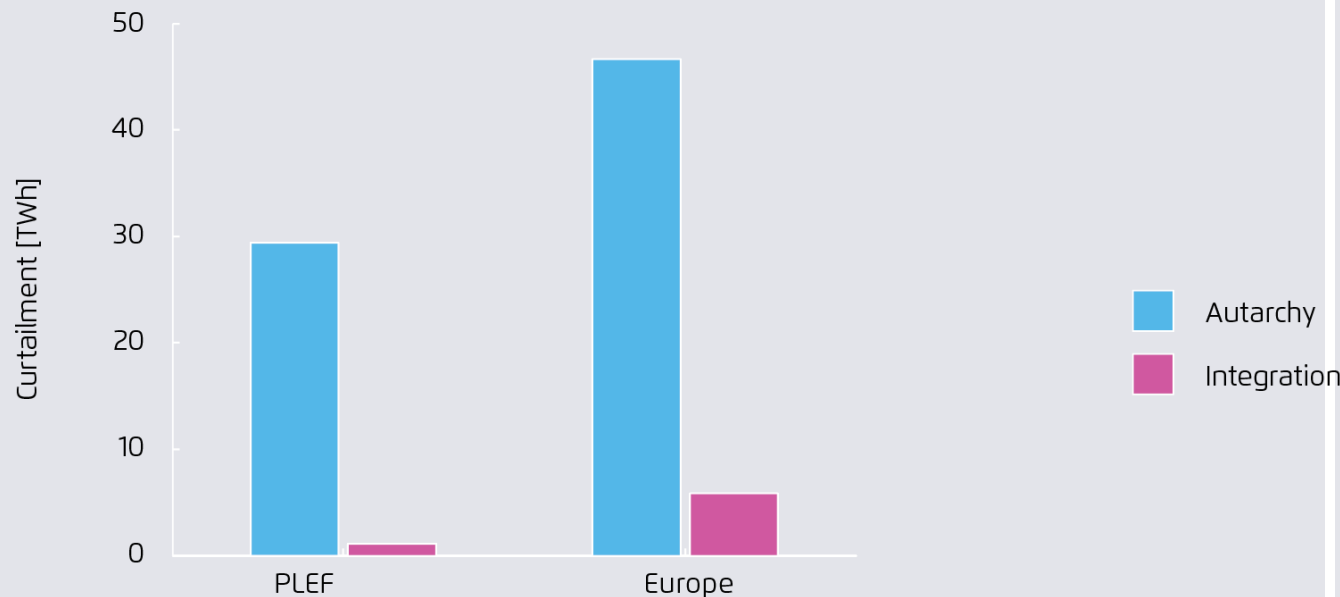


Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

Weather year 2011

## Market integration limits wind & PV curtailment (or storage needs) at times with high feed-in, increasing RES value

Curtailment of vRES within PLEF and Europe in autarchy and integration scenarios



Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

Curtailment is greatly reduced by market integration

Curtailment in autarchy case is ten times higher due to lack of exchange options with other regions

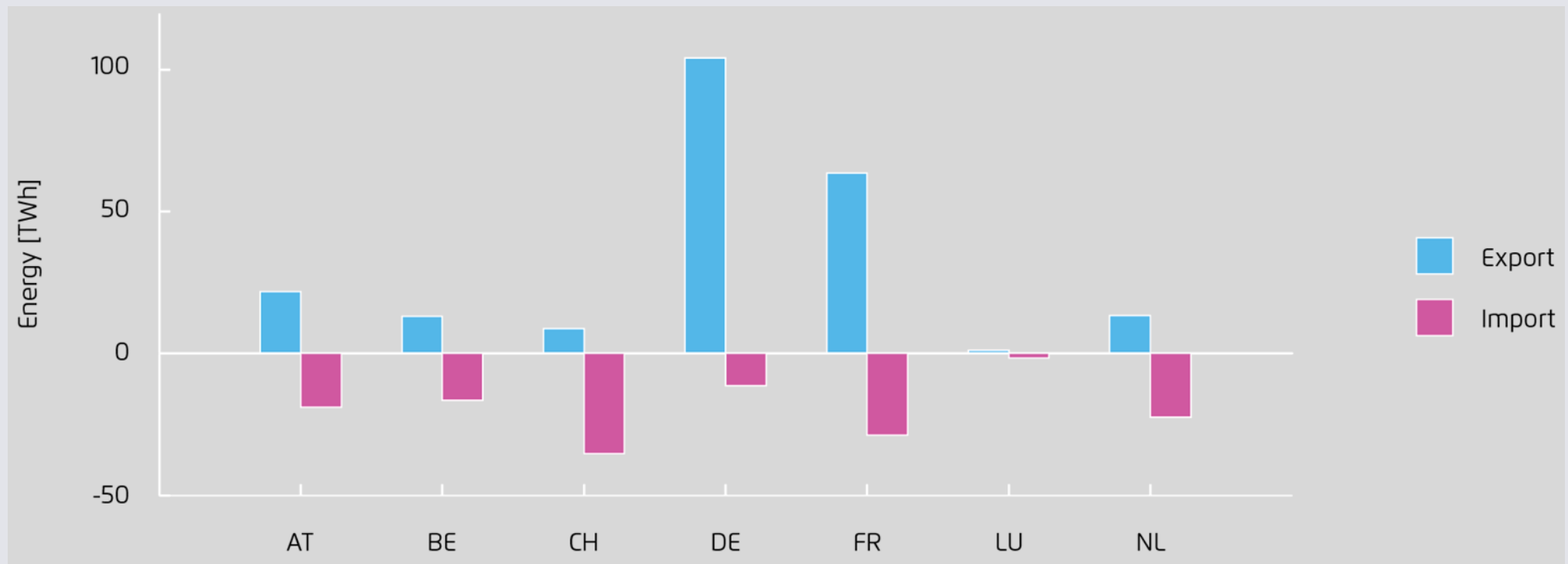
Not only cross-border grids are important, but also enough transfer capacities within countries must be available

Still, avoiding curtailment altogether would be difficult to achieve just by increasing transfer capacities, as highly correlated feed-in situations can occur



## Market integration allows dealing with domestic deficits and surpluses: Each country is sometimes importer / exporter

Exports and imports of the PLEF /CWE countries in 2030

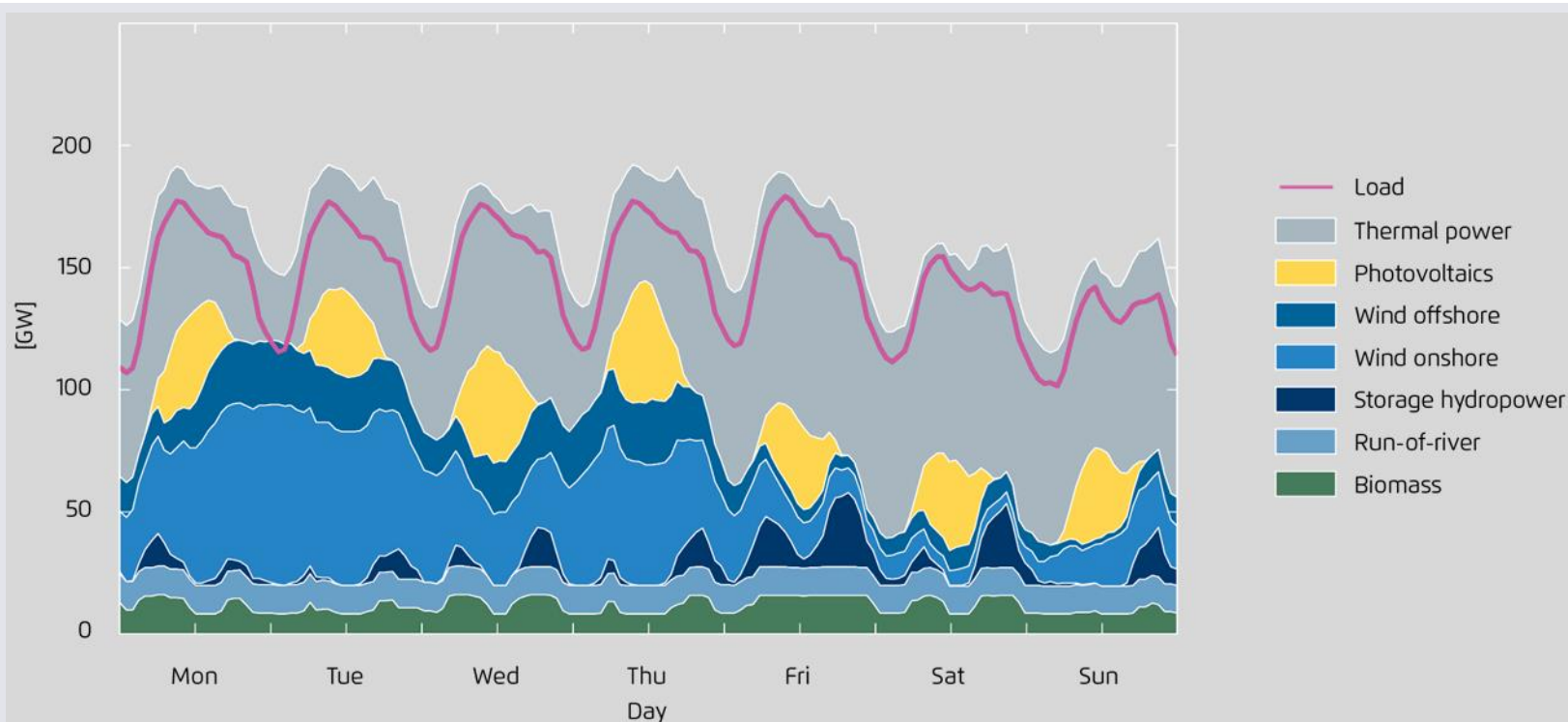


Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

# The “remaining” flexibility challenge (after market integration)

## We need a flexible power system to manage remaining ramps from variable renewable energies

Power generation in the PLEF/CWE\* region in a week in 2030 with high vRES (calendar week 32)



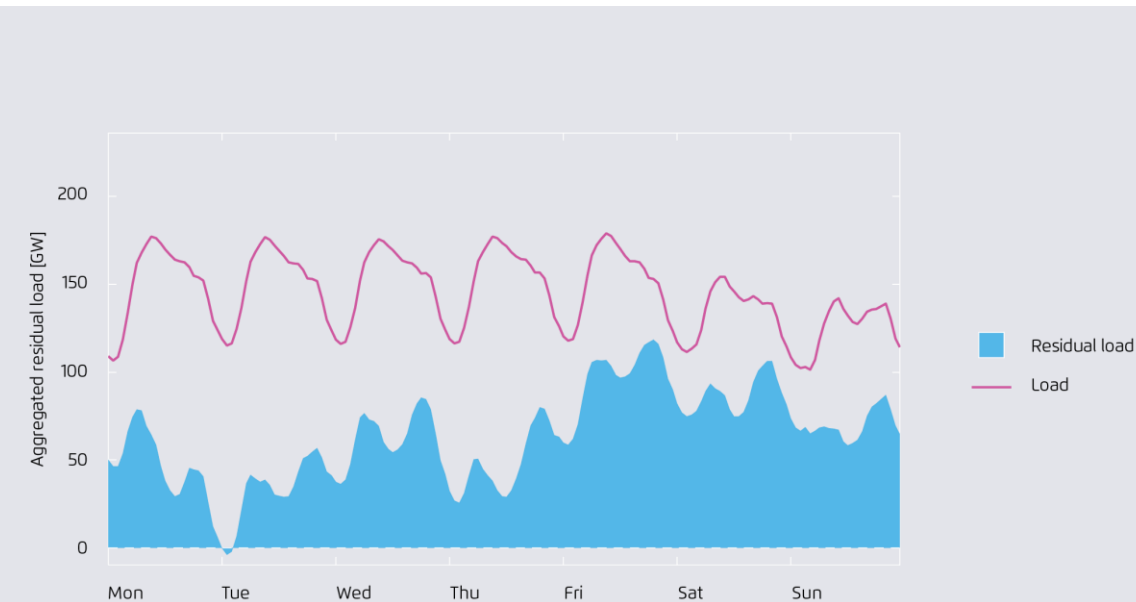
Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

\*AT, BE, CH, DE, FR, LU, NL



# Net load\* will show steeper ramps, baseload needs reduce significantly

(Residual) load in PLEF/CWE region (calendar week 32 - 2030)

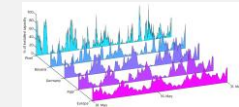


Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

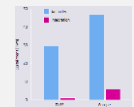
\*Load minus non-dispatchable renewables

## Important flexibility options

Grids (domestic & cross-border)  
→ enabling smoothing effect



Partial curtailment of wind and solar power



Flexible fossil and biomass plants (incl. CHP with heat storage & Power-to-Heat)

→ Focus in the following

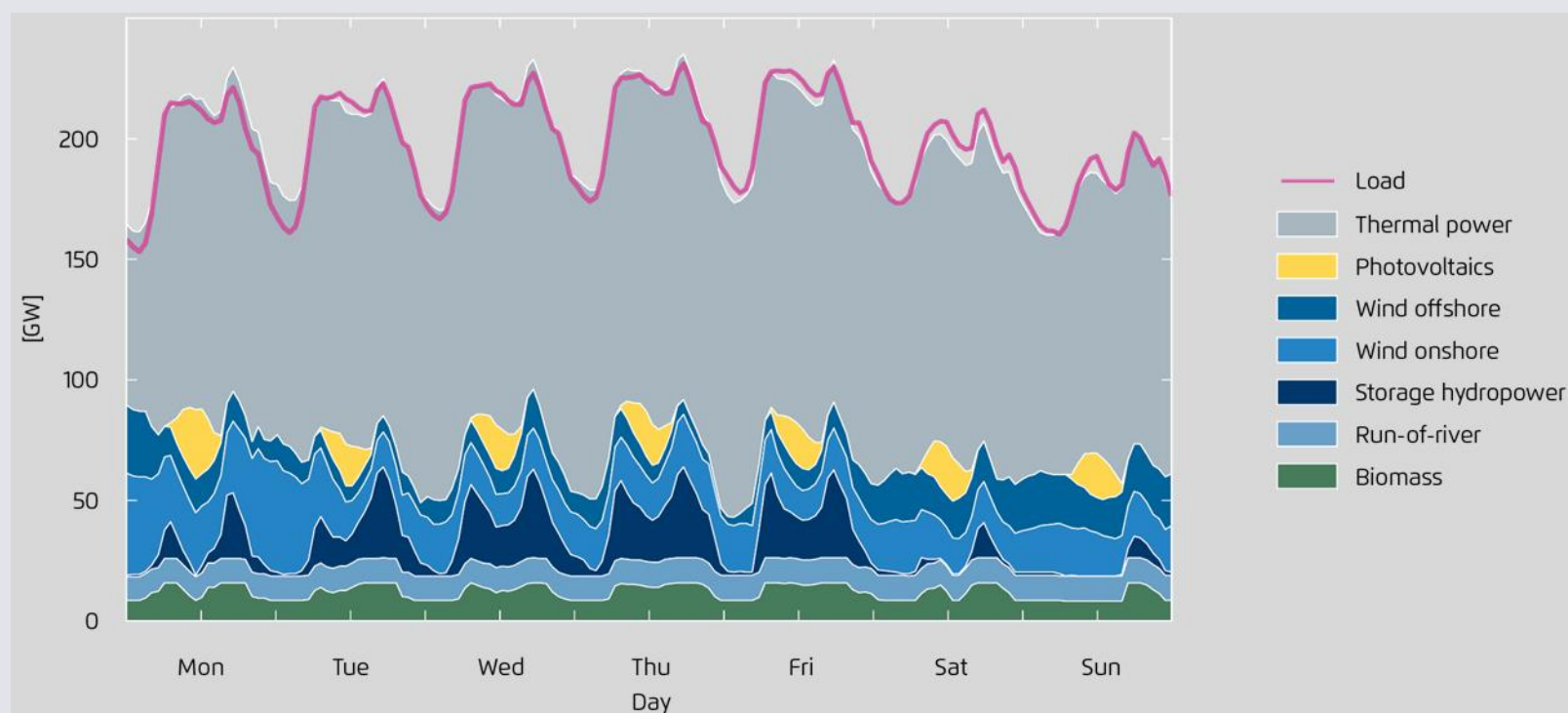
Demand Side Management

Storage (Hydro; Batteries)  
Integrating sectors ("Power-to-X")



## We need a flexible power system to provide backup capacity for longer periods with little vRES feed-in

Power generation in the PLEF/CWE\* region in a week in 2030 with little vRES (calendar week 3)

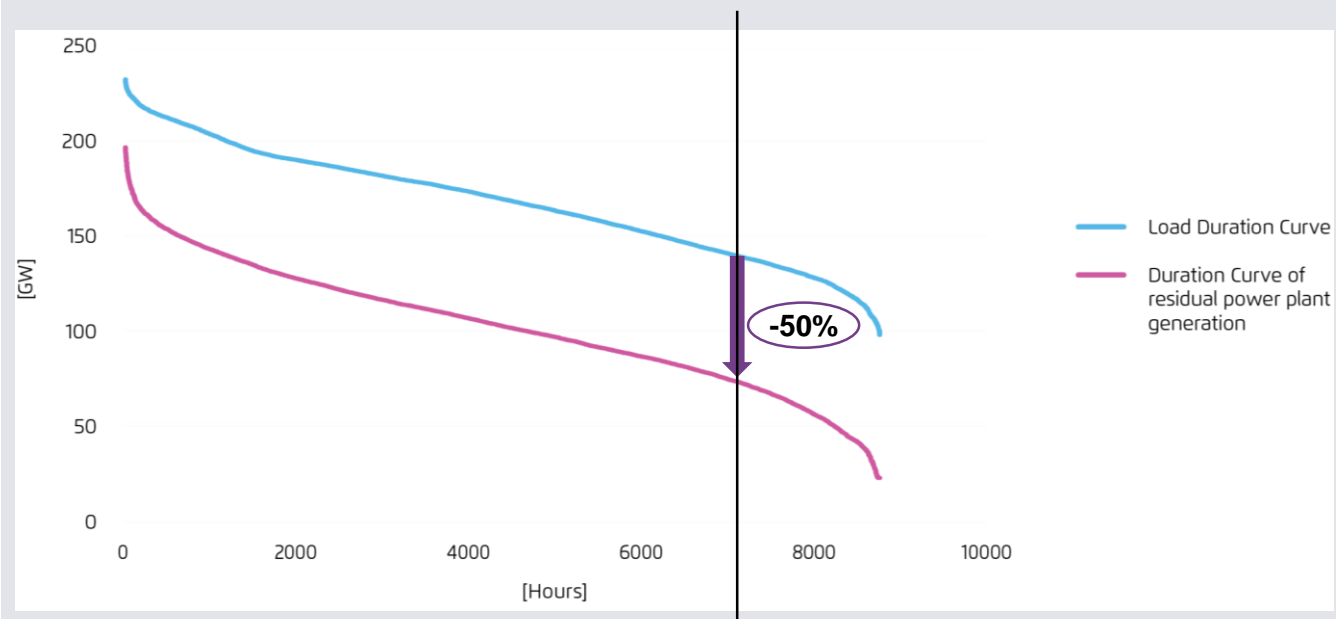


Fraunhofer IWES (2015)

\*AT, BE, CH, DE, FR, LU, NL

## The need for baseload power plants is significantly reduced by 2030

Load duration curve, duration curve of generation of residual power plant park for PLEF/CWE\* 2030

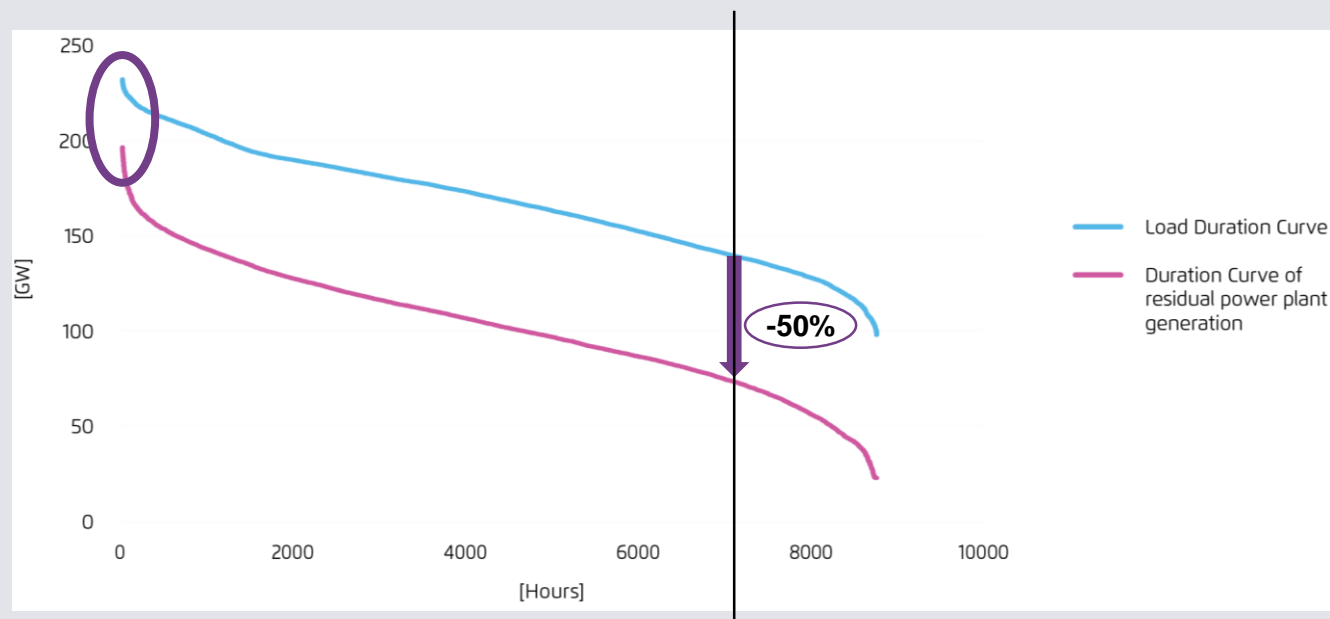


50% RES-E in the EU's power system (~30% wind and PV (~2030)) reduce capacity needs for power plants running more than 7000hrs per year by 50%

Agora Energiewende based on Fraunhofer IWES (2015) \*AT, BE, CH, DE, FR, LU, NL; Weather year 2011

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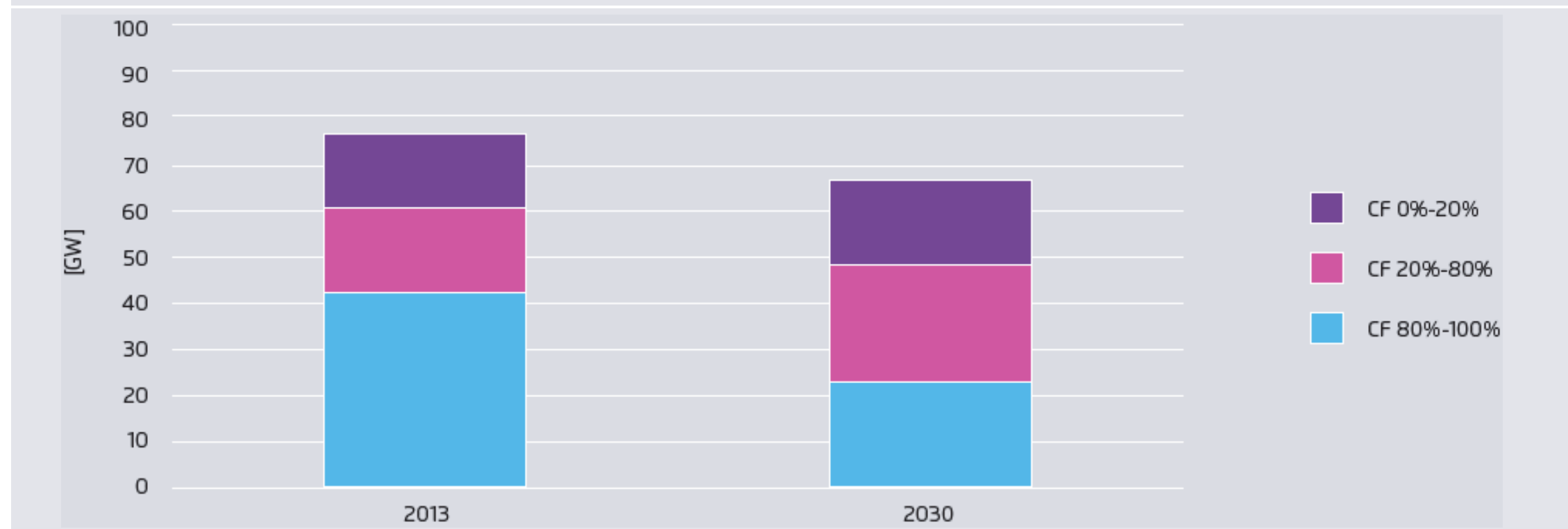
50% RES-E in the EU's power system (~30% wind and PV (~2030)) reduce capacity needs for power plants running more than 7000hrs per year by 50%

Peak load needs are reduced less strongly

Agora Energiewende based on Fraunhofer IWES (2015) \*AT, BE, CH, DE, FR, LU, NL; Weather year 2011

## Net load pattern reduces residual power plant park & changes structure: Fewer baseload, more mid-merit & peaking capacity

Structure\* of the residual power plant park in Germany in 2013 and 2030 for the integration scenario



Agora Energiewende based on Fraunhofer IWES (2015)      \*The structure is derived from assumed capacity factor (CF) values: Plants with a capacity factor of 80% or larger (>7000 full load hours), a capacity factor between 20% and 80% (1750-7000 full load hours) and a capacity factor smaller than 20% (<1750 full load hours) are shown.



## Flexibility Challenges and Integration Benefits: Main takeaways

- As wind & PV will shape EU power systems (2030 share ~30%), increasing **system flexibility** is **crucial**
- **Power system & market integration** mitigates flexibility needs due to smoothing effects. Hourly wind **ramps decrease by ~50%** comparing the national and European scale
  - Integration yields **reduced gradients of residual load, reduced balancing requirements**
  - Integration **minimises renewables curtailment by 90%**
  - **System adequacy**: Regional peak load is smaller than sum of national peak loads → fewer installed capacities required
- Still, a **more flexible power system is required**
  - The structure of the conventional power plant park and the way power plants operate will need to change: **Less baseload, relatively more mid-merit and peak-load plants**
  - An **active demand side**, an **adjusted power plant park** and **storage** will manage the flexibility challenge
- Flexibility potential is large, its development requires proactive policies → **Refined market design** that stresses system flexibility

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# Thank you for your attention!

Questions or Comments? Feel free to contact me:  
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Agora Energiewende is a joint initiative of the Mercator  
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# Flexibility, security of supply & market design



# A no-regret way forward: A refined EOM which eliminates flexibility barriers, incentivises flexibility & enables RES-E market integration

- Cross-border cooperation regarding security of supply & market design “no-regret” for all
  - Resource adequacy should be assessed on regional level
  - Capability (quality of capacity) rather than (quantity of) capacity critical for CRM design
    - Resource adequacy is not only about “how much?”, but also about “what kind?”
- Strong price signals are required to manage the complexity efficiently
  - **Faster** day-ahead, intraday and balancing energy markets: From hourly to quarterly
  - **Coupled** short-term markets: Integrate across balancing areas
  - **Link** spot market, balancing market and imbalance price signals
  - **Minimise** fossil must-run
    - Smart balancing energy products (and procurement); RES-E, DSR as new service providers
  - **Minimise** inflexible fossil capacity → Smart retirement policies
- Spot price as undistorted dispatch signal for all market parties



Source: RAP (2014)