



Newsletter

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Dear readers,

Over the past few months, the Eastern Lights project has gained momentum well beyond the consortium. From being featured in a European Commission report on industrial carbon management to presenting our work at leading scientific events and reaching new audiences through the media, Eastern Lights is helping shape the conversation on carbon capture and storage (CCS).

Our partners have also continued to showcase the project's technical and scientific expertise, highlighting the importance of cross-border cooperation, geological storage and innovation in building Europe's future CO₂ infrastructure.

Read on for the latest news in this third edition of our newsletter.

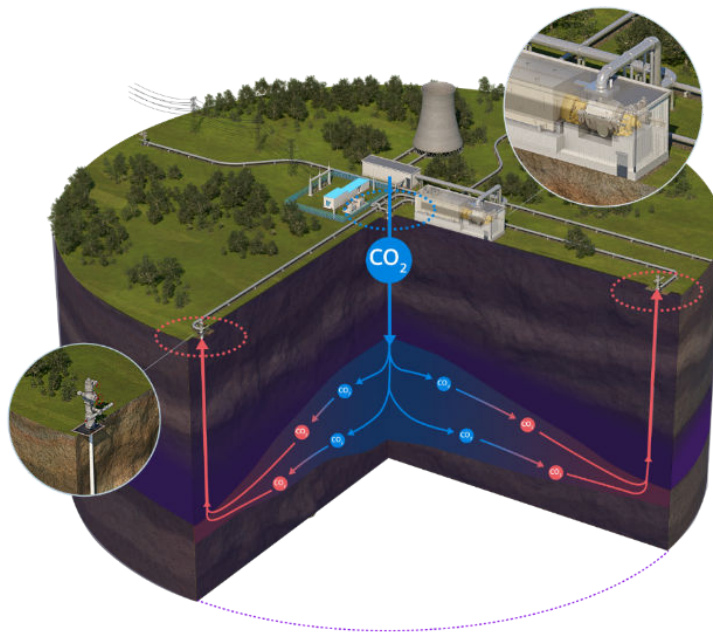
In the spotlight

Recent media coverage has drawn attention to Eastern Lights and its partners, showcasing the project's contribution to advancing carbon management and CO₂ storage solutions.

Factor2Energy featured in The Wall Street Journal and Handelsblatt

[Factor2Energy](#) is contributing to Eastern Lights' research on innovative CO₂ utilisation pathways through its work on geothermal technology using CO₂ as a working fluid. The company recently secured a successful funding round to further advance this technology.

Factor2Energy's work has been featured in both [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [Handelsblatt](#), reflecting growing international interest in technologies that combine geothermal energy with carbon management. The coverage highlights the innovative expertise within the Eastern Lights consortium and the diverse solutions companies are developing to support Europe's climate transition.



*Model of the new geothermal technology, in which CO₂ replaces water as the working fluid.
Photo: Factor2Energy.*

CSIC interviewed by Spanish broadcaster IB3

Spanish public broadcaster **IB3** interviewed **Jesús Carrera**, Research Professor at CSIC, and **Víctor Vilarrosa**, Researcher at CSIC, about developing safe and reliable geological CO₂ storage, and its role in Europe's decarbonisation.

Jesús Carrera underlined that tackling climate change requires removing more CO₂ than is emitted, highlighting the important role that projects such as Eastern Lights can play in developing safe and reliable geological CO₂ storage.

Watch



Jesús Carrera, Research Professor at CSIC, during an interview with Spanish public broadcaster IB3.

Carbon capture utilisation and storage technologies: Decarbonising hard-to-abate industries and strengthening strategic autonomy

Case study

Eastern Lights is one of four Horizon Europe projects featured in a **new case study report** prepared for the European Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA) and the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA), **highlighting innovative approaches to industrial carbon management across Europe**.

The publication showcases the project's work on onshore CO₂ storage, cross-border transport and the development of a future CCUS cluster in Eastern Europe, demonstrating how Horizon Europe research is helping advance Europe's transition to climate neutrality.

[Read](#)

CO₂GeoNet Open Forum



Several Eastern Lights project partners presented their insights at the 19th CO₂GeoNet Open Forum in Venice from 18-21 May 2026, and contributed to discussions on CO₂ storage research, cross-border cooperation and the future deployment of CCUS in Europe.

Jesús Carrera (CSIC) presented the project's modelling work addressing low-permeability challenges in geological CO₂ storage, while Victor Vilarrasa (CSIC) chaired the technical workshop on advances in modelling and monitoring for CO₂ storage assurance.

Tania Nikolova (eFUND) presented "Eastern Lights: Uniting People, Regions, and Disciplines to Shape Europe's CO₂ Storage Future", highlighting the importance of cross-border collaboration and ensuring that Eastern and Southeastern Europe play a central role in Europe's transition to climate neutrality.

Alexandra Dudu (GeoEcoMar) and Tania Nikolova also presented a poster on cross-border opportunities and challenges for implementing CO₂ transport and storage in Romania and Bulgaria, showcasing the project's work to strengthen regional cooperation.

[Watch the presentations](#)

[Poster](#)

Upcoming events



12th World Energy Congress

22–24 July 2026 | Helsinki, Finland

Isabella Nardini (Fraunhofer IEG) will present Eastern Lights at the World Energy Congress, bringing together researchers, industry leaders, investors and policymakers to discuss the future of global energy systems.

[Register](#)



21st Conference on Sustainable Development of Energy, Water and Environment Systems (SDEWES)

30 August – 3 September 2026 | Gran Canaria, Spain

María Teresa Moreira Vilar (USC) will present Eastern Lights at the conference, sharing the project's latest research with the international scientific community.

[Register](#)



Eurogas Annual Regional Conference

30 September 2026 | Bucharest, Romania

The Eurogas Annual Regional Conference will discuss Romania's role in strengthening Europe's energy security and supporting a competitive energy transition in Eastern Europe.

[Register](#)



2nd Global Cleaner Production Conference

26-29 October 2026 | Sitges, Spain

José Luis Ares Sainz (USC) will represent Eastern Lights at the conference, showcasing the project's contribution to industrial decarbonisation and sustainable production.

[Register](#)



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