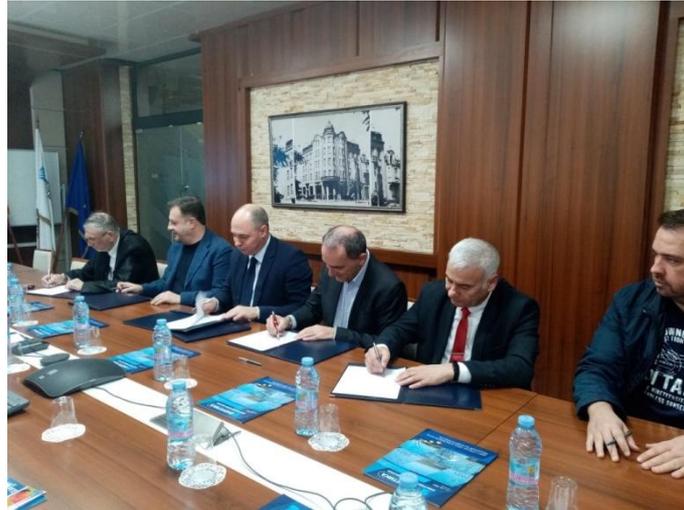


## Memorandum of cooperation for establishment of 10,000 EV charging stations in Bulgaria



Bulgaria will have 10,000 charging stations for electric vehicles within five years and will charge them with renewable sources.

This is one of the goals of the memorandum of cooperation signed in February, 2022 by the Electricity System Operator (ESO), the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Branch Chamber of Power Engineers, the Electric Vehicles Association, the Electric Vehicles Industrial Cluster and the Electric Vehicle Owners Association in Bulgaria.

The document envisages the construction by the end of 2025 of an adequate infrastructure of charging stations for electric vehicles. The ESO will provide access for connection of the constructed charging stations to its electricity transmission network.

ESO operates 297 substations, which allows the charging infrastructure to be deployed at national scale, through groups of slow and fast charging stations to serve electric cars, public and heavy load electric transport.

The forecast is that by 2030 the electric cars in Bulgaria will reach 200,000, and 600,000 MWh of electricity will be needed to cover their annual electricity consumption. By 2050, their number will reach 3,500,000, which will require more than 10,000,000 MWh of electricity per year. Currently, the car fleet in Bulgaria consumes liquid fuels, the equivalent of which is 45 million MWh. The mass influx of electric vehicles by 2050 will reduce the energy consumption in the transport sector by three times.

The partners will exchange information on the state of the infrastructure, the current and expected need for locations and appropriate charging capacity, government and municipal decisions, as well as financial estimates of the resources needed to further develop this infrastructure.

The national charging infrastructure will promote the utilization of electricity from renewable sources and the development of ecological transport throughout the country, including in settlements located far away from the main roads.