



Cluster of Excellence

MATERIALS FOR ENERGY CONVERSION AND STORAGE

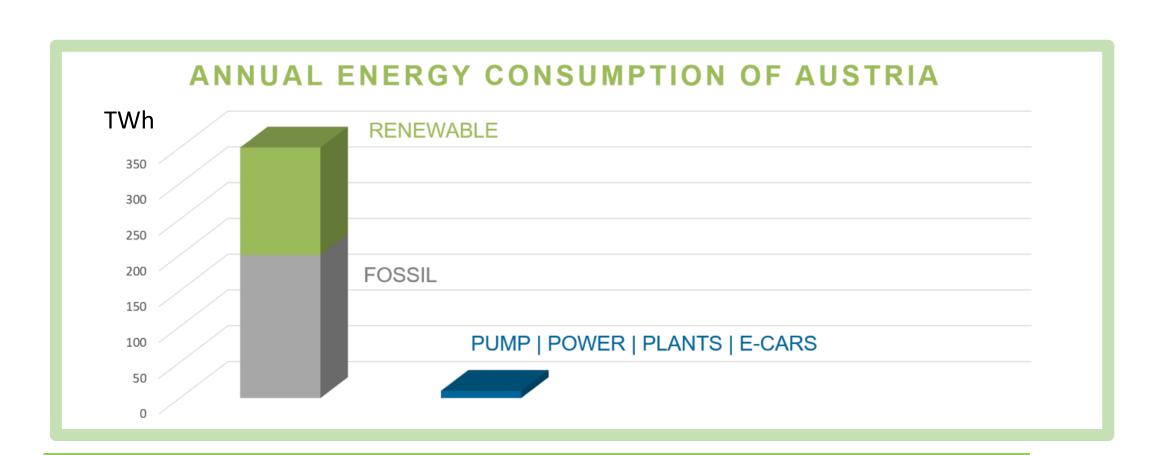
Director/Contact: Günther Rupprechter https://coe-mecs.at/WP/

About the CoE

THE ENERGY CRISIS: HIGH NOON!

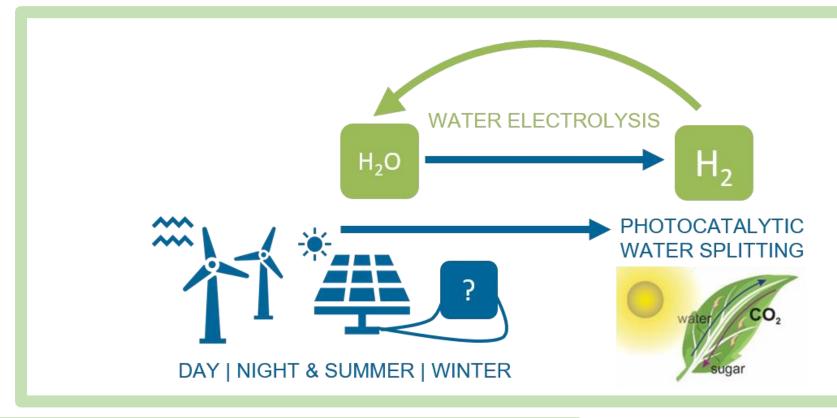
Energy demand is growing, paralleled by worldwide global warming and climate change.

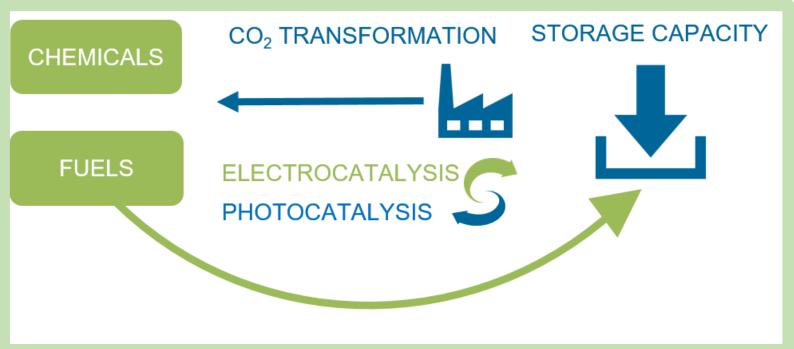
Paradigm shift: Replacing fossil fuels by renewable resources.



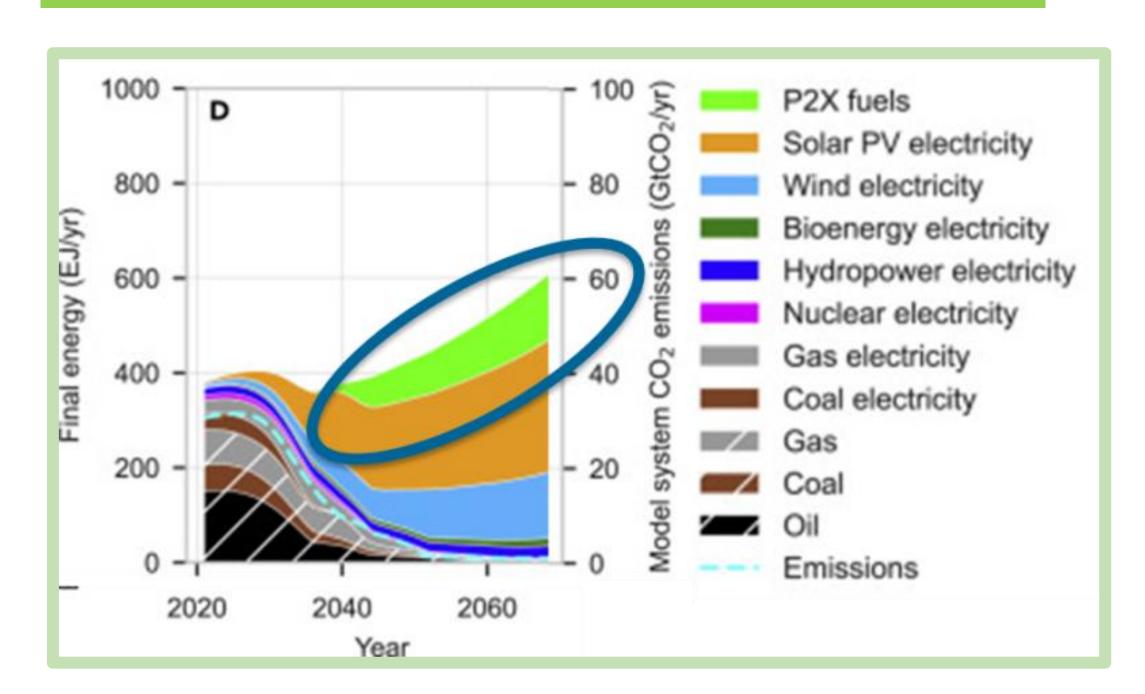
Challenge:

We have to store huge amounts of renewable energy, which can only be done in chemical bonds. Thus, we need **reversible carriers for renewable energy**. Electro- and photocatalysis for the generation of **green H₂**, **chemicals**, and **fuels**.





So far used: Rare expensive metals, low efficiency, not stable, or even toxic despite decades of academic and industrial research: Insufficient fundamental, atomistic, and mechanistic understanding



Research Vision THE ENERGY MATERIALS AGE

TAILORED COMPETITIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE FUTURE REQUIRE:

- Atomic-level understanding of the involved processes
- Major breakthroughs in energy materials design (abundant, non-toxic, environmentally friendly, stable)
- Fundamental research enables sustainable technologies



- Build a transformative centre that is a beacon of scientific excellence
- Energy storage is a worldwide challenge, with MECS being a unique important asset

FWF + Institutions fund ca. 35 Mio €

Contributors:

- 19 outstanding researchers from 4 Institutions, with complementary expertise in physics, chemistry, materials science
- A nucleus for synergies in Austria and internationally creating a sustainable network
- Very diverse academic age & brain gain!

