



Comparing Energy Communities in Austria and the Czech Republic

Implementation of EU Directives
RED II and EMD

What are Energy Communities (ECs)?



Local initiatives to **generate, share, and consume renewable energy.**



Promote **environmental sustainability, citizen engagement, and local economic resilience.**



Legally supported by EU directives **RED II (2018/2001)** and **EMD.**

RED II and EMD Directives



RED II: Promotes **Renewable Energy Communities (RECs)** as legal entities.



EMD: Ensures fair access to energy markets and grids.



Transposition deadline: **June 2021.**

Implementation in Austria

Early transposition of RED II and EMD.

Renewable Energy Expansion Act (*Erneuerbaren-Ausbau-Gesetz*).

Financial support: subsidies, tax incentives.

Focus: **local autonomy**, citizen involvement.

 Examples:

Bürgerkraftwerk (Vienna): community-owned solar plant.

E-Carus (Carinthia): local e-mobility and energy innovation

Implementation Czech Republic Case

Title: Implementation in the Czech Republic

Legal delay: Lex OZE II effective only in **2024**, 3 years late.

Technical system: **static** electricity allocation (no dynamic model).

Restrictions: one group per metering point, geographic limits.

Digital registration available since August 2024.

 Issues:

High upfront costs.

Administrative complexity.

Limited experience in decentralized governance.

Economic Incentives and Support

Factor	Austria	Czech Republic
Subsidies and incentives	Yes (active and diverse)	Yes, but limited
Market access	Well-integrated	Barriers due to grid fees
Private sector role	PPPs common	Underdeveloped
Key challenges	NIMBYism, bureaucracy	Same + financing constraints

Austria vs. Czech Republic

- Austria: early implementation, strong legal framework, social support.
- Czech Republic: legal delays, technical/admin barriers, weaker civic foundations.

Shared challenges:

- Funding, regulatory complexity, and NIMBYism.
- Both require public engagement and streamlined procedures.