

## **The Fossil Juggernaut - French Translation of Report Exposes EPH's Dark Side and Threat to Climate and Democracy**

The French translation of the report on Czech oligarch Daniel Kretinsky and his company EPH, entitled "Comment EPH de Daniel Křetínský détruit le climat, profite de la précarité énergétique et menace la démocratie," [1] provides extensive research on this fossil company and its impact on climate and democracy.

EPH, the largest Czech company, is also one of the largest coal companies in Europe and has the worst decarbonization plans among European energy companies. The report highlights EPH's contribution to the climate crisis, as its reliance on fossil fuels undermines global efforts to combat climate change and transition to a sustainable future.

EPH is a major player in the French energy sector, owning several gas, coal, and biomass power plants, including Émile-Huchet, Gardanne and Provence 4. With a strong interest in the French energy market, the company has been actively expanding its operations in France. Furthermore, EPH holds a significant stake in major French media outlets such as Le Monde and Marianne and has recently acquired the publishing house Editis, giving the company a significant influence on the French media landscape.

Radek Kubala, a researcher from the organization Re-set and author of the report, explains that "The company is very active in the energy and media sectors in France, so it made sense for us to translate our report to attest to the actual functioning of this firm. Křetínský's continued investments in coal and fossil fuels show a complete disregard for the urgency of the climate crisis. EPH's negative impact on the climate and the environment cannot be ignored."

Additionally, EPH's ownership of media outlets in the Czech Republic and France poses a significant threat to freedom of speech and democracy. "Kretinsky's control of media outlets gives him significant influence over public opinion, which is a serious threat to democracy and freedom of speech. Through his ownership of major media outlets, Daniel Křetínský has access to the political scene in both France and the Czech Republic," adds Kubala.

The report provides comprehensive research and analysis on EPH and its negative impact on climate and democracy. It sheds light on the urgent need

to transition to a sustainable, low-carbon future and hold companies like EPH accountable for their destructive actions.

**Contact:**

Radek Kubala, Re-set: platform for socio-ecological transformation (re-set.cz/en)

Email: radek.kubala@re-set.cz

Phone: +420 736 457 028

[1] Full report here: <https://re-set.cz/download/2022/Fossilni%CC%81%20hyena%20fr.pdf>