Supplementary Information:

Policy impact in technology growth models of solar PV and onshore wind power

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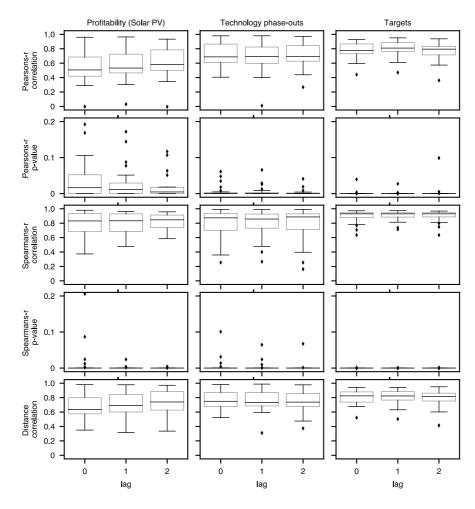
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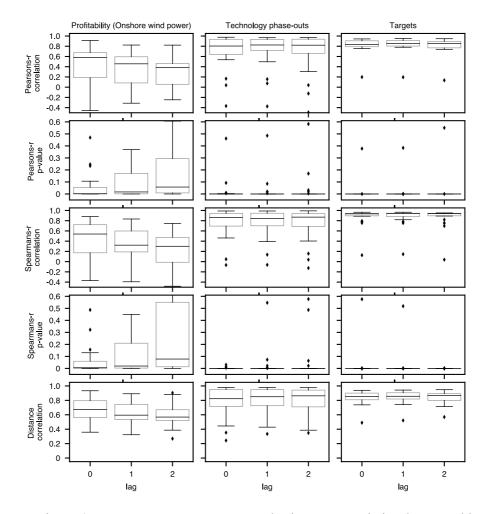
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Supplementary Figures

Data correlation tests

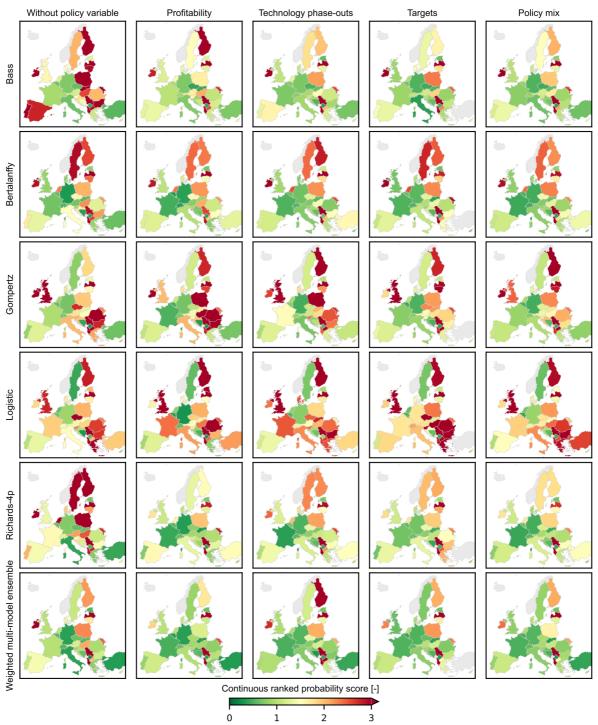


Supplementary Figure 1. Pearsons-r, Spearmans-r, and Distance correlation between historical time series of the installed capacities of solar PV and the three investigated types of policies with no lag, one year lag, and two-year lag with values from 2000 - 2023. Outliers can lay outside the plots.

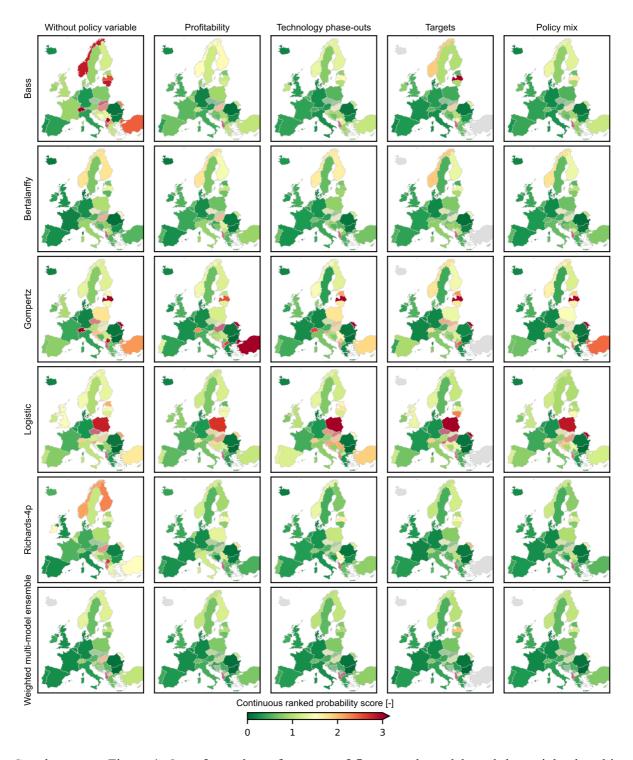


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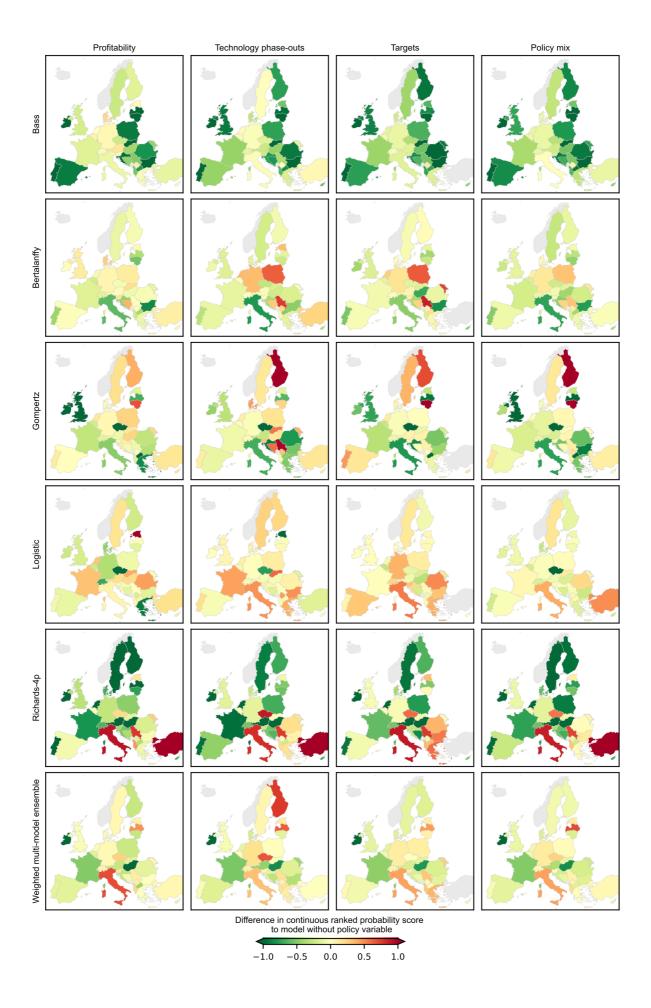
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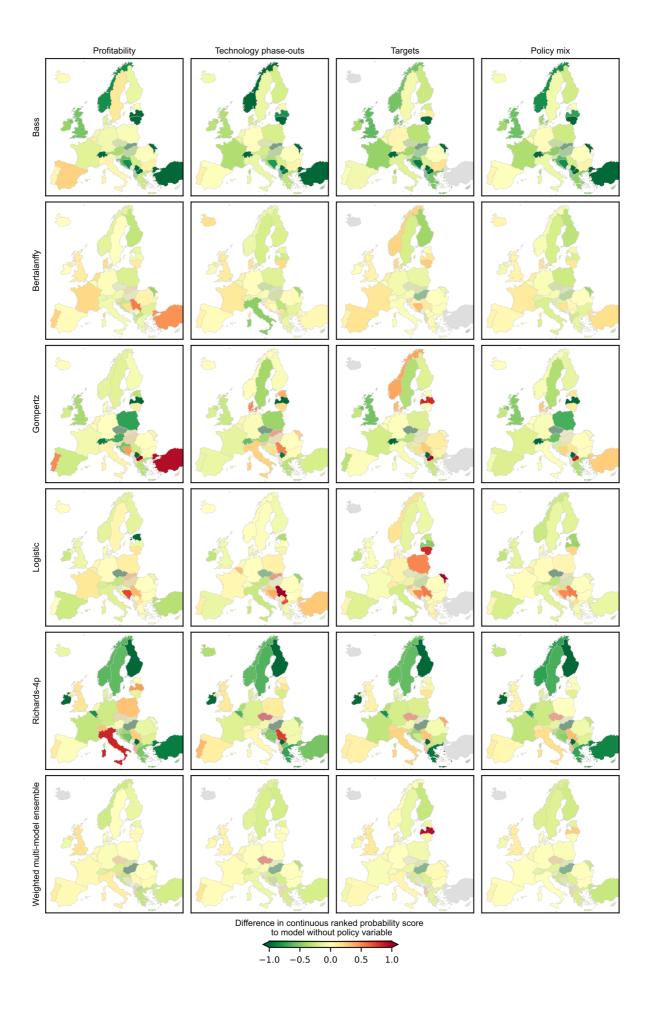
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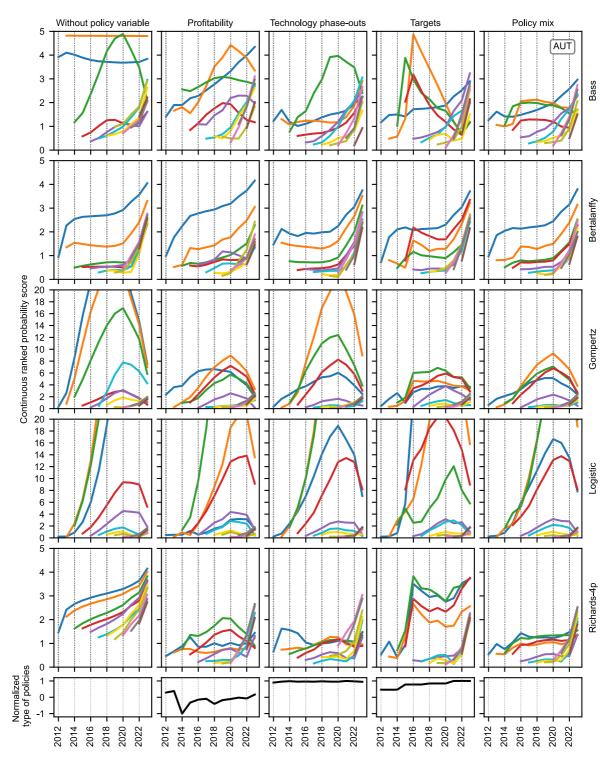
Supplementary Figure 4. Out-of-sample performance of five growth models and the weighted multimodel ensemble without an integrated policy variable and with a type of policies for onshore wind power. The continuous ranked probability score measures the out-of-sample performance in terms of calibration and sharpness of the probabilistic projections of each model in 2012 - 2023 with respective training intervals ending between 2011 and 2022. The out-of-sample testing for the weighted multimodel ensemble starts in 2014 as the ensemble uses testing of the growth models of the previous two years in the first iteration to calculate model weights for the ensemble. The higher the continuous ranked probability score, the lower the performance. The shown scores are medians over all years and hindcasting intervals. Countries in grey have no projections. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references¹⁻³. Supplementary Figure 3 compares all types of policies for solar PV. Supplementary Figures 5-6 show differences in continuous ranked probability scores. Related to Figure 2.



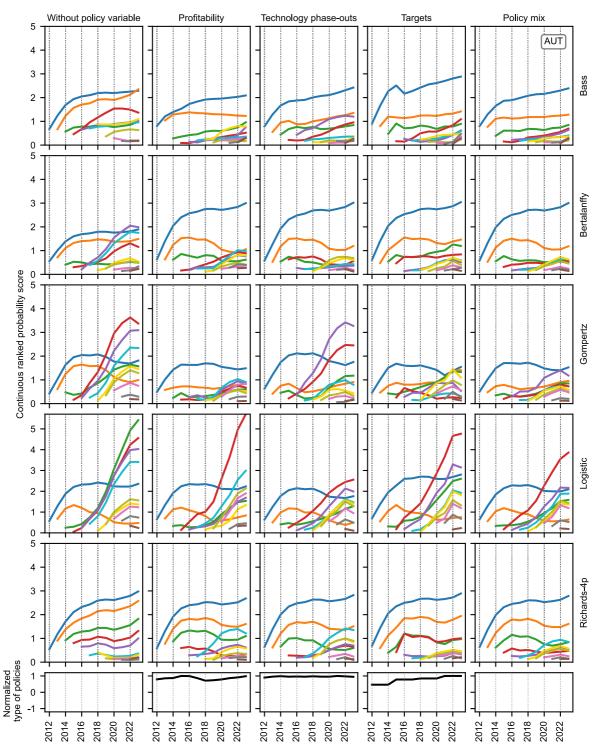
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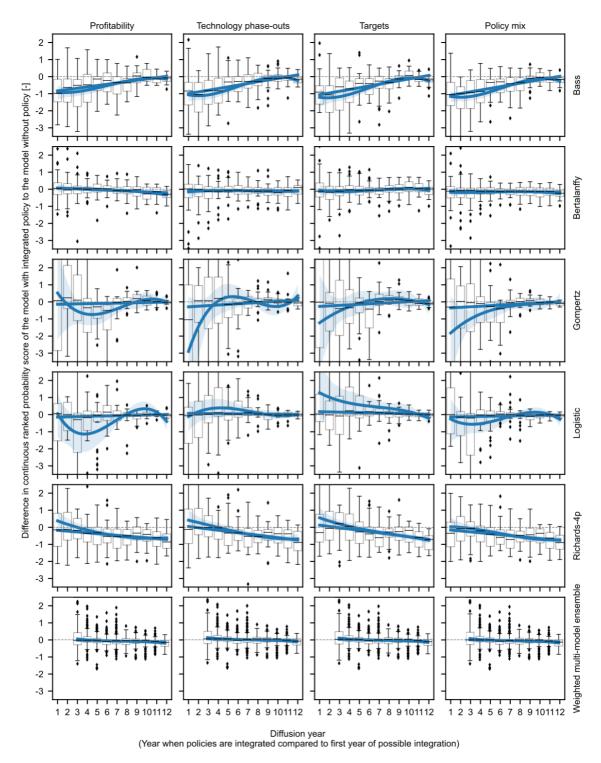
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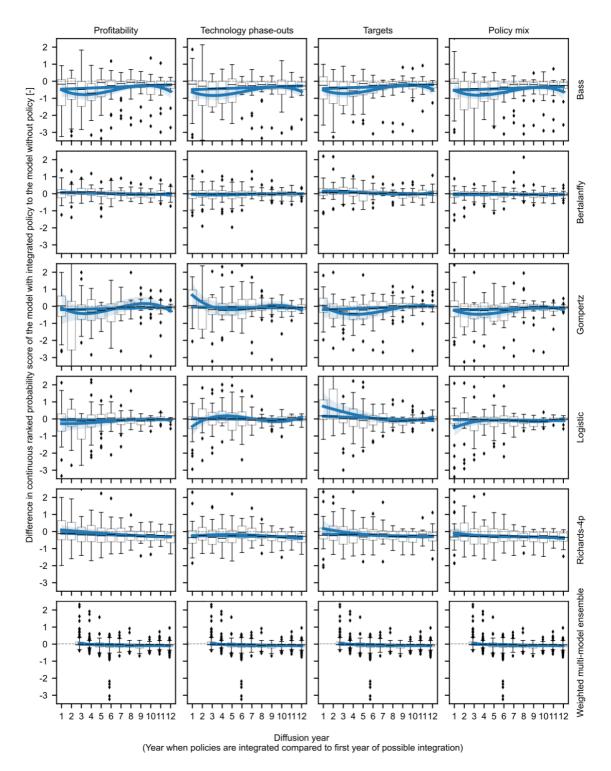
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Supplementary Figure 8. Comparison in out-of-sample performance of five growth models for model versions without an integrated policy variable and with a type of policies for onshore wind power for different hindcasting intervals, exemplarily for Austria. The continuous ranked probability score measures the out-of-sample performance of the probabilistic projections of each model in hindcasting with out-of-sample testing between 2012 and 2023 with respective training intervals ending between 2011 and 2022. The higher the continuous ranked probability score, the lower the performance. The graphs of normalized types of policies show the time series of the investigated type policies, scaled by their maximum absolute value for readability. Comparable figures for the remaining countries are available on Zenodo (Link available after publication in a peer-reviewed article).

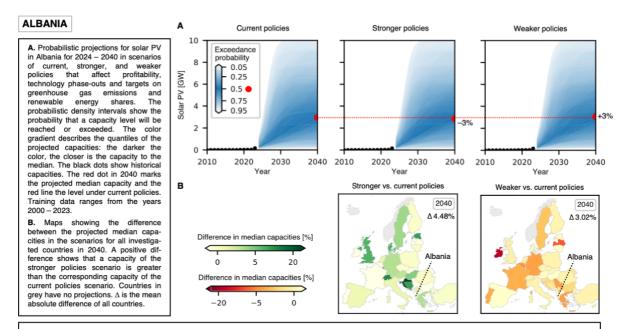


Supplementary Figure 9. Difference in continuous ranked probability score of the investigated growth models and the weighted multi-model ensemble between versions with and without type of policies for solar PV for all countries. The more negative the difference in the continuous ranked probability score, the higher the improvement in performance by integrating policies. The results are grouped by technology diffusion stage, which is the difference in years between the year when policies are integrated (i.e., first year of out-of-sample testing in each hindcasting iteration) and the first year of possible integration (i.e., the last training year in the first projection). The diffusion stage is individual to each technology and country. The bold lines are linear and cubic fits of the data with confidence intervals depicted as shaded areas. Supplementary Figure 10 shows the corresponding box plots for onshore wind power. Related to Figure 3.



Supplementary Figure 10. Difference in continuous ranked probability score of the investigated growth models and the weighted multi-model ensemble between versions with and without type of policies for onshore wind power for all countries. The more negative the difference in the continuous ranked probability score, the higher the improvement in performance by integrating policies. The results are grouped by technology diffusion stage, which is the difference in years between the year when policies are integrated (i.e., first year of out-of-sample testing in each hindcasting iteration) and the first year of possible integration (i.e., the last training year in the first projection). The diffusion stage is individual to each technology and country. The bold lines are linear and cubic fits of the data with confidence intervals depicted as shaded areas. Supplementary Figure 9 shows the corresponding box plots for solar PV. Related to Figure 3.

Country factsheets for future scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies

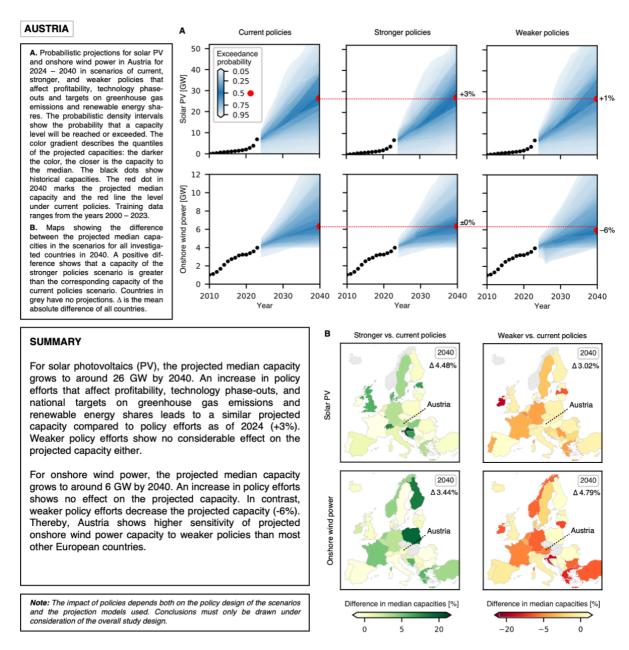


SUMMARY

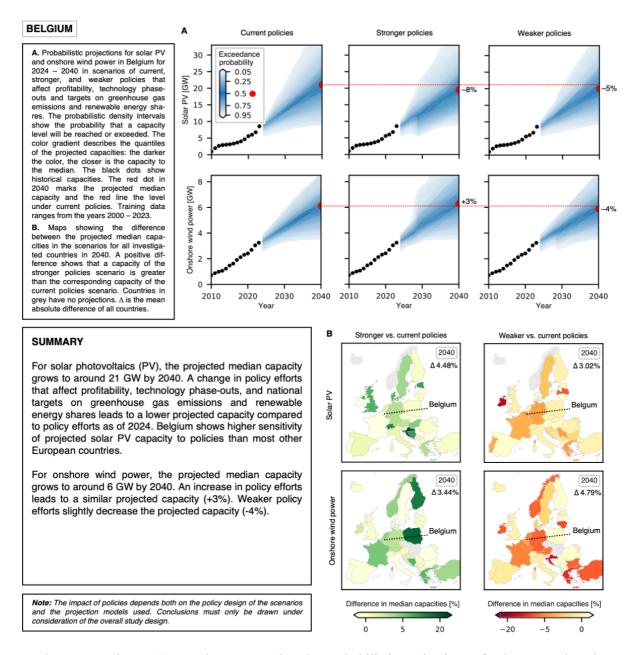
The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 3 GW by 2040. A change in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares leads to a similar projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

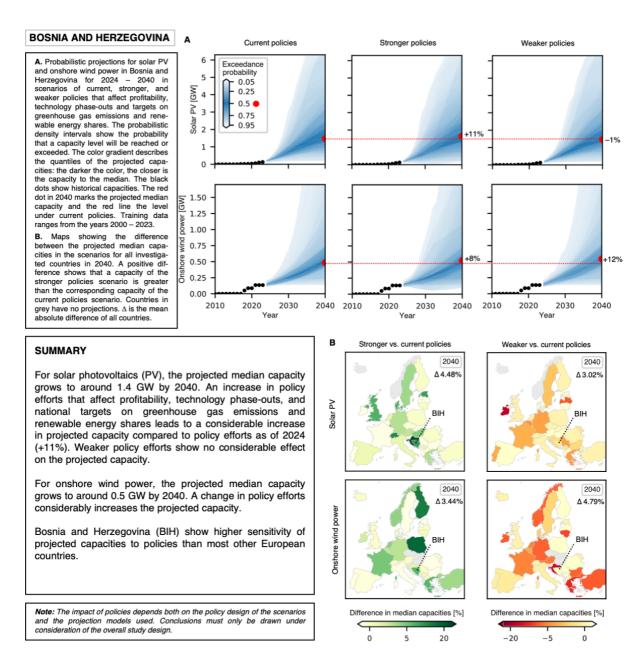
Supplementary Figure 11. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Albania. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



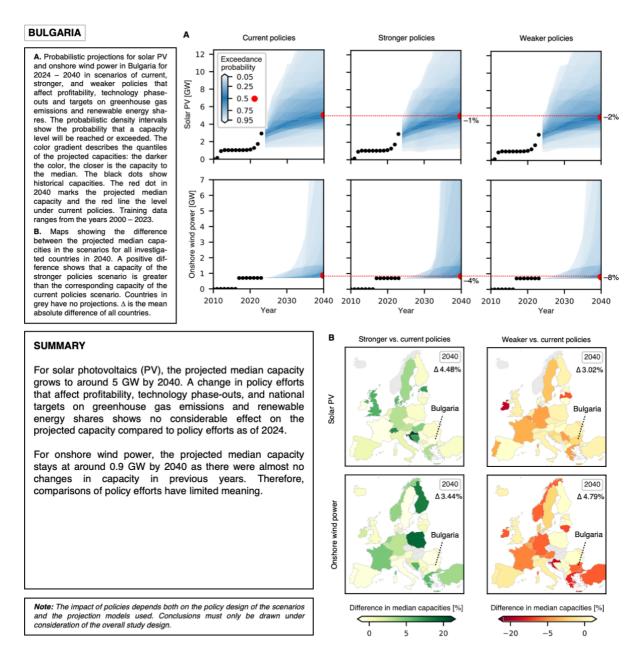
Supplementary Figure 12. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Austria. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



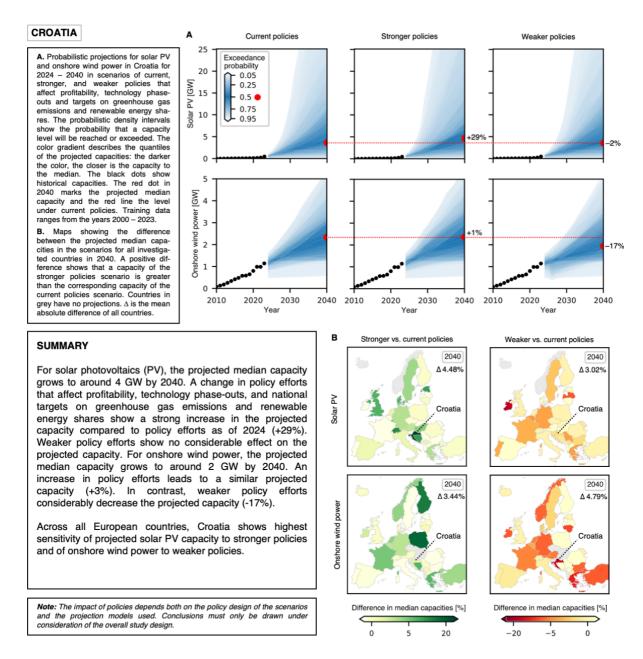
Supplementary Figure 13. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Belgium. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



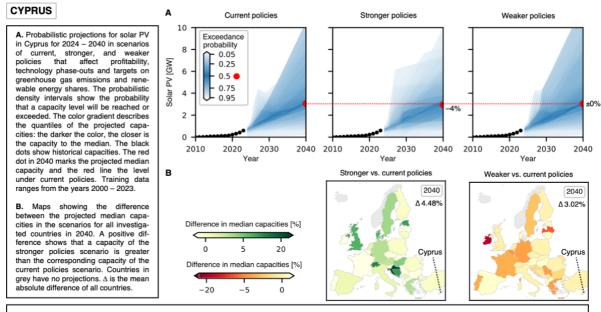
Supplementary Figure 14. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Bosnia and Herzegovina. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 15. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Bulgaria. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 16. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Croatia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

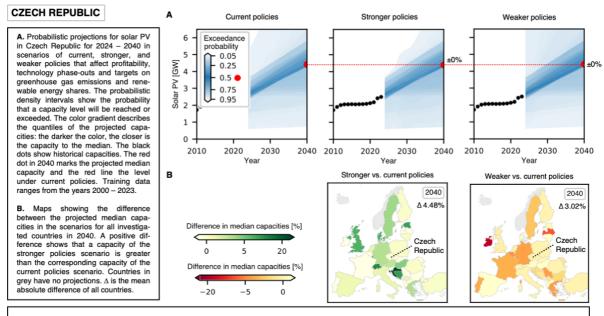


SUMMARY

The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 3 GW by 2040. A change in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares leads to a similar projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

Supplementary Figure 17. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Cyprus. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

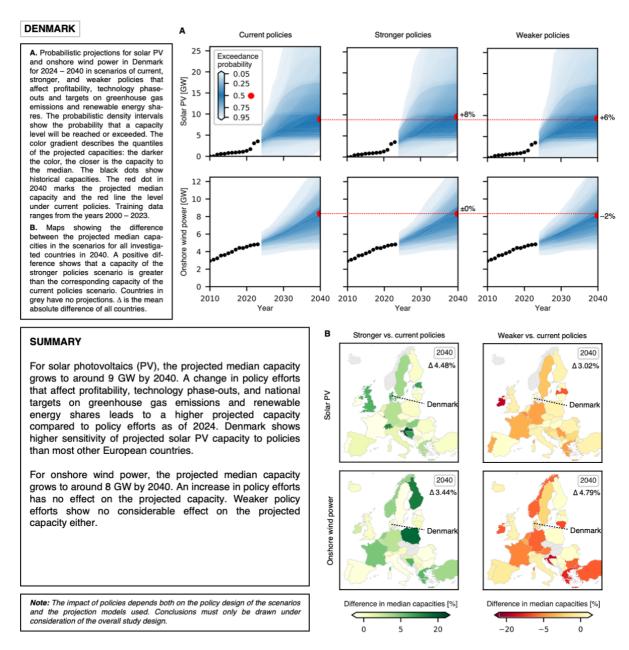


SUMMARY

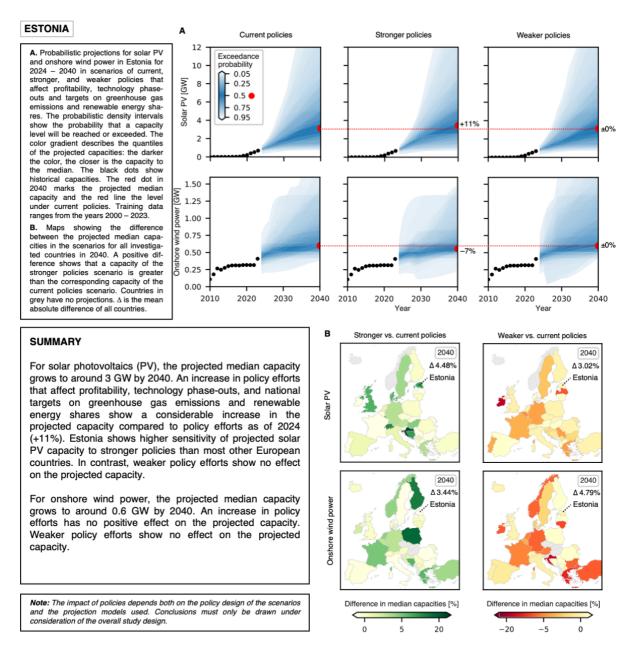
The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 4 GW by 2040. A change in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares shows no effect on the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

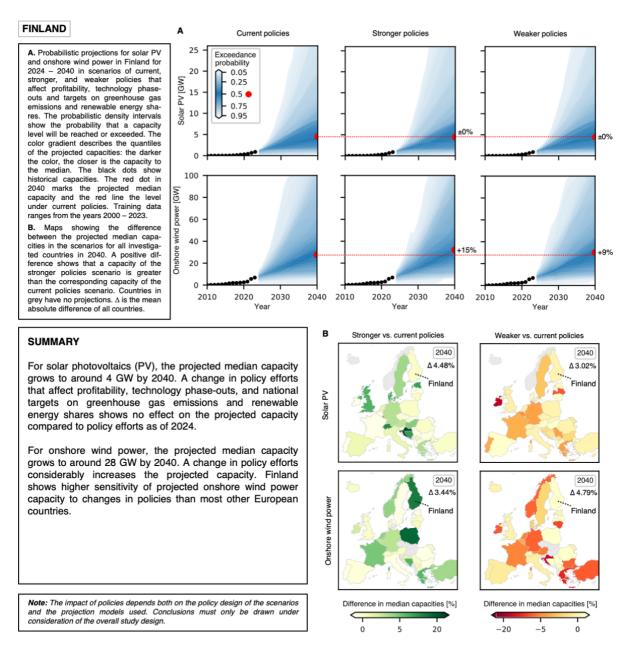
Supplementary Figure 18. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Czech Republic. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



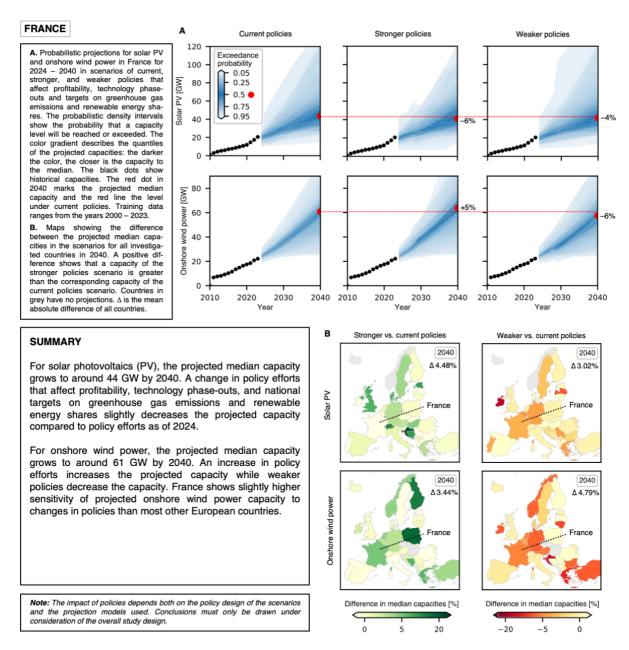
Supplementary Figure 19. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Denmark. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



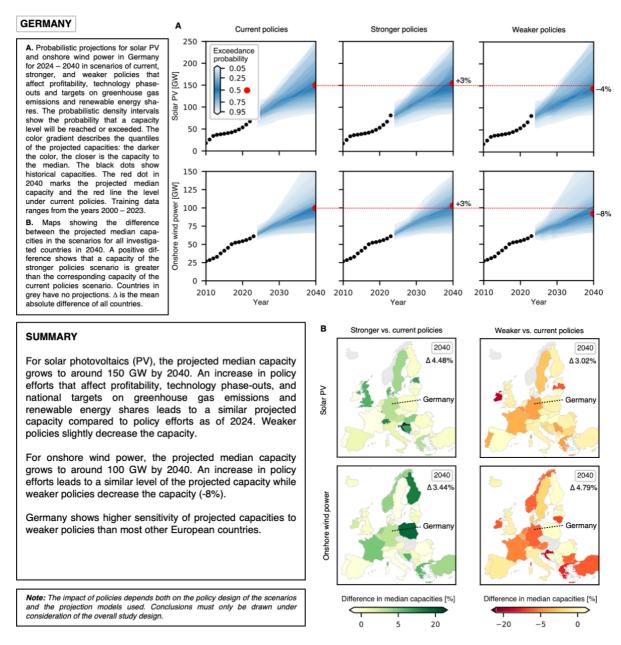
Supplementary Figure 20. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Estonia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



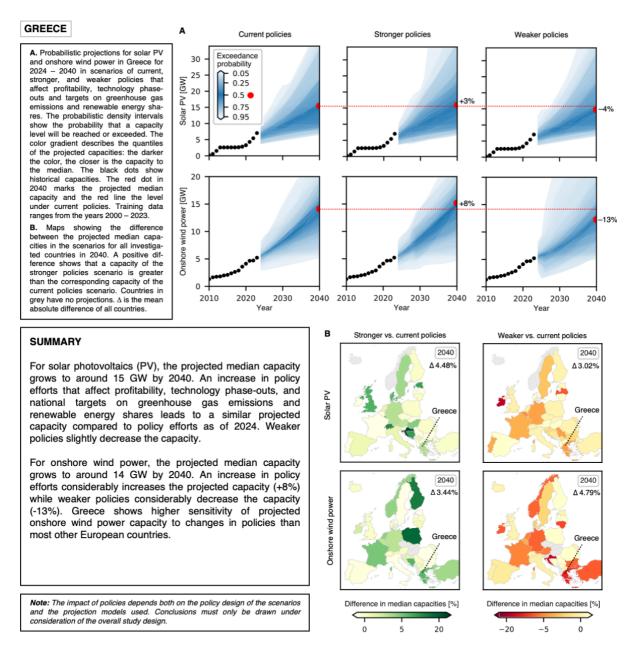
Supplementary Figure 21. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Finland. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



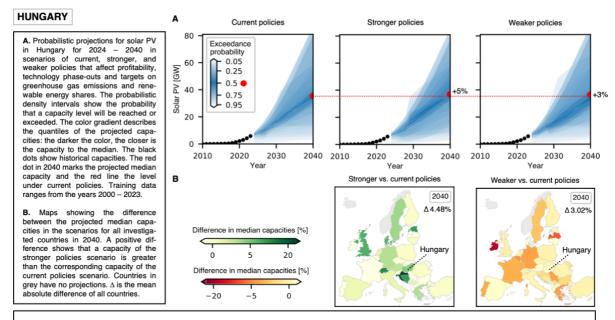
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Supplementary Figure 23. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Germany. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 24. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Greece. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

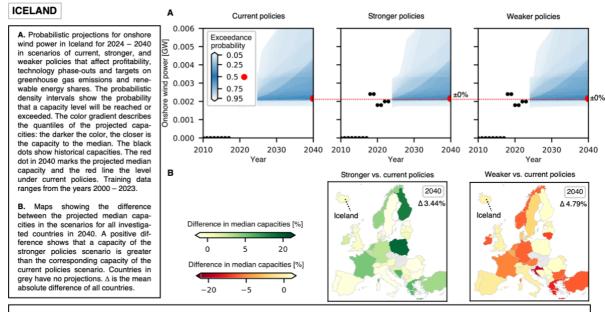


SUMMARY

The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 35 GW by 2040. An increase in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares increases the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024. Weaker policies show no decrease in the capacity.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

Supplementary Figure 25. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Hungary. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

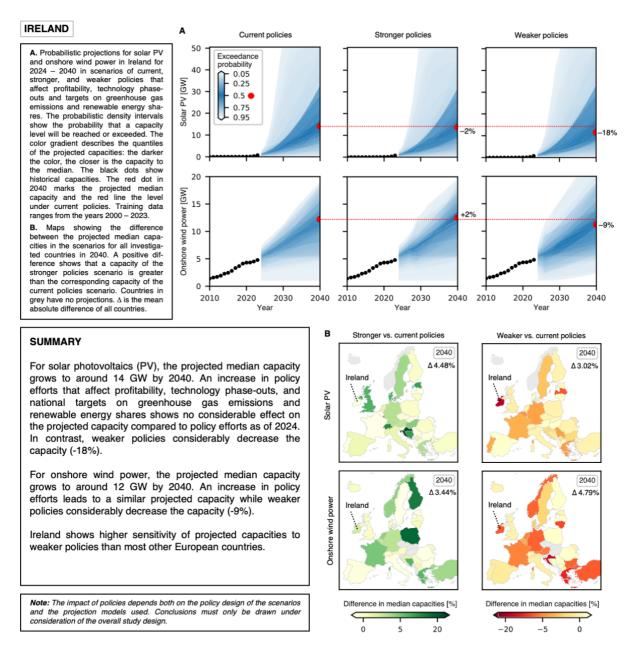


SUMMARY

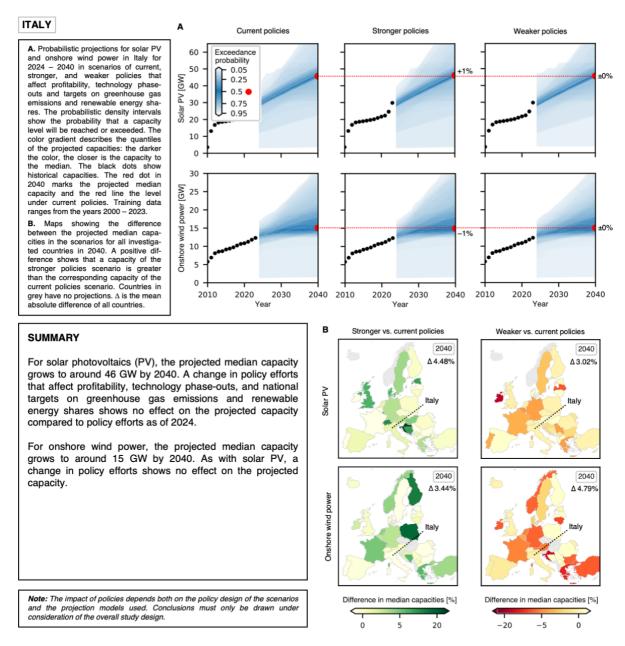
The projected median capacity of onshore wind power stay at around 2 MW by 2040 as there were only minor changes in capacity in previous years. Therefore, comparisons of policy efforts have limited meaning.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

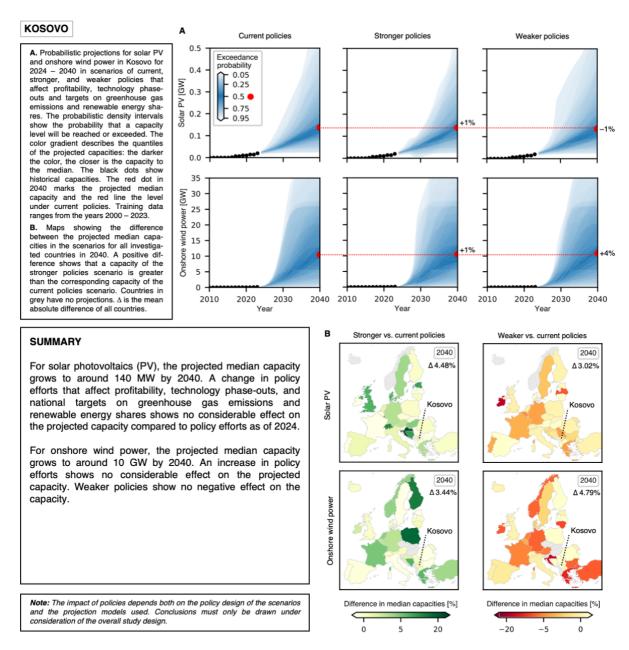
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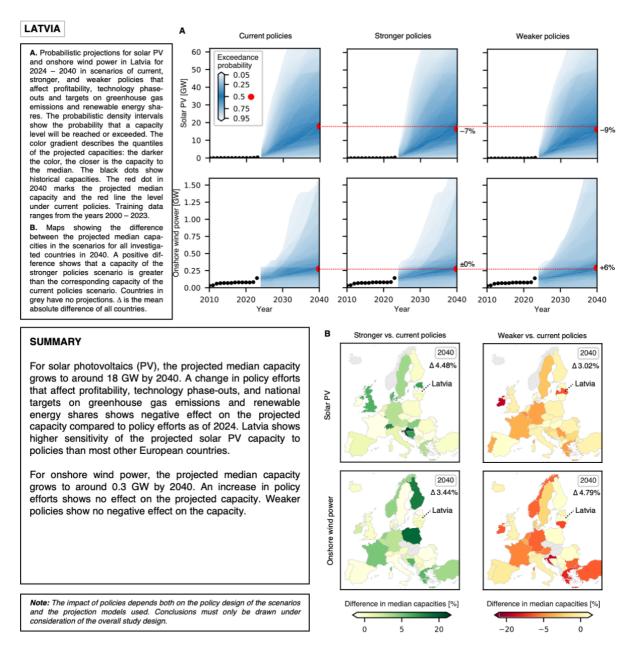
Supplementary Figure 27. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Ireland. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



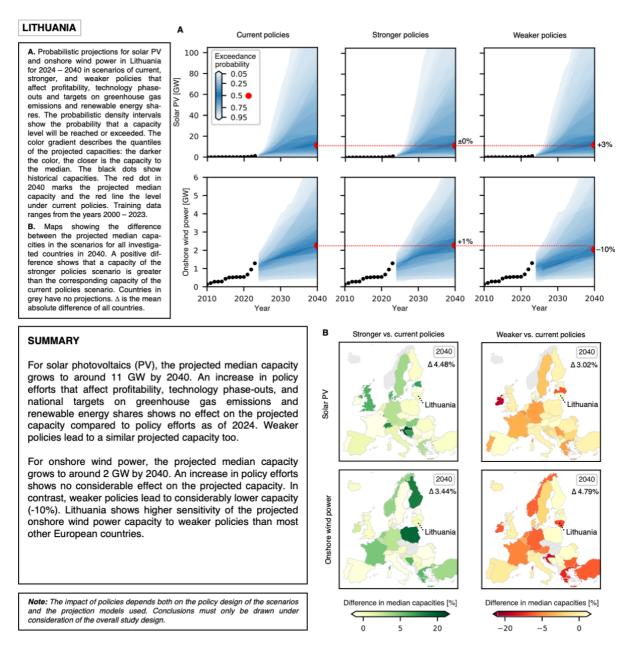
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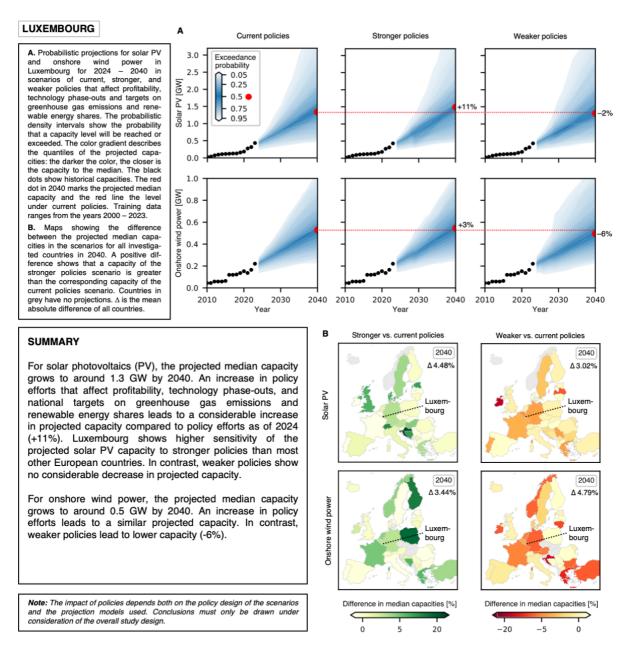
Supplementary Figure 29. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Kosovo. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



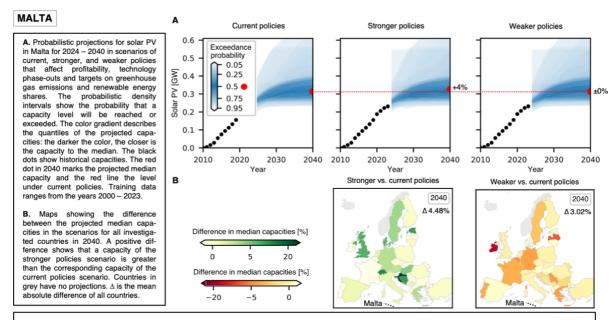
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Supplementary Figure 31. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Lithuania. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 32. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Luxembourg. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

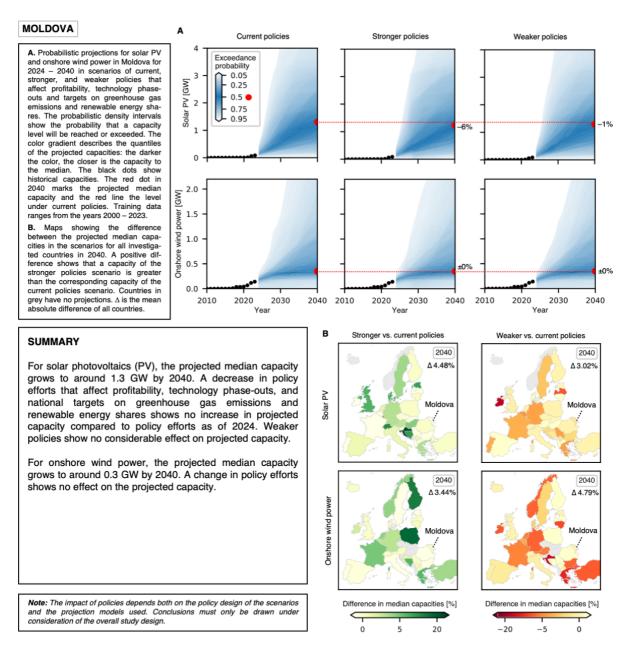


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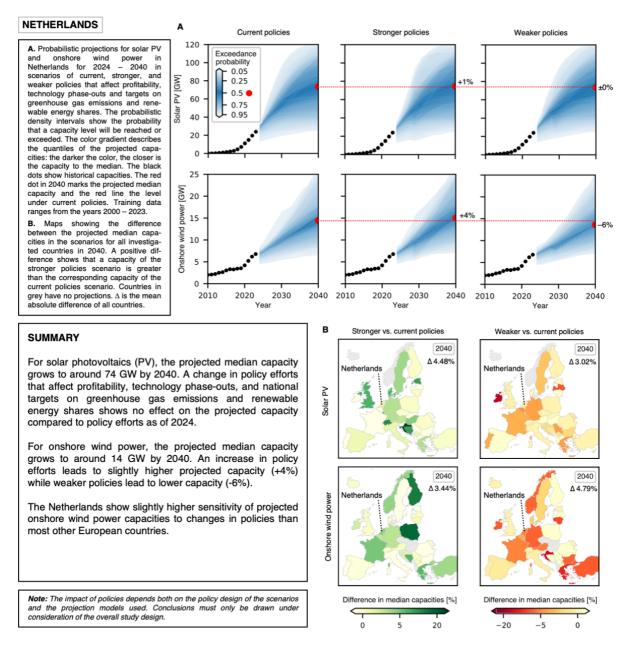
The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 0.3 GW by 2040. An increase in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares slightly increases the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024 (+4%) while weaker policies show no effect.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

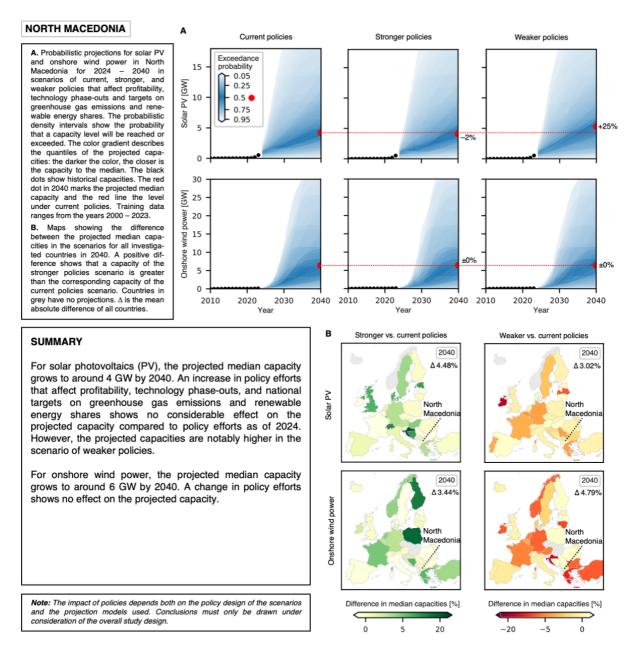
Supplementary Figure 33. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Malta. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



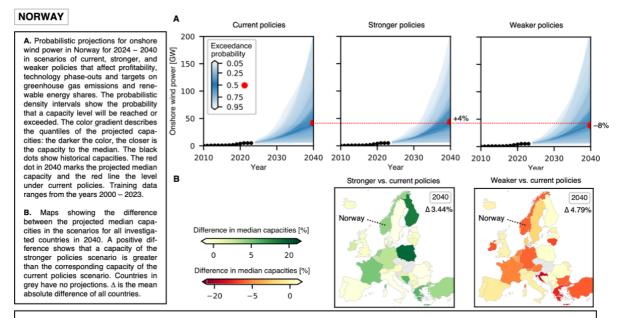
Supplementary Figure 34. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Moldova. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 35. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for the Netherlands. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 36. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for North Macedonia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

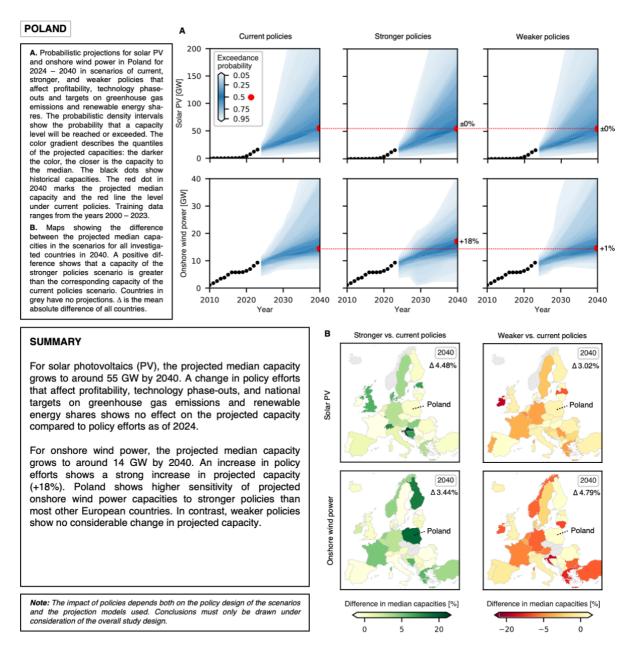


SUMMARY

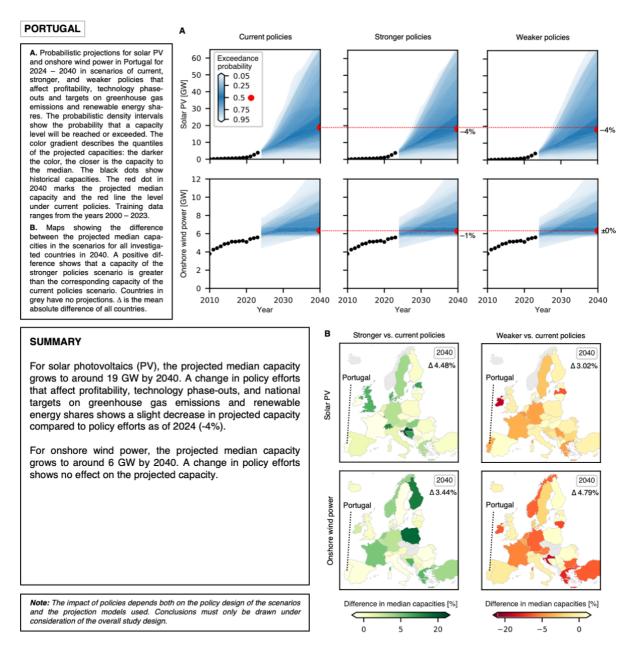
The projected median capacity of onshore wind power grows to around 42 GW by 2040. An increase in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares slightly increases the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024 (+4%). In contrast, weaker policies considerably decrease the capacity (-8%). Norway shows higher sensitivity of projected onshore wind power capacities to policies than most other European countries.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

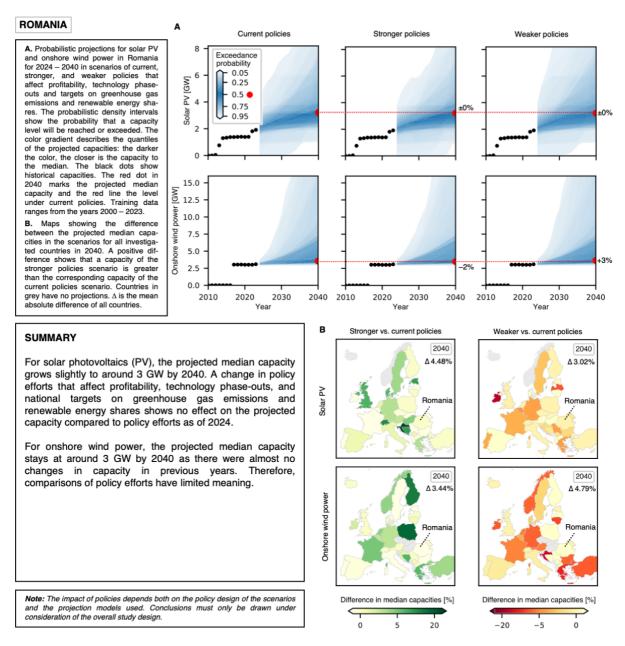
Supplementary Figure 37. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Norway. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



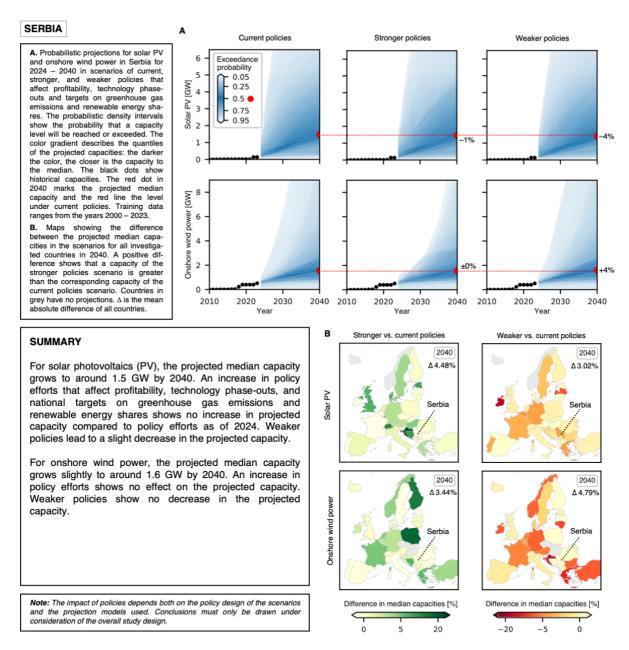
Supplementary Figure 38. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Poland. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



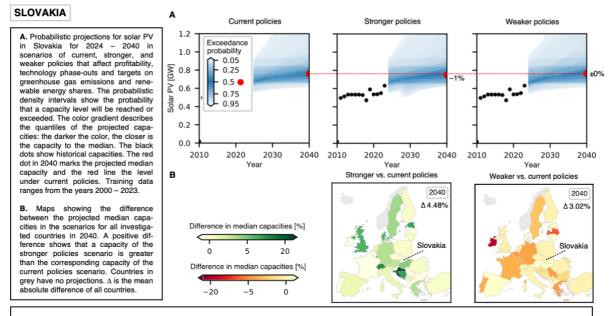
Supplementary Figure 39. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Portugal. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 40. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Romania. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 41. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Serbia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

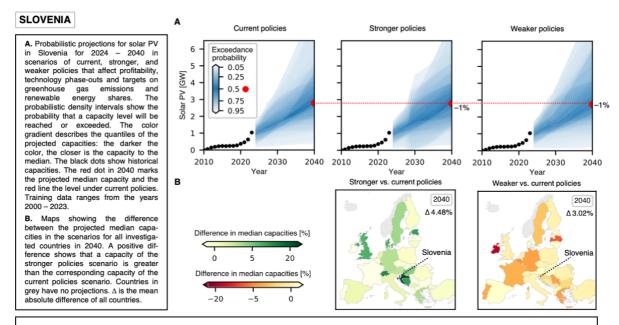


SUMMARY

The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 0.8 GW by 2040. A change in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares shows no effect on the the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024. However, as there were only minor changes in capacity in previous years, comparisons of policy efforts have limited meaning.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

Supplementary Figure 42. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Slovakia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

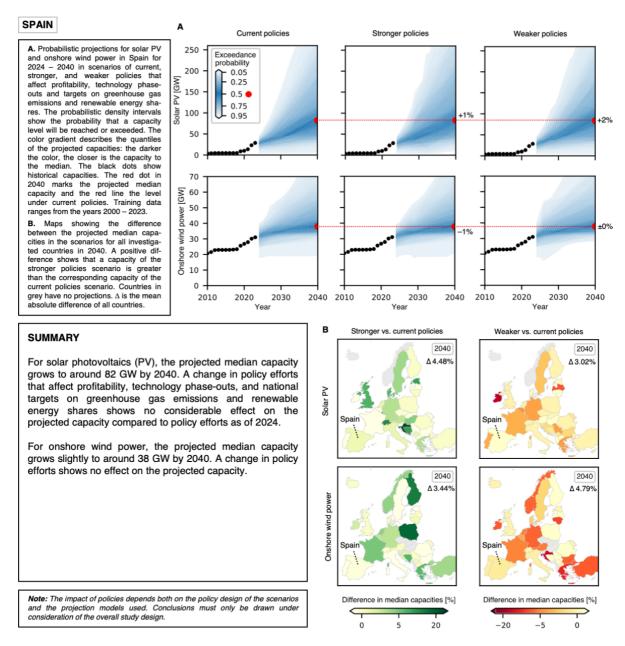


SUMMARY

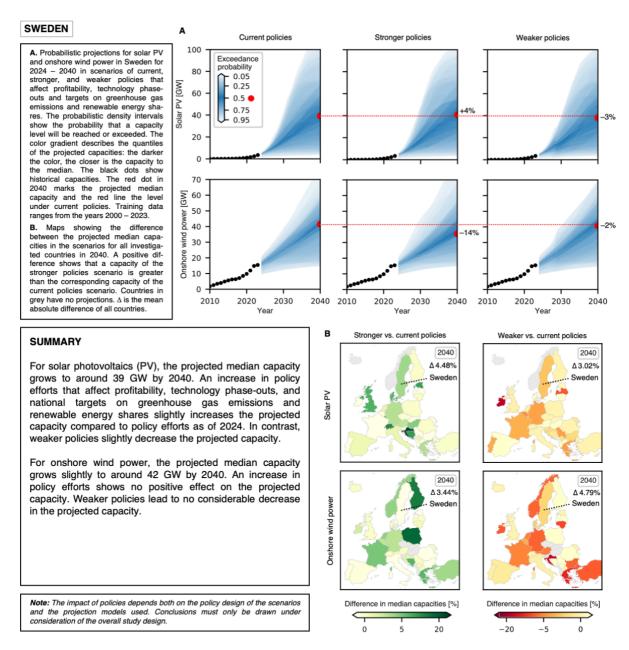
The projected median capacity of solar photovoltaics (PV) grows to around 3 GW by 2040. A change in policy efforts that affect profitability, technology phase-outs, and national targets on greenhouse gas emissions and renewable energy shares shows no considerable effect on the projected capacity compared to policy efforts as of 2024.

Note: The impact of policies depends both on the policy design of the scenarios and the projection models used. Conclusions must only be drawn under consideration of the overall study design.

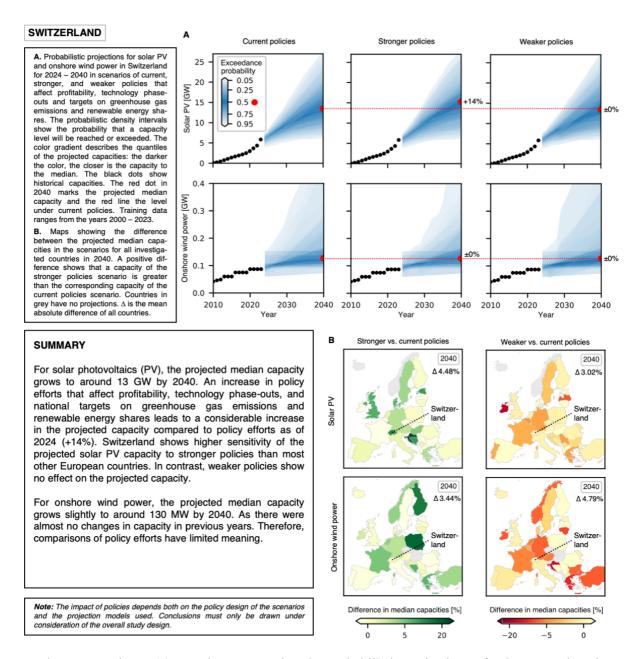
Supplementary Figure 43. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Slovenia. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



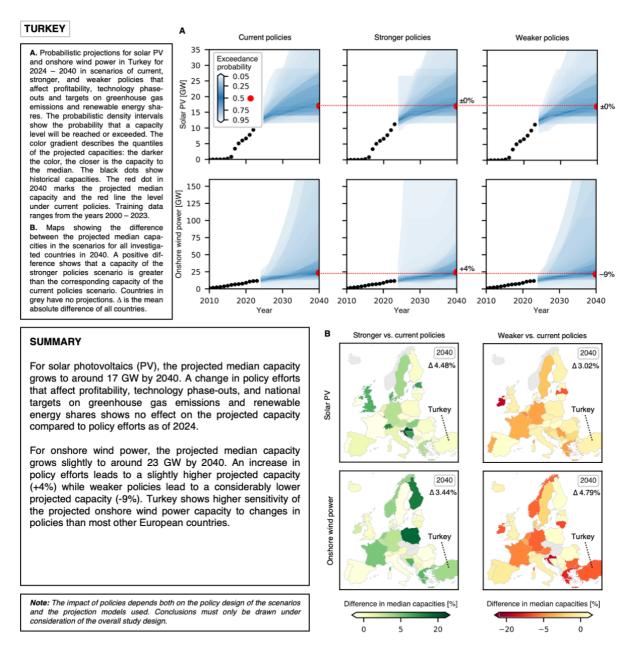
Supplementary Figure 44. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Spain. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



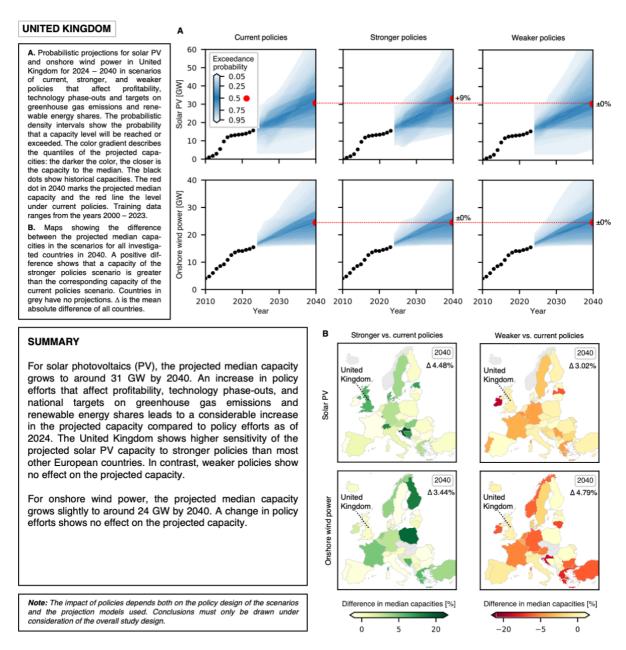
Supplementary Figure 45. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Sweden. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 46. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Switzerland. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 47. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for Turkey. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.



Supplementary Figure 48. Factsheet comparing the probabilistic projections of solar PV and onshore wind power between the scenarios of current, stronger, and weaker policies for the United Kingdom. Geographical data to visualize country boundaries comes from references^{1–3}. Related to Figures 4-5.

Supplementary Tables

Supplementary Table 1. Average absolute percentage errors of the projected median capacities of the probabilistic projections of the weighted multi-model ensemble for policy mix to historically observed values. Values show the average over all countries of the first quartile, second quartile (median), and third quartile of errors over hindcasting years 2014 - 2023. The diffusion stage is individual to each technology and country and describes the difference between the first year of out-of-sample testing in each hindcasting iteration and the last training year in the first hindcasting iteration, i.e., the first iteration for which the creation of projections is possible for a technology in a country. Years 2012 - 2013 are used for calculating the weights for the multi-model ensemble.

	Solar PV			Onshore wind power		
Diffusion	1 st quartile	Median	3 rd quartile	1 st quartile	Median	3 rd quartile
stage						
1	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	0.283	0.494	0.708	0.186	0.275	0.362
4	0.267	0.420	0.536	0.098	0.150	0.199
5	0.237	0.344	0.435	0.104	0.166	0.234
6	0.228	0.320	0.432	0.105	0.164	0.223
7	0.209	0.295	0.392	0.120	0.159	0.206
8	0.198	0.272	0.368	0.091	0.124	0.165
9	0.175	0.245	0.314	0.073	0.114	0.158
10	0.162	0.219	0.271	0.098	0.131	0.163
11	0.188	0.218	0.248	0.114	0.133	0.152
12	0.172	0.172	0.172	0.091	0.091	0.091
all	0.214	0.305	0.394	0.108	0.152	0.197

Supplementary Table 2. Projected median capacities in the stronger policy scenario for the year 2040 compared to required capacities estimated by the Ten Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) scenario "National trends" and the European Commission scenario "EU Reference Scenario 2020" that are in line with European targets.

	Solar PV in 2040 [MW]			Onshore wind power in 2040 [MW]		
Country	Projected	TYNDP	European	Projected	TYNDP	European
	median		Commission	median		Commission
Albania	2,862	1,000	_	-	-	_
Austria	27,352	30,000	8,541	6,210	16,000	9,527
Belgium	19,415	16,400	14,518	6,251	6,893	6,634
Bosnia and	1,625	600	-	523	1,035	-
Herzegovina						
Bulgaria	5,052	3,390	5,575	804	948	2,529
Croatia	5,062	1,800	1,663	2,360	2,781	2,229
Cyprus	2,945	800	1,636	-	-	322
Czech	4,414	10,022	4,788	-	-	3,310
Republic						
Denmark	9,331	18,614	6,784	8,326	10,402	9,640
Estonia	3,463	897	1,506	557	938	892
Finland	4,453	3698	1,448	32,034	20,161	8,168
France	40,984	57,620	39,874	63,242	52,960	54,421
Georgia	-	ı	-	-	-	-
Germany	152,283	125,786	113,553	102,809	88,800	94,170
Greece	15,791	ı	9,321	14,578	-	9,089
Hungary	36,610	11,195	8,478	-	-	1,908
Iceland	-	ı	-	2	-	-
Ireland	13,773	1,500	1,669	12,526	5,900	8,223
Italy	45,630	64,398	71,952	14,966	21,062	23,410
Kosovo	139	ı	-	10,533	-	-
Latvia	17,423	250	189	281	450	951
Lithuania	11,342	1,250	2,282	2,272	2,100	1,805
Luxembourg	1,490	1,714	2,273	540	1,000	599
Malta	306	266	358	-	-	-
Moldova	1,225	ı	-	349	-	-
Montenegro	-	ı	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	70,527	41,918	31,411	14,313	10,488	13,451
North	4,122	998	-	6,389	723	-
Macedonia						
Norway	-	-	-	43,601	10,796	-
Poland	54,721	9,814	12,505	17,445	6,939	12,804
Portugal	18,458	10,860	6,947	6,335	12,924	10,694
Romania	3,210	6,000	8,059	3,484	6,500	7,846
Serbia	1,452	950	-	1,589	4,521	-
Slovakia	750	1,237	2,767	-	-	1,538
Slovenia	2,767	5,361	2,596	-	-	221
Spain	85,112	76,686	62,003	37,071	57,000	64,501
Sweden	40,794	29,341	2,734	35,554	36,709	13,197
Switzerland	14,952	24,100	-	127	1,200	-
Turkey	17,020	22,000	-	24,340	23,000	-
United	31,289	44,083	-	24,475	37,488	-
Kingdom						

Supplementary Table 3. Assumptions and sources for the included factors in the historical time series of each type of policies. Missing values for specific years are linearly interpolated or extrapolated. The Methods section describes assumptions and sources for the scenarios of future policies.

Type of policies	Included factors	Assumptions	Sources
P1 – profitability	Investment costs	-	6,7
	Subsidy rate	-	8
	Operation and maintenance costs	1.5 % of investment costs	9,10
	Discount rate	5%	11
	Technology lifetime	25 years	9
	Self-consumption share	30% (solar PV)	12,13
		0 % (onshore wind power)	-
	Annual electricity generation	-	14
	Electricity price	-	15
	Feed-in tariff	-	16
	Exchange rate EUR-USD	-	17
P2 – phase-outs and	Electricity demand	-	14
substitution potential	Annual electricity generation	-	14
P3 – targets	Target on greenhouse gas	If multiple targets exist, the	18–20
	emissions	target for the closest year is	
		active; target on net-zero	
		greenhouse gas emissions	
		in 2050 left out	
	Target on renewable energy share	If multiple targets exist, the	18,21,22
		target for the closest year is	
		active	

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