

IAEE Rome European Conference - Call for Papers –

Session : Security of Supply

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European Union, Ukraine and Russian gas

Overview

The paper aims at analyzing the relations between Europe and Russia for the supply of gas, the present situation and the possible solutions to the present conflict

Methods

Analysis of the flows of energy
Analysis of current energy policies in Europe
Review of the geopolitical implications

Results

The European Union is importing large quantities of oil and gas from Russia and from Central Asia countries. Russia supplies 27 % of natural gas consumed in Europe and 32 % of oil. No country can replace Russia as a source of energy for Europe. European Union absorbs 56 % of oil and 84 % of gas exported by Russia. No new market can replace Europe for Russia.

Up to recently, 80 % of the gas exported from Russia to Europe was coming through Ukraine. Transit of gas was reduced or stopped for a few days in January 2006 and 2009. Now new gas pipe lines have been built (NordSteam or are under construction (South Stream) to avoid the dependency of Russian gas exports on the « Ukrainian corridor ». Will capacities of these new lines be enough to avoid Ukraine?

Conclusions

Can Europe find new sources of gas? Can the traditional suppliers (Algeria, Norway) replace Russia? Can new suppliers (including the US) send enough gas to Europe? Reversely can Russia find new markets in Asia?

