Energy and Politics

The Geopolitics of Energy Security

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- ... was founded in 1995 at the University of Munich
- ... is an independent, non-partisan and privately funded think tank
- ... is Germany's largest university policy research institute on European and international questions
- ... is divided in to five research groups: Youth & Europe, German Affairs, Global Future, Leadership & Competence and European Affairs

RG on European Affairs

- governance in the EU and institutional reform
- legitimacy and participation
- transatlantic relations and neighborhood policy
- EU-Middle East relations
- terrorism and risk management
- Europe's foreign and security policy
- energy and climate change

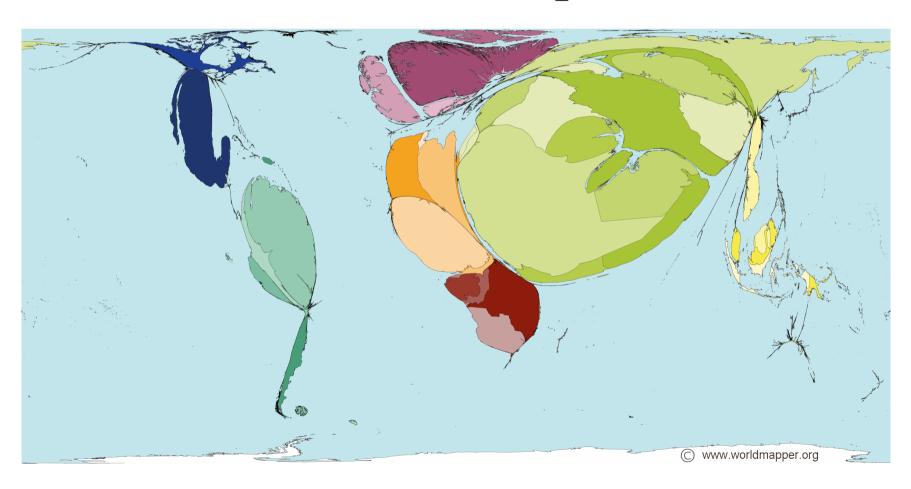
Energy and Politics



Global and European trends

- shrinking resources worldwide an especially in Europe
- rising global demand
- old and new conflicts in resource-rich countries / regions
- resource nationalism
- volatility of fossil fuel prices
- import dependency
- climate change

Global Oil Exports



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Golden Triangle

Energy Security



Sustainability

Competitiveness

- ⇒ necessary trade-off between these objectives
- ⇒ sustainability as (false) priority?
- ⇒ a new emphasize on energy security?

Energy Security: A Definition

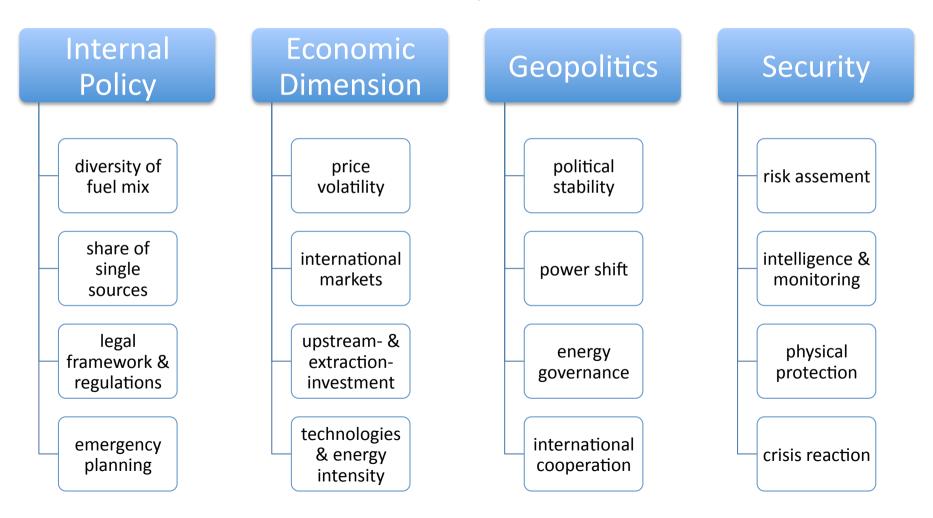
- security of supply: reliable supply and affordable prices (Daniel Yergin)
- security of demand: energy exports as essential contribution to state budget and necessary for the return on investment

⇒ Energy security is a underdeveloped concept!

Energy Security as multidimensional concept

- prices and availability are not sufficient for conceptualization
- energy security: status quo vs. process
- 4 dimensions:
 - 1. internal policy
 - 2. economic dimension
 - 3. geopolitics
 - 4. security policy

Four dimension, various facets



The New Great Game

- 1. Rising import dependency induces a major shift in political power resources.
- 2. The higher tension on energy markets can trigger local / regional / international conflicts about remaining fossil fuels.
- 3. Access to energy resources is one of the driving forces of international relations.

Energy Policy for Europe

The four pillars of the EU's energy policy:

- 1. internal energy market
- 2. energy security
- 3. efficiency, energy savings and renewables
- 4. interconnectivity

+ "spirit of solidarity" (Art. 194 TFEU)

Shortcommings

- strategic deficit
- focus on internal aspects of energy politics / energy security (IEM + ETS)
- no competences for external energy policy on EU level
- national restrains

2nd Strategic Energy Review

Solidarity as best answer on the challenges to energy security:

- infrastructures and diversification
- external energy relations
- strategic oil and gas stocks
- energy efficiency
- indigenous energy resources

Energy Solidarity

- What do I mean by energy solidarity?
 - ... more than mutual emergency assistance,
 - ... not necessarily more communitarization,
 - ... but a fundamental value of EU-integration.

• Preconditions:

- define common (energy) interests
- elaborate common risk perceptions
- formulate common strategies

The EU and energy geopolitics

- The EU should concentrate on ...
 - ... strengthening global energy governance,
 - ... a joint approach on suppliers, transit countries and other major consumers,
 - ... a common risk assessment and crisis reaction.
- The EU should not ...
 - ... build pipelines and other infrastructures,
 - ... prioritize one of the three strategic objectives.

Thank you for your attention!