

Arūnas MOLIS

EU-Russia energy relations from a Baltic perspective

Abstract

This research aims to define the energy interests of the Baltic States and present the “Baltic agenda on the energy relations of the European Union (EU) and Russia. The central objectives of the study are first to explain the main challenges for the Baltic States’ energy security and discuss potential solutions to these problems, second to take a deeper look at the importance of the common EU energy policy for the Baltic region, and third to provide assumptions on which the Baltic States strive to build the EU–Russia energy relations. These issues have already been discussed by P. Aalto, K. Liuhto, R. Goetz, S. Braghiroli, Ch. Ziegler, Z. Vaiciunas, K. Budrys, and other researchers; however, their analyses are focusing either on the EU energy policy, EU-Russia energy relations, or the Baltic States’ energy security interests. None of them tries to unite these aspects and provide a deeper analysis of the Baltic States’ approach towards the EU-Russia energy cooperation. This study attempts to, at least partially, compensate this gap.

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