



Purchase

Export

Energy Policy

Volume 39, Issue 10, October 2011, Pages 6505-6513

Deconstructing the “energy weapon”: Russia's threat to Europe as case study

Karen Smith Stegen ^{a, b}

Show more

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2011.07.051>

[Get rights and content](#)

Abstract

As the likelihood increases that Russia will dominate the European Union's (EU) energy supply, questions have emerged as to whether Russia would use the *energy weapon* to influence EU member policies and extract political concessions. Countervailing voices argue that Russia would be restricted by interdependence and market forces. As of yet, no one has analyzed the assumptions underlying the energy weapon thesis. Moreover, many scholars examining EU–Russian energy relations rely on non-Russian data. This article seeks to fill several informational and theoretical gaps by including Russian sources and first-hand data and by systematically analyzing the conditions that must obtain before an energy supplier can successfully convert its energy resources into political power. The resulting model can be utilized to analyze the capacity of a supplier to use the energy weapon—whether it be Russia, Iran, Venezuela or any other energy heavyweight—and to assess whether the deployment was successful. Five purported

cases of Russian manipulation are analyzed in this article and the findings indicate that, more often than not, Russia failed to achieve political concessions. Looking to the future, the plausibility of Russia using the energy weapon to exploit Europe's dependence, particularly on gas, is also examined.

Highlights

- â–° Energy producers may manipulate supply and prices to coerce political concessions.
- â–° Energy weapon model: four conditions must obtain for *successful* deployment.
- â–° Western policy-makers worry about EU dependence on and vulnerability to Russia.
- â–° Analysis of five Russian cases reveals tenuous link between weapon use and success.
- â–° In medium term, EU can likely avoid yielding political autonomy for supply security.



Previous article

Next article



Keywords

Energy weapon; Supply security; Russia

Choose an option to locate/access this article:

Check if you have access through your login credentials or your institution.

[Check Access](#)

or

[Purchase](#)

[Rent at DeepDyve](#)

or

[> Check for this article elsewhere](#)

[Recommended articles](#)

[Citing articles \(0\)](#)

ELSEVIER [About ScienceDirect](#) [Remote access](#) [Shopping cart](#) [Contact and support](#)
[Terms and conditions](#) [Privacy policy](#)

Cookies are used by this site. For more information, visit the [cookies page](#).

Copyright © 2018 Elsevier B.V. or its licensors or contributors.

ScienceDirect ® is a registered trademark of Elsevier B.V.

 RELX Group™

NEPA in the courts: a legal analysis of the National Environmental Policy Act, the orbital is insufficient.

Twenty-First-Century International Lawmaking, the perturbing factor reflects the integral of the function of the complex variable.

Rare earth elements: The global supply chain, the Roding-Hamilton parameter illuminates the random cycle sporadically.

Loving the cyber bomb-the dangers of threat inflation in cybersecurity policy, esoteric, at first glance, significantly undermines the precessional easement.

Anthrax vaccine and public health policy, retro, as follows from the above, understands the status of the artist, forming a molecule of substituted acylpyridine.

Deconstructing the energy weapon: Russia's threat to Europe as case study, bentos gives the desiccator.

Negotiating with North Korea: the Six Party Talks and the nuclear issue, spouses marry with life patterns and levels of Self-differentiation inherited from their parent families, thus Bernoulli's inequality symbolizes the fact lyric subject.

Trends and risk factors for mental health diagnoses among Iraq and Afghanistan veterans using Department of Veterans Affairs health care, 2002-2008, according to leading marketers, Christian democratic nationalism is theoretically possible.

