

ECONOMIC SECURITY AS PRIORITY, ENERGY SECURITY, ADVANTAGE OF WESTERN BALKANS AND ALBANIA

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ABSTRACT

In this article, i have tried to present an outline about one of the most important aspects of economic security of the Western Balkans, energy, as its value, an area of interest among countries of the region and the main actors with influence in global politics and the role of Albania, too. Economic security is becoming an increasingly used term, but it is a concept little treated theoretically in political and social literature. It has expanded the dimension of security and coincides mostly with the post Cold War epoch. It derives from the respective shift from geopolitics to gjeoeconomics. Today, for the majority of people in the region, security is much more closely related. The main challenges posing threat everyday to the citizens in Southeast Europe are poverty, unemployment and corruption. People are concerned about the security of their personal income, health insurance, and the assurance for the education of their children. By analyzing the sources of the kinds of energy, the state of reserves, the actual level exploitation, transitting capabilities and capacities, we notice, for example, that: BP shows interest especially with regard to transitting oil and gas form east to western consumers. None of the oil and gas pipes projects, carrying products from eastern sources toward West, can bypass the Western Balkans countries. As part of these interests, Albania is affected by two aspects: a) exploration and exploitation of the energy sources, non-renewable or renewable, by western countries companies, and b) interests for building transitting systems from Russia toward EU countries. The Balkans, because of the important gjeopolitical position it has, is a region of intersection and clash of various interests, including those related to energy. The proper percpetion of the advantages of the important geostrategic position of the Western Balkans and the optimized use of these advantages would serve the fast integration of the region into EU, thus putting an end to all the dilemas and impacts caused by forces counter to these processes.

Keywords: Economic security, gjeoeconomics, renewable energy, building transitting systems transitting capacities, geostrate.