

SUMMARY

Subject of the thesis: energy factor of the Russian foreign policy influence

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Today the energy resources have become the foundation of the world economy. Disruption of energy supply threatens the state national security. Those countries that have energy resources get strategic advantage in world politics. Many modern conflicts include energy aspects linked with the attempts to control the oil and gas fields, its transportation routes and price-making. The high prices on energy resources allow to damage the interests of geopolitical adversaries if they are importers. Meanwhile, the low prices damage the exporters. Besides that, the energy resources depletion and the lack of its substitutes on the world energy market proves that the role of energy factor in world politics is going to be higher.

As for Russia, that is one of the world largest energy resources owner, this problem is especially important. Firstly, energy resources export is key for the Russian economy and its export contraction will have the most negative effect on Russia. Secondly, energy resources open new opportunities in foreign policy, as it allows to make political pressure on the importers and gain take-ins by manipulating with conditions of energy resources supply. But first of all, it is necessary to create the situation that allows to use political influence by means of energy factor. On the contrary, the importers make all the efforts to minimize this kind of political influence by means of energy resources and become as much independent as possible. Nevertheless, following the geopolitic laws, Russia tries to turn its energy resources into its foreign policy resources that will be useful in European and Asian foreign policy directions as well as in the post-soviet space.

Thus, energy factor retains its relevance for the Russian foreign policy and according to the world trends its significance will be higher in the future.