



Seminar on the

POST-SHAH DENIZ DECISION: WHAT'S THE WAY FORWARD FOR CENTRAL AND SOUTH-EAST EUROPE?

6 November, 2013, Brussels

Overview:

Following the decision in June 2013 in favour of the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) over the Nabucco West project, thinking on energy security issues is taking a new course in Central and South-East Europe. Countries of the region and the European Commission need to come out with a solution to the question of natural gas supply security for Central and South-East Europe. The Shah Deniz decision has provoked serious debates both in the region and in Brussels. The Hungarian Presidency of the Visegrad Group aims at generating in depth discussion about these issues.

With the decision to favour the Trans Adriatic Pipeline project, Central and South-East Europe is lacking a credible alternative for supply diversification. Investments in missing infrastructure developments, like interconnectors, storage capacities, upgrading the internal systems, the development and connection of energy hubs can prove to be essential to enhance the energy security and the region's integration in the EU's energy market. In the field of policy making, the drafting of a regional approach could serve as a guideline for future negotiations. The European Commission has been looking for a win-win solution, which still needs to be met. During the Brussels seminar, academia, government and business officials will analyse the situation and try to form an opinion on how to address these challenges in the current environment.

The objective of the seminar is to align thinking on infrastructure development projects of Central and South-East European countries after the Shah Deniz decision and to encourage more cooperation in the region in terms of energy supply security and market integration. Rethinking the options of Central and South-Eastern Europe and formulating a common regional approach would be the desired outcome of the event.

Preliminary registration:

To register, please send your name, title and the name of your organisation **by email** to the Office of the Representative of Hungary to the Political and Security Committee of the EU:
PSC.BEU@mfa.gov.hu

Venue:

Permanent Representation of Hungary to the European Union
Rue de Trèves 92-98 / Trierstraat 92-98
1040 - Brussels

This event is co-sponsored by:

AGENDA OF THE SEMINAR

6 NOVEMBER, 2013, BRUSSELS

9:30-09:45 Welcome address by Mr. Zsolt Németh, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary

**9:45-12:30 First Panel: Energy security agenda in the new environment (Government stakeholders)
(Coffee break during the discussion)**

Mr. Vytautas NAUDUŽAS, Ambassador for Energy and Transport Policy Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania

Mr. Brendan DEVLIN, Adviser, European Commission, DG ENER

Mr. Stephan AUER, Director for Multilateral Relations and Global Issues, European External Action Service

Ms. Jitka HOLUBCOVÁ, Assistant to the Special Envoy for Energy Security, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Mr. Lachezar MATEV, Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security, Bulgaria

Mr. Mihnea CONSTANTINESCU, Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security, Romania

Mr. Branislav HITKA, Ambassador-at-Large for Energy Security, Slovakia

Moderated by Ms. Anita ORBÁN, Ambassador-at-large for Energy Security, Hungary

12:30-13:30 Lunch break

13:30-15:30 Second Panel: Infrastructure development possibilities (Business and financial perspective)

Mr. András BÁCSI-NAGY, Head of International and Public Affairs, MOL Plc. Hungary

Mr. Piotr KUS, Director of Representation, Gaz System S. A., Brussels Office

Ms. Maud SKÄRINGER, Policy Analyst, European Commission, DG REGIO

Mr. Matthias WOITOK, Head of Division, European Investment Bank

Mr. Daniel CZETŐ, Senior Analyst, Business Development – Special Affairs, Net4Gas

Mr. Ante RAMLJAK, Member of the Board, Center for Monitoring Business Activities in the Energy Sector and Investments

Moderated by Mr. Szabolcs TAKÁCS, Deputy State Secretary for Security Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary

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15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-17:15 Third panel: Academic perspective on recent developments

Mr. Eamonn BUTLER, Lecturer, University of Glasgow, Central and East European Studies

Mr. Jan TALASKA, Head of Department, Advisory Services in DNV Poland

Ms. Iana DREYER, Associate Fellow, European Union Institute for Security Studies

Mr. Frank UMBACH, Associate Director, European Centre for Energy and Resource Security

Moderated by Mr. Csaba TÖRŐ, Senior Research Fellow, Hungarian Institute of International Affairs

17:15-17:30 Closing remarks by Mr. Károly GRÜBER, PSC Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the European Union

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