



## **Iran and EU Energy Security: Divergent and Convergent Issues**

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### **Abstract**

*Global consumption of energy has been growing steadily since World War II. Societies in both developed countries and developing countries consume more and more energy. The European Union is an example of a group of states which does not have sufficient resources of gas and oil. Therefore it is dependent on import of these resources from other regions especially from the Middle East and the Russian Federation. Undoubtedly, Iran is one of the key players as far as fossil fuels are concerned. Its significant resources are of great importance for EU energy security. Yet current bilateral cooperation between the EU and Iran is limited due to various political reasons including UN Security Council sanctions. Nevertheless, Iranian oil and gas fields still constitute a substantial chance for the EU especially in terms of the future diversification of supplies. If closer trade relations were possible, Iranians would benefit from them too. For that reason both the EU and Iran should do all they can in order to redefine their relations and make them more dynamic. The question is if both sides will be able to put aside political obstacles and focus on economic cooperation in the nearest future. Last but not least, one has to take the United States and its influence on EU-Iranian relations into consideration. The main aim of this paper is to specify and analyze convergent and divergent issues concerning EU-Iran relations with regard to energy market. These issues are not only of economic nature, but they are also of political and social importance. The selected method is based on document analysis. The set of documents include agreements, declarations and reports issued by the EU, Iranian authorities as well as by authorities of chosen EU member states.*

*Keywords: EU, energy security, Iran, pipelines, oil, gas*

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