SUMMARY OF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Mateusz Pazdej, M.A.

"Energy Security in the European Union's Policy in the 21st Century"

The main goal of the dissertation is the energy security of the European Union in the 21st century in the political, economic and legal dimensions. Starting from its origins, an analysis of the common energy policy was made, in both its internal and external dimensions. It outlines the mechanism of operation of the regulatory system of energy markets in selected European Union Member States. The relatively slow process of transformation of the energy sector in Europe after World War II and its transition from a natural monopoly to privatization, liberalization was examined along with the admission to competition, emphasizing the need to simultaneously develop, as well as implementing new forms of regulation.

What is particularly significant, the work focuses on both the case-related dilemmas of the EU energy policy and issues associated with security from the point of view of the importance of raw materials as an instrument of political influence in the modern world and shaping the geostrategy assumptions of participants in international life in various parts of the Old Continent.

The treatise examines the legal aspects of the energy security of the Member States, thoroughly analyzing the legal systems of the European Union based on primary and secondary sources of law. Furthermore, the condition was reviewed and prospects for the development of renewable energy sources, which emphasized the need to increase efficiency through their optimal use.

The monograph deals with the issues of the contemporary dimension of energy security, because they are widely discussed by politicians in a subjective way, however, less often considered by experts in scientific research using objective methods.

The structure of the dissertation results from the topic and method of presentation of the collected material and has been subordinated to the substantive and methodological assumptions. The layout is analytical and problematic, because the scope was taken into account as far as the material diversity.

The first chapter presents the landscape of international energy security in the 21st century, starting from the evolution of the concept of "security" in the theory of international relations and in security studies, through the impact of energy policy on the economic security of the state, moving to the issue of energy security as an area of international security research. This part outlines the essence, methods and instruments of energy security, also in the context of international economic security.

The second chapter covers the genesis and development of the European energy policy (from the European Communities to the European Union), presents the birth of the idea of European energy security. The stages of its formation are presented in a synthetic way, based on the examples of individual European Communities - the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, aiming to the sphere of energy security in two essential treaties from Maastricht and Lisbon, as well as the European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy.

The third chapter is devoted to the stages of building energy Policy in the European Union, ranging from oil crises, through the liberalization of the energy sector, to the internal and external dimensions of the common energy policy and crisis management in situations of a threat to energy security.

The fourth chapter concerns the regulatory systems of energy markets, starting with the monopolistic way of organizing the supply of goods and services in energy management, to modern times. Much attention was devoted to discuss relations between the European Union and the Russian Federation due to their tense relations. The energy security policy of the Federal Republic of Germany and the French Republic in the 21st century were also considered.

The fifth chapter examines the research problem related to the legal aspects of energy security in the European Union. Moreover, the issue of energy security of the European Union, concluded in a broader scope, was referred to in selected legal acts, primary law of the European Communities and secondary law of the European Union.

The sixth chapter deals with the description of EU energy generation concepts from alternative sources. Starting from the definition, through their division and assessment of energy efficiency, and ending with the analysis of preventive action plans or emergency situations as well as research, development and demonstration projects. On the other hand, the possible scenarios of the European Union's energy policy constitute its final summary.

In relation to the main research question, the principal hypothesis was formulated that ensuring energy security is currently the key determinant of state security and one of the main goals of its policy. The economies of countries all over the world depend on the energy sector, especially the Member States of the European Union, and energy resources have often been the subject of conflicts in history. Nowadays, they are an instrument of political influence in the area of the Community and shaping the geostrategy assumptions of participants in international life in various regions and Member States.

The adopted axioms were positively verified, and the intended goal of the work was achieved. The fundamental assumption was obtained by finding the answer to the question of what are the effects of dependence on raw materials (for the energy security of the European Union, and thus - political, economic and legal security of individual Member States) and their use as a tool for achieving political goals.

In conclusion, the dissertation shows the consequences of energy dependencies, mainly on the political and economic level, and to a lesser extent on the legal level, evaluating the balance of losses and gains for individual players in international relations. The treatise is also an attempt to a holistic perspective of the above-mentioned issues, and also provides a synthetic analysis of the current energy balance in the world. In addition, it shows a wide spectrum of energy security and focuses on the current and significant mechanisms from the point of view of the world order shape, thanks to which the Reader can reflect in various research fields.

Key words:

European Union, energy, security, raw materials, 21st century