

## Abstract

This Master thesis examines the German foreign energy policy with focus on the German-Russian energy cooperation and the pipeline projects Nord Stream I and II. It seeks to analyze inconsistencies or even contradictions in the German foreign policy regarding the Nord Stream project. Both strategic and business interests on one hand and value based policy on the other are present and observable. Therefore this paper works with Jakub Eberle's concept of Germany as "*dividual actor*" which enables us to work with the already mentioned inconsistencies. Furthermore, this approach allows us to observe "*geo-economic power*" aspects in German actions (favoring strategic and mostly business interests) as well as "*civilian power*" aspects (value based policy) and eventually to see Germany as an actor in the international relations in its complexity. This thesis therefore aims to contribute to a broader debate about German actorness and its roles in international system. Moreover, German domestic energy policy will be analyzed in order to provide us with the basis for German foreign energy policy. The main focus of this paper is on natural gas and its importance in the German energy mix as well as on German dependence on its imports. The import routes and primarily the pipeline routes Nord Stream I and II are introduced. In addition to that this thesis seeks to examine the German-Russian relations and contribute to this research examining mainly their energy cooperation. Besides that it also analyses German strategic attitude towards Russia (the so called "Russlandpolitik") in a short historical overview starting in the 1970's and ending after the Ukrainian crisis which had a significant impact on their relations. The final analysis of the Nord Stream project is set into this broader framework of German-Russian relations.