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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
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Master's Thesis

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**The impact of the Russian-Ukrainian war on
the formation of the energy policy in the
European Union**

Master's thesis

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Abstract

The Russia-Ukraine conflict has caused substantial problems to the European Union's energy policy, disrupting the region's energy security and posing repercussions for the transition to a lowering the heavily carbon energy system. The purpose of this thesis is to assess the influence of the Russia-Ukraine war on EU energy policy and prospective changes as a result of the situation.

The study investigates the development of energy policy inside the EU using retrograde analysis and a historical institutionalism approach. It examines the implications of Russian gas and oil supply constraints, the possible implications on energy affordability and security, and the necessity for alternative energy sources.

The thesis gives insights into the evolving dynamics of EU energy security by analysing number of documents from Energy Council's meetings from April 2021 till June 2023 using content analysis. The thesis investigates how institutional structures, and the disruption of dynamic system in the terms of Russian invasion of Ukraine impact energy policy in the EU implementing theories of historical institutionalism and retrograde approach.

To detect patterns, trends, and key policy developments, the research combines content analysis of council meetings and interviews with energy experts. Energy specialists' findings and viewpoints contribute to a complete knowledge of the influence of the Russia-Ukraine war on EU energy policy. Finally, the study believes to influence policy discussions and decision-making processes in the European Union, allowing for the establishment of more strong and resilient energy regulations.

Keywords

Russia-Ukraine conflict, European Union energy policy, Energy Council, Historical institutionalism, Retrograde analysis, Content analysis, Changes in energy policy, Council meetings, Energy experts