



Greece at the Crossroads of EU Energy Prospects

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Presentation and discussion through Zoom - Register [HERE](#)

Abstract

Despite Greece's strategic position in the Mediterranean region, its recently developed Natural Gas infrastructure (post-1996) and more substantial Electric Power interconnections with the Balkans and Italy have long been on the European periphery. Post-war reliance on poor-quality lignite catapulted Greece to European income levels while its unexplored deep-sea hydrocarbon resources still stand by. In the quest to end its isolation, Greece has developed its physical interconnections with continental Europe and the EU, using them primarily for imports of gas and power to supplement domestic lignite, hydropower, and, more recently, wind and solar renewable generation. In 2021, the famous European "Southern Gas Corridor" was enacted to bring gas from the Caspian Sea across Turkey, Greece, and Albania to Italy and the Western EU. Assisted by the EU's turn to green energy reinforced by the war in Ukraine, security of supply has risen to the top of the European agenda highlighting Greece's wind generation and green hydrogen production potential. Moreover, Greece's proximity to LNG production regions leverages its LNG Terminals and the increasing interconnectivity with its neighbors. Can Greece become a market-based energy bridge between East and West, contribute to the diversification of gas supplies, and the security of supply for Southeastern Europe and the EU? We will discuss

Short Biosketch

Michael Thomadakis (MechE MS and Ph.D. from NTU, author of 40+ scientific papers and spokesman on Int. Fora) is the Division Director for Strategy and Development at DESFA. Formerly, he held leadership positions with the Greek Regulatory Authority for Energy (RAE), the European Energy Regulator (ACER), including its Board of Appeals, and chaired the International Energy Charter's Investment Group. He is an expert in the development of the gas market regulatory framework in Greece and in Southeast Europe, particularly key gas infrastructure projects related to the Southern Gas Corridor. His early career (in the 1990s) contributed expertise in Gas and LNG Procurement, underground gas storage, transportation tariffs, and the establishment of the City Gas Distribution Companies.

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