

FUTURES OF ENERGY IN EURASIA IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

4th Workshop within the IIASA project

*“Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration
within a Wider European and Eurasian Space”*

WORKSHOP CONCEPT

12-13 May 2015



Fourth Workshop of the IIASA project on “Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration within a wider European and Eurasian Space”.

A high-level workshop at IIASA will bring new insights to the risks and uncertainties around the energy trade and security in the Eurasian region.

The Eurasian continent, which will account for over half of world energy demand over the next several decades will significantly shape the global energy landscape. What will this future hold. Growing energy cooperation and integration or increasing competition over resources and pipelines? Will the continent lead a green energy revolution or gridlock the globe in an energy system dependent on dirty fossil fuels? And finally, how will natural gas, which is at the center of European energy debates, serve as a bridge to the future?

This workshop will bring together academics and policymakers from around the world to foster an interdisciplinary and international dialogue. Participants will present the latest research on the main opportunities and uncertainties facing Eurasian integration in the energy sector. Specifically it will focus on the short-term risks and opportunities, as well as long-term uncertainties and possible solutions. It will cover perspectives of energy futures from regional players and consider how the political economy of energy in the region shapes national plans, strategies and scenarios.

Participants will discuss existing and potential for energy market integration; energy resource, infrastructure and investment challenges; and how different goals and priorities shape visions for long-term futures.

Research Project ‘Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration within a wider European and Eurasian Space’

The international and interdisciplinary research project on **Challenges and Opportunities of Economic Integration within a wider European and Eurasian Space**, which was launched by IIASA in 2013, aims to discuss and analyse the issues of economic integration in the Eurasian continent. European and Eurasian cooperation extends to the key Asian players, such as China, Korea and Japan, as well as the USA. The multidisciplinary approach of the project include economic, technological, institutional, demographic, sectorial (finance and investment, energy, infrastructure, etc.) aspects of Pan-European/Eurasian development.

The three-year research project consists of a series of workshops at which specific aspects of integration are discussed by scientists and stakeholders representing all interested regions, and follow-up discussion summaries, notes, and other publications which outline the state-of-the-art in this field and reflect on different futures.

The project has been discussed and initially supported by the European Commission, the Eurasian Economic Commission, the Eurasian Development Bank, the Russian Academy of Sciences, and some other European and Eurasian institutions.

As a result of this project’s international multidisciplinary and independent nature, it is well positioned to provide scientific substantiation in support of possible solutions for the current crisis in this region and across all major parties involved, in addition to its scientific methodological contributions.