

EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy together with Center for Strategic Communications cordially invites you to a debate:

The Southern Gas Corridor: Prospects and Challenges to EU Foreign Policy

Tuesday January 28, 2020, from 14h30 to 16h45
European House, Jungmannova 24, Prague 1

Agenda:

14.30 – 15.00: Registrations

15.00 – 16.45: Panel discussion and Q&A

Speakers:

- **Fuad Shahbazov**, Senior Research Analyst, Center for Strategic Communication
- **Márton Ugródsy**, Director of Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade
- **Andras Déak**, Research Fellow at the Institute of World Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- **Predrag Grujičić**, Head of Gas Unit, Energy Community

Moderator: Christian Kvorning Lassen, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

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As the construction of the Southern Gas Corridor (SGC) is nearing completion, the European Commission has recently expressed an interest in the future doubling of its capacity. In addition to Azeri gas, Turkmen gas could be made available through gas swaps involving Iran. Major issues include the partnership with Azerbaijan, transit dependence on Turkey and large public investments in infrastructure that may become stranded due to competition from Russian gas and liquefied natural gas (LNG). Moreover, current US policy casts doubt on Iran's future involvement and regional stability.

Taking into consideration Europe's growing demand for natural gas and its deteriorating relations with Russia, the situation is conducive to a growing role for Azerbaijan as well as other gas producers willing to eventually join the SGC project in order to tackle Russian influence. However, concerns remain on a variety of extant issues pertaining to such a partnership, ranging from climate to regional stability, energy security, and security.

This panel discussion will address questions regarding the European energy security, EU foreign policy and security by virtue of close partnership with the South Caucasus region amid growing Russian influence.



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