



**Geopolitics and Natural Gas**  
**Mel Ydreos**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, 09:00**



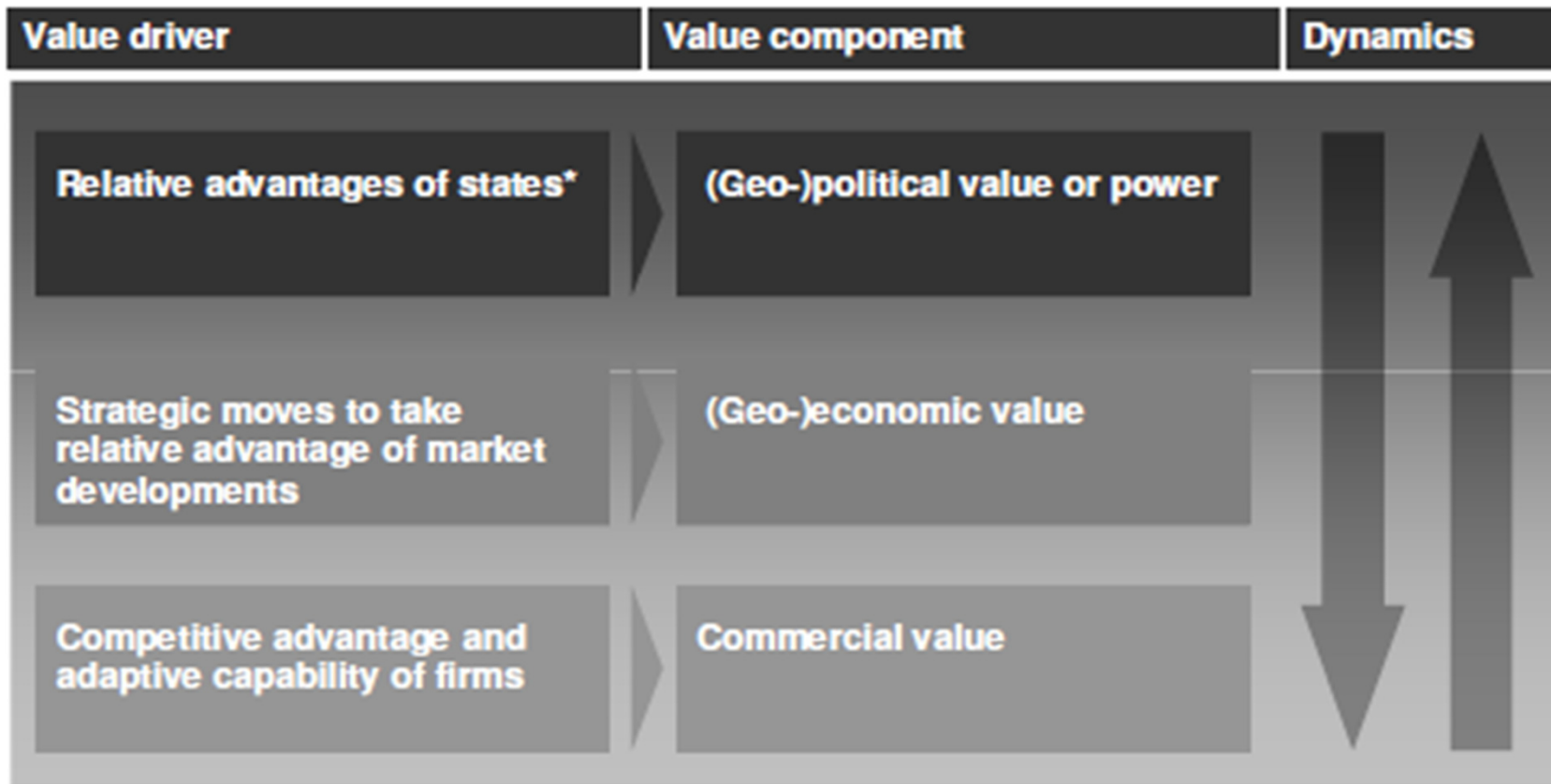
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## Task Force 3 Geopolitics and Natural Gas

### Objectives

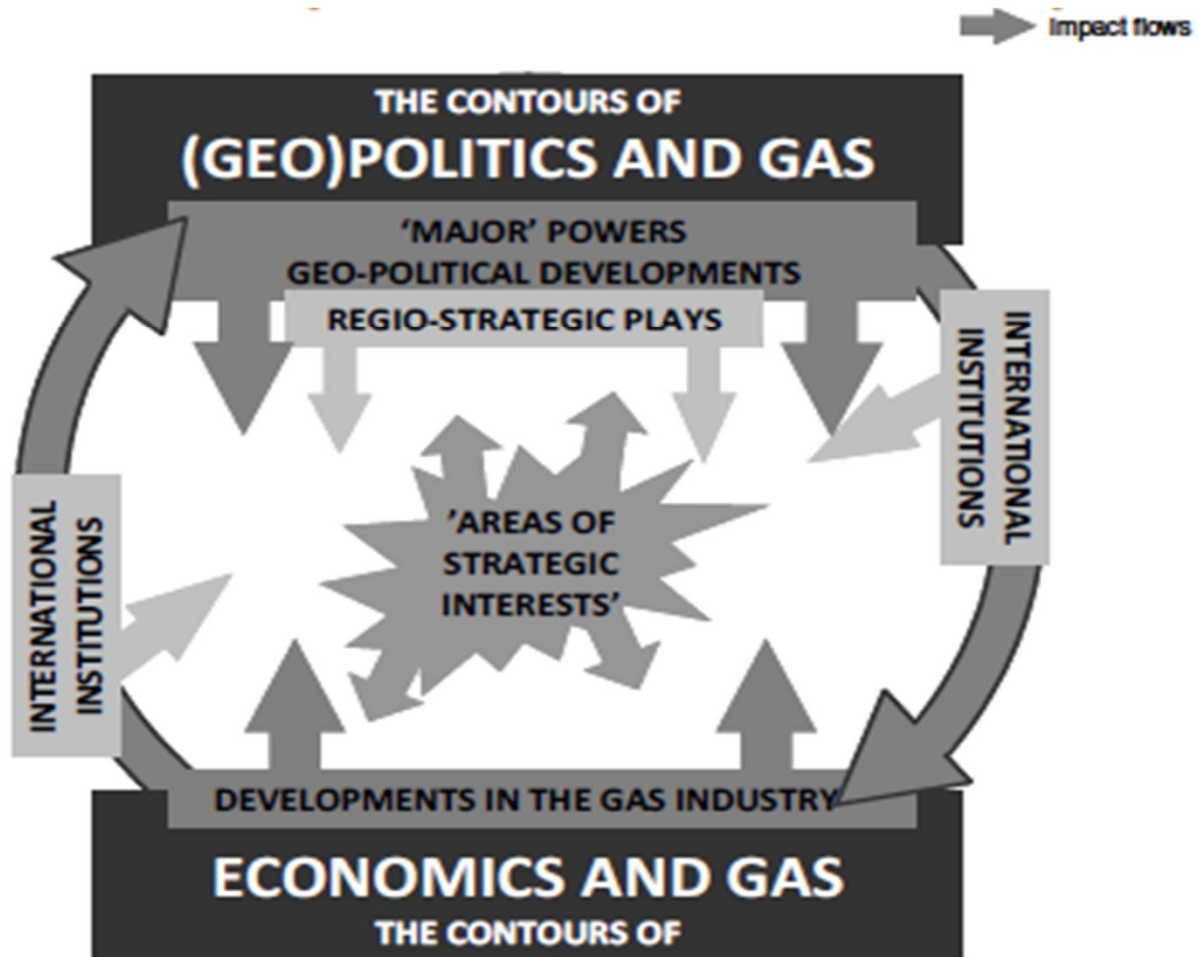
- Examine the interplay between economic and political factors in the development of natural gas resources
- Analyze the main political challenges, mega-trends, issues and consequences that may shape a future natural gas-intensive world
- Engage the international stakeholder community in a dialogue aimed at:
  - Creating greater awareness of the potential hurdles to a growing international gas market, and
  - Fostering cooperation between the industry and policy makers in producer and consuming countries
- Distil potential recommendations for further advancement of cooperation between key stakeholders, for review at WGC 2012 Round Table

## Connecting (geo-)economic and (geo-)political value



\* Defined via structural relative advantages in finance, production, knowledge and security.  
 Source: CIEP analysis, based on Smit and Trigeorgis (2004), Strange (1996), Waltz (1959).

## Interaction of geopolitics and gas developments



Source: CIEP analysis.



## Asia-Pacific Roundtable

- Growth market for gas
- Fragmented region, no regional common denominator
  - Limited pipeline interconnection, further market integration not foreseen
  - LNG is the principal commodity
- Price
  - Price controls in most countries
  - Differences between domestic production viz. international prices (LNG) create tensions
- Politics and international gas trade
  - Pipeline gas very political
  - LNG imports market based
- Strong focus of discussion on China
  - Strong (geo-)political dimension around China-Russia and China-Caspian
  - Relatively small role for gas may change quickly with the successful development of unconventional
- Environment does not play a major role except for local pollution
  - Australia now starting with a carbon tax
- Little movement towards new business models: long term contracts prevail



**LEGEND:**

- Gasfield/s
  - Gas pipeline/s
  - Gas pipeline/s under construction or planned
  - Major gas pipeline project name
  - LNG Export plant
  - LNG Export plant, under construction
  - LNG Export plant, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)
  - Gas processing plant (INSET MAPS ONLY)
  - Underground gas storage (INSET MAPS ONLY)
  - LNG Import terminal
  - LNG Import terminal, under construction
  - LNG Import terminal, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)
  - LNG Import terminal, Offshore
  - Underground gas storage, under construction or planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)
- Map Scale: 1:23,000,000

## South America Roundtable

- A very diversified region
- Growth market for gas, particularly in Southern cone
- National politics affect further prospects for pipeline interconnection; this also limits the outlook on an “internal market”
- LNG imports/exports have become the preferred option
- Major differences between prices for domestic production and imports
  - Price controlled by government or state companies in various countries
- Environmental policies not yet (high) on the agenda
  - Hydro and biofuels play an important role
- Role for gas different from other regions
  - No need for space heating
  - Difficult role as back-up for hydro
  - Competing with biomass-based fuels





**LEGEND:**

- Gasfields
- Gas pipeline/s
- - - Gas pipeline/s under construction or planned
- Blue Stream Major gas pipeline project name
- ★ LNG Export plant
- ★ LNG Export plant, under construction
- ★ LNG Export plant, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)
- ⊙ Gas processing plant (INSET MAPS ONLY)
- ⊙ Underground gas storage (INSET MAPS ONLY)
- ★ LNG Import terminal
- ★ LNG Import terminal, under construction
- ★ LNG Import terminal, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)
- ⊙ LNG Import terminal, Offshore
- ⊙ Underground gas storage, under construction or planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)

Map Scale: 1:23,000,000

- ★ Qatargas 1 (T1-T3)
- ★ Qatargas 2 (T1-T2)
- ★ Qatargas 3
- ★ Qatargas 4

- ★ RasGas 1 (Ras Laffan)
- ★ RasGas 2 (T1-T2) (Ras Laffan)
- ★ RasGas 2 (T3) (Ras Laffan)
- ★ RasGas 3 (T1-T2) (Ras Laffan)

- United Arab Emirates LNG
- ★ AD GAS (Das Island I & II)

**PETROLEUM ECONOMIST**  
Cartographic  
THE AUTHORITY ON ENERGY

## Middle East/North Africa (MENA) Roundtable

- MENA is a growing market for gas
- Market integration is not foreseen, partly due to regional political mistrust and pricing issues; telling is the preference for LNG both for diversity of supply and demand
- There are considerable differences in gas pricing for domestic, regional and international markets, resulting in (political) tensions
- Growing regional demand will take priority over exports, limiting export potential from the region
  - Only Qatar and Algeria remain as serious exporters in the short/medium term
- The current unrest will impact the political landscape
  - Main impact on the international gas business will be a reduction in further export potential
- LNG exports are conducted on a business-to-business basis
- Virtually all pipeline business has political overtones
  - Regional business is done on a government to government basis. Transit and pipeline connections are governed by political issues
  - Also for supplies out of the region (e.g. Iran to India and Pakistan; and connecting to Pan Arab pipeline to Turkey)
- Climate change does not seem to be high on the agenda in the MENA region
- From a geopolitical perspective, gas in MENA does not nearly have the same impact as oil

**LEGEND:**

- Gasfield/s
- Gas pipeline/s
- - - Gas pipeline/s under construction or planned
- Major gas pipeline project name

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> LNG Export plant   | <span style="color: green;">★</span> LNG Import terminal   |
| <span style="color: orange;">★</span> LNG Export plant, under construction  | <span style="color: blue;">★</span> LNG Import terminal, under construction  |
| <span style="color: yellow;">★</span> LNG Export plant, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)   | <span style="color: pink;">★</span> LNG Import terminal, planned (INSET MAPS ONLY)   |
| <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">●</span> Gas processing plant (INSET MAPS ONLY)    | <span style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">●</span> LNG Import terminal, Offshore   |
| <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">■</span> Underground gas storage (INSET MAPS ONLY) | <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">■</span> Underground gas storage, under construction or planned (INSET MAPS ONLY) |

Map Scale: 1:23,000,000

**United Kingdom LNG**

- ★ Teesside GasPort
- ★ Grain LNG
- ★ Dragon LNG (Millford Haven)
- ★ South Hook LNG (Millford Haven)

**Belgium LNG**

- ★ Zeebrugge

**France LNG**

- ★ Fos-sui-Mer

**Spain LNG**

- ★ Sines
- ★ Huelva
- ★ Barcelona
- ★ Sagunto

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## EU-CIS Roundtable

- Transit is a commercial, but also geopolitical, issue
  - Potentially high impact if Ukraine re-emerges as a problem (it did not)
  - Increased European LNG supplies may mean a transit protocol is less necessary
  - The EU “Southern Corridor” concept also raises significant transit problems (Caspian Sea, Turkey)
- Market reform
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> package considered to have (geo) political dimension
  - Pricing issues (so far) only market related
  - (Regulatory and Roadmap) uncertainty is the biggest problem (for all stakeholders)
- Environment
  - High on the political agenda but uncertainty reigns
  - Gas considered to be part of the solution, but with CCS
- Security of Supply
  - Unconventionals could have major impact, but not a game changer and not before 2020
  - Backing of Nabucco by EC is considered politically inspired



## WGC2012 Youth Daily Conference Session

