

Book review*

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Title: *Geopolitika energije: uloga energije
u suvremenom globaliziranom
gospodarstvu / Energy Geopolitics:
role of energy in the global economy*
Year of publishing: 2011
Publishers: *Golden marketing – tehnička knjiga
Zagreb*
Number of pages: 388
Type: *Scientific book*
Language: *Croatian*
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The book *Energy Geopolitics* by Full Professor at the Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering, University of Zagreb, contains a preface, 8 chapters, bibliography and summary. The book includes 94 images with diagrams and maps as well as 20 tables. The reference list includes 148 cited references (books, scientific and professional articles, magazines and sites on the Internet), while at the 149th reference a list of 62 web sites has been attached as related to the topical issues dealt with. Thus, the book contains 388 pages of text, which approximately is 25 Author's Sheets.

Defining geopolitics, the author points out that it is a scientific discipline that deals with the study of impact of geography on politics. Through globalization geography is becoming relatively less important as a primary motif in the struggle for political power. Energy has become a bloodline of modern civilization. The main goal in this book is to examine and prove the connections between energy and economic development and political influence as well. With rising importance for the economy, energy geopolitics is becoming an increasingly important geopolitical discipline. The comparative analysis of the contemporary economic is the main method applied in this book and political issues with the energy resources distribution.

The reviews point out that in the world literature there are other works of similar content and quality, and some of them the author has cited, or used them as sources, ranging from world-famous works by Henry Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski, Daniel Yergin and William Engdahl. In Croatian, however, this work is the first to

* Received: 12-03-2012; accepted: 14-06-2012

deal with such a complex content and thematic analysis of the energy geopolitics. Also, the reviewers estimate the level of resourcefulness and approach to these issues in the book as high as the best recent overseas work in this area (published in English). Therefore, the work will surely arouse the attention of the scientific and professional community and the wider public interested in issues related to energy, especially in the energy geopolitics.

The mankind has not found a long-term solution of safe and relatively cheap supply of energy. Energy for current mode of utilization will disappear within half a century. Possible alternatives are yet not technologically and even less commercially feasible for safe utilization. Under such circumstances, with the exhaustion of conventional fossil sources, their geopolitical distribution will become more important and conflicts about remaining most profitable reserves and production of fluid hydrocarbons will potentially increase. This is the geopolitical side of the energy paradox. Global energy paradox is therefore the main challenge of contemporary civilization, and in future decades the energy geopolitics will hold a growingly important position. Until the energy paradox does not assume the shape of real threat to further growth of global economy or until solutions for long-term supply from renewable energy sources are found, energy geopolitics will more and more affect the production, transportation and consumption of energy from fossil fuels, but indirectly also the relationships in the production of renewable energy sources. Thus, the global energy paradox and energy geopolitics have made a full circle.

In the final chapter, after a global analysis, the author analyzes the position of smaller countries in the global energy geopolitics, and concludes that the smaller countries may well fit into the globalized power relations if they quickly, flexibly and intelligently follow trends in global energy development with quick adjust of their economic structure and strategy development to the needs of their own energy security and energy supply. Thus, apart from global analyses, the book gives a special contribution to the analysis of Croatian position in the energy geopolitics of southern and south-eastern parts of Europe. Hence, it is emphasized in reviews that this book is the original scientific work.

The main conclusion of the book is that energy is evidently a global factor of development, and energy geopolitics is one of decisive factors for achievement of political power.

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