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ANALYSIS OF THE EUROPEAN NATURAL GAS MARKET. THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE TRANSPOSITION OF EUROPEAN NORMS INTO ROMANIAN LEGISLATION

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SUMMARY

In the first chapter of my PhD thesis, I analyzed in detail the European natural gas market, focusing on the main market mechanisms, such as production, consumption, storage, imports, exports, and price fluctuations of natural gas for household consumers within the European Union.

I then elaborated on the projects included in the new list of Projects of Common Interest (PCI), which aims to significantly alter the European infrastructure for importing, transporting, and storing natural gas. These changes include increasing interconnection capacities, along with infrastructure measures intended to improve the security of supply at the EU level.

I also analyzed the developments within the regulatory framework, highlighting those regulations that, in my opinion, have generated the most significant transformations in the structure of this sector and in the behavior of the companies in the market.

In the second part of the thesis, my analysis focused on identifying and explaining the main developments in the Romanian natural gas market, based on my professional experience and the study of the bibliography selected for my thesis.

A significant portion of the research was dedicated to highlighting both the progress and the issues that have arisen in the implementation of European legislation in the Romanian natural gas market. I analyzed the economic impact of these implementations, both in the current regional context and within the framework of the future European energy architecture.

The paper provides arguments supporting the notion that, in the recent geopolitical context, Romania is consolidating its position as an energy stability hub, having the opportunity to better capitalize on the advantages offered by its position in the new European energy structure.

In the final part of my thesis, I briefly analyzed the situation concerning the European integration group's ability to find viable economic alternatives to replace Russian gas, starting from the winter when the conflict in Ukraine broke out, as well as for the following two winters.

Finally, I conducted my own research to estimate the economic impact of a potential disruption in gas imports from the Russian Federation. In this analysis, I empirically tested several key hypotheses regarding how natural gas consumption and imports from the Russian Federation generate significant economic contractions, reflected in variations in the gross domestic product.

Keywords: the new energy paradigm, the radiography of the European natural gas market, the European energy architecture, energy infrastructure.