

Anna Kucharska

Dissertation: "Policy of energy transition in the countries of the DACH region"

Abstract:

Unquestionably, a key characteristic of modern advanced civilisations is the amount of energy that is used to allow them to function. Indeed, for many countries it is a key priority. The need to guarantee an uninterrupted supply is accompanied by a growing sense of responsibility for environmental and climate protection. The traditional methods of generating energy from conventional resources have proven environmentally costly; additionally, conventional resources come from a limited number of producer countries. In an effort to increase energy security the concept of energy transformation was formulated, which also takes into account pro-environmental and pro-climate considerations. Energy transformation refers to the radical culture change in the energy sector towards generating energy from renewable sources. Moreover, it refers to other economic drivers such as delivering low emissions, environmental friendliness and increased energy saving in the future. In addition, it refers to remodelling society in a way that guarantees its sustainable development, e.g. without harming the environment in such a way as to leave it in a worse state for future generations. The concept of energy transformation was widely propagated in Germany (so-called *Energiewende*), but significant contributions in this field were also made by other countries, which were often underestimated due to their smaller economic importance in the international arena due to the size of the respective countries. For these reasons, it is worth looking at the contributions of Austria and Switzerland, which together with Germany, create the so-called DACH region; these countries have joined forces to cooperate in the energy field. This dissertation is an analysis of the cooperation between these countries in relation to energy transformation.