

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF BECOMING PART OF PIPELINES NETWORK**

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### **ABSTRACT**

It is an imperative for Albania to develop strategies for energy security. The affordable and uninterrupted supply through energy sources constitutes a crucial issue for achieving sustainable economic development. Such issue is associated most importantly with security of energy supply, which is closely related to national security and there are only few countries able to afford the energy needs. Therefore, policymakers should establish the right policies to guarantee the required supply for economic development. To avoid dependence on Russian gas, the EU is seeking alternative supply sources. Some transit countries, like Albania, positioned between largest producing countries and consuming market of the EU, can make substantial contribution to energy security in Europe. Gas pipelines coming from Turkey shall pass through the Balkans, one of them, TAP – Trans-Adriatic Pipeline, is scheduled to go through Albania. This paper aims to provide an approach to national energy security in the context of regional and European context.

**Keywords:** Energy security, Trans-Adriatic Pipeline, sustainable development, regional collaboration.