The Social Sciences 11 (15): 3664-3672, 2016

ISSN: 1818-5800

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Iran and Energy Challenge in the Eurasia Future

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Abstract: Iran has rich energy resources like oil and gas reserves and it is among the top four and two countries with largest proven oil and gas reserves in the world, respectively. Meanwhile, countries without sufficient energy resources in Eurasia, e.g., China and India with large and rapidly growing economies, need more amount of gas and oil than what they produce in their own countries. China, Pakistan and India are among the fastest-growing economies in the Asia now. Given the fact that two of the most populous countries in the world whose economies are in a rapid growth are placed in the Eurasia, it is predicted that the need of regional countries for energy will be increase significantly in the next few years. In addition, energy-consuming countries emphasize on diversifying their imported energy sources and oil and gas in particular. Islamic Republic of Iran is a major producer with diverse energy resources within its territory and while it is situated in the Middle East and produces oil in the Persian Gulf, it belongs to Eurasia energy sector.

Key words: Eurasia, energy, diplomacy, energy, Iran

INTRODUCTION

The energy is fundamental to development, production of wealth and power in the present world and the global economy is dependent on oil, gas and energy supply security now and in the future. The economic and population growth and increasing importance of economic and humanitarian issues in international relations is associated with increasing energy demand in this area which require innovation in new methods of energy production, increasing in energy efficiency, exploring new energy resources, entering competition for access to available resources and further challenge to guarantee energy security.

In this regard, Eurasia is of crucial economical, security, political and geo-political importance due to its vast energy reserves, the significance of these reserves in providing global energy security and special geo graphical position of the region in relation to different parts of the world, particularly underdeveloped regions in need for energy. Eurasia has become a field in which various powers fight for winning more geopolitical advantages with each other and it has experienced substantial geopolitical changes, in line with the new arrangement of world powers, among which is the energy geopolitical evolution. The geo political evolution in

Eurasia and global energy can be illustrated in shaping terrestrial geopolitics by cooperation of emerging powers of Asia as a global competitor and regional alternative for maritime geopolitics that takes the maritime energy transportation routes under control and domination of the US.

These geopolitical changes in the world's energy resources in which Eurasia's reserves and energy geopolitics play the crucial role would represent a plenty of challenges and opportunities for Iran. Since, it has strong geographic, economic, political and security links with a large part of Eurasia and it is one of major energy producers in the world which its benefits are connected with regional as well as global changes in energy.

IRAN'S STATUS IN THE GLOBAL ENERGY

According to Oil and Gas Journal, January 2015, Iran has an estimated 154 billion barrels of proven oil reserves, maintaining the fourth place in terms of strategic resources. This amount equals to 9% of global and more that 12% of OPEC oil reserves (Fig. 1). Iran's oil reserves are not limited to the Persian Gulf and its offshore areas but the country has the potential to explore latent reserves in different regions. In addition, Iran has considerable reserves in the Caspian sea which

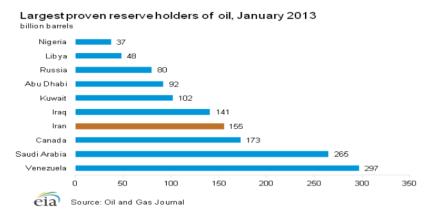


Fig. 1: Countries by their oil reserves and the place of Iran in 2013

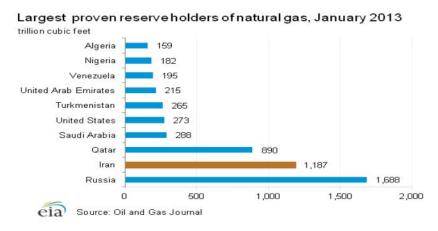


Fig. 2: Countries by their natural gas reserves and the status Iran in 2013

their exploration and development is stalled due to territorial disputes with its neighbors. In terms of oil and gas pipelines, Iran has a wide network of domestic and export pipelines expanded to its neighboring countries like Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Turkey and the new layout of energy export pipelines are under construction as well.

On natural gas reserves, Iran has 1187 trillion cubic feet of proven reserves including 15.9% of world reserves which is second after Russia (Fig. 2). Given Iran's huge reserves of gas and the development of South Pars gas field which makes 35% of the country's gas production now, it is expected that Iran's natural gas production increases in the upcoming years and makes it as one of major natural gas producers and exporters. Between 2008 and 2035, Iran and Qatar had nearly one-fifth of the world's natural gas production increase in the world. A significant portion of this increase is due to their joint gas field (Qatar and South Pars gas field in Northern Iran) (Energy Information Administration, 2011).

ROLE OF ENERGY IN NATIONAL SECURITY

Oil and gas as important energy carriers, viewed as factors of production are greatly essential to providing capital, credit and necessary budget of other sectors of the Iran's economy such as agriculture and industry which are heavily dependent on exchanged-based revenue produced by this major economic sector. Any challenge in the respective energy sector, in fact, is a profound challenge for general economic movements and procurement of the State's essential needs. Accordingly, Iran's political economy is closely in connection with energy, especially oil and its revenues and the Iranian relation with the world economy is mainly made through this industry.

Since, the importance of oil and gas production has increased as the two major sources of energy in life and international economy, Iran's security has always been in a direct link with energy and the issue of Iran's energy resources has always reflected politicians' view on Iran.

Energy as a strategically effective issue have always had a prominent place in Iran's national security owing to its economic and political importance and therefore, can play a key role in promoting regional and international position of Iran. Consequently, development of the energy industry is subject to international cooperation and interactions as it has great dependence on the world outside the national borders (Athletics and Bewilderment, 2008).

Having prior position in energy geopolitics, Iran can secure its interests as well as its security by playing more effective role in strengthening energy security in the region and world and tying its Interests and security with the energy security of world' biggest energy consumers. What has been done so far is so far less than Iran's potentials and even many potential energy situations have been wasted or used by Iranian regional rivals (Mohammad and Sajjadpour, 2011).

The interaction between production and export of energy is that the more international market dependent on Iran's energy, the more committed are they to secure continuity of production and security of Iran's oil and gas industry which of course, requires Iran to have a favorable position in the global energy market and national peace and security. Based on this analysis and considering the integrity of global energy market, we could assert that the more share and importance has Iran in the global market, the more intense pressure the consequence of ceasing production and exporting energy would be exerted on the market and world prices. This could affect all economies across the globe more or less and therefore, causes every country considers the threats against Iran as a threat to their economy and being sensitive to continuity of Iranian energy exports.

Therefore, given the importance of energy and security for the world energy consumers, they could work as a medium to connect Iran to big energy consumers and emerging powers in the Asia in particular. Establishing energy-based bonds with important effective countries like India and China on the international basis could bring considerable security and economic advantages to Iran by making them dependent on Iran to supply and secure their strategic commodities and security.

In this regard, by actively pursuing energy diplomacy and taking advantage of existing potentials of energy reserves and unique geographical position of the country, the Iranians can reinforce the basis of their national security and achieve a regional and international status corresponding to their potential besides earning revenue from their available resources and special geographical position (Bhrvzyfr, 2011). In the meantime, energy and energy security as the centerpiece and main concept of

energy diplomacy can be one of the most important vehicles connecting Iranians with the big powers and developing countries, especially in Asia, if the energy diplomacy goes along with the development-oriented foreign policy (Preacher, 2010).

The main idea about strategy that leads to improving national security through energy diplomacy emphasizes that the more effective and greater the Iranians role and share in the global economy and global energy trade, the more influential would they be in regional and international processes which in turn links Iranian energy security to their regional neighbors and international partners. Therefore, these ties, especially regarding the issue of energy cooperation, are deemed as a geopolitical strategy that will increase Iranians collaboration and union with the regional and international countries (Hussein and Zolfaghari, 2010).

Geopolitical changes in the eurasia energy and iranians opportunities: In the structure of international political economy today, energy is an important tool to gain wealth and power. As Iran situated in the place of largest energy reserves in the world, it has the capacity to achieve a privileged status. Because, increase Iran's share in production, trading and transferring energy have made the world economy dependent on Iran to provide energy. It could pave way for development and promote national security and power of Iran (Mohammad and Sajjadpour, 2011).

Having outstanding position in energy geopolitics, Iran could guarantee its interests and national security best by playing more central role in providing regional and international security, if it understands the changes in regional and international geopolitics. Accordingly, we would analyze opportunities provided for Iran as the result of geopolitics changes in the Eurasia energy.

GEOPOLITICAL STATUS OF IRAN

Iran has special geopolitical, geo-economic and geostrategic characteristics. These features, in turn, have had produced considerable effect on internal socio-political developments and international relations of Iran throughout the history (Ramezani, 2009). Since, Iran is placed between Europe and Asia and, surrounded at North and South by central Asian and Caucasus area and Arabian countries respectively while is in the heart of 75% of total oil and gas reserves in the world, it enjoys unique opportunity in shipment of goods and transition of energy (Fig. 3). Here the noticeable point is that, Iran is the only oil exporter in the Middle East and the only member of OPEC that shares its borders with the Central



Fig. 3: Energy transition in eurasia and geographical podition of Iran (Higashi, 2009)

Asia states. To understand the Iran's strategic position just look at the geographical dispersion and distribution of energy especially in the Middle East and Eurasia and notice Iran's geographical location that is adjacent to the world's biggest energy corridor (i.e., strategic Strait of Hormuz) through which 40% of the world energy is exported. Therefore, it seems that this country as placed at the strategic center of energy, must play crucial role in modern structure of the international political economy, political economy of business and transition of energy regionally and globally.

Because the demands for fossil energy (oil and gas) have been increased and the oil reserves have been drastically decreased in the North Sea and Central America, it is necessary to create geopolitical triangle and a new energy corridor which is surrounded by the Central Asia and Sea Caspian at the North and the Persian Gulf at the South, to respond to new demands. Of course, it either requires to build up and activate energy transmission lines, since according to the Charter of European Greens, they aim at finding a wide diversity of energy import market so as to reduce their dependence on Russia and find alternative resources and routes including getting access to rich energy reserves in the Persian Gulf and Caspian sea. Iran's strategic relationship with Eurasia which is enfolded by lands and the vital importance of Iran in the process of connecting Eurasia to the other parts of world can Affect Iran's position in Eurasia, due to the important role it plays in transferring the energy in and outside of region and give Iran a pivotal position in mapping out the future of the region (Anonymous, 2013). Unique geographical position of Iran that connects the Caspian countries to Persian Gulf countries could turn Iran to an attractive route to lay probable pipeline to transit energy to the world markets. The construction of

such a pipeline throughout the Iran's territory would allow this country to increase its political influence in the Eurasia.

Having the second largest gas reserves and the fourth largest oil reserves in the world and sharing borders with two major gas consumers, i.e., India and China in the East and Europe in the West, Iran enjoys a unique geographical position in the field of energy. In this regard, Iran's Interaction with regional and international countries and creation of regional networks to make use of its advantages in energy provides a solid basis for Iran's security and preventing or, at least, limiting threats by Iran's rivals. To reach this goal, according to the geographical location of Iran, increasing Iran's share in producing, trading and transiting energy under the efficient energy diplomacy could provide a link between world economy and Iran's in this sector as well as a good platform for regional development and integration. Moreover, it will make the way for moving towards development and promotion of national power and security. Politically and strategically, it is of high importance to Iran as it turns Iran to a major actor in the regional transit and prevents Iran's geopolitical isolation in the future (Shams and Honest, 2011).

DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR ON ENERGY AND INCREASING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INTERESTS

From the perspective of international relations theorists, creation and the development of cooperation and making economic, trade and transport relations are suitable ways to bring about unity in international relations, fostering connection, peace and stability, particularly between the regional countries.

Accordingly, in the light of global and regional evolutions in energy, developments of regional cooperation by Iran with other countries are viewed as a perfect opportunity that can provide the countries in the regions as well as across the world with ample political and economic interests.

From the geo-economic point of view, available energy in the Central Eurasia are worthy resources for the Eastern and Western countries which giving them more options regarding from where supplying their energy demands (Amyrahmdyan, 2005). Today Europe aims to transferring the available energy in this region to the Europe to get access to diverse energy resources and compete with the other big powers. Therefore, it provides Iran with great opportunity to develop its cooperation (with Europe and other countries in the region) in transferring Energy throughout the Armenia or transiting gas from Turkmenistan to Turkey and Europe as well as transfer energy throughout Kazakhstan-Turkmenistan pipelines (Simbar and Glafryz, 2009).

Increasing the capacity of existing regional organizations and using this capacity to achieve the desired goals will bring significant results to Iran. Iran has gained the observer status in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, since 2005 that allows Iran to carry out common infrastructure projects and promote regional coalition. These projects will improve the prospects for regional unity and increase mutual interdependence between countries (Xuetang, 2006). These changes would produce serious geopolitical results, because they can make way for building up a big block of energy in the Central Eurasia including Iran, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Russia which transfer their energy throughout Iran, Russia, China and India. Therefore, it will provide China and Russia with greater opportunities to cooperate with each other to develop (energy) resources in Iran to confront with what is called by Moscow and Beijing, as America's unilateralism in the world's energy. Russia and China could better their position in the Persian Gulf and thus, in the global energy market through cooperation. Iran and Russia almost have half of the world's proven reserves of natural gas and since they are key players in regional and global arena now, they can reinforce their position and expand their control over international gas market if they coordinate their production and market policies.

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

It should be noted that the increasing need of India and Pakistan to import crude oil and natural gas provides the producers of crude oil and natural liquid gas across the world with a marvelous opportunity. Is such a situation, Iran has the capacity to become a liable energy-supplying partner for India and Pakistan as it is rich in oil and gas reserves and not too far from these countries. Particularly Iran could expand its cooperation with India and Pakistan on the import of crude oil and natural gas.

CHINA AND THE FAR EAST

The competition is intense in the far East between Japan, South Korea and China to have an access to reliable energy resources and the energy markets of the Persian Gulf, Central Asia, Caspian Sea, Russia, Australia and Africa. The increasing demand of the Far East countries for energy and the necessity to meet their required energy from foreign resources has made the energy as a critical issue for these countries. With highest rate of energy consumption, demand and economic growth between the Far East countries, China is more concerned about supplying the required energy flow for its economy. Since, getting access to reliable energy resources is crucial to guarantee continuity of development and viewed as a strategic decision for China (Yahya and Mahdian, 2010). In the opinion of the Chinese, Iran can be among the main suppliers ensuring their energy security in the Middle East. Of reasons they turn to Iran is that Iran, unlike the other countries in the Middle East, is not under the influence of the Western countries and the Americans in particular.

On the other hand, direct access to the resources of the Persian Gulf and Iran through land is only possible by expanding the pipeline through Pakistan. Another option for the Chinese is through Central Asia. Therefore, by developing the pipeline networks in this region and its expansion and connection with Iranian oil and gas pipeline networks, China can get access to Persian Gulf energy through the pipelines both passing throughout Iran. Iran's energy resources in the Caspian sea are also providing contracting parties with great opportunities to cooperation. Based on this perspective, China can become "Asian energy bridge" and connect major producers in the Persian Gulf to the Far East (Jepan and South Korea) through Iran and Central Asia pipeline networks in addition to getting access to resources in the Russia and Central Asia (Ameri, 2010).

Thus, it appears that Iran has a special place in the energy strategies of Eurasia and China in the future. This position is important due to several reasons: First, Iran has the shortest geographical distance to China among the other Persian Gulf countries; second, China could be linked to Iran and the Persian Gulf through Pakistan or

Afghanistan; third, considering its large natural reserves, Iran can largely supply China's energy demands; fourth, Iran enjoys a favorable geographical condition to transfer energy of the regional countries, e.g., Iraq, to the East. The respective projects have strategic interests for both parties. However, there are security considerations as well, e.g., The Far East countries are likely to become dependent on China in terms of energy transition route. However, it seems that the benefits and attractions of these projects are so great that encourage these countries to think about them. Because if these projects are carried out, Japan and South Korea can have access to Russian, Central Asia, Iran and the Persian Gulf energy resources by land and China could also take advantage of their financial resources to fund the projects' costs.

In general, we can assert that Iran is able to play a central role in promoting common interests and reducing mutual vulnerability across the two side of the Asian continent due to its obvious advantages in terms of its oil and especially gas reserves and its geographical location. Accordingly, Iran has now the readiness for establishing a mutual dialogue with Asian consumers first to think about and administer methods to promote common interests and reduce mutual vulnerabilities and second, facilitating the condition to establish a multilateral dialogue between across the two side of the continent. This dialogue can be established through the provision of required energy and the possibility to transfer it to the Asian consumers via pipelines.

EUROPE

Regions recognized to be as the natural gas importer will have increased the amount of their imports by 2030, among which the European Union will have the largest increase. The European Union will have imported 80% of its natural gas demands by 2030 (Bilgin, 2009). It is predicted that the import of natural gas by the European Union reaches to about 236 Billion m3 between 2006 and 2030. In contrast, Russia export as the biggest gas supplier of the Europe will increase to 140 billion meter cubes at most within the given years due to the problems emerging in the gas Industry of this country. Therefore, even if we assume that all Russian increase in the gas production is to be exported to the Europe which is not sensible considering changes in the global energy market and growth in demands in other regions, the Russians could only supply up to 60% of the Europeans natural gas demands at best (Bhrvzyfr, 2011). On the other hand, Europe have made fundamental changes in its foreign polices as observing the political behavior and energy diplomacy of the Russia and tried to find more alternative

energy markets. Therefore, while confirming their intention to continue short-term cooperation with the Russians, the European Union are going to decrease their dependence on Gazprom company and enhance their cooperation with other producers instead in Bilgin (2009). European countries always want to expand their import energy mark, especially gas suppliers because of their national security concerns and now they are in search for new gas resources in the world. Therefore, given the mentioned Irna's potential, it could be considered as a possible option to export gas to the Europe. It requires the European countries to invest in the Iran's gas industry to develop its gas export and removing the technological and financial difficulties in the gas export of Iran (Bhryzyfr, 2011).

With the completion of gas projects, Iran will possess the potential capacity to supply the gas demands of the Europeans (Maleki, 2007). Accordingly, Iran is always viewed as a viable option for the European energy exerts because of its energy-supplying capacity as well as its geographical location in the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and the Caspian sea and its connection with Central Asia and the Caucasus. During the Russian's dominance in energy of the Europe, Iran can be a good geopolitical option to supply the energy demands of the Europe and reduce its dependence on Russia and unstable producer of energy in the short and long term (Hosseini and Morteza, 2010). However, increasing tensions between the parties on some political issues and particularly the leverage exerted by the America have made the Europe uncertain about increasing its cooperation on energy with Iran. However, given the international changes in energy, Iran has such a great capacity that is hard for the European to overlook it while making their long-term plans and strategies (Freme, 2009).

GEOPOLITICAL CHANGES OF ENERGY IN THE EURASIA AND CHALLENGES FACING IRAN

Despite all the opportunities and benefits presented to Iran in the light of international market developments, regional and global geopolitical changes of energy, the challenges are also on the way undoubtedly. What has happened in the field of energy within the recent two decades in countries and regions around the Iran especially at Northern areas (Eurasia) provides us with clear evidence on this issue. International energy agreements, plans to build and investments in the energy transmission pipelines around Iran all have been made and performed without the Iranians participation or taking into account its interests and regardless of the role and status of Iran in the region.

To mention some of the most important challenges facing Iran regarding geopolitical changes of energy on both regional and global bases are.

Legal and geopolitical challenges of the Caspian sea After collapse of Soviet Union and stabilization of newly independent countries, the Caspian sea has always been the issue of disputes and challenges between the national interests of coastal states and rivalry between the regional and trans-regional powers which aim to establishing their presence in the region to take advantage of the geopolitical and geo-economic potential of the Caspian sea. The most important issues regarding the geopolitical and geo-economics of Caspian Sea has been on the ownership of its energy reserves, exploitation of resources and management of energy transfer to the global markets. Different attitudes of the coastal States and lack of a well-develop legal regime have further complicated the geopolitical and geo-economic problems of the region (Kamran et al., 2010).

Existing disagreements on energy rich resources of the Caspian sea and interest of the trans-regional countries to exploit and transfer these resources increase the sensitivity of the region. Moreover, the particular characteristic of non-coastal countries in the region and their dependence on global markers, exports and Imports, particularly oil and gas exports upon which their economies have been dependent for the recent decades, direct the regional changes towards energy and energy policy. The delay is making the regional regime of the Caspian sea, the presence of trans-regional actors and geopolitical disorder have aggravated the situation of traditional actors in the region and Iran in particular (Simbar and Glafryz, 2009).

The existence of different actors each of which pursing parallel, common and conflicting political and economic objectives has made the energy issues in the area more complicated than what one can think of. In this respect, the failure of the coastal states to develop a legal regime for the Caspian have increased the completion between the regional countries (Kamran *et al.*, 2010).

THE US

The special geographical location of Iran in the region which is situated between two great energy resources now, i.e., Eurasia and the Persian Gulf, the American attempt to bring it under its control is an important factor affecting the Iranian relations on both regional and international bases. The United States tries to prevent Iran from drawing on its unique regional advantage by laying geopolitical siege to the Iran. To do

so, the US has bid to prevent oil and gas pipeline from passing through the Northern areas of Iran. In fact, the American activities and foreign approaches is the region has been all to isolate Iran geopolitically. The East to West expansion of oil and gas pipelines and the military presence of the US in the Central Asia are to prevent the Central Asia And Caucasus countries from cooperating with Iran politically, economically and Culturally. The US has also attempted to diminish the international importance of Iran. To do so, the US has considerably increased its cooperation with the coastal States of the Caspian sea. These extensive measures could lead to geopolitical changes that are not in the favor of Iran's interests in the region.

One of the America's goals in the region is to develop geopolitical direction of the Central Asia and Caucasus from East to the West to decrease the geopolitical importance of Iran. Given the reducing dependence of the US on the OPEC and Iran through controlling the oil and gas resources in the Caspian sea, making the way for presence of Israeli companies in the region, on one hand and preventing Iran's from actively playing its role in the region and representing it as a security threat to the region, on the other hand, we could assert that the presence of the US itself could be a potential danger to the region which may provoke ethnic crisis in the region considering the diverse ethnic groups at both sides of the Iranian borders.

CONCLUSION

The necessity of Iran's participation and involvement in the global affairs with motivation to use foreign facilities to encourage development, elimination of international obstacles and threats and illustrating Iran as the international opportunity to provide energy and security are important factors to link Iran with big powers and developing countries specially in the Asia And Europe and help to realize requirements predicted in the development and vision document of Iran. It should be noted that establishing the energy bonds with important countries includes considerable security interests for Iran in addition to economic ones, as make these countries dependent on Iran to supply their strategic commodities. That is why the development of the energy industry has become the foundation of the national development. Accordingly, we could claim that the issue of energy and its development is considered as both a powerful tool and the target of foreign policy.

In this regard, paying attention to the regional and global changes of energy could help Iran to pursue its goals in the energy sector, to take advantage of the opportunities provided in the light of these changes and to deal with the possible challenges as.

In the process of increasingly demands of India and Pakistan and their attempt to ensure their energy security, Iran's energy can be viewed as a reliable source. Moreover, cooperation on the energy sector would make a solid basis for cooperation between these countries and being a tool to enhance the international, political and security cooperation of Iran with its East neighbors.

China and East Asian energy market also provides Iran with new great opportunities in the energy sector. The geographical location and energy resources of Iran is strategically important for China which is the second largest energy consumer in the world and its energy consumption is also in increasing trends. The enhancement of cooperation between the two given countries would continue to expand energy networks of the Persian Gulf and Central Asia to the East Asia and Japan and South Korea.

Iran can be a good geopolitical option for supplying the energy of the Asia and reducing its dependence on Russia and other unstable producer of energy. Although the increasing tensions between the Iran and the Europe on political issues and the influence of America make the Europe uncertain about increasing cooperation with Iran on the energy sector, Iran have such a capacity that is hard to be overlooked in the Europeans long-term plans and energy-supplying strategies.

Opposite to the abovementioned opportunities, there are, of course, challenges facing Iran in the process of energy changes. The presence of regional competitors that takes only their interests into account and define their national interest, foreign policy and relations on the ground of political and trans-regional connections with the big powers and conditions under the new circumstances would weaken the geopolitical and geo-economic of Iran in the region.

On the other hand, the increasing importance of energy resources of the Eurasia and intensifying the regional and trans-regional competition on these resources pose another problem regarding the legal and geopolitical status of the Caspian sea. Diverse attitudes taken by different coastal States of the Caspian sea and lack of a well-developed legal regime make geopolitical and geo-economic issues of the region more complicated. Additionally, the arrivals of trans-regional actors as well as geopolitical disorders of the region weaken the situation of traditional actor in the region and Iran in particular.

In the course of geopolitical changes of the region, there is another problem preventing Iran from drawing on its unique regional advantage. The US tries to lay geopolitical siege to the Iran. The East to West expansion of oil and gas pipelines and the military presence of the US in the Central Asia are to prevent the Central Asia And Caucasus countries from cooperating with Iran politically, economically and Culturally. The US has also attempted to diminish the international importance of Iran. To do so, the US has considerably increased its cooperation with the coastal states of the Caspian Sea.

Generally, in the process of regional and international changes of energy Iran has great opportunities despite difficulties and challenges facing it. Iran could secure its interests in the global energy sector satisfactorily by using efficient energy diplomacy, playing effective role in providing the regional and international energy security and making a connection between its national interest and security with energy security of the biggest energy consumers across the globe.

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