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Subject(s): Politics / Political Sciences, Politics, Economy, Energy and Environmental Studies, Economic policy, Geopolitics

Published by: Kolegium Europy Wschodniej im. Jana Nowaka-Jeziorańskiego we Wrocławiu

Summary/Abstract: The combination of major energy deals, appearing to play nice over Ukraine and upping the ante in Syria begs the question of what Russia is trying to achieve on the international scene. It seems that Vladimir Putin is trying to throw up a smokescreen that will help cement Gazprom's position in Europe. To pull this off, the...
Gazprom isn't the only company that made the headlines during the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum. Rosneft reported a flurry of deals too. Gazprom Signs Deals With E.ON, OMV, Shell For New Pipeline to Germany. During the first day of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, some deals indicated that Russian gas strategy might rely on Germany and the Balkans. Considering that the European Union is reportedly closer to extending economic sanctions by six months against Russia, this piece of evidence might appear quite counterintuitive. © Gazprom. The bright afternoon January sun offers little respite from the minus 40C temperature for the pipeline construction workers crunching through the snow in Russia’s Far East region. In the sprawling pine forests of the country's eastern wilderness, the cold air burns cheeks and catches in throats, as the thick, grey exhaust fumes from the colossal earthmoving diggers hang like clumps of candyfloss. The four-dozen engineers near the town of Neryungri are part of an 8,500 crew working all-year round to build Gazprom’s Power of Siberia, a 3,000km pipeline that runs from the gasfields of...