North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the World Energy Security

Kenza Fenni, University of Guelma
k_fenni@yahoo.fr

Dr. Widad Ghouzlani, University of Guelma
ghouzlaniwidad@gmail.com

ملخص:

بدأت منظمة حلف شمال الأطلسي تهتم بقضية الأمن الطاقوي منذ نهاية الحرب الباردة، من خلال مجموعة من المفاهيم الإستراتيجية، كونه مفهوم وظاهرة ملموسة تطرح نفسها بشدة على الأجندة الأمنية للحلف وللدول، فتحقيق الاكتفاء الطاقوي للمستهلكين مهم لأنّه وثيق الصلة بالأمن القومي والأمن الدولي، وتتمحور إشكالية هذا الموضوع حول كيفية إسهام منظمة حلف شمال الأطلسي في حماية الأمن الطاقوي ومستوى استجابة الحلف فعليا لمتطلبات الدول الأعضاء فيه، ومن خلال الاعتماد على المنهج التحليلي تم تقسيم الموضوع إلى مجموعة عناصر ارتبطت بتعريف الأمن الطاقوي وبيان أهميته إلى جانب رصد الأجندة السابقة والحالية للحلف لحماية الأمن الطاقوي، والتطرق للصعوبات التي تواجه أداء الحلف خاصة تلك المرتبطة بالتحديات اللاتماثلية الجديدة، مع استظهار أدواره المستقبلية في هذا المجال، سعيا لإبراز دور حلف شمال الأطلسي في حماية الأمن الطاقوي على ضوء الصعوبات التي تواجهه، وفعالية الدور الذي يقوم به ومدى قدرته على تحقيق الحماية المسطرة في بيئة القرن الواحد والعشرين.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الأمن الطاقوي، منظمة حلف شمال الأطلسي، التحديات اللاتماثلية.

Abstract:

Since the end of the Cold War, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has begun to address the issue of energy security through a set of strategic concepts, a concept and a concrete phenomenon that presents itself strongly on the NATO and member states security' agenda. Achieving consumer energy is so important because it is relevant to national security and international security. The topic on how NATO contributes to the protection of energy security and the level of NATO's response to the requirements of its member states. The paper is divided into a set of sections with relation to the definition of energy security and its importance to monitor the NATO's previous and current agenda for the protection of energy security and to address the difficulties facing the Alliance's performance, especially those related to the new asymmetric challenges, while recalling its future roles in this field, in order to highlight the role of NATO in the protection of energy security in the light of the difficulties it faces; and its ability to achieve protection in the 21st century environment.

Keywords: Energy security, NATO, asymmetric challenges.

Introduction:

Energy security is one of the most important issues of twenty first century political agendas. However it is rooted in the cold war era, and during post-cold war period academic agendas through the deepening and widening of the security concept, thanks to the new environment that has drawn new map of the world politics, because of the increasing needs to energy from states, consumers or supplies. But this increasing demand is faced by new threats that reduce the production and the transit, also the consumption of energy, such as terrorism attacks, piracy, cyber attacks …, which reform the asymmetric challenges that are bigger than the capacity and the ability of states to face it.

The incapacity of states to deal with the energy security issue requires the intervention of other factors, such as international organizations, in broader sense, NATO as international security organization has adapted the responsibility to protect energy security doctrine, to ensure an integrative security of its members, in the light of the dependency of NATO' member states on energy of other supplies, especially, these supplies are located in instable zones, like Middle East, and Gulf region, that make the disruption of energy a habitual and continued situation.

Therefore, NATO has tried to widen its activities to other sectors/regions through a new perspective emphasizing lot of strategic concepts (Riga summit 2006, Bucharest summit 2008, and Lisbon summit 2010) which had been adopted by the alliance within we find a focus on energy security issue. So the central question is: How NATO has participated in the protection of energy security? Has the alliance played an effective role to respond to its member states needs? As to the main hypothesis: NATO role in energy security protection related to the effectiveness of its strategic concepts. The method I used in this study: To deal with the problematic, we use exploratory and analytical methods to discover and clarify the NATO role in energy security protection and testing the effectiveness of this role.

First, what does mean energy security?

The international energy agency IEA defines security energy as "uninterrupted availability of energy resources at an affordable price", according to this definition; energy security is the ability of human being to the access to resources by simple and easy way, to respond to basic needs.

Energy security forms: there are two forms.

- Long term energy security: mainly deals timely with investments to supply to energy in line with economic developments and sustainable environment needs.

- Short term energy security: focuses on the ability of the energy system to react to sudden changes within the supply-demand balance. (International energy agency, 2016).

What are the energy security dimensions?

Any long interruption of a steady and plenty flow of energy, would massively harm any nation's economic output, and political instability, and personal well being of its citizens. According to that, satisfaction of energy need maintains and safeguards the economic development and the political instability that ensures the legitimacy within the political entity.

But why energy security is considered as a security issue? and who are actors that can guarantee security energy? The answer of this question is based on energy security multi-dimensions, which are:

- Internal policy dimension;
- Economic dimension;
- Geopolitical dimension;
- Security dimension.

These dimensions are not separated, when dealing with energy security issue, because they are interdependent dimensions, except in analysis level: (Flaurian Boman 2008, p.p. 4-6).

1. The internal policy dimension:

It is related to the executive financial acquisitions for maintaining and extension of energy network, and the investment in energy infrastructure, according to the 2005 World Energy Outlook, investment in global infrastructure attends 17 million dollars until 2030, hence energy supply interruption challenges the services providers as well as local and national authorities, also internal policy include improving energy security by increasing energy efficiency by saving energy and lowering costs, the disruption of energy resources influence the internal security, and may that leads to social and societal insecurity. The insecurity spillovers to threaten national security or even regional security; because of the nature of the new threats that start form inside to outside, therefore the investment in the protection of energy security should began from the internal policies and strategies. (Flaurian Boman 2008, p.p. 4-6)

2. Economic dimension:

This dimension is about how states or supranational actors have to set the rules for functioning markets, thus industrial users can acquire the amount of energy they request by reasonable prices. The economic dimension of energy security is namely interpreted in distribution production –regional or local- and correlate to transport, that put pressure on energy prices and adds by broadening output facilities, because the economic dimension is one of the most important factor that participates in the development, and by the way the stability of states,

in other word, economic factor can save relatively the national security, therefore there is a functional relation between economy and energy.

3. Geopolitical dimension:

It includes the transportation of energy resources over long distances crossing various territories, therefore concrete action is the only way to secure worldwide trade in energy goods, and anyway the free flow of energy resources and services is an adequate means to avoid short term supply interruption.

4. Security dimension:

The security dimension is expressed in the dominant threats, mentioned in the geopolitical dimension. In 2007 terrorists launched 331 attacks on oil refineries and electrical transformers, the security dimension and energy are intertwined and the vulnerability of energy influence surely the overall security. In last decades, where the nature of challenges has changed with the appearance of asymmetric threats such as terrorism, cyber attacks, maritime piracy lead to the insecurity (Flaurian Boman 2008, p.p. 6-8). Energy security dimensions are intertwined through eight dimensions:

The source of risk; the scope of the impact measure; the speed of the threat impact; the size of threat impacts; the suspension of threat impact; the spread of threat Impact; the singularity of threat impact and the sureness of threat.(Christian Wenzer 2011, p.9).

Second: the importance of energy:

Energy is essential for all aspects of modern life, political, economic, social…. The security challenges surrounding energy are numerous and profound. Europe' s increasing dependency on oil and gas imports, the growing energy needs of rising powers such as China and India, political instability in many energy producing and transit states, territorial disputes involving the quest for energy, and other resources, terrorist attacks against refineries, and pipelines, piracy along critical maritime choke points and cyber attacks against smart powers grids and control system, there is also the energy challenges of military operations with military forces deployed far from home.(Sorin Duran 2014, p.3).

All these problems threaten the energy security in the high of the increasing demands of energy and the world dependence on it, so energy security is one the most twenty first challenges, that push NATO as security alliance to care about it.

Third: NATO involvement in security energy issue:

NATO as military and security alliance has to provide protection to 900 million citizens, so that the linkage between the alliance and energy is of a security character, where it has legitimate and relevant role to play in the field of energy security. (Sorin Duran 2014,p.3).

Before talking about NATO involvement in energy issue, we need to talk about NATO interest by security field and there are many reasons for this new direction: NATO is not merely a military alliance, it also has political-security agenda that was emphasized in the 2010 strategic concept; NATO is an organization based on freedom and democracy, that are among its founding principles, and its energy dependence and vulnerability can affect the freedom of the alliance decision, so it can't be ignored, a sustainable and secure energy is important for the international security, and therefore for interest of NATO; energy vulnerabilities are not simply, and Eastern European problems are a challenge for the alliance and a part of the asymmetric risks. (Julyas Grubliauskas).

So, NATO concerns about energy security are not due to eventual threats of natural disasters, or terrorist attacks, or changing market trends. Therefore the explanation of NATO involvement in security energy is found within the alliance and its political environment, and there are three fundamental reasons:

First, since the cold war's end, NATO has expanded to central and eastern Europe, which don't share the same security concerns as the alliance old members. These new members arguably possess different threats perceptions, because of their histories, infrastructure, an geopolitical neighbors, also these members are depending on the import of Russian gas, hence energy security has became substantial component in their respective in foreign security policies, and some of these members in fact have supported the energy solidarity, this solidarity idea backed by some officials, including United States ex senator Richard Lugar.

Second, NATO has developed various partnerships with Russia, Ukraine, south Caucasus, Central Asia, North Africa, The Middle East, and the Gulf region, the alliance has developed closer relations with more distant countries, such as Korea, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand, because of this widening and deepening of relationships, NATO has connected itself with many principle energy providers.

Third, NATO has gradually become a security provider. In a broader sense, since the end of the cold war, the organization has moved toward comprehensive strategy concept, where it identified that threats are more diverse and multidimensional than in the past, NATO is continuously transforming itself, striving to adapt the world changing security environment, in a tight market, characterized by heavy reliance on oil and gas, disruptions to energy supplies, the alliance has naturally become concerned by the issue.(Thierry Legendre 2007, pp. 3-4).

Fourth: security environment and the rising of new asymmetric challenges:

In post cold war era, security environment has seen a new kind of threats that are totally different from the traditional ones, which called asymmetric threats (Julyas Grubliauskas).

- Terrorist attacks against energy infrastructure especially in supplying regions outside NATO;

- Growing cyber risks to critical energy infrastructure;
- Piracy that affect maritime security supply routes;
- Risks to secure effectively energy supply to NATO missions and operations;
- Disruption of vital energy supplies within NATO ;
- Regional instabilities that could affect stable energy supplies to NATO nations.

All these factors engage NATO to adapt a global strategy to deal with asymmetric threats. What is observed about these factors is that they have historical background started by the end of the cold war, and it withstands until now, with new security environment, therefore, NATO has tried to guarantee its role as global security organization, and at the same time explain its continuity in world area.

Fifth: NATO security energy agenda:

Because of the importance and the complexity of security issue, NATO has focused on the energy issue at the 1999 Washington summit, then, followed a long period of silence until the 2006 summit.

The Riga summit: In 2006, the Russia-Ukraine gas dispute raised serious concern about energy security that drives to Riga summit declaration, that highlighted the importance of security infrastructure and member states to directly undertake consultations on most immediate risks in energy field, in this summit, NATO has set three main targets concerning energy security: (Peter Stepper and kinga Szalkar2014-2015, p.31).

- NATO should provide clear definitions of threats in questions;
- The alliance should have a complementary role instead of leading role;
- NATO must prevent the disruption of vital flow of resources.

To understand the NATO role in influencing and dealing with security energy issue, it is important to start by Riga declaration that allowed the analysis of NATO engagement in security energy: "We support a coordinated international effect to avoid risk to energy infrastructure, and to promote infrastructure security, we direct the council in permanent session to consult on the most immediate risks in the field of energy security, in order to define those areas where NATO may add value to safeguard the security interests upon request and assist national and international efforts". (NATO 2009). From this declaration, we can observe three main points:

- NATO didn't clarify what kind of coordination, in other words, this coordination depends on smart strategies backed by smart security, such as rebuilding operations, development and prosperity prospect, training and

learning programs. Rather it depends on hard strategies through which military interventions are the first solution;

- NATO capacity in promoting energy infrastructure security, so that make it away from the pressures and the interests of other powers that make a complementary role and not a leading role. At the same time reinforcing the politicization the energy issue, the effective protection of energy field and maintaining energy security;
- The third point is about the assistance of national and international efforts to prioritize the energy security.

The Bucharest summit: It was the next step in defining common interests and articulating by NATO in field of energy security, the allies have identified the principles that will govern NATO approach in energy issue. It outlined options and recommendations for furthering activities based on these principles: (Peter Stepper and kinga Szalkar 2014-2015, p. 3). Intelligence and information fusion and sharing; Projecting stability; Advancing regional and international cooperation; Supporting consequences management; Supporting the protection of critical energy infrastructure.

The alliance will ensure the added value as fully coordinated and embedded within those of international community, which features a number of organizations that are specialized in energy security. (NATO 2008) What is noticeable about the declaration of Bucharest Summit is the ambiguity about the operational means to protect energy and secures world needs.

The Lisbon summit: It was a significant step forward, and it resulted the adoption of a new strategic concept, which noted that the new energy security environment such as: terrorism, failed states, and cyber attacks will pose the most serious challenges in the future.

The concept also addressed the importance of energy security, some NATO countries will become more dependent on foreign energy supplies, and in some cases on foreign energy supplies distribution network for their energy needs, as a larger share of world consumption is transported across the globe, energy suppliers are increasingly exposed to disruption, the most important result of the summit is the declaration requires members states to integrate energy security consideration in NATO 's policies and activities. (Peter Stepper and Kinga Szalkar 2014-2015, p. 32)

According to the new strategic concept, all counties are increasingly reliant on the vital communication, transport, and transit routes which international trade, security energy and prosperity depend on, hence, NATO adopts a set of principles based on: (Mukidin Dzmbic 2011, p.30). Developing the capacity to contribute to energy security, including protection of critical energy infrastructure, transit areas, and lines; Cooperation with partners; Consultation among allies on the basis of strategic assessment and contingency planning.

NATO has attempted, since the end of the cold war and especially in the last decade, to play a complementary role in energy security field, through different strategic concepts, in the high of the increasing of new security threats, in certain context which draw its big lines to deal and address energy security issue, but even if NATO has adopted these strategic concepts as theoretical approaches, the application side remain very difficult, because of the emerging and the newly variables that have appeared in the security environment .

To sum up, NATO's proposed an energy security role with two intertwining roots, the first has a more military security focus, reflecting the dual need for the alliance to conduct practical and logistical planning to protect energy supplies (particularly petroleum), to maintain the wider stability, and security of its members states and its own operational capacity. This involves considering military threat to energy facilities and supply lines and routes and the threat of large scale, indeed according to some commentators, the possibility to access to energy resources, may become an object of large scale armed struggle. So it is almost incontestably the single most alarming prospect facing the international system today. Piracy and terrorist attacks supplement this risk, one study suggests that there have been at 330 terrorist attacks on oil and gas facilitates across the world between 1990 and 2005, including in NATO member and partner states.

The second, of these roots focus more on political threats to energy security. They come to prominence in NATO following the Ukraine Gazprom dispute of early January 2006, this event stimulated both a higher discussion of energy security within the alliance and simultaneously a somewhat different focus and understanding of energy security (Andrew Monaghan2005, p.5), that's what led to the Bush administration to introduce discussion of energy security in NATO agenda with the support of Britain and Germany. (Paul Galis2006, p.1)

What is noticed is that there are two aspect of NATO caring about energy security. The first one is about providing security especially in the increasing demand of energy, where the disruption in supplying of energy may lead to unending conflicts; the second one concerning the politicizing of energy issue, from the greatest power that controls the production of oil and gas such as seven sisters companies of gas and oil.

Sixth: where does NATO stand in term of energy security?

Growing importance of energy security and strong dependence of NATO's European members states on third party supplies, as well as the security threats in the neighborhood require the alliance to set up a concrete policy framework of energy infrastructure.

NATO collective approach to energy security, security of transportation and facilities and terrorist routes were highlighted in NATO' Riga and Bucharest summit declarations, also in strategic concept of 2010, also in article 19 of 2010 strategic concept document implies: "NATO will develop the capacity to contribute

to energy security including the protection of critical energy infrastructure and transit areas and lines, cooperation with partner and consultation among allies on the basis of strategic assessments and contingency planning" (Ilgar Gurbanov 2015, pp. 93-95). Meanwhile, the article 15 notes: "Increasing energy needs will shape the future security environment in areas of concern to NATO and will significantly affect NATO planning and operations."(Ilgar Gurbanov 2015, pp. 93-95).

These security guarantees only cover the allied states and not their partners, but a new article 4,5 format is required for protection of critical energy infrastructure and this could be realized through individual partnership, by merging article 4 and 5, in order to collectively discuss the situation facing other partners, and formulate the strategy of a certain level of alliance engagement, (Ilgar Gurbanov 2015, pp. 93-95), as the US senator Richard Lugar said in the Riga Summit 2006 that energy security should be a commitment under the article 5, mutual defense clause of the North Atlantic Treaty. This means NATO's military response, but the alliance treaty's commitment to prepare itself for, and respond to, attempt to use the energy weapons against its fellow members".(Petter Stepper and Kinga Szalkar 2014-2015, p. 31).

The question to ask herein is, how NATO's engagement in security energy should be? And what is the best way to boost cooperation in this field? The nature of NATO engagement in critical energy infrastructure protection should contain traditional military deterrence, in February 2006, NATO government discussed a range of potential action in the event of future disruption of oil supplies caused by military actions, some members states reportedly raised the possibility of protecting oil platform in conflicts periods and use satellite to monitor deployment in areas where energy resources come under threats. (Paul Galis 2006, p. 5)

Seventh: NATO current agenda to deal with energy security:

The current agenda of NATO is build upon following elements: (Michael Rühle and Julijus Grubliauskas, p. 3) With over 60 intelligence services from 28 nations, NATO provides a unique forum for discussing threats to energy security, focusing on security of critical energy infrastructure, particularly in energy producing and transit countries, and the security transport routes, to further enhance situational awareness, NATO 's analytical capabilities are being expanded, allowing for a more forward, looking analysis of how energy, economic, environmental and other factors may impact NATO policies and operations.

- **Support to the protection of critical energy infrastructure:**

Critical infrastructure faces various types of risks, ranging from natural disasters and political instability, to terrorist and cyber attacks, as most NATO members states depend on energy imports from region outside the alliance. They have a vested interest in contributing to security energy infrastructure in the producing or transit countries, this contribution benefits from NATO's longstanding expertise in crisis/crisis consequences management from the effective involvement

of the private sectors, also the alliance provides support to the protection of energy incorporating related scenarios in relevant exercise.

- **Energy efficiency in the military:**

The growing fuel requirements of allied forces can affect their operational effectiveness, since NATO missions will involve long distance and sustained presence, they require ever larger support studies, which also increase the risk for allied soldiers, several NATO members nations have thus started to examine ways to reduce their dependency on traditional means, and shrink their logistics foot print, however, these are essentially national initiatives. NATO has started to bring scattered national efforts together, with a view to explore promising technologies, and agree common standers to enhance allied interoperability. Reducing the logistical efforts means reducing fuel actors.

- **Cooperation with partner countries:**

The interest of NATO 's partners countries differ considerably, some of them are interested by the protection of maritime infrastructure and anti-piracy operations, others focusing on training and on access to NATO members countries expertise in the protection of energy infrastructure, the alliance has well established contacts on energy security with variety of partners from North Africa, the Gulf region, Caucasus, Central Asia, and Eastern Europe, including Russia, to respond effectively to the interest of such a wider range of actors, NATO seeks to face emerging challenges, NATO's science for peace and security program also plays an important role, and provides opportunities for NATO members and partners to develop new methodologies and technologies in the field of energy security.

- **Enhanced public diplomacy efforts:**

The alliance is now making a more systematic efforts to explain its policies, and initiatives, and given the increasing public interest in NATO's response to emerging challenges and prevent any misunderstanding, this work includes a stronger presence in articles and conferences contribution by NATO staff.

- **The centre of excellence:**

It demonstrates NATO's potential to adapt to a changing security landscape, and to develop new answers to new questions, it started to lay the groundwork for its energy security, at the same time NATO stood up the emerging security challenges diversion, this parallel evolution has resulted in cordial and trustful relations between entities. (Sorin Duran 2014, p. 6)

Eighth: challenges facing NATO in protecting energy security:

There are a set of challenges that prevent NATO to apply its current agenda in protecting energy security: (Alastain Cameron et al. 2008, p. 2).

- **Growing global energy needs:**

It is important to recognize that global energy needs are steadily growing for at least the next two decades, the world's primary energy needs are projected to rise by 55 % between 2005 and 2030, meaning an average annual rate of 1,8 %.

- **The Middle East and North Africa regions:**

The growing competitions on this region due to their critical gas and oil reserves, the potential instability in that region and about the future development of countries, such as Iraq which should serves as a reminder, that increasing production capacity in these areas is far from certain.

The estimates that demand for oil will rise from 92 million barrels a day (b/d) in 2010 to 115 million b/din 2030, and EU oil import are mainly from Russia 38 %, Middle East 22 %, Norway 15 %, North Africa 14 %, and other current European oil and gas production is offshore not to mention the declining production and rising costs.

In this insecurity energy format, NATO role is so complex, that will be an obstacle to NATO, especially as the organization aims to play a global role. So it's not an easy task to the alliance to control all the variables that influence oil and gas production in conflicts zone.

- **EU-NATO:**

NATO must always bear in mind Russia's potential to use oil and gas supplies as an instrument of Moscow foreign policy, some NATO countries have already been adversely affected and may other European states suffered as a result of the dispute between Russia and Ukraine in 2005, nearly 80 % of Russia's supply of gas to western Europe flows via a central pipeline through Ukraine, making that country integral for European access to natural gas and oil, this event has had a big impact on NATO role, and reduces its credibility to deal with such surprised and non anticipated accident.

- **EU-Russia-NATO:**

The most of the energy producing countries rely on state controlled companies for their trade, that means energy supplies tied to political consideration, therefore, NATO's states view energy problems as essentially challenging for public and private partnership, it's clear that the role of states regulator/protector remain very large indeed.

The complex issue is the responsibility of the protection of critical infrastructure, not only pipeline, but also, roads, power grid … which is under the

control of sovereign governments and part of this protection can be exercised by NATO. (Alastair Cameron, Kate Clouston, Jonathan Eyal, Michael Williams 2008, p.3). That means, NATO has marginal role in the protection of infrastructure, and this role controlled by supplies states.

- **NATO's added value:**

Some countries don't want NATO to intervene into areas of other specialized organizations, and NATO members vary in their energy needs and abilities, it will be much more feasible to maintain a division. The key task is reaching agreement on how responsibilities of energy protection could be exercised, and whether there can be transparency in the discussions between national governments inside NATO.

There are specific area where NATO may add value, one such role is in intelligence sharing and surveillance system, also NATO's considerable human intelligence resources could also help prevent terrorist and trans-border organized crime attack, but NATO has limited role in maritime security operations.. (Alastain Cameron and al 2008, p. 4)

Ninth: NATO's future role in the protection of energy security:

There are three areas that should be considered in the future work of NATO: The first is political dialogue, it would include the monitoring and assessment of energy security, NATO should establish a permanent monitoring and assessment mechanism that would involve regional consultation with allies and partners, based on joint political, military, and intelligence reports, some of this work might be done by the internal NATO task force on energy security, also it could include external expert such as the International Energy Security Agency, as well as major energy companies, closer coordination with other international organizations such as the United Nations and the European Union should also be established. (Thierry Legendre 2007, p.p.4-5)

In addition, the alliance's partner countries should also be involved especially Russia as an important supplier of oil and gas, NATO's partners should, in general be engaged as much as possible in NATO's work on energy security, and aside from consultation mechanisms with these states, as well as they should be invited to participate in the training exercises and civil energy missions. At the same time, NATO should avoid creating the impression that it is developing a fortress around Russia what is more is to try to rebuild trust and confidence through Middle East transit countries. All these steps are essential for the success to protecting and securing energy.

Second, NATO should consider providing a security assistance package to once more allies, or even conducting military operations to secure vulnerable energy infrastructure during time of risk, this packages should consist:

- ✓ Reinforcement of maritime and areal patrols, national communication and intelligence network;
- ✓ Assistance in disasters response, protection, resulting consequences management.

Finally, NATO should prepare for interdiction operations that is forming part of its energy security strategy, this type of operations are designed to secure supplies, NATO maritime interdiction operations could involve short term escort operations, and the protection of critical infrastructure such as rigs and terminals, also concepts and plans should be formed according to the truly contribution in number of area, also NATO business should consist on securing and defense crafts plans in order to control new challenges, new risks and new threats. (Thierry Legendre 2007, p.p.5-6).

Conclusion:

A set of observations could be invoked about the role of NATO as international security organization and security provider: NATO sets its energy security agenda according to its strategic concepts, but this agenda becomes inappropriate because of the complementary role/not the leading role of the alliance. There are also, the challenges that prevent NATO to accomplish its role in the protection of energy security, beside internal and external complex dynamics. Credibility of NATO on world area is about how to face energy security threats through hard/soft means, so that it ensures its continuity after the cold war. Hence, the alliance is obliged to renew its strategies, and to make real and effective policies to face disruption of energy, and vulnerability of energy to asymmetric threats.

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