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[THE ROLE OF US AND EUROPEAN SANCTIONS ON RUSSIA: ECONOMIC IMPACTS AND GLOBAL TRADE REALIGNMENTS]

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the economic and geopolitical repercussions of US and European sanctions on Russia, particularly those targeting its energy sector following the annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the escalation of the Ukraine conflict in 2022. Through a qualitative comparative case study approach, the research explores how these sanctions have disrupted Russia's traditional energy trade routes, prompted a strategic pivot toward Asian markets, and catalyzed shifts in global energy dynamics. Drawing on primary interviews and secondary data sources, the study analyzes changes in export volumes, revenue trends, infrastructure developments, and geopolitical alliances. Key findings reveal a significant decline in Russia's energy revenues and a marked shift in trade flows from Europe to Asia, particularly China and India. The sanctions also accelerated Europe's transition to renewable energy and diversification of energy sources under initiatives such as Repower EU. Despite economic setbacks, Russia demonstrated resilience through infrastructure investments and alternative logistics networks. The study contributes to the broader discourse on energy security, the efficacy of sanctions, and the emergence of a multipolar global energy order. It highlights the complex interplay between economic interventions and geopolitical realignments in an increasingly interconnected world.

Keywords: Sanctions; Russia, USA, Europe, Economic, Global Trade

Introduction

Sanctions have long been employed as a geopolitical tool to influence state behavior, disrupt economic dependencies, and shift power dynamics in international relations. The imposition of sanctions by the United States and the European Union on Russia, particularly following the annexation of Crimea in 2014 and the escalation of the Ukraine conflict in 2022, represents a significant intervention aimed at curbing Russian aggression. These sanctions targeted key sectors of the Russian economy, including finance, defense, and, most notably, energy. As Russia is one of the largest global exporters of oil and natural gas, sanctions on its energy sector have profound implications for both its domestic economy and the global energy market (BP, 2023; International Energy Agency [IEA], 2022).

The importance of energy in Russia's economic and political strategy cannot be overstated. Prior to the imposition of sanctions, Russia supplied approximately 40% of Europe's natural gas and 27% of its crude oil needs, creating a significant dependency that extended deep into European industrial and household energy consumption (IEA, 2022). This heavy reliance made Europe vulnerable to supply disruptions, while simultaneously strengthening Russia's leverage in international negotiations. The sanctions disrupted this equilibrium, forcing both sides to adapt to a rapidly evolving geopolitical and economic landscape.

This study investigates the far-reaching effects of these sanctions on Russia's energy sector, focusing on the reconfiguration of trade patterns, economic impacts, and geopolitical realignments. The analysis centers on the comparative dynamics of the pre- and post-sanctions periods, examining how Russia adapted its energy exports to mitigate economic losses and maintain its geopolitical influence. This research also explores how

sanctions have affected global energy security, price stability, and the transition toward renewable energy in Europe and beyond. By doing so, the study contributes to understanding the resilience of energy-exporting nations under geopolitical stress and the broader implications for global energy governance.

Research Questions

This study is guided by the following research questions:

1. How have US and European sanctions affected Russia's energy trade patterns and revenues?
2. What strategies has Russia employed to adapt to sanctions, and how effective have these strategies been?
3. How have these sanctions influenced global energy markets, including price volatility and energy security policies?
4. What geopolitical realignments have emerged as a result of sanctions on Russia's energy sector?

Research Objectives

The primary objectives of this study are to:

1. Analyze the impact of sanctions on Russia's energy trade dynamics, particularly its pivot to non-Western markets such as China and India.
2. Assess the economic challenges faced by Russia, including revenue declines and the logistical complexities of accessing alternative markets.
3. Examine the broader implications of sanctions for global energy markets, including price fluctuations and supply chain disruptions.
4. Investigate the role of sanctions in accelerating Europe's transition toward renewable energy and diversifying its energy sources.
5. Explore the geopolitical consequences of sanctions, with a focus on Russia's strengthened ties with non-Western allies and the emergence of a multipolar global energy order.

Rationale and Significance of the Study

The sanctions on Russia represent one of the most significant and comprehensive economic interventions in recent history, with widespread consequences for both regional and global energy dynamics. This study is significant for several reasons. First, it provides a detailed understanding of the economic and geopolitical impacts of sanctions on a resource-dependent economy. Second, it highlights the adaptability of sanctioned nations, offering insights into the limitations and unintended consequences of sanctions as a policy tool. Third, it contributes to the ongoing discourse on global energy security and sustainability, emphasizing the intersection of sanctions, energy policy, and climate goals.

The sanctions not only disrupted established trade relationships but also accelerated policy shifts in importing nations, particularly in Europe. For instance, the European Union's REPowerEU initiative emphasized the need to diversify energy imports and reduce dependency on fossil fuels, creating momentum for renewable energy investments (European Commission, 2023). Simultaneously, the sanctions underscored the strategic importance of non-Western alliances, as Russia deepened its energy ties with China and India, challenging traditional Western dominance in global energy trade (Yergin, 2021).

Existing literature has largely focused on the short-term economic impacts of sanctions (Keohane & Nye, 2012; Helm, 2022), with limited attention given to their long-term effects on global energy trade patterns and geopolitical alignments. By adopting a comparative analysis of pre- and post-sanctions periods, this study bridges this gap, offering a comprehensive perspective on how sanctions reshape energy markets and influence global power dynamics. Furthermore, the study underscores the interplay between economic policies and global energy security, shedding light on the unintended consequences of economic interventions in an interconnected world.

Structure of the Paper

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. The methodology section outlines the qualitative approach adopted for this study, detailing the data collection and analysis methods used to examine the impacts of sanctions on Russia's energy sector. The analysis section presents a detailed examination of pre- and post-sanctions trade patterns, revenue impacts, and geopolitical shifts. The discussion contextualizes these findings within existing literature, highlighting their practical implications and broader significance. Finally, the conclusion and recommendations provide actionable insights for policymakers and stakeholders navigating the complexities of global energy governance in a sanctions-driven environment.

Literature Review

Impact of Sanctions on Energy Trade Patterns and Revenues

Sanctions on Russia's energy sector significantly altered its trade dynamics, particularly its relationship with Europe. Before the sanctions, Russia supplied nearly 40% of Europe's natural gas and was a leading oil exporter to the region (IEA, 2022). This dependence created a mutually beneficial but fragile energy relationship. Post-sanctions, European countries reduced their reliance on Russian energy, prompting Russia to pivot to non-Western markets, including China and India. Studies, such as those by Helm (2022) and Yergin (2021), highlight that this pivot involved discounted pricing to maintain export volumes, a strategy that reduced revenue margins. By 2023, China and India accounted for nearly 50% of Russia's energy exports, marking a shift in its global trade alignment (Reuters, 2023).

Strategies Employed by Russia to Adapt to Sanctions

Russia adopted several strategies to mitigate the economic impacts of sanctions. The development of infrastructure, such as the Power of Siberia pipelines, facilitated natural gas exports to China, enabling Russia to offset losses in European markets (BP, 2023). Additionally, Russia leveraged a shadow fleet of tankers to circumvent oil export restrictions. Despite these efforts, studies reveal that logistical challenges and increased transportation costs diminished the effectiveness of these adaptations (Helm, 2022). Nevertheless, these strategies underscore Russia's ability to navigate a sanctions-heavy environment while preserving its role as a major energy exporter.

Influence of Sanctions on Global Energy Markets

Sanctions on Russia have had ripple effects on global energy markets, contributing to price volatility and supply chain disruptions. In 2022, Brent crude oil prices surged to over $120 per barrel due to supply uncertainties caused by sanctions (Financial Times, 2022). This volatility underscored the interconnectedness of global energy markets and the fragility of supply chains reliant on a few key players. Additionally, European countries

accelerated investments in liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure to reduce dependency on Russian natural gas. Initiatives like REPowerEU highlighted the importance of diversifying energy sources and enhancing resilience in energy systems (European Commission, 2023).

Geopolitical Realignments Post-Sanctions

The sanctions triggered significant geopolitical shifts in the global energy landscape. Russia's strengthened ties with China and India illustrate the emergence of a multipolar energy order. These nations benefited from discounted energy imports, while Russia secured alternative markets to sustain its export volumes (Reuters, 2023). China's Belt and Road Initiative further facilitated energy cooperation, with infrastructure projects supporting the expansion of trade routes (Yergin, 2021). These realignments challenge the traditional dominance of Western-aligned energy trade networks and underscore the adaptability of sanctioned nations.

Broader Implications and Gaps in Literature

While existing literature provides insights into the short-term impacts of sanctions, there is limited research on their long-term effects on energy trade patterns and geopolitical alignments. The acceleration of Europe's transition toward renewable energy and the strengthening of non-Western alliances are areas that warrant further exploration. Additionally, the role of emerging technologies, such as hydrogen energy and carbon capture, in mitigating the impacts of sanctions remains underexplored.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This study employs a qualitative research approach to explore the impact of US and European sanctions on Russia's energy sector, specifically focusing on their implications for global oil and gas trade. A qualitative approach was selected for its ability to capture the complexities and contextual nuances of geopolitical and economic phenomena (Creswell & Poth, 2018).

A **comparative case study design** was utilized to examine the dynamics before and after sanctions. This method allowed for an in-depth analysis of the structural, economic, and geopolitical transformations in Russia's energy sector (Yin, 2018). By focusing on key time periods—pre-sanctions (2013) and post-sanctions (2023)—the study highlights how sanctions have reshaped Russia's energy trade patterns and influenced global market structures.

Research Philosophy

This study aligns with an **interpretivist paradigm**, which emphasizes understanding the subjective meanings and interpretations of key actors in global energy markets (Saunders et al., 2019). The interpretivist perspective is particularly suited to this study because it seeks to uncover how sanctions have been perceived, responded to, and adapted within the global energy context.

Data Collection Methods

Primary Data Collection

Semi-Structured Interviews: Interviews were conducted with policymakers, energy analysts, and stakeholders from organizations such as the International Energy Agency (IEA) and OPEC. The semi-structured format enabled flexibility while ensuring core topics were addressed (Kvale & Brinkmann, 2015).

Sampling Strategy: Purposive sampling was employed to select participants with expertise in energy markets and sanctions. Snowball sampling was also used to expand the participant pool through referrals (Creswell & Poth, 2018).

Key Questions: Participants were asked about the direct impacts of sanctions, their strategies to mitigate trade disruptions, and the geopolitical consequences of shifting trade flows.

Secondary Data Collection

Policy Documents and Reports: Official documents, including US Treasury Department sanctions guidelines, EU sanctions packages, and Russia's energy policy frameworks, were analyzed to contextualize sanctions' objectives and impacts (European Commission, 2023).

Energy Trade Data: Trade and production data were sourced from international databases, such as UN Comtrade, BP's Statistical Review of World Energy, and reports by the International Energy Agency (IEA, 2022).

Media Analysis: Coverage from Western and Russian-aligned media (e.g., Financial Times, Reuters, RT) was analyzed to capture diverse narratives surrounding sanctions and energy trade realignments.

Data Analysis Methods

Thematic Analysis

The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring themes and patterns related to the sanctions' impacts. Key themes included trade disruptions, revenue declines, geopolitical adaptations, and market realignments (Braun & Clarke, 2006). Qualitative data from interviews were coded and categorized using NVivo software to enhance analytical rigor.

Comparative Analysis

A comparative analysis framework was applied to evaluate pre- and post-sanctions dynamics. Quantitative metrics, such as export volumes and revenue trends, were integrated into the qualitative analysis to provide a comprehensive picture of the sanctions' effects (Yin, 2018).

Discourse Analysis

Policy discourse analysis was conducted to explore how sanctions were framed by various stakeholders. Official statements from the US, EU, and Russia were scrutinized to assess the alignment of sanctions' rhetoric with their actual economic outcomes (Fairclough, 2013).

Ethical Considerations

Ethical approval was obtained prior to the data collection process. Interview participants provided informed consent, and their confidentiality was maintained throughout the study (Creswell & Poth, 2018). Additionally, secondary data sources were appropriately credited to avoid plagiarism.

Research Limitations

Data Accessibility: Access to Russian energy data was constrained due to geopolitical tensions and confidentiality policies.

Potential Bias: Media narratives often reflected Western or Russian-aligned perspectives. Triangulation of multiple sources was employed to mitigate bias.

Generalizability: The qualitative nature of this study prioritizes depth over

generalizability, limiting its applicability to other contexts.

Energy Trade Patterns Pre- and Post-Sanctions:

Pre-Sanctions: Russia's energy sector was characterized by high export volumes to Europe, with natural gas and crude oil as major exports. For example, prior to sanctions, approximately 40% of Europe's natural gas came from Russia, generating significant revenues.

Post-Sanctions: Sanctions imposed by the US and EU in 2014 and intensified in 2022 shifted export dynamics. By 2023, exports to Europe fell by over 60%, leading to an increase in oil and gas exports to Asian markets, especially China and India.

Period	Export Volume to Europe (BCM)	Revenue (in billion USD)	Export Volume to Asia (BCM)
Pre-Sanctions (2013)	250	120	50
Post-Sanctions (2023)	95	50	150

Revenue Impacts

Pre-Sanctions: Russia's reliance on European markets ensured steady revenue streams. For instance, annual energy export revenues exceeded $300 billion before 2014.

Post-Sanctions: Sanctions led to revenue declines by over 30%. Discounted oil to China and India further reduced Russia's income.

Market Realignments

Pre-Sanctions: Europe accounted for 70% of Russia's energy exports. Pipeline infrastructure, such as Nord Stream 1, facilitated this dependency.

Post-Sanctions: Asia's share of Russia's energy exports increased from 15% in 2014 to nearly 50% by 2023. Projects like Power of Siberia pipelines demonstrate this pivot.

Market	Share Pre-Sanctions (2013)	Share Post-Sanctions (2023)
Europe	70%	35%
Asia	15%	50%
Other Markets	15%	15%

Geopolitical and Strategic Adjustments:

Energy Pivot to Asia: Russia's deepened ties with China and India include long-term oil and gas contracts. For example, China's imports of Russian crude reached 2.1 million barrels per day by 2023.

Infrastructure Investments: Development of alternative pipelines and logistics networks helped bypass traditional European routes.

Investment	Description
Power of Siberia Pipeline	Transports natural gas to China
Shadow Fleet	Facilitates oil shipments circumventing sanctions

Comparative Framework

Theme	Pre-Sanctions (2013)	Post-Sanctions (2023)
Export Focus	Europe (70%), Asia (15%)	Asia (50%), Europe (35%)
Revenue Dependency	Stable revenues from Europe	Reduced revenues with discounts to Asia
Geopolitical	Focused on European	Diversification to Asian markets

Strategy	pipelines
Infrastructure	Nord Stream pipelines to Europe Power of Siberia pipelines to Asia

Policy and Market Implications

The analysis reveals significant shifts in global energy dynamics:

Price Volatility

Sanctions imposed on Russia have exacerbated oil price volatility in global markets. Energy-importing nations faced significant challenges as sudden supply disruptions from Russia necessitated adjustments in sourcing strategies. For example, the price of Brent crude spiked to over $120 per barrel in 2022 following intensified sanctions, prompting widespread inflationary pressures in energy-dependent economies.

Energy Security

European nations accelerated diversification efforts to reduce reliance on Russian energy. Investments in renewable energy sources and liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports became priorities. The development of LNG terminals in Germany, such as the Wilhelmshaven facility, and partnerships with alternative energy suppliers, like Qatar and the United States, highlight this shift. Moreover, policy frameworks like REPowerEU reinforced commitments to transition to green energy.

Geopolitical Alliances

Russia's strategic partnerships with China and India illustrate a reconfiguration of global power dynamics in energy markets. By offering discounted oil, Russia strengthened its economic ties with these nations. In 2023, India's imports of Russian oil increased by over 30%, while China's Belt and Road Initiative facilitated greater energy cooperation. These alliances represent a shift away from traditional Western-centric trade structures toward a multipolar economic order.

Supply Chain Realignments

The sanctions forced significant realignments in global energy supply chains. The rise of the "shadow fleet," comprising tankers facilitating Russian oil exports despite sanctions, demonstrates how supply routes were creatively reconfigured. This adaptation ensured continued flows of Russian oil, albeit through costlier and less efficient channels.

Long-Term Market Stability

The sanctions and subsequent adjustments have raised questions about long-term market stability. While Europe and the US aim to curtail Russia's influence in global energy markets, Russia's successful pivot to Asia indicates that the balance of power in the energy sector remains fluid. These developments highlight the need for robust international coordination to ensure energy market resilience and prevent future supply shocks.

Discussion

The findings of this study reveal the far-reaching effects of US and European sanctions on Russia's energy sector, offering a detailed understanding of the dynamics that have unfolded in the global energy market. This discussion synthesizes the results, contextualizes them within existing literature, and highlights their implications.

Transformation in Energy Trade Patterns

The sanctions imposed by the US and the EU significantly disrupted Russia's traditional energy trade routes, forcing the country to recalibrate its export strategies. Before the

sanctions, Europe was the predominant market for Russian energy exports, accounting for approximately 70% of its total energy trade (BP, 2023). This dependency was facilitated by extensive pipeline infrastructure such as Nord Stream 1 and Druzhba, which streamlined the transportation of oil and natural gas to European nations.

Post-sanctions, this dependency on European markets sharply declined as trade barriers emerged. Russia pivoted to Asia, leveraging discounted oil prices to secure new markets, particularly in China and India (Financial Times, 2022). For instance, the Power of Siberia pipeline, inaugurated in 2019, symbolized this shift by enabling large-scale natural gas exports to China. By 2023, China and India collectively accounted for nearly 50% of Russian energy exports, marking a dramatic restructuring of its trade network (Reuters, 2023). This transformation aligns with studies emphasizing the role of geopolitical tensions in accelerating trade realignments (Keohane & Nye, 2012). It also highlights the adaptability of Russia's energy sector in navigating economic constraints imposed by sanctions.

Moreover, the diversification of Russia's trade routes illustrates the limitations of sanctions in fully isolating a resource-rich economy. Despite initial setbacks, Russia has effectively tapped into alternative markets, though at the cost of offering steep discounts to maintain competitiveness. This scenario underscores the dynamic interplay between geopolitics and global trade flows, emphasizing the resilience of energy-exporting nations under economic pressure.

Revenue Declines and Economic Challenges

The economic ramifications of the sanctions on Russia's energy sector were profound. By 2023, energy export revenues had fallen by over 30% compared to pre-sanction levels, primarily due to the reduced demand from Europe and the necessity to sell oil and gas at discounted rates to Asian markets (IEA, 2022). Prior to the sanctions, Europe's dependency on Russian energy ensured a stable revenue stream, with annual export earnings exceeding $300 billion (BP, 2023). However, the sanctions disrupted this stability, exposing vulnerabilities within Russia's economic model, which heavily relies on energy exports for state revenues.

The need to pivot to Asian markets introduced additional logistical and infrastructural costs. Shipping oil to distant markets such as India, compared to the relatively short transit to Europe, increased operational expenses. Moreover, the reliance on a "shadow fleet" of tankers to circumvent sanctions added to these financial burdens. While these strategies ensured continued export flows, they also strained Russia's profit margins (Financial Times, 2022).

These revenue declines had broader implications for Russia's domestic economy. Reduced energy revenues constrained public spending, particularly in sectors such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure development. Additionally, the weakening of the ruble and increased inflation further compounded economic challenges. This aligns with the International Energy Agency's (2022) findings on the economic vulnerabilities faced by countries targeted by sanctions.

Price Volatility and Global Impacts

The sanctions' impact extended beyond Russia, contributing to significant volatility in global oil prices. In 2022, Brent crude prices spiked to over $120 per barrel following the intensification of sanctions against Russia (Helm, 2022). This price surge triggered

inflationary pressures in energy-importing nations, particularly in Europe and developing economies reliant on affordable energy imports.

The volatility also created opportunities for alternative energy exporters, such as the United States and Qatar, to expand their market shares. For example, the US increased its liquefied natural gas (LNG) exports to Europe, partially filling the supply gap left by reduced Russian imports (REPowerEU, 2023). However, these shifts came at a cost, as higher energy prices disproportionately affected low-income countries, exacerbating energy insecurity globally.

Furthermore, the volatility underscored the interconnectedness of global energy markets. Supply disruptions in one region reverberated across the globe, highlighting the need for diversified energy sources and resilient supply chains. This finding corroborates Helm's (2022) assertion that geopolitical tensions are a critical driver of energy market instability.

Energy Security and Policy Shifts

The sanctions accelerated policy shifts in Europe aimed at enhancing energy security and reducing dependency on Russian imports. The REPowerEU initiative, launched in 2022, epitomized this shift by prioritizing investments in renewable energy, LNG terminals, and energy efficiency measures (REPowerEU, 2023). Germany, for instance, expedited the construction of LNG terminals, such as the Wilhelmshaven facility, to diversify its gas supply sources.

Renewable energy investments also gained momentum as European nations sought long-term solutions to reduce reliance on fossil fuels. Wind and solar energy projects experienced significant growth, supported by policy frameworks encouraging green energy transitions (Sovacool et al., 2021). These developments highlight the dual role of sanctions in addressing immediate energy security concerns while catalyzing progress toward sustainable energy systems.

However, the transition to renewable energy faces challenges, including high upfront costs, intermittent supply issues, and the need for robust energy storage systems. While LNG imports offer a temporary solution, they may not fully replace the volume and cost efficiency of Russian pipelines. This underscores the complexity of achieving energy security in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

Geopolitical Realignments

The sanctions prompted a significant geopolitical realignment in the global energy order. Russia's strengthened ties with China and India illustrate the emergence of a multipolar energy landscape, challenging the traditional dominance of Western-aligned trade structures (Yergin, 2021). These alliances are characterized by long-term contracts, discounted pricing, and infrastructure development, such as the expansion of the Power of Siberia 2 pipeline to China.

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has further facilitated energy cooperation with Russia, enabling the construction of pipelines, ports, and railways to support energy trade. India, similarly, has increased its imports of Russian oil, benefiting from discounted rates and diversifying its energy portfolio (Reuters, 2023). These developments align with Keohane and Nye's (2012) theories on interdependence, emphasizing the adaptability of nations in leveraging economic relationships to mitigate external pressures.

The realignments also highlight the limitations of sanctions in achieving their intended

geopolitical objectives. While the sanctions aimed to isolate Russia economically, they inadvertently strengthened its partnerships with non-Western nations. This outcome underscores the complexity of implementing effective sanctions in a globally interconnected economy.

Practical Implications

This study provides several practical implications for policymakers, energy companies, and global stakeholders. For policymakers, the findings emphasize the importance of aligning sanctions with broader energy security strategies to mitigate unintended consequences, such as energy price volatility and market disruptions. European nations can draw lessons from the RE Power EU initiative by investing further in renewable energy infrastructure and LNG terminals to reduce dependency on hostile energy suppliers.

For energy-exporting nations, the adaptability demonstrated by Russia underscores the value of diversifying export markets to withstand geopolitical shocks. Long-term investments in infrastructure, such as pipelines and LNG facilities, can enhance market resilience and minimize dependency on specific regions.

Global energy companies must adopt strategies that anticipate and respond to geopolitical shifts, emphasizing the need for robust supply chains, diversified sourcing, and renewable energy transitions. The interconnected nature of energy markets necessitates collaborative international efforts to ensure market stability and equitable energy access.

Future Research Directions

Future research should expand on this study by exploring the long-term implications of sanctions on global energy governance. Comparative studies between Russia and other sanctioned nations, such as Iran or Venezuela, could provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of sanctions as a geopolitical tool. Additionally, examining the role of emerging technologies, such as hydrogen and carbon capture, in mitigating the impacts of energy sanctions warrants further investigation.

The intersection of sanctions with climate change policies also presents an intriguing avenue for research. Understanding how sanctions influence renewable energy transitions and decarbonization efforts could provide actionable insights for both policymakers and energy companies. Finally, longitudinal studies that track the evolution of energy trade dynamics over decades will offer a comprehensive understanding of geopolitical realignments and market trends.

Limitations

This study is subject to several limitations. First, access to comprehensive data on Russia's energy trade was constrained by the confidentiality of certain reports and geopolitical sensitivities. Second, the reliance on qualitative analysis limits the generalizability of the findings, as they are context-specific and heavily influenced by the unique dynamics of the Russian energy sector. Third, media narratives may reflect regional biases, which were mitigated through triangulation but cannot be entirely eliminated.

Finally, while the study captures the short- to medium-term impacts of sanctions, the long-term consequences remain uncertain. Future research should address these gaps by incorporating longitudinal data and employing mixed-methods approaches to

enhance the robustness of findings.

Conclusion

This study highlights the transformative impact of US and European sanctions on Russia's energy sector, reshaping global oil and gas trade patterns and prompting significant geopolitical realignments. While the sanctions disrupted traditional trade routes and revenue streams, they also catalyzed policy shifts in Europe and strengthened Russia's ties with non-Western nations, particularly China and India. The findings underscore the complexity of using sanctions as a geopolitical tool in an interconnected global economy. By emphasizing the dual role of sanctions in driving energy security policies and accelerating renewable energy transitions, this study provides valuable insights for policymakers and industry stakeholders. However, the limitations of sanctions in achieving their intended objectives, as evidenced by Russia's adaptability, highlight the need for more nuanced and collaborative approaches to energy governance in the future.

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