

# Feeding the Porcupine: Romania's Energy Security Posture

## A Key to Black Sea Security

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# Disclaimer

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This presentation is a personal interpretation and does not represent official DoD policy

# Introduction: Bracing for the Storm—Is United Western Action Possible?

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## Panel Theme: 2% GDP: Political Fetish or Necessity?

The 2% GDP buys the security foundation upon which civil society rests

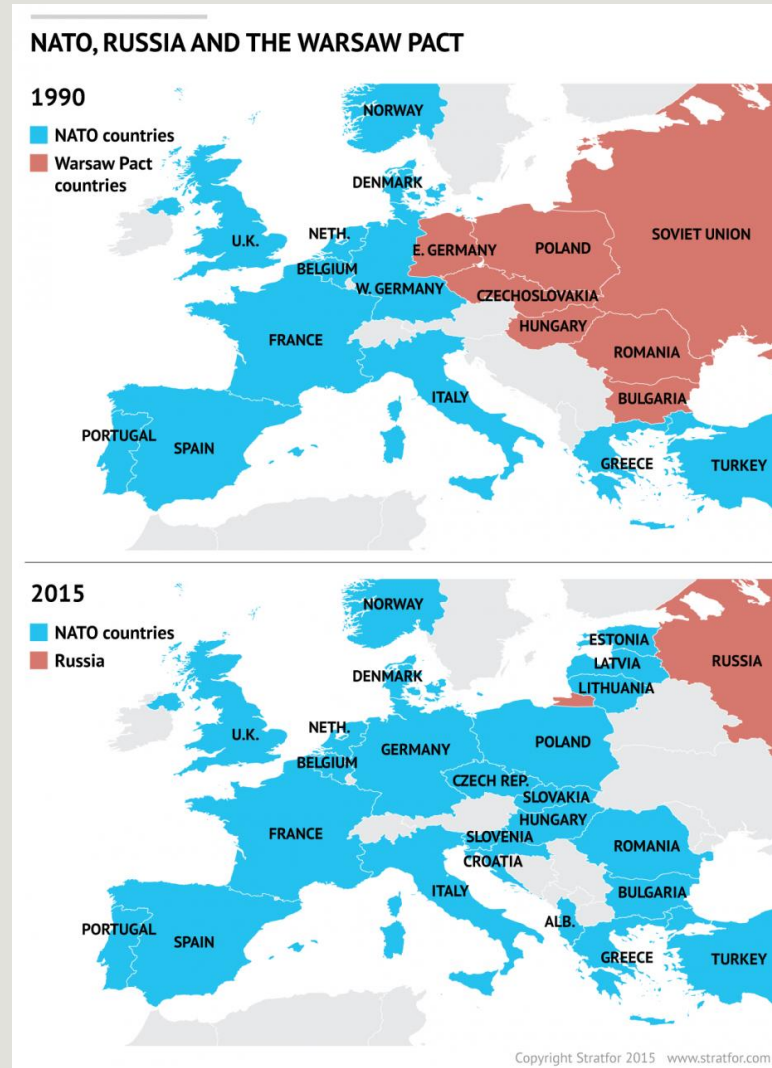
Energy security as a manifestation of national power and viability

Viewed from a position of relative strength

- Romania's energy posture
- Generally positive Trans-Atlantic relations
- Romania's geo-strategic location

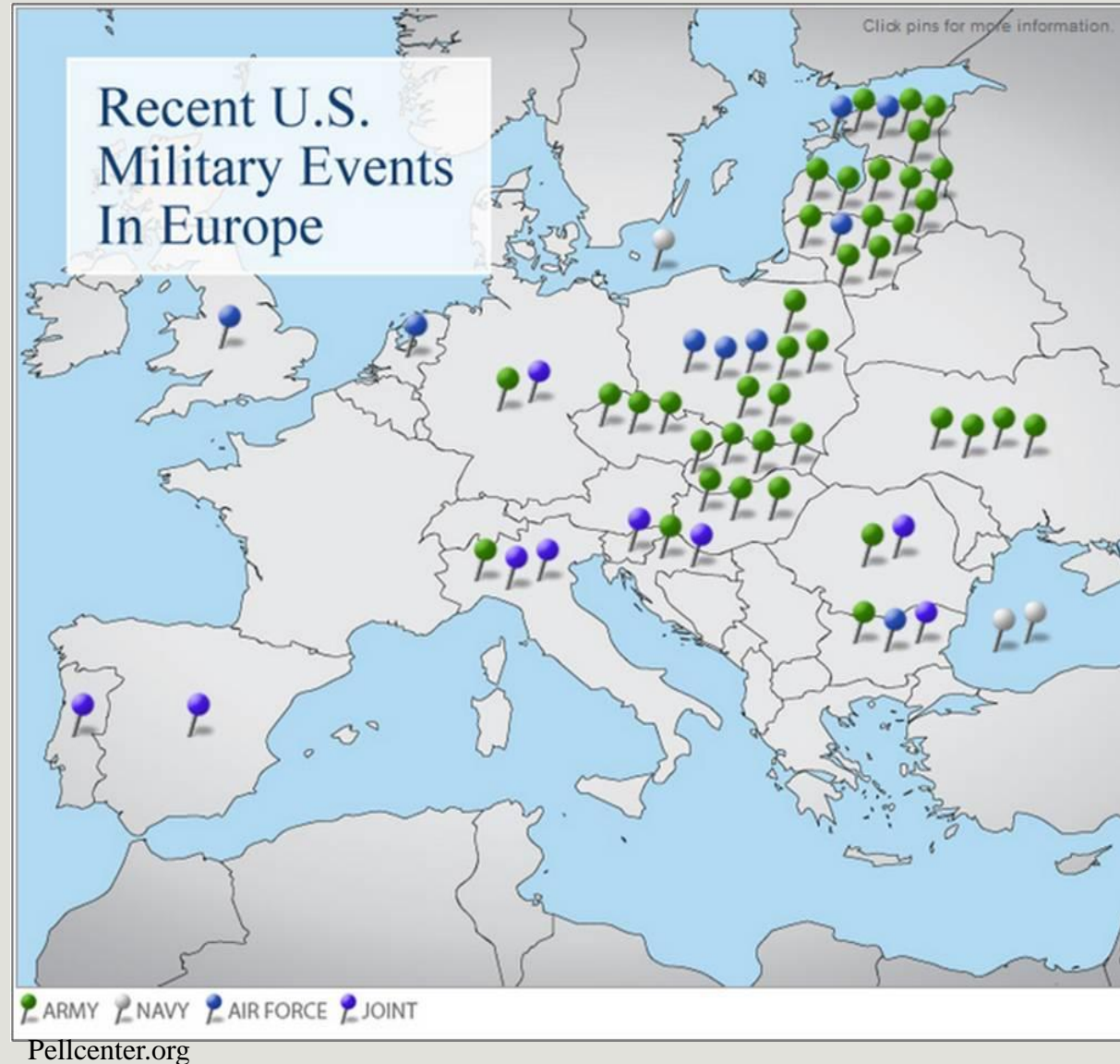
# Redistribution of Power in Europe

Military, Economic and  
Political  
Shift to the East



# Redistribution of Power in Europe

Military and Political  
Shift to the East (~2010-  
2017)



# Redistribution of Power in Europe



# Redistribution of Power in Europe

The Growing  
Western  
Military Footprint



# Feeding the Porcupine

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And ensuring he is fed...

# Energy Security Disparities Between Eastern and Western Europe

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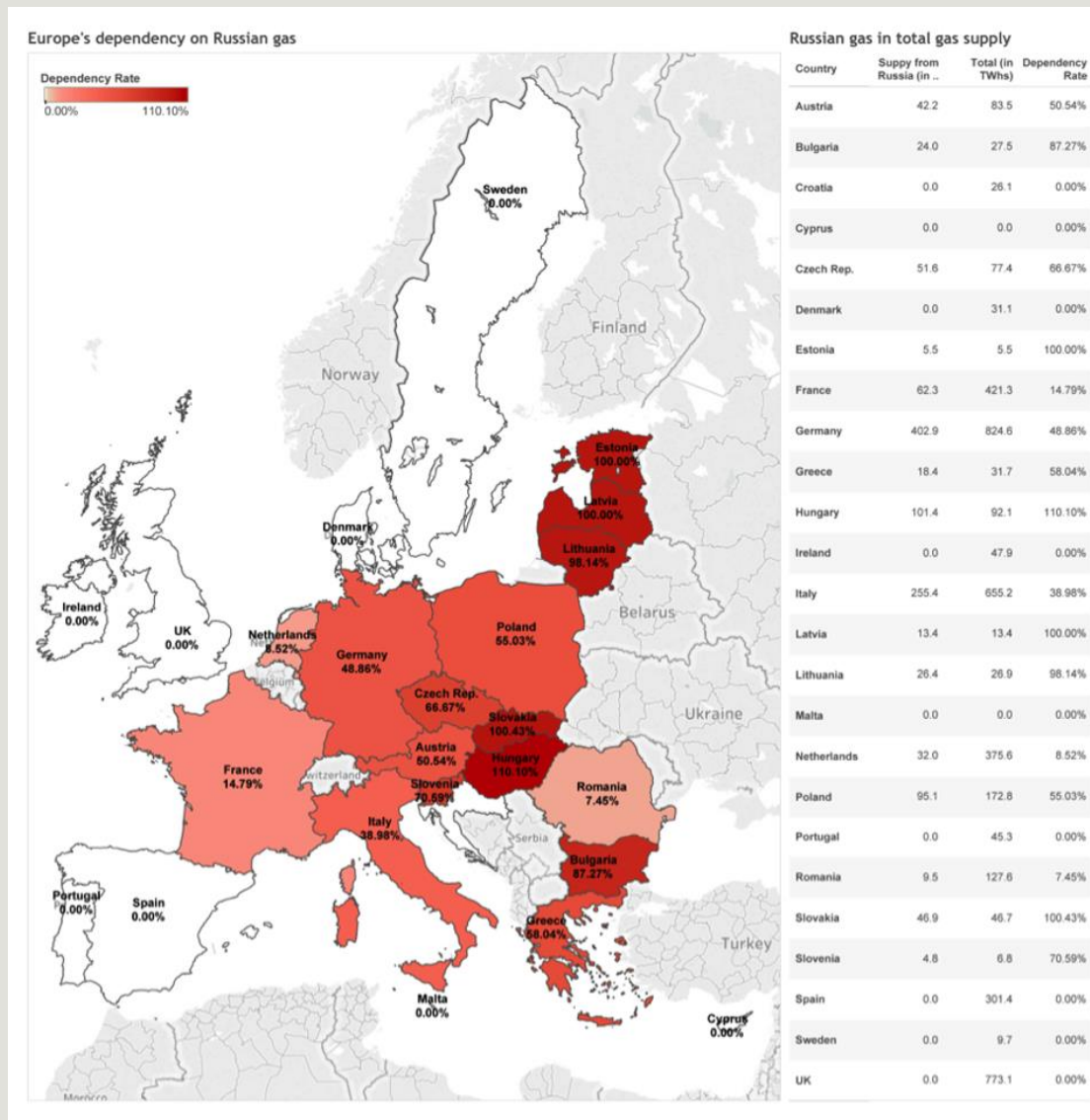
Because of geography and history, Eastern European nations are dependent on Russia for energy

- Notably oil and gas

NATO member states' dependence on Russian oil and gas creates an unstable environment

# Energy Security Disparities Between Eastern and Western Europe

## EU/NATO Dependence on Russian Natural Gas



European Council on Foreign Relations

[http://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary\\_europes\\_vulnerability\\_on\\_russian\\_gas](http://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary_europes_vulnerability_on_russian_gas)

# Black Sea Chokeypoint (Turkish Straits) To include Aegean Sea and Gibraltar



Becuo.com

# Adriatic LNG terminal



<http://www.adriaticlng.it/en/the-terminal>

# Adria (Krk) LNG, Croatia (proposed)



# Romanian Energy Security Leadership

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- Infrastructure-based Diversification
  - Increased storage capacity
- Market Liberalization and Energy Policy
  - Investment climate; Draft Offshore Law
- Cyber and Physical Security of Energy and Critical Infrastructure
  - Coordination between US-NATO-EU on projects of common interest (PCI)
- Nexus of Military Security and Energy Security
  - European Deterrence Initiative (EDI)
- Russian Malign Influence and Disinformation in the European Energy Sector

**Enhanced Resilience**

# Concluding Thoughts: Feeding the Porcupine

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2% of GDP is a necessity

- Must be coupled within broader political and economic structures
- Which includes an emphasis on energy security as an underlying principle

U.S and allied focus entails:

Allied and partner interoperability

- Host nation infrastructure resilience
- Logistical operations and continuity

Private sector role is crucial

# Concluding Thoughts: Feeding the Porcupine (Cont'd).

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Is United Western Action Possible?

Fossil fuels are traditionally the catalyst through which power can be wielded

- This has been the case with coal and liquid fuels

Natural gas is gaining geopolitical heft

- LNG is now a geo-political tool or enabler

"Can Romania still become a regional hub connecting East and West?"

- Romania has no choice
- Blended US-European approach?

**An energy secure Romania is a prosperous and stable Romania. And a foundation for the broader Black Sea region**

# Thank you for your time

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