

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE LEADERS



RESEARCH ARTICLE

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TOPIC:

**ENERGY SECURITY AND GEOPOLITICAL CONFLICT:THE CASE OF
THE RUSSIAN UKRAINE WAR**

Abstract:

The battle between Russia and Ukraine, which started in 2022, has drastically altered the global energy supply dynamics, elevating energy security from a minor policy worry to a crucial geopolitical one. This study explores the intricate relationship between energy and international conflict, focusing on how the war impacted the world's energy supply, altered European energy policy, and accelerated the global transition to renewable energy. Russia's weaponization of gas, Europe's diversification of energy sources, and the economic consequences of supply disruptions such as inflation, energy poverty, and infrastructure fragility are among the noteworthy events that are examined in the report. The literature review synthesizes the works of scholars and institutions like the *International Energy Agency (IEA)*, European Commission, and geopolitical analysts, highlighting the historical significance of energy dependence and security doctrines. Using a qualitative analytical approach supported by reliable statistics and policy developments, the article demonstrates how energy became both a tool and a target in the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Findings reveal that the war has not only exposed strategic weaknesses in global energy governance but also prompted urgent reforms. The discussion emphasizes the dual impact of crisis and opportunity wherein nations have begun investing in more resilient and sustainable energy futures. The conclusion offers concrete recommendations, including diversification, infrastructure protection, and international legal safeguards for energy systems. Overall, this research underscores the emerging role of energy security as a decisive factor in international relations, where energy resilience now stands as a critical dimension of both national survival and global peace.

Introduction:

Energy is a vital component of modern living and a key driver of global economic expansion. It influences how civilizations evolve and function by powering homes, businesses, healthcare facilities, transportation, and digital infrastructure. As globalization and energy consumption rise, there is an increasing need for reliable, affordable, and safe energy sources. The constant availability of energy at affordable prices is known as energy security, and it is widely recognized as both an economic requirement and a national and international security concern. The concept of energy security has evolved over time. Its initial concentration was on the supply of petrol and oil, especially during the oil crises of the 1970s. The reliability of energy infrastructure in the twenty-first century, cyberattack resilience, geopolitical stability of energy providers, and long-term sustainability through renewable sources are all now included. As energy demand rises, so do the risks of supply disruptions, price volatility, and the political use of energy as a weapon. These issues are particularly important in places where energy demand and geopolitical conflicts clash, such as Europe's long-standing reliance on Russian fossil fuels. Russia has long been one of the world's largest energy exporters, influencing politics in countries that depend heavily on energy, especially in Europe, with its vast oil and natural gas reserves. With pipelines like Nord Stream 1 and transit routes through Ukraine, Russia maintained considerable control over the supply of energy to European markets. This dependence made the European Union strategically fragile, leaving its member states subject to external shocks and political pressure from Moscow. Ukraine was a crucial transit country for Russian gas because of its advantageous location between Russia and Europe; before 2022, around 40% of gas bound for the EU went through Ukraine. However, Ukraine's growing Western alignment especially its intentions to join NATO and the European Union increased tensions with

Russia. Over the years, Russia has demonstrated its willingness to employ gas supply manipulation as a coercive strategy, halting shipments to Ukraine and other nations amid political instability. When Russia invaded Ukraine on a full scale in February 2022, tensions skyrocketed, escalating a long-simmering geopolitical conflict into a brutal conflict with global ramifications. The invasion's most immediate consequences was the onset of a global oil crisis. Russian energy exports were quickly restricted by the United States, the European Union, and other allies as a result of the war. In response, Russia reduced or stopped supplying natural gas to several European countries, causing substantial price increases, fuel shortages, and concerns about the energy supply throughout the winter. Countries like Germany, which had been heavily dependent on Russian gas, were forced to find alternative supplies, which included importing LNG, restarting coal, and investing quickly in renewable energy projects. In an effort to reduce its reliance on Russian fossil fuels, the European Union launched the REPowerEU initiative, marking a significant change in its energy policy. Meanwhile, the battle highlighted energy's dual role as a geopolitical strength and a weakness. Energy infrastructure is now a target in hybrid warfare after the breakdown of the Nord Stream pipelines in September 2022 indicated new threats to essential supply routes. This battle has brought attention to the significance of energy systems for national security preparations as well as for international diplomacy. It also accelerated the global push for regional energy cooperation, energy diversification, and clean energy investment. This paper looks into the intricate connection between energy security and geopolitical conflict using the Russia-Ukraine war as a case study. It examines how the conflict impacted global energy markets, led to a reexamination of energy policies, and served as a warning to nations that import energy to build more resilient systems. The article uses policy papers, academic literature, and real-time statistics to show how energy became a strategic tool in the conflict and how responses to this crisis are altering the global energy environment. The paper concludes by highlighting that energy security is more than just keeping the lights on; it is about safeguarding economic stability, international peace, and national sovereignty in a rapidly changing world.

Literature Review:

For a long time, the idea of energy security has been examined in relation to economic development, security studies, and international relations. Early research on energy security focused on the strategic significance of diversifying energy sources and the vulnerability of oil-importing countries, especially following the 1973 oil crisis. With time, the conversation expanded to cover more ground, covering topics like environmental sustainability, energy infrastructure resilience, political manipulation of energy flows, and the switch to renewable energy. Understanding how energy has influenced geopolitical relations requires reading **Daniel Yergin's** seminal writings, particularly *The Prize: The Epic Quest for Oil, Money, and Power* (1991) and *The New Map: Energy, Climate, and the Clash of Nations* (2020). Yergin contends that energy is a key component of national power and not only an economic commodity. He describes the historical use of energy exports by nations, especially Russia, to punish enemies, reward allies, and exercise influence.

Energy security is understood from a technical and policy-oriented perspective by the **International Energy Agency (IEA)**. A 10-Point Plan to Reduce the European Union's Reliance on Russian Natural Gas, published in 2022, provides a framework for energy policy crisis management. The strategy calls for investing in renewable energy, improving energy efficiency, and expanding imports

from alternate suppliers. In order to achieve energy security, the IEA's definitions emphasize the significance of price, availability, and long-term reliability.

The global shift to renewable energy could upset established power balances, especially for nations that have depended on the export of fossil fuels to retain their influence, according to **Goldthau and Westphal's (2019)** article *Energy Policy: Geopolitics, Markets and the Transition to Sustainability*. Because it highlights the dangers of relying too much on politically unstable suppliers, they contend that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine is what is causing this change.

In his 2009 book *Global Warming Gridlock*, **David G. Victor** focusses on how politicizing energy policy might impede coordinated international solutions to climate change and energy problems. His research highlights how national interests frequently conflict with the common good, resulting in disjointed energy strategies that make a country more susceptible to geopolitical shocks.

Energy policy as a strategic tool has been thoroughly examined by academics like **Brenda Shaffer** in her 2009 book *Energy Politics*. She points out that countries that export energy, such as Russia, frequently combine their foreign policy goals with energy supply tactics. Early instances of energy being used to apply political pressure are the Russian-Ukrainian gas conflicts in 2006 and 2009, which intensified during the 2022 conflict.

Smith Stegen (2011), in her influential article "*Deconstructing the Energy Weapon*," published in *Energy Policy*, presents empirical data on how Russia has used energy cut-offs as a foreign policy tool. Her case studies on Ukraine and Belarus reveal a consistent strategy of using energy access to influence political alignments and discourage Western integration.

The role of Ukraine as a transit state is widely recognized. **Hancock and Vivoda (2014)** emphasize that Ukraine has long been a linchpin in Europe's energy security. About 40% of Russian gas exports to Europe passed through Ukraine before 2022, giving Ukraine both strategic leverage and exposure to Russian retaliation. **Kobzova (2014)** suggests that Ukraine's pro-European stance made it a geopolitical fault line in the East-West energy struggle.

Following the 2022 invasion, new scholarship has emerged to examine the war's immediate and long-term impact on energy security. **Buchan (2023)**, in a report for Chatham House, discusses how the Nord Stream pipeline sabotage highlighted vulnerabilities in Europe's energy infrastructure. He suggests that modern conflicts now include attacks on energy assets as part of hybrid warfare strategies.

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) has reported a surge in global renewable capacity following the war, particularly in Europe. Their *Renewable Capacity Statistics 2023* show a nearly 10% increase in capacity in just one year. Scholars like Sovacool and Brown (2021) argue that the Russia-Ukraine war has shifted the narrative around renewable energy—from environmental necessity to strategic imperative.

In conclusion, the literature reveals a growing consensus that energy security is deeply embedded in geopolitical dynamics. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has served to validate earlier theories about the strategic use of energy and introduced new dimensions such as infrastructure sabotage and accelerated renewable transitions. The war has not only disrupted existing systems but has also

provided a rare, real-time case study on how nations adapt to energy insecurity under extreme geopolitical stress.

Methodology:

The present study adopts a qualitative research approach to examine the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on global energy security and geopolitical dynamics. A qualitative method is considered suitable for this research topic because it allows for a deeper exploration of political decisions, strategic behavior, and international relations that numerical data alone cannot adequately explain. Through this method, the study seeks to understand how energy has been used both as a geopolitical tool and as a point of vulnerability.

Data for this research was collected from a range of credible primary and secondary sources. Primary data includes policy reports, statistical updates, and energy assessments from leading international organizations such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), the European Commission, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), and the World Bank. These sources provide factual and up-to-date information on the state of global energy markets, supply chains, and government responses. Secondary data includes academic books, peer-reviewed journal articles, and expert commentaries obtained from platforms like JSTOR, Springer, Science Direct, and the Oxford Energy Forum. These secondary sources offer analytical insights, theoretical perspectives, and case-specific evaluations relevant to the research. The collected data is examined through thematic analysis. Major themes such as energy weaponization, disruption of supplies, energy transition, infrastructure vulnerabilities, and regional cooperation are identified and explored in detail. These themes guide the organization of the research and support the interpretation of events and policy decisions. To understand state behavior, the realist theory of international relations is applied. This theory emphasizes the pursuit of power, security, and national interest, which is useful in interpreting Russia's use of energy as a pressure tool and the strategic shift by European countries toward energy independence.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict is used as a central case study in this research. It provides a real-time example of how war and energy security are intertwined in today's international system. The case study approach enables the research to focus on the specific dynamics between Russia, Ukraine, and the European Union, while also drawing comparative observations from other nations such as Germany, India, and China. These comparisons help to illustrate different national responses based on energy needs, political alignments, and economic capacities. While the methodology offers a broad understanding of the issue, certain limitations are acknowledged. The evolving nature of the war may render some data outdated, and not all details related to sabotage or covert energy strategies are publicly verifiable. Despite these limitations, the study ensures academic credibility by relying on authentic and verifiable sources.

Case Studies: National Responses to the Energy Crisis

The Russia-Ukraine war has had wide-reaching effects on global energy security, but its impact has varied depending on a country's level of dependence on Russian energy and its capacity to adapt.

This section presents selected case studies to illustrate how different nations responded to the energy crisis, revealing varied strategies shaped by geography, policy priorities, and political alignment.

1. Germany: From Dependence to Diversification

Germany, Europe's largest economy, was among the most severely affected due to its high dependence on Russian gas over 50% before the war. The abrupt decline in gas supplies following Russia's weaponization of energy forced Germany to rethink its energy model. In response, the country revived coal power plants, delayed the shutdown of its last nuclear power stations, and invested heavily in liquefied natural gas (LNG) infrastructure. Notably, Germany fast-tracked the construction of LNG terminals at Wilhelmshaven and Brunsbüttel to secure alternative gas supplies from the U.S., Qatar, and Norway. The government also introduced energy subsidies totaling over €200 billion to shield households and businesses from rising prices. These steps marked a rapid pivot from long-term dependency to short-term crisis management and long-term diversification.

2. Poland: A Proactive Stance Against Russian Energy

Poland, historically wary of Russian influence, took a proactive approach even before the war. It had already invested in diversifying its energy sources through the Baltic Pipe project (bringing Norwegian gas via Denmark) and by increasing LNG imports from the U.S. and Qatar. After the invasion, Poland completely cut off Russian gas imports in 2022, well ahead of EU deadlines. The country also accelerated its push for nuclear energy and expanded its renewable energy sector, particularly in wind power. Poland's foresight and political resolve served as a model for energy independence within the European Union.

3. India: Strategic Neutrality and Opportunistic

India's geopolitical neutrality molded a different course, as it imports over 80% of its oil. India boosted its purchases of cheap Russian crude oil instead of complying with Western sanctions. By doing this, it was able to control inflation, provide its citizens with reasonably priced energy, and improve its energy relations with Russia. Between 2021 and 2023, India's oil imports from Russia increased from 1% to about 40%. Although this position was criticized by Western partners, it illustrated India's approach to striking a balance between geopolitical autonomy and energy security. As part of its internal energy revolution, India also kept investing in wind and solar power, but its actions during the crisis show how important pragmatism is in energy diplomacy.

4. China: Silent Partner and Energy Strategist

China maintained a low-profile political stance on the war but became one of Russia's key energy customers following European disengagement. As Western sanctions reduced Russia's energy exports to Europe, China expanded its purchases of Russian oil and gas often at discounted rates. Beijing also strengthened long-term energy cooperation with Moscow through pipeline projects such as Power of Siberia and by signing new supply agreements. However, China continued to diversify its energy mix by investing in renewables and nuclear energy. The China-Russia energy alignment

during the conflict reveals how geopolitical shifts can realign global energy trade patterns, creating new power blocs.

5. United States: Supplier and Stabilizer

Particularly in LNG exports, the US became a vital provider throughout the crisis. By 2022, it was the biggest supplier of LNG to Europe, making up over 40% of the continent's LNG imports. Washington reduced European reliance on Russian gas and supported allies by using its energy capabilities. In response to pressure from growing fuel prices at home, the United States released oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and promoted domestic production. Concurrently, the United States persisted in encouraging investment in clean energy through programs such as the Inflation Reduction Act, which covered billions in green energy subsidies. During the crisis, its geopolitical power was bolstered by its dual status as a climate leader and energy supplier.

Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War on Global Energy Security:

An important shift in the worldwide perception of energy security occurred with the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine war in February 2022. Almost 40% of Europe's natural gas and roughly 25% of its crude oil came from Russia, which was one of the world's top energy producers before the war. For these energy flows, particularly natural gas that was piped to European markets, Ukraine served as a crucial transit nation. In addition to upsetting this system, the start of the battle revealed serious weaknesses in the world's energy supply chain, making energy security a critical geopolitical concern. Economic sanctions were imposed by Western countries in response to the start of the war in an effort to cut off Russia from international markets. In retaliation, Russia began cutting gas supplies to countries it deemed "unfriendly." Major European economies such as Germany, Italy, and Poland faced abrupt gas cutoffs, with Gazprom completely halting flows through the Nord Stream 1 pipeline by late 2022. These developments sent shockwaves through energy markets, pushing natural gas prices in Europe to historic highs. The Dutch Title Transfer Facility (TTF), Europe's benchmark gas price, exceeded €300 per megawatt-hour in August 2022, up from just €20 the previous year. The energy crisis triggered by the war forced Europe into emergency mode. Countries rapidly sought alternative energy sources, and the European Union launched the REPowerEU initiative in May 2022. This plan aimed to reduce the EU's reliance on Russian gas by two-thirds within a year and eliminate all Russian fossil fuel imports by 2027. To achieve this, Europe expanded its liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from countries like the United States, Qatar, and Nigeria. Germany fast-tracked the construction of LNG terminals, while other nations reopened coal plants and delayed the decommissioning of nuclear reactors. Simultaneously, investments in renewable energy, including solar, wind, and hydrogen, accelerated across the continent.

Another consequence of the war was the increased vulnerability of critical energy infrastructure. The sabotage of the Nord Stream pipelines in September 2022 illustrated how pipelines and underwater assets could become battlegrounds in hybrid warfare. The attack remains officially unsolved, but it prompted NATO and the EU to ramp up security and surveillance measures on vital energy installations. This marked a significant shift in the energy security paradigm, which now encompasses not only reliable access to fuel but also the physical and digital protection of supply

networks. The economic effects of the war-induced energy crisis were severe and far-reaching. Costs increased in many areas, including industry, transportation, and home utilities, as a result of energy inflation. The World Bank reports that in 2022, worldwide energy prices increased by almost 60%, disproportionately impacting vulnerable populations and lower-income nations. Millions of people throughout Europe lived in energy poverty, forcing governments to enact extensive price controls and subsidy schemes. In 2022–2023, Germany alone spent more than €200 billion on energy assistance. The crisis led to a reorganization of energy commerce on a worldwide scale. Moscow shifted its oil and gas exports to nations like China, India, and Turkey—often at reduced prices—as Europe turned away from Russian energy. In addition to changing established trade routes, this reconfiguration also changed global dependencies and alliances. The United States emerged as Europe’s top LNG supplier, while countries in the Global South sought to renegotiate energy partnerships in light of shifting geopolitical interests.

Overall, the Russia-Ukraine war dramatically altered the global energy landscape. It exposed the dangers of energy dependence, accelerated the clean energy transition, and highlighted the need for infrastructure protection and diversification. The crisis demonstrated that energy security is no longer just an economic issue; it is a critical pillar of national sovereignty, global stability, and international diplomacy.

Results and Discussions:

The Russia-Ukraine war has had a *profound impact on global energy systems*, triggering price volatility, supply disruptions, and strategic realignments. This section presents the key results and discussions around how the conflict reshaped energy security globally especially in Europe and highlights the strategic decisions taken by nations in response to this crisis. It also examines how energy became both a weapon and a weakness during the war.

1. Disruption of Global Energy Supplies

When Russia launched its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in **February 2022**, it not only started a brutal ground war but also *disrupted the global energy flow*. Russia was supplying **about 40% of the European Union’s natural gas** and **25% of its crude oil** before the war (IEA, 2022). As the war escalated, Western countries imposed *sanctions* on Russian energy exports, while Russia reduced or halted gas deliveries to several European countries in retaliation.

For example, **Gazprom** (Russia’s state-owned energy giant) cut off gas supplies to **Poland and Bulgaria** in April 2022 and reduced supplies to Germany, Italy, and others via the **Nord Stream 1 pipeline**. This move caused **gas prices to spike**. The **European natural gas benchmark (TTF)** hit a record high of over **€300 per megawatt-hour in August 2022**, compared to under €20 in early 2021.

2. Europe's Emergency Response and Diversification

The European Union responded with urgent measures to reduce dependence on Russian energy. The **REPowerEU Plan** was launched in May 2022, aiming to cut Russian gas imports by two-thirds within a year and end all Russian fossil fuel imports by 2027 (European Commission, 2022). Europe started *importing more LNG* (Liquefied Natural Gas) from the United States, Qatar, and Nigeria. In 2022, the U.S. became the **largest LNG supplier to Europe**, contributing over **40% of Europe's LNG imports** (U.S. EIA, 2023).

Countries also reopened or extended the life of *coal and nuclear plants*. Germany, which had been planning to shut down its nuclear plants, delayed the process. France increased its investment in nuclear energy, and countries like *Finland and the Netherlands* sped up renewable energy projects. The crisis served as a wake-up call for energy independence and infrastructure resilience.

3. Weaponization of Energy by Russia

Russia's actions demonstrated how energy could be used as a *geopolitical weapon*. Moscow tried to pressure the EU by manipulating gas supplies during winter months, hoping to create public unrest and break European unity. The explosions that damaged the **Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines** in September 2022 further intensified concerns about *energy sabotage* and infrastructure vulnerability.

Although the perpetrators of the Nord Stream explosions remain unidentified, the attack is widely considered a turning point in *hybrid warfare*, where energy infrastructure became a frontline. These developments pushed countries to enhance *pipeline security, cybersecurity*, and surveillance of critical infrastructure.

4. Economic Consequences: Inflation and Energy Poverty

The war-induced energy crisis triggered a wave of *global inflation*. Rising fuel and electricity prices raised costs across sectors, including food production and transportation. According to the **World Bank (2023)**, energy prices rose by **60% globally in 2022**, with low-income countries suffering the most. In Europe, many households faced *energy poverty*, with governments forced to introduce *price caps, subsidies, and energy relief packages*.

Germany spent over **€200 billion** on energy support programs in 2022–2023 alone. The UK, France, and Italy also announced emergency financial support to households and small businesses. This highlighted how energy insecurity directly affects economic and social stability.

5. Acceleration of Renewable Energy and Energy Transition

Despite the crisis, the war also *accelerated the transition to clean energy*. Countries recognized the *strategic value of renewable sources*, which are not dependent on international supply chains and reduce exposure to political risks. The EU increased its renewable targets under the REPowerEU plan, and investments in solar, wind, and hydrogen technologies surged.

According to the **International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA, 2023)**, global renewable energy capacity grew by **almost 10%** in 2022, and Europe was a major contributor. The energy crisis has thus shifted the narrative from climate-only goals to ***energy independence and resilience***, aligning climate policy with national security.

6. Impact on Russia's Energy Sector

While Russia earned high revenues in early 2022 due to high prices, the long-term impact has been negative. Western sanctions and the *price cap on Russian oil* (set by G7 nations at \$60 per barrel) limited Russia's export options. Russia had to sell oil and gas at discounted rates to buyers like *India and China*, leading to *loss of political leverage in Europe* and growing dependency on Asian markets.

Russian gas exports to Europe fell by **55% in 2022**, and oil exports by **25%**, according to **Gazprom's own data (2023)**. This sharp decline has weakened Russia's role as a global energy superpower and forced a strategic pivot toward non-Western alliances.

The Russia-Ukraine war has transformed energy security from a background issue into a *central pillar of geopolitical strategy*. The crisis exposed Europe's dependence on a single supplier, prompted emergency policy shifts, and pushed the world closer to a renewable energy future. At the same time, it showed how energy can be weaponized, making infrastructure and supply chains part of a new kind of battlefield. This evolving energy landscape will shape global politics for years to come.

Conclusion:

The Russia-Ukraine war has redefined the meaning of energy security in the 21st century. What started as a regional military conflict soon evolved into a **global energy crisis**, affecting everything from household electricity bills in Europe to food prices in Africa. It became clear that energy is not just an economic commodity it is also a **geopolitical instrument** that can be used to influence, threaten, or even destabilize other nations.

Before the war, much of Europe was deeply dependent on Russian gas and oil. This created a vulnerability that Russia attempted to exploit by cutting energy supplies in response to sanctions. The result was a cascade of effects: skyrocketing prices, infrastructure sabotage, policy overhauls, and a renewed global urgency for **energy independence**.

At the same time, the war acted as a **catalyst for change**. Europe drastically reduced its reliance on Russian energy, ramped up renewable energy projects, and diversified its suppliers. Countries are now rethinking their long-term energy strategies, combining *security, sustainability, and resilience* into a single framework.

However, the conflict has also exposed gaps in global energy governance. It showed how fragile the global energy infrastructure is in the face of political aggression, cyber threats, and climate-related

risks. The world must now adapt to a new reality where **energy policy is inseparable from national security and international stability**.

Recommendations:

i. Diversify Energy Sources and Partners

Countries, especially in Europe, should continue diversifying their energy imports. Over-dependence on a single supplier even a reliable one creates strategic risks. Diversification must include geographic variety and a mix of fossil fuels, renewables, and nuclear energy.

ii. Accelerate the Energy Transition

Governments should treat renewable energy not only as a climate solution but also as a *security investment*. Wind, solar, and hydrogen technologies reduce exposure to volatile markets and hostile actors.

iii. Strengthen Infrastructure and Cybersecurity

Energy infrastructure must be protected from sabotage and cyberattacks. Investments should focus on *modernizing grids, securing pipelines, and building smart energy networks* capable of withstanding both physical and digital threats.

iv. Enhance Strategic Reserves and Emergency Planning

Countries should maintain and regularly update strategic oil and gas reserves. Simulation exercises and cross-border cooperation are essential for effective crisis response.

v. Encourage Regional Collaboration and Energy Diplomacy

The necessity of *regional energy alliances* is demonstrated by conflicts such as the conflict between Russia and Ukraine. To increase collective resilience, platforms such as the EU, NATO, and ASEAN need to incorporate energy cooperation into their strategic frameworks.

vi. Help Vulnerable Countries

Because of rising energy prices, several developing nations experienced severe energy shocks. In order to help them manage these shocks as they make the transition to cleaner energy systems, international organizations such as the *World Bank and IMF* should provide support mechanisms.

vii. Use International Law to Protect Energy Infrastructure

International bodies like the *UN and IEA* must work toward agreements that classify attacks on energy systems as violations of international law, similar to protections for water and health infrastructure in war zones.

The war in Ukraine has shown that **energy security is no longer just an economic issue—it is a national and global priority**. To prevent future crises, nations must build energy systems that are not only clean and affordable but also *resilient, diverse, and secure*. In an increasingly interconnected and uncertain world, *energy and peace are more intertwined than ever before*.

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