

Producing territorial dissensus:

The new geographies of energy security

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New energy security challenges workshop
RGS-IBG, 10th May 2012



Contested conceptualisations

(based on Dunne, 2009)

- **Temporality:** Ranging from existential threat, war & systemic violence to the diffuse consequences of the problem – shocks vs. stresses
- **Scale:** Recognising the diverse material sites where energy security interventions can take place
- **Flow:** Demand/transit/supply
- **Justice:** Procedural and distributional issues



A space of constraints

- **Scarcity:** 'Ours is a high-energy civilisation based on the combustion of fossil fuels' (Smil 2003)
- **Climate change:** need to move towards more sustainable energy patterns
- **Securitisation:** escalating the significance of the issue to an extent that it is removed from the realm of normal politics



Geography matters ... in new ways?

The 'rematerialisation' of energy security is a generator of ***territorial dissensus***

- The intermittency of renewable energy has to be balanced with traditional and continuous generation capacity
- 'Infrastructure becomes visible upon breakdown' (Star 1999)
- Energy security becomes locally- and regionally-performed and visible, yet serves national and transnational purposes
- The plurality of political voices clashes with repeated calls for unanimity and solidarity



'Geo-energy' spaces (Mañé-Estrada 2006)

- The historical geo-energy space of the European Union - the Euro-Mediterranean area – will grow in importance
- Development of a 'real' energy community in the wider European area
- Rising role of gas in the short- to medium-term
- The implementation of neoliberal policies in the periphery of the EU is bound to fail
- Importance of Turkey: an intermediary among energy producers and consumers, and among private, public and regional actors

