

REPORTS

**Report on the Scientific Conference
“Świnoujście LNG Terminal and the energy security of the region and Poland”
Szczecin, 13-14 November 2013**

by Tomek Czapiewski

The Scientific Conference under the name “Świnoujście LNG Terminal and the energy security of the region and Poland” was held at the Institute of Political and European Studies in Szczecin on 13th-14th November 2013. The Conference was attended by many eminent scientists and practitioners from all over Poland. Employees of inter alia AGH University of Science and Technology, Warsaw University, Jagiellonian University, Graduate School of Humanities and Journalism, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Western Institute and University of Wrocław were present.

Lack of experience in the execution of such investments in Poland and lack of national legislation adapted to the task required preparation and introduction of

new laws and organizational solutions. Adopting the relevant legislation was treated as a priority by the Polish government and it helped to improve energy security and intensify the development of the Polish gas market. The location of the Świnoujście Terminal LNG in the Baltic Sea will provide the possibility of importing LNG from anywhere in the world and the distribution to operators in the country. The adoption of such solutions will be a viable diversification of gas resources. This is important from the point of view of strategic Polish interests.

Proper understanding of the importance of the Terminal construction for society in the region and forecasting changes in the environment relevant to the functioning of the Terminal requires

discussion and scientific reflection with the participation of the various experts and academics. The Scientific Conference described here and scientific book, which will be published as its result are making a contribution toward achieving such goals. The realization of the Conference can also be viewed as a manifestation of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Polish company LNG.

The Conference was organized by The Institute of Political and European Studies of the University of Szczecin, yearbook "Reality of Politics. Estimates-Comments-Forecasts", the association "Media Design" and Regional Centre's for International Debate in Szczecin. The Conference was supported by its partner – The Polish company LNG. The Organizational Committee was led by prof. Jaroslaw Piątek, who at the same time is head of the Department of Security and European Strategy at the University of Szczecin, and the other members of the Organizational Committee were: Renata Podgórska PhD, Tomasz Czapiewski PhD, Mariusz Sikora and in the role of Secretary of the Conference – Sylwia Serwońska.

The Conference began with a plenary debate devoted to the theme "Investment in energy security in Polish Western Pomerania: ecology or economy?" The panel consisted of: Prof. Bohdan Koszel (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań), Prof. Jaroslaw Piątek (Institute of Political and European Studies, University of

Szczecin), Prof. Benon Z. Szalek (Institute of Political and European Studies, University of Szczecin), nadbryg. Henryk Cegielka (West Pomeranian Provincial Commandant, Polish State Fire Service), Mariusz Sikora (Marshal's Office of Westpomeranian Voivodeship) and Tomasz Ziółkowski (Bureau of Strategy and Analysis, Polish LNG). The debate was chaired by Tomasz Czapiewski PhD (University of Szczecin).

A significant number of conference speeches focused on the concept of energy security with particular emphasis on the importance of natural gas in an international context. First the panel was initiated by prof. Benon Z. Szalek (University of Szczecin), who described the geopolitical considerations of energy security, Remigiusz Rosicki PhD (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań), presented the results of research concerning the location of the LNG in the context of global and regional threats to energy security, and Kamila Pronińska PhD (University of Warsaw) focused on the development of the gas market in Central Europe in the context of global and regional realities. Krzysztof Książopolski PhD (University of Warsaw) studied the impact of the development of the energy infrastructure on an economic security dimension with the example of Terminal LNG in Świnoujście.

Adam Szurlej PhD (AGH University of Science and Technology) attempted to determine the level of Polish energy

security in the area of natural gas. Natalia Wojtowicz (Jagiellonian University) diagnosed the impact of the construction of the LNG Terminal in Świnoujście on the dependency of the EU from external supplies of natural resources, and Wojciech Jedrzejewski (Institute of Political and European Studies, University of Szczecin), studied the LNG terminal in Świnoujście and integration process of Central European gas market from the perspective of the theory of international relations. The interesting subject of shale gas in the forum of the European Union was researched by Radosław Grodzki PhD (Western Institute).

Subsequent papers stressed the national dimension of energy security. Marcin Sienkiewicz PhD (Institute of International Studies, University of Wrocław) pointed out the importance of Świnoujście LNG Terminal for liberalization and security of the natural gas market in Poland, and Michał Domagała PhD (Catholic University of Lublin) described the legal basis of regulation of the gas market as an element of Polish energy security. Andrzej Ranke PhD (Graduate School of Humanities and Journalism in Poznań) presented how the issue of energy security was used in the Polish public space in the recent years.

Part of the papers mentioned the construction of the Świnoujście Terminal LNG from a local perspective. Daniel Wacinkiewicz PhD (Faculty of Law and

Administration, University of Szczecin) described and explained the process of municipal energy planning, and Szczepan Stempiński PhD (Szczecin Municipal Office, Institute of Political and European Studies) was investigating the safety of the Szczecin metropolitan area after completion of the building of Świnoujście Terminal LNG. Jakub Gibowski (West Pomeranian Regional Authority, Institute of Political and European Studies), outlined a specific function in the process played by the Voivode of the West Pomerania Province. Marek Rupental (West Pomeranian Regional Inspector for Road Transport) tried to predict the influence of the LNG Terminal on road transport in the region.

The technical aspects of the safety of Świnoujście LNG Terminal were widely presented in the second panel of the Conference. Stanisław Lenard PhD (The State School of Higher Professional Education in Gorzów Wielkopolski) tried to answer doubts whether the declared security threats of LNG have a factual basis, while Paweł Tański (Institute of Political and European Studies, University of Szczecin) tried to diagnose the level of cyber security of the critical infrastructure, including the LNG Terminal. The speech of Sławomir Ozdyk (Szczecin University, Aegis4U-Safety Consulting & Diplomatic Service), who described the procedures concerning infrastructure protection on the example of Bombardier Transportation GmbH in

Berlin that had some comparison value. Grzegorz Tobolczyk (West Pomeranian University of Technology) described the operation of the LNG terminal from the perspective of technical sciences.

The finale of the Conference was the study visit by Conference participants to the building site of the Świnoujście LNG Terminal. Conference participants got

acquainted with the implementation of the investment and the work carried out within the external port and in the land part of the Świnoujście LNG Terminal. The representatives of the company Polish LNG gave visiting participants information about the ongoing construction work and civil engineering.