

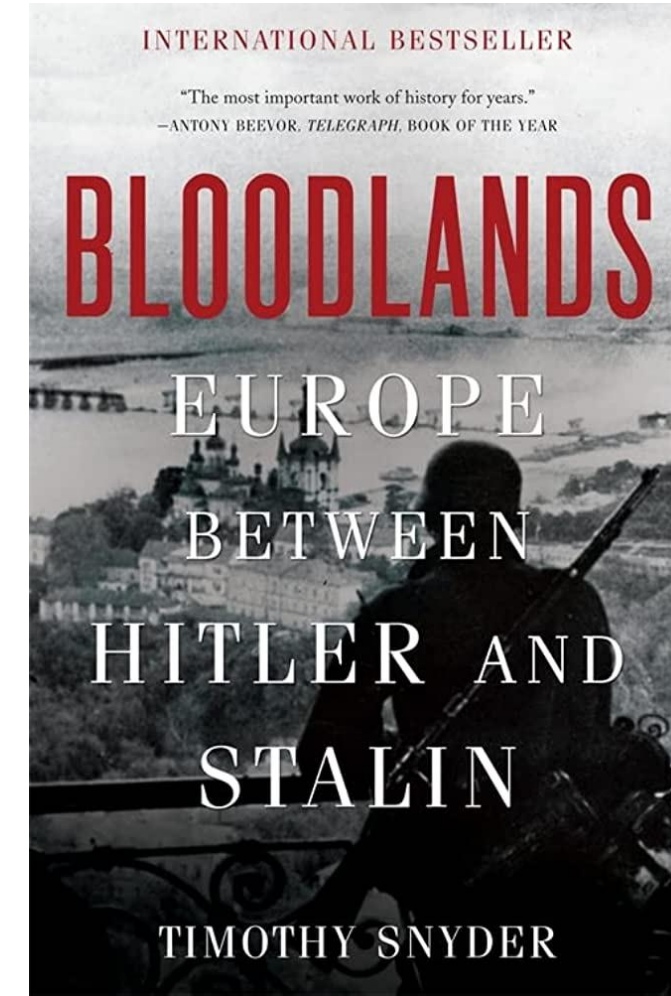
# **Energy Policy of the Baltic States**

Martin Jirušek, PhD

# Baltic States

- Strong influence of Russian supplies & infrastructure
- Rapid post-war industrialization, need for fuel imports (O&G)
- Energy self-sufficiency (1990):
  - Estonia – 51 %
  - Latvia – 8 %
  - Lithuania – 25%
- Energy security widely recognized as a part of national security
- Complicated history of relations with Russia
- Former integral part of the USSR, ethnic resettlement
  - Retained a strong spirit of independence and identity regardless
  - Higher living standards compared to the rest of the USSR
- Heavy Soviet military presence during the CW
- Independence restoration – 1991
- Structural dependence persisted

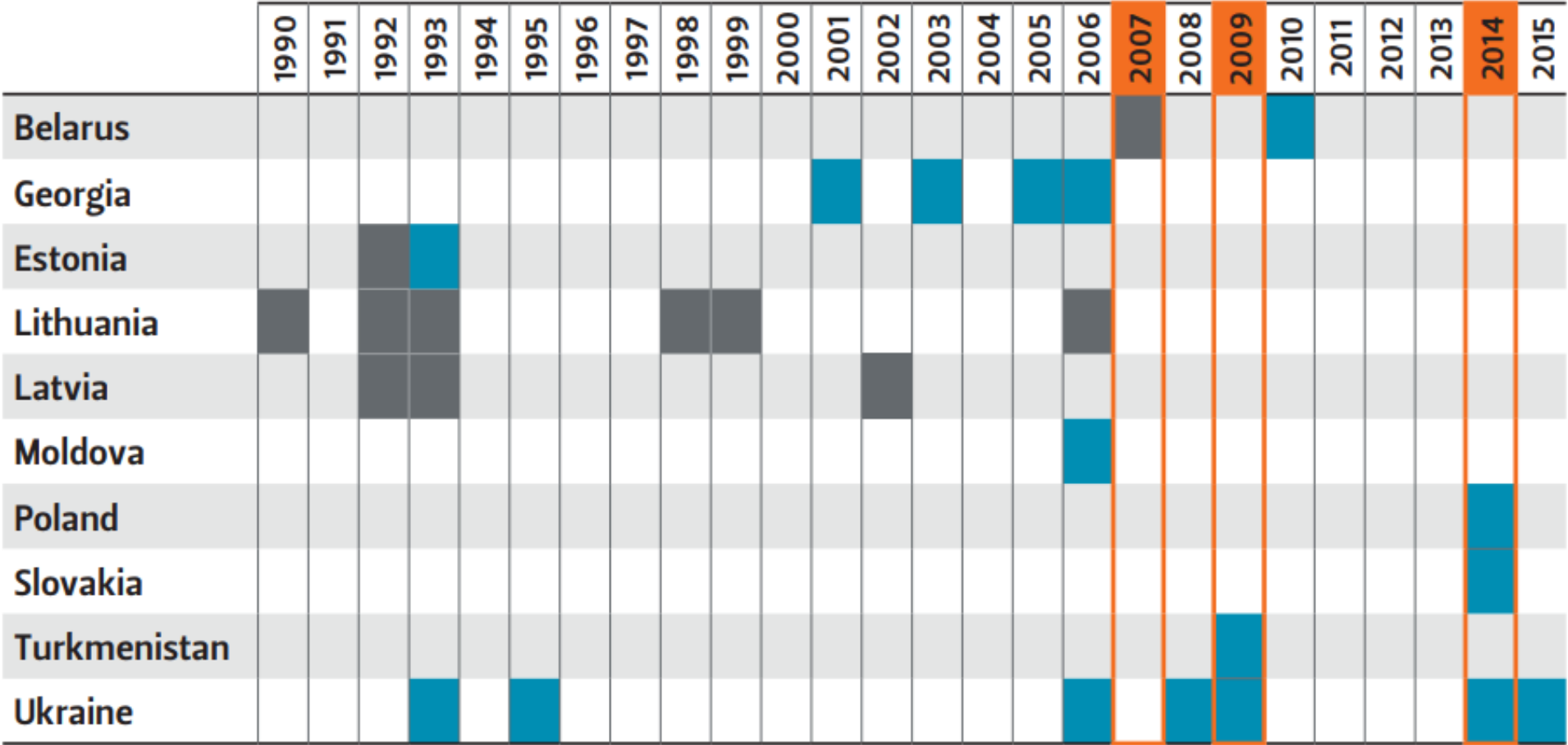
State	% of ethnic Russians			
	1989	2001	2011	2020
Estonia <sup>3</sup>	30.3	28.1	24.8	24.7
Latvia <sup>4</sup>	34.0	-	31.2	24.9
Lithuania <sup>5</sup>	6.31	5.81	5.37	4.5



# Baltic States

- Oil and gas supply curtailments (1992, 1993, ...)
- Strategic considerations as a feature in the Baltics' energy policies – state stakes in key facilities – e.g. Klaipėdos Nafta (LIT)
- Energy security was hinged on infrastructural development
- Implementation of the Internal Energy Market rules as crucial but not sufficient condition
- Gazprom as the most impacted entity (similar to other CEE countries)
  - Its behavior (pricing strategy, infrastructural situation) contributed to security concerns
- Strong growth of renewables
  - High potential especially in wind power
- Persisting heavy dependence on fossil fuels (esp. EST) means a lot of work to do given the EU's decarbonization goals
  - EST initially resisted (along with CZE, HU, and PL) the 2050 goal in 2019

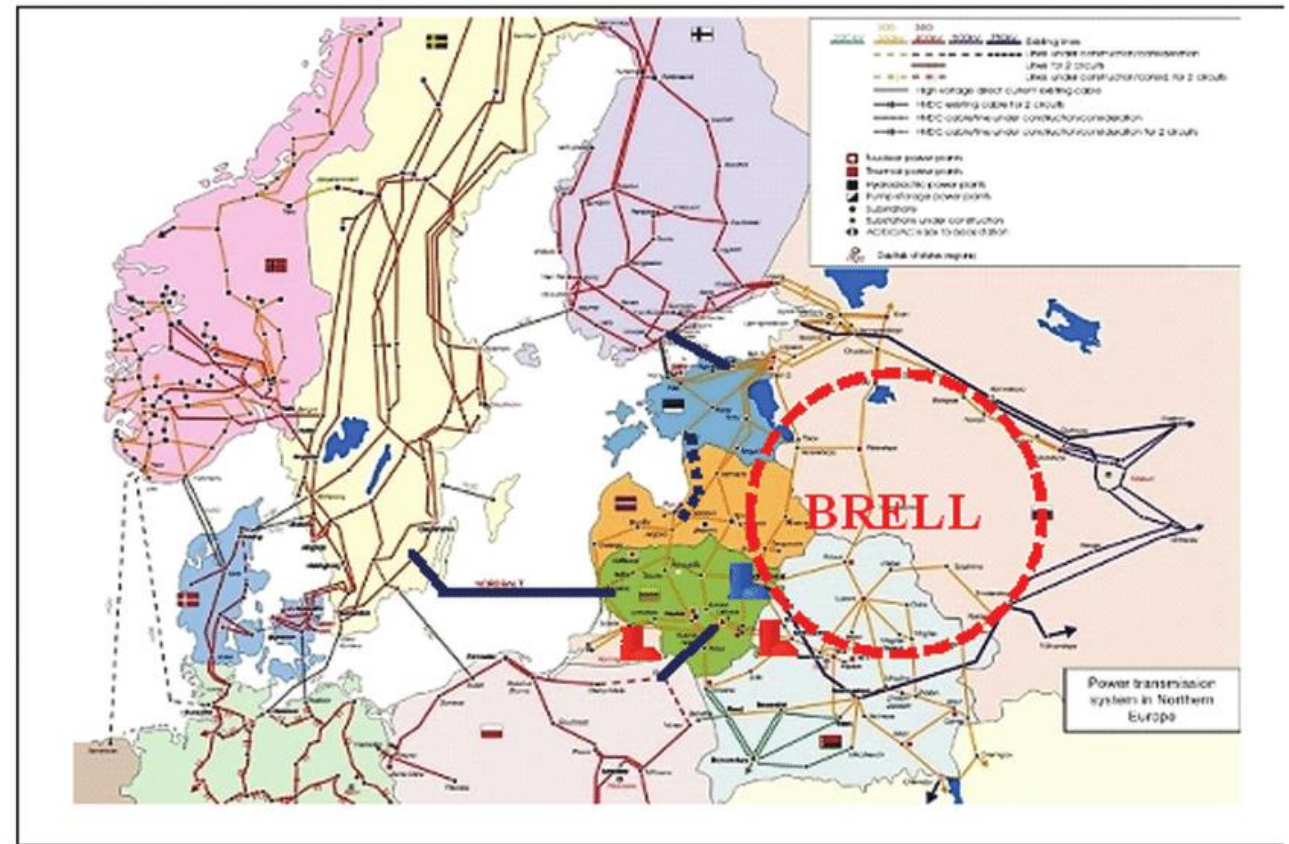
**FIGURE 2 — KNOWN OR PROBABLE POLITICALLY DRIVEN ENERGY SUPPLY OR PRICE MANIPULATIONS BY RUSSIA (1990–2015)**



*Instances involving crude oil are shaded gray; those involving natural gas are shaded blue.  
 Interruptions that caused systemic effects on oil or gas supplies in Europe occurred during the years highlighted in orange.*

# Baltic States

- Complicated relations with Russia
  - former parts of the Soviet Union
  - fears of revisionism
  - EU and NATO membership as game changers
- Nord Stream as an issue
- Energy policy securitized
  - energy transition as a secondary issue
- Energy island
  - power grid synchronized with Russia (BRELL)
  - 2025 European grid synchronization
  - EstLink, EstLink 2, LiPol, NordBalt power lines
  - Astravets NPP as an incentive to speed up the process



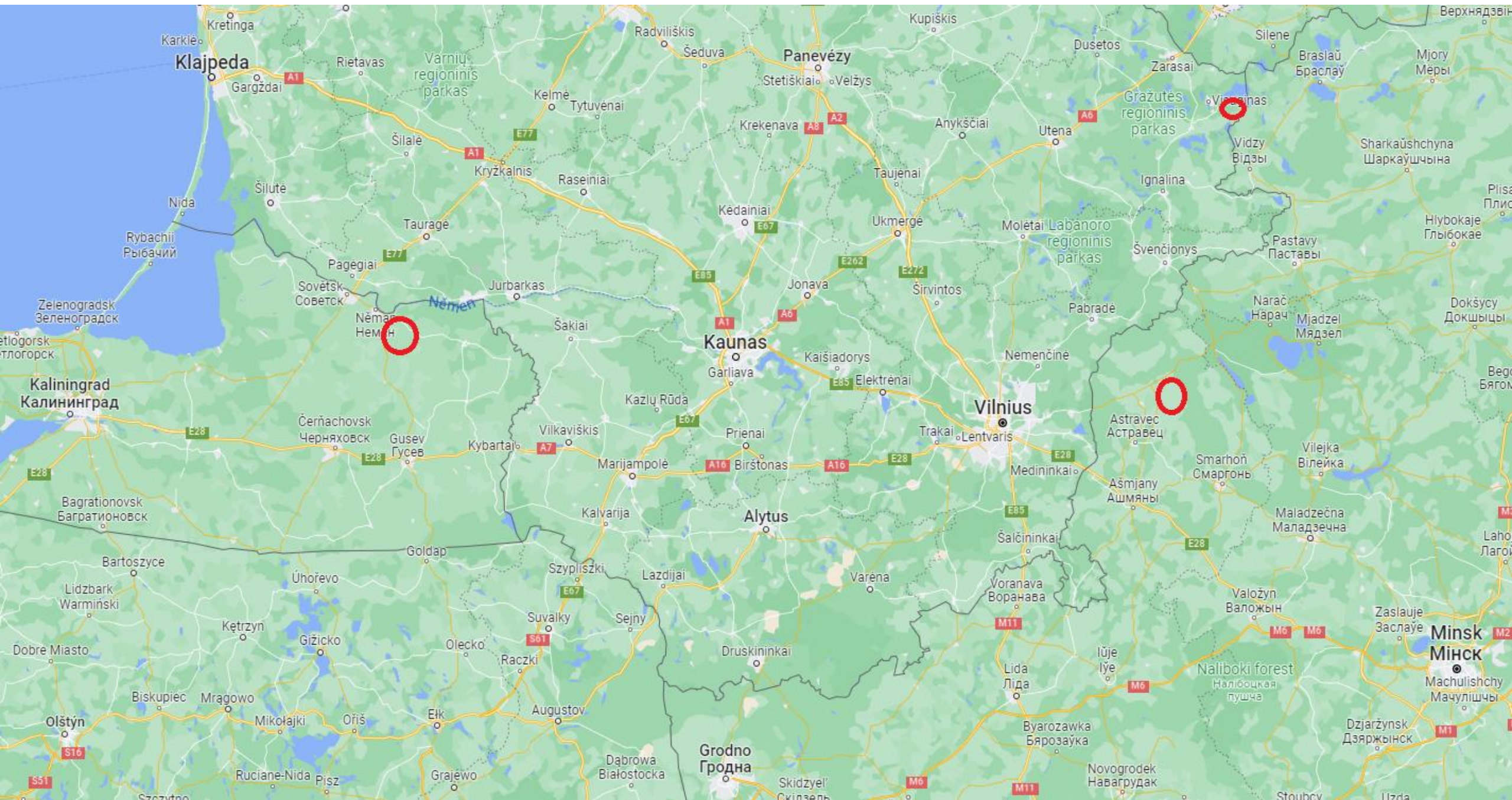
# Nuclear Power and related Issues

- The conundrum of Astravets NPP (BEL), Visaginas NPP (LIT), and Neman NPP (RUS)
- Astravets as a safety issue for Lithuania
  - Allegations of safety violations during the construction
  - The NPP is located close to LIT borders (26 km) and the capital city
  - Built by Atomstroyexport (RUS)
  - The only of the three projects, which was built and put into operation (2020)
- Neman NPP as a prop to undermine Visaginas NPP?
  - Meant as a source for exports to the Baltic region
  - The same could be said about the Astravets NPP
  - The potential capacity concentration in the region did not make sense
  - The project at the Ignalina NPP (closed as a part of the EU accession process) site was abandoned after referendum in 2012

The closure of the original Ignalina NPP was the cause of rapid gas demand increase







- [https://www.entsog.eu/sites/default/files/2023-01/ENTSOG\\_GIE\\_SYSDEV\\_2021-2022\\_1600x1200\\_FULL\\_240\\_clean.pdf](https://www.entsog.eu/sites/default/files/2023-01/ENTSOG_GIE_SYSDEV_2021-2022_1600x1200_FULL_240_clean.pdf)
- [https://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/transparency\\_platform/map-viewer/main.html](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/infrastructure/transparency_platform/map-viewer/main.html)



# Baltic States



# Baltic States

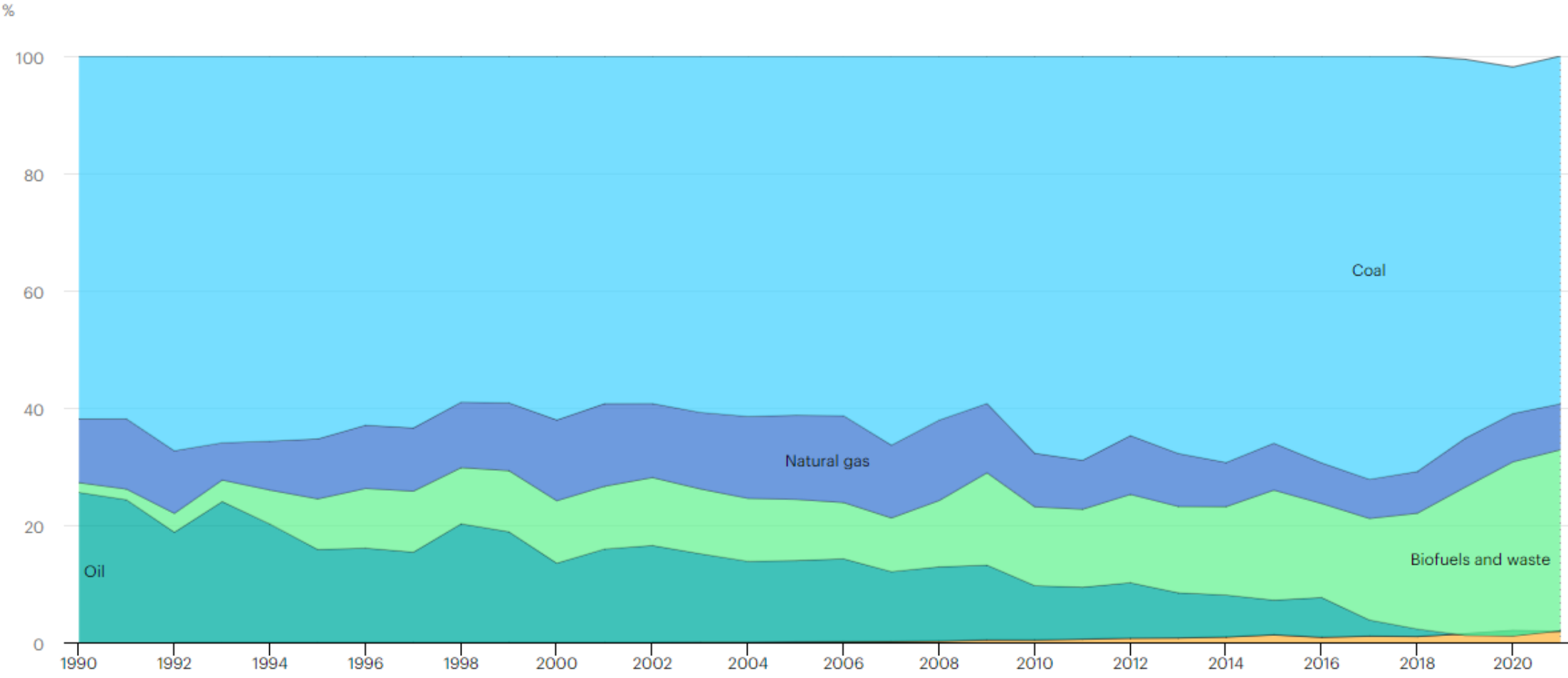
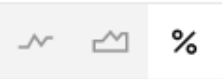
- BEMIP – Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan
  - Denmark, Germany, Poland, Finland, Sweden, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia
  - Under the auspices of the European Commission
- Electricity: Estlink (EST, FIN), Nordbalt (LIT, SWE), LitPol Link (LIT, POL)
- Gas: GIPL (2022), Balticconnector (2020), intra-Baltic infrastructure



# Estonia

- Large share of TPES > ½ of electricity constituted by domestically produced shale oil and peat – increases energy security but also emission intensity
- Gas demand ca. 0,5 bcm/y with projection of a rather limited increase
  - industry, heating – 100% imported
  - from LIT (LNG), LAT (Inčukalns storage facility)
- Experience of cut(s) (1990s) and price hikes 2005-2007 (due to EU& NATO accession?)
- Gas network connected to Russia LAT and, recently, Finland
  - interconnectors are still missing
  - 'Balticconnector' with Finland – as of 1/2020 – ended Finnish isolation
  - successive interconnectors to connect the Baltics with Poland/Europe (see further)

Total energy supply (TES) by source, Estonia 1990-2021





# Estonia

- Aims at building LNG terminal(s)
  - small-scale
  - Muuga (Tallin), **Paldiski (in progress)**
  - up to 2,5 bcma (est.)
- Unclear economic rationale due to the existing LNG terminal in LIT and small EST demand
  - investment attractiveness rather low
  - possible change if LIT exports more gas southwards (GIPL)
  - building interconnectors as a crucial precondition in any case
  - new impetus given by the Russian aggression



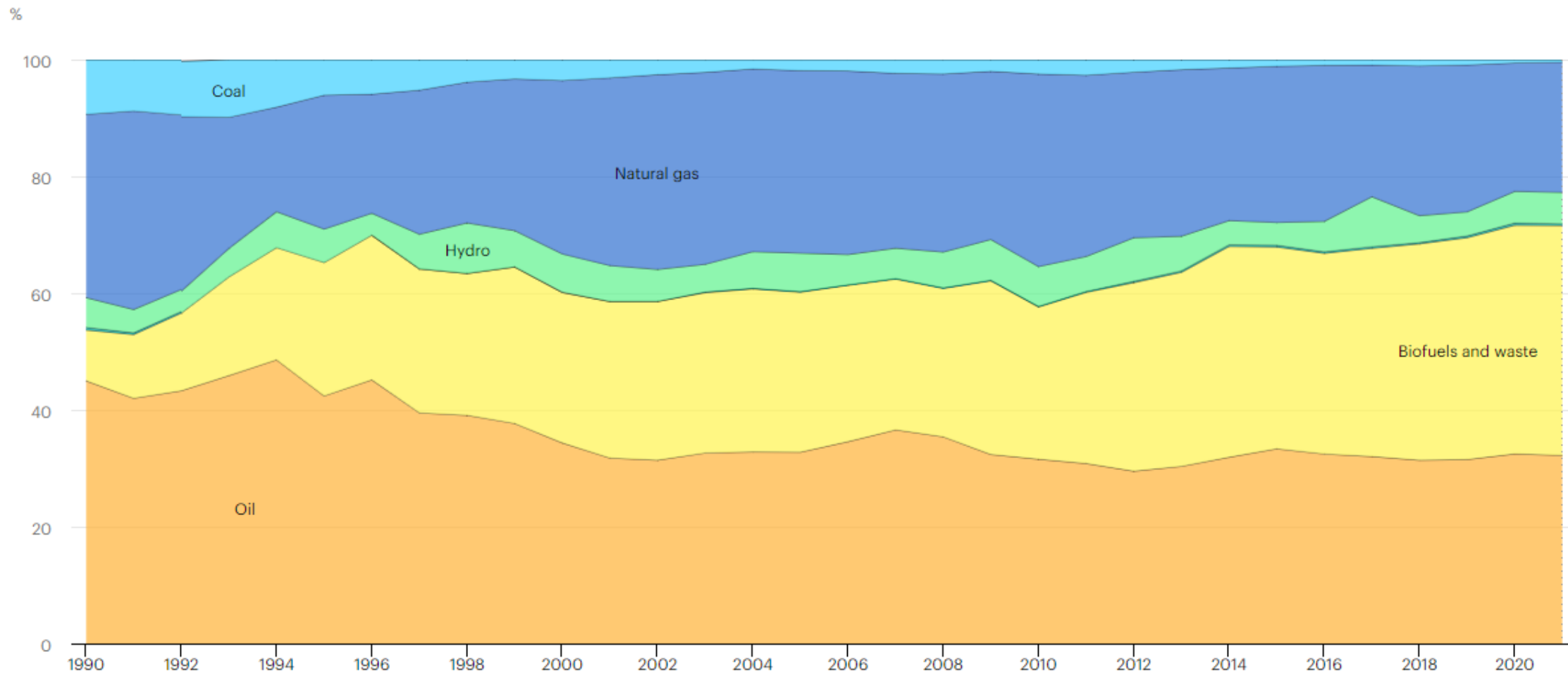
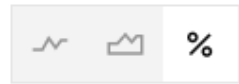
# Estonia - Gas Market

- Gazprom sold its minority share in the country's largest supplier Eesti Gaas in 2016
- Gas market dominated by Eesti Gaas
- Sources of import: LIT LNG Klaipeda, LAT underground storage Incukalns
- Connected to FIN
  - LNG imports growing
  - Joint effort in terms of market regulation among the Baltics
  - ongoing works on EST-LAT interconnection
- Inkoo (FIN) LNG terminal inaugurated in 3/2023 (4 bcma)

# Latvia

- Nat. gas consumption at 1,2 bcma (imported) – heat and electricity (declining)
- Inčukalna gas storage – crucial for the region (LIT Syderiai storage project put on hold) – capacity of ca 2,5 bcm
- Skulte LNG (2024?)
- Latvijas Gaze dominates the sector - 34% owned by Gazprom, 16% by Itera Latvia (subsidiary of Rosneft)
- Principial opposition to the Nord Stream project

Total energy supply (TES) by source, Latvia 1990-2021





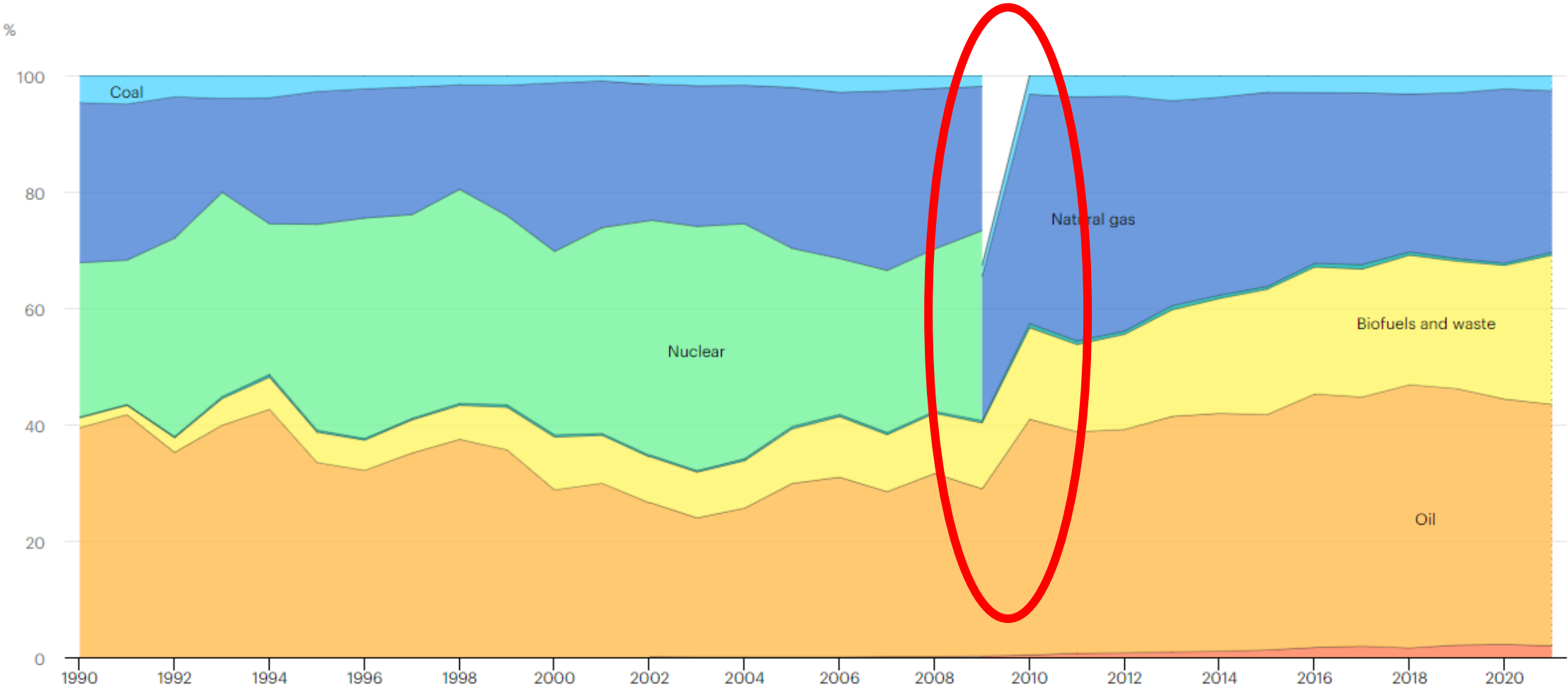
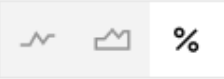
# Latvia

- Gas prices reflected the accession to EU & NATO (similarly to EST & LIT) – or just a coincidence?
- Highest involvement of Russian companies among the Baltics
- Russian stakeholders actively lobbied to postpone the market liberalization

# Lithuania

- 2,2 bcma
- Increase after the Ignalina NPP phase out (2009)
  - from net exporter to importer
  - Russia became the de facto main supplier of electricity (over 60%)
  - another spur for building the LNG terminal
- Astravets NPP (BEL) as a thorny issue
- Kaliningrad NPP (RUS) (Neman) - to undermine the Visaginas NPP (LIT) project
- Ambitions to become regional gas hub
- Gazprom withdrew in 2014

Total energy supply (TES) by source, Lithuania 1990-2021

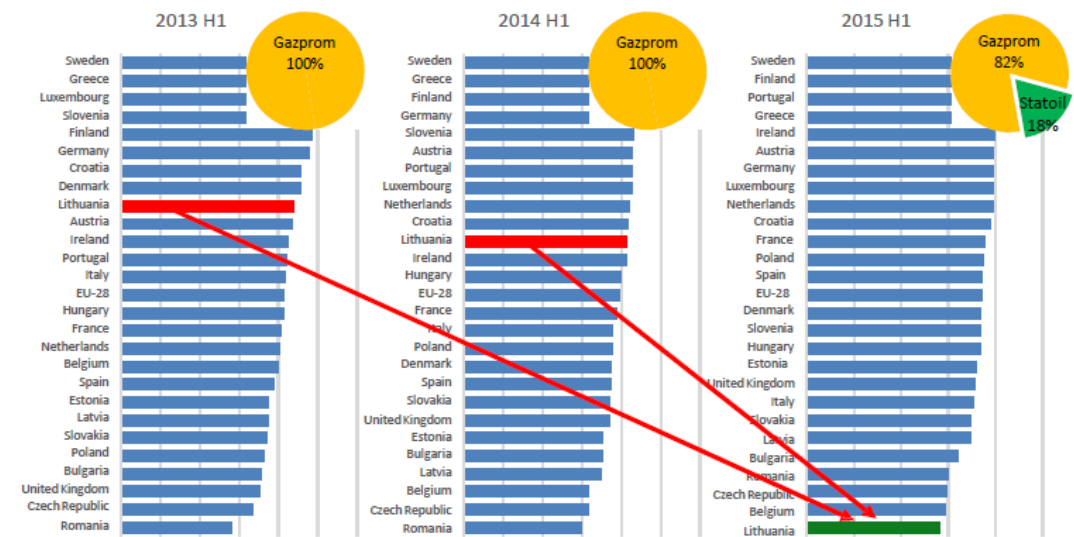


# Lithuania

- Strong Russian lobbying activities against the liberalization
  - accusations of unfair treatment of Gazprom's assets
  - Gas price increase by 15%
- Situation changed after the and inauguration of the LNG terminal
- Russian electricity supplies dropped to 30% of LIT needs
  - needs covered by natural gas power (LNG)

## PRICE

### Fact of 2015: final prices in Lithuania – amongst the lowest in EU





# FSRU Klaipeda (Lithuania) – ‘Independence’

- Owner – Klaipedos Nafta (state-controlled)
- Capacity: 4bcm/y
- Innaugurated 2014
- Deliveries from Statoil surpassed Russia
  - on ca. 3,7 bcm
  - ca. 80% of the Baltics
- 10-year contract with Equinor (Statoil) - until 2024
- “No Russian LNG” as an unofficial state policy
- The biggest gas consumer, fertilizer manufacturer Archema, imports own small cargoes, likely also from Novatek (RUS) - impact of the current crisis?



# GIPL

- Gas Interconnector Poland-Lithuania
- Part of BEMIP – Baltic Energy Market Interconnection Plan
- Connecting the Baltic ‘island’ with CEE (PL)
- In operation since 5/2022



Copyright PLATTS for the underlying grid; Copyright INEA - January 2015

# Securitization?

- Nord Stream – the Baltics were against the project from the outset
  - 1st string inaugurated in 2011
- Poland lead the ‘coalition’ against the Nord Stream II
  - in reality, ‘the coalition’ consisted of PL, UA, the Baltics
  - PL and the Baltics as long-term opponents of the NS I+II projects



- NS I
  - agreement signed 9/2005
  - pipelaying started 1/2010
  - inaugurated 11/2011
- NS II
  - agreement signed 9/2015
  - pipelaying started 9/2018
  - finished 9/2021
  - destroyed 9/2022

# Securitization?

- Successful Polish legal challenge against Gazprom's use of the OPAL pipeline
  - 6/2009 – limitation on pipeline use (50% of the OPAL pipeline only)
  - 10/2016 – limitation lifted
  - fall 2019 – Polish legal challenge – success, limitation imposed
  - clash of principles market vs. solidarity
- ECJ final decision in 7/2021 – solidarity principle upheld (!)
- The Baltics were content with the decision



**Thank you for your attention**

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