



You are working at the Ministry of Economy and Energy of **Austria**

Your working group has been tasked to develop a **new energy strategy for your country** that will be acceptable to the Minister for Economy and Energy, the Minister of Environment and the Finance Minister.

The objective of this activity is to develop a position paper and plan for how your country should set up its energy policy over the next 20 years while taking into consideration economic, geopolitical and environmental concerns, such as population growth, GDP and economic development, the national energy mix, energy import dependency and vulnerability, the current geopolitical situation and the combat against climate change.

The Minister of Economy and Energy has asked you to organize your paper as follows:

I. Statement of the challenge to guarantee competitive energy prices

- Outline the major international trends that will drive the development of energy prices.

II. Assessment of potential environmental and social impacts of climate change

- Explain why it is in the interest of government ministers to take action on climate change.

III. Assessment and forecast how the national energy security will be affected by changing markets and geopolitics

- Identify the potential weak spots of the country's energy security;
- Explain why it is important for the government to address the issue of energy security;
- Explain why the European level will or will not be important to address the issue.

IV. Formulate an energy plan

- Position your external energy policy approach between the **market and geostrategic approach** and the **bilateral and European level** – explain your choices;
- Develop a detailed plan about how your country should plan for its energy needs **over the next 20 years (this section should be min. one third and max. half of the paper)** – explain how you want to stabilize or modify the energy mix of the country.



To develop your argument and plan, please do the following:

- Use concepts from the course;
- Clearly define the concept the first time it is used in your paper;
- Use examples and data from the course materials and reliable sources (e.g. IEA, EIA, EUROSTAT, World Bank etc.) to illustrate and support your argument;
- Cite your sources when using data and examples;
- Write a thematically coherent and consistent paper to convince the government that balances affordability, supply security and environmental concerns.

Your ability to do the above effectively will be the basis on which the paper is evaluated.