

Russia is endowed with natural resources, which underpin substantial exports of natural gas and oil to countries in Eastern and Western Europe, Turkey, Japan, as well as other Asian countries. The relative dependence of Russia's economy on energy exports is impacted by fluctuating energy prices, the development of shale gas in other regions of the world, and Europe's efforts to decrease dependence on Russian gas imports. To address this, Russia is developing new transportation routes and plans to tap into new gas markets in the east ('Pivot to the East'). The profitability of these plans will be tested through levers of fair and transparent market competition with other gas suppliers. With four nuclear reactors under construction as of 2017, and an average of one large reactor per year due to come on line by 2028, Russia is working to further improve its security of supply through diversification while reducing its dependence on fossil fuels. Energy efficiency is a key issue for Russia. In 2014 the government published an updated version of the State Program on Energy Efficiency and Energy Development, which envisages a 40% decrease in the energy intensity of the economy by 2020. Another key part of this strategy is the further development of renewables, which, by 2020, are set to account for 2.5% of electricity generation, excluding large hydroelectric power plants.

