



Dr. Charles Ellinas

CEO, Cyprus Natural Hydrocarbons Co. & Senior
Fellow, Global Energy Center - Atlantic Council

Europe is almost getting too comfortable with gas prices.

It has declared the battle won, but it is not. The IEA and others are warning that there are still problems to come, and we are already seeing issues in France with nuclear power. Suddenly the price of gas has shot up again as a result. That shows how sensitive it is and it's not settled by any means. And if later in the year as expected, China really comes back to the market, it will impact gas prices further. Europe has been very, very lucky this winter but what about next year? Prices have come down, but they are still three times higher than pre-COVID and they are affecting companies in Europe, some of which are still looking to relocate to the US. Europe is still pursuing this idea that we are going to get rid of gas by 2030 and that renewables will save the world. That's not going to happen. It needs to eventually come to realize that gas is part of the equation for a long time to come, and it needs to open the way for long term contracts for utilities to buy more gas. At the moment, the utilities are not doing that. Environmentalists and activists are forcing the European Union's direction, that in my view, will lead to a crisis later on because it's not solving the problems of energy. ■

**Paraphrased Comments*



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