

Energy Transition Dialogues

DAILY BULLETIN



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SUNDAY /// MARCH 13th

TOP 10 DAILY NEWS DIGEST

1. FINLAND'S LONG-DELAYED NUCLEAR REACTOR GOES ONLINE

2. PLUG POWER TAPS ABB FOR \$300M HYDROGEN PLANTS

3. WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND: SHIPPING IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

4. MOROCCO TO HOST ENERGY SUMMIT AS TRANSITION TO CLEAN POWER PICKS UP

5. LEADING GLOBAL ENERGY FIRMS SET TO LAUNCH NEW \$1BN GREEN TECH FUND

6. CERA WEEK: GRANHOLM OUTLINES STRATEGY FOR ENERGY TRANSITION/SECURITY

7. UKRAINE WAR DRIVES RENEWABLES EXPANSION IN AUSTRIA'S BURGENLAND

8. THE GEOPOLITICS OF FOSSIL FUELS AND RENEWABLES RESHAPE THE WORLD

9. MAERSK'S GREEN METHANOL PRODUCTION AMBITION EXPANDS TO CHINA

10. SOME LEADERS WANT OUT OF THE CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION

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VIEWS YOU CAN USE



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Bill Spindle

Council on Foreign Relations
International Affairs Fellow in India



Ukraine Crisis Oil-Price Shock Could Supercharge Energy Transition

There is much to despair in the horrifying situation in Ukraine, growing worse by the day amid Russian President Vladimir Putin's determination to crush the country at whatever human cost.

Even recognizing that awful toll, some who care deeply about addressing climate change have an additional worry — that the crisis in Europe is yet another distraction from addressing our cascading climate challenges. Worse, they worry, it could be immensely counter-productive as the reverberating impacts amplify calls for the production of more oil and gas to alleviate staggering price increases. But even this early in the crisis, there is just as much reason to hope the Ukraine crisis could also wind up as a turning point for the climate fight.

I would point to two hopeful things that already stand out: Firstly, the crisis has, with astonishing rapidity, re-awakened liberal democracies all over the world to the reality that our way of life does not come without sacrifice to maintain it, occasionally deeply painful sacrifice. Secondly, undoubtedly, the shock of the past week will also translate into ways around fossil fuel dependence on the likes of Russia or any other petrostate. Those ways will inevitably be dominated by clean energy, from solar to hydrogen to nuclear.

Skyrocketing energy prices have spurred a frenzy of demands by fossil fuel advocates for ramped up oil and gas production from anywhere besides Russia. That, and the lure of higher prices alone, will almost certainly result in more fossil fuel production from the Texas oil patch to the Middle East and a new surge of liquid natural gas (LNG) exports emanating from the U.S., Australia and elsewhere.

Yet, longer-term, I believe there is an odds-on chance that the price shocks this week, combined with a renewed sense of global purpose beyond simply clinging to our way of life as it stands, could also re-energize the climate movement and super-charge an energy transition that is already gaining momentum. After all, compared to the oil shocks of the 1970s, viable alternatives now exist to fossil fuels. These will now become even more attractive as longer-term ways around the volatility and dependence that comes hand in hand with fossil fuels. ■

**Paraphrased Comments*

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HYDROGEN FULL COURT PRESS

Emanuele Bianco
Associate Programme Officer
IRENA

WEDNESDAY /// MARCH 16th /// 11:00AM (UAE)

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Rasso Bartenschlager
General Manager
Al Masood Power Division

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