

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES.....	10
LIST OF ANONYMIZED INTERVIEWEES	12
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	14
1. INTRODUCTION	15
2. LITERATURE REVIEW.....	21
3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK.....	26
3.1 Theoretical foundations of the research.....	26
3.2 Research area, basic principles and logic of the research.....	29
3.3 Case studies.....	30
3.4 The research process	33
3.5 Theoretical basis of the model for assessing the natural gas sector ...	35
3.6 Ideal type model for assessing the natural gas sector	46
4. IMPORTANT FACTORS, TERMS AND INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS.....	48
4.1 Russia and SEE – relations and perceptions	48
4.2 Importance of energy exports for Russian economy.....	49
4.3 Important factors in relations between Russia and Europe.....	50
4.4 Specifics of natural gas utilization in SEE	51
4.5 The preconditions for misusing natural gas as leverage.....	52
4.6 Changes to the environment due to EU Internal energy market rules.....	53

4.7 Energy Community	55
4.8 Concept of energy security	55
4.9 Important infrastructural projects.....	56
5. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: ALBANIA	65
5.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	70
6. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA.....	73
6.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	82
7. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: BULGARIA	86
7.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	94
8. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: CROATIA	101
8.1 Reflection of the indicators.....	109
9. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: GREECE	112
9.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	124
10. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: KOSOVO	129
10.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	134
11. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: MACEDONIA	136
11.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	146
12. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: MOLDOVA	150
12.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	156
13. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: MONTENEGRO	160
13.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	166
14. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: ROMANIA	168
14.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	175

15. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: SLOVENIA.....	179
15.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	183
16. COUNTRY CASE STUDY: SERBIA	186
16.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	200
17. FOR THE SAKE OF COMPARISON – COUNTRY CASE STUDY: CZECH REPUBLIC	204
17.1 Reflection on the indicators.....	209
18. CONCLUSION	215
18.1 Findings.....	216
18.2 The research question and outcomes.....	230
18.3 Reflection on the research process and discussion.....	230
19. APPENDIX: SUMMARIZED INDICATORS	234
20. SOURCES	238
21. INDEX OF NAMES	285