

Abstract

The aim of this bachelor thesis is to elucidate the energy policy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and to explain its motivation through the neorealist theory of international relations. The UAE possesses one of the largest global hydrocarbon capitals. Recent years have shown that despite its oil and gas wealth, the country is intensifying its investments in renewable transition and enhancing sustainable energy policies. This thesis attributes the motivation for such change in direction to the interest in anchoring economic and political security on the international stage. The thesis is systematically divided into two main parts, the first of which outlines the theoretical grounding of the topic in the context of international relations, while the second offers empirical examples of specific policies implemented by the country. I concurrently link the identified policies with neorealism and highlight their importance in the country's foreign policy.

Keywords

United Arab Emirates, Energy, Renewable Energy, National Interest, COP28, Neorealism, Political pragmatism