

17.906
Second Take-Home Exam

Please answer two of the following questions with short (500-1,000 words) essays. The “ground rules” for this take-home exam are the same as for the first take-home exercise:

- In preparing your answers, you may refer to any material you deem relevant—i.e., class notes, assigned readings, and other sources. I have no objection to your discussing the questions with classmates or others, but expect the answers to reflect, in the end, your own thinking and writing.
- There is no single “right” answer to any of the questions; essays will be evaluated on the quality of analysis and rhetorical presentation. In formulating your essays, you should strive to integrate material presented in the assigned readings with ideas and insights from the lectures and discussion sections. If you believe it useful to reference other material in your answers, this is allowed but not required.

Your answers should be word processed and emailed to Flynt Leverett and Paul Staniland in class on Thursday May 17. Please keep an electronic copy of your answers.

1. European officials in Brussels and in various national capitals have been concerned for some time about Europe’s growing dependence on Russian supplies of energy, especially natural gas. This concern has intensified since January 2006, when Russian gas supplies to Europe *via* Ukraine were temporarily disrupted. Discuss the goals of Russian energy policy *vis-à-vis* Europe and the options for a European response, whether collectively (through the European Union) or by national governments.
2. Henry Kissinger has argued that competition over access to hydrocarbon resources will be the most likely cause for international conflict in coming years (see Caroline Daniel, “Kissinger Warns of Energy Conflict”, *The Financial Times*, June 2, 2005). Evaluate this argument in light of ongoing trends in global energy markets and the strategic and political responses of producer and consumer states to these trends.
3. Pretend that you are the foreign policy adviser to one of the current Democratic or Republican presidential candidates. Write a memo to that candidate outlining what positions he or she should take concerning energy security as a foreign policy and national security issue.