

To: Research & Workshop Grants Committee

From: Corey Johnson, Co-PI, and Andreas Goldthau, PI

Date: March 19, 2017

Subject: Final Report for workshop grant on “Energy Regionalism”

1) How the workshop went

As we proposed, the Energy Regionalism Workshop convened a group of scholars in Baltimore on February 21, 2017, at the Hilton in advance of the February 2017 ISA meeting. The aim of the workshop was to develop a research agenda on *energy regionalism*. Specific goals include (1) to share our collective knowledge about energy and regions; (2) to develop concepts and methods to study energy regionalism in a systematic and comparative manner; and (3) to collect data on existing forms of energy regionalism.

The event included presentations of individually written papers, comments by discussants, and brainstorming sessions. There were also networking dinners and gatherings held outside the workshop. The general consensus was that the workshop was successful in crystalizing a research agenda on energy regionalism and mapping out next steps.

What proved particularly fruitful was the diverse nature of the group, comprising scholars working in areas as different as environmental policy, international political economy, critical theory, geography and Latin American politics. Geographically, the group brought together academics from the US, Western Europe, Israel, and Latin America, with papers covering the Eastern Mediterranean, Eurasia and Africa.

The meetings was organized around individual contributions, which were each first presented and then commented on by an assigned discussant. As papers were produced in advance and distributed among the participants beforehand, feedback and discussions were well-informed and fruitful, and will help improve the drafts.

The group discussed ways to develop a database that covers regional agreements related to energy. Later in the conference, two of the group’s members met with a scholar outside the group to discuss coordinating this database.

2) Plans for future publications

With the working papers we currently have, we have devised a list of 15 or so relevant peer reviewed journals in IR, political geography, and IPE. Within a few weeks of the conference, we contacted journals to check about the fit of our project in these journals and the possibility for a special issue. The goal established at the workshop was to have a target journal and editorial buy-in by late spring 2017 with completed papers submitted by fall 2017. Informal inquiries with journals indicate interest, though depending on the target outlet some papers and the SI as a whole will possibly need to be re-framed.

In light of this, we tentatively planned additional meetings of the working group in London and Israel. The group is exploring funding opportunities for these workshops, and we are positive that – given our

track record so far – future workshops and publication projects will be successful. The group has also discussed spinning off one or more stand-alone pieces of more conceptual nature, to be placed in journals independently from the planned special issue.

As has become clear during the Baltimore meeting, the group will continue its work on energy regionalism, which is not only an area with promising academic traction but also feeds into different important scholarly debates in IPE, EU studies, and geography as well as law. We intend to explore these various facets further as we are convinced that publications will continue to come out of the work the group is doing, individually or collectively.