

International Conference on Renewable & Sustainable Energy Engineering (ICRSEE 2026)

Conference Proceedings

February 24, 2026 - (Virtual)

The Neptun Deep Project and the Asymmetric Risks in the Black Sea: Strategic Options for the Romanian State from a Diplomatic Perspective

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Abstract

The theme of this article is the analysis of the asymmetric risks associated with the exploitation of natural gas resources in Romania's exclusive economic zone, in the hypothesis of an assertive behavior of the Russian Federation in the Black Sea. The main argument is that Neptun Deep must be approached as a foreign policy and security dossier, and the management of the related risks requires an integrated approach, combining international law, strategic alliances, energy diplomacy and internal state coherence. The analysis will follow the strategic relevance of the project, the nature of the asymmetric risks and Romania's options for action at the diplomatic level, focusing on non-military instruments for managing external pressures.