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**The 1970s Energy Crises and Energy Security: A Cross-national and Transatlantic History**

Securing the supply of energy has become a significant theme in international politics as state survival depends on the steady flow of affordable energetic resources. The Group of 7, which brings together major advanced economies, warned in its 2014 Brussels Summit Declaration that "the use of energy supplies as a means of political coercion or as a threat to security is unacceptable." At the same time, oversupply and low energy prices adversely affect Western producing nations such as Canada. Beyond its geopolitical and macroeconomic implications, energy security features in global discussions on petroleum prices, energy poverty and climate change highlighting the vital role energy plays in ensuring the welfare of societies and the security of the state. Despite its centrality in politics, diplomacy and economics, the term has taken on diverse meanings in different countries depending on when and in what conditions it developed. Since identifying these national variations helps us understand their impact on current policy decisions, my project's chief research objective is to examine the historic national, transnational and transatlantic 'narratives' of energy security emerging in response to the 1970s energy crises in selected countries in North America and Western Europe.

Capitalizing on newly available and declassified sources from the 1970s - a critical era in the history of energy - my research will offer a detailed historical analysis of the emergence of the concept of energy security during times of crises. In so doing, I provide a means by which researchers can better grasp the national nuances and international complexities of the concept that we witness today. Creating historical knowledge about an important aspect of energy's role in society and government will address a challenge area designated by the Social Sciences and Humanities Resource Council: What effects will the quest for energy have on our society and our position on the world stage?

Because the meaning of energy security can differ between states and across time, the term requires close historical study. I will examine how members of the transatlantic Western alliance during the Cold War developed an understanding of energy security in response to the energy crises of the 1970s (1973/74 and 1979/1980). Focusing geographically on North America (the United States and Canada) and Western Europe (West Germany, the Netherlands, and the U.K.), I will investigate how narratives of security, including themes of scarcity, dependence, and vulnerability have framed national, transnational and transatlantic discussions about energy crises and how these concerns resulted in specific policy responses. Informed by comparative and cross-national approaches and based on governmental, as well as some corporate and public sources located in national and international archives and newspapers and magazines of the time, my research will throw light on the ways such narratives emerged out of the complex interplay of national discussions of the energy crises and transnational consultations amongst allies over policy responses.

The main outcome of this multi-archival and multilingual research will be a monograph as well as conference papers and journal articles. Beyond academic audiences, the general public and governmental decision-makers will benefit tangibly from my anticipated policy papers and public talks providing deeper understandings of the concept of energy security and its historical origins. Apart from expanding knowledge and enhancing energy literacy, this project will also lay the foundations for the professional development of graduate research that, in turn, will broaden the Canadian contribution to energy studies.