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Qatari LNG: A Geopolitical Opportunity for East Asian LNG Integration

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As a leading exporter of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to East Asia, Qatar is uniquely positioned to engage in green technology and to develop its energy and foreign policies in the context of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). This paper explores the dual challenges that Qatar is facing with increasing competition in the East Asian energy market and how this has affected its dynamics. Whilst Qatar had positioned itself to pivot its energy policy to the Middle East and other emerging markets, geopolitical developments involving its regional neighbours in June 2017 make it necessary for Qatar to recalibrate its efforts. The BRI and the role that Qatar could play in green technology are strategic opportunities for Qatar, which it has the capacity to exploit. Whether or not it will do so will depend on Middle Eastern geopolitics and economic considerations.