

# Suggestions for cartography

By Paolo Figini

This brief and incomplete survey of the energy and democracy literature suggests three main extensions which use available data listed below. First, together with econometric analysis, which is the most popular empirical methodology used by economists, more attention should be given to unfold some particular case histories. For example, the narration of the recent evolution of former soviet republics might shed a light into the mechanisms at play. A special focus should analyse the effect of natural gas fields discovery, since natural gas is becoming increasingly important for European economies.

Second, a graphical representation of these links through interactive maps might help identify regularities and particularities. This could be done by means of a database in which the user would be allowed to select different types of natural resources. Countries rich of that resource would then be selected and coloured on the map according to their level of democracy, corruption or other quality of institution index (also selected by the user): for example going to red (authoritarian regimes) to green (full democracies). It should also be possible to select one single country, one natural resource and one democracy index, and to move along the time horizon, observing any correlation between changes in democracy and changes in energetic resources.

Another graphical representation could be attained through scatter plots, showing the cross.-country correlation between different indicators of democracy and different indicators of energy wealth.

Data on both natural resources abundance and quality of institutions are available at the World Bank's [World Development Indicators web page](#). Data on the quality of institutions are also available at the World Bank's [Worldwide Governance Indicators web page](#), at the [Freedom House web page](#); other datasets on democracy and political rights are listed in [this page](#). Data on energy resources are available at the [International Energy Agency web page](#). Finally, a full list of available economics database is in the [Webec](#) site.