



**World LNG  
Summit & Awards**  
9-12 December 2024  
Hotel Adlon Kempinski Berlin | Germany

Achieving the balance  
between energy security  
and decarbonisation



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*World Energy Exchanges with **Timm Kehler, Executive Director & CEO,**  
**Zukunft Gas***

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- **What are the biggest trends impacting LNG in 2024 and how should the global industry respond to them?**

The LNG market in 2024 is facing several significant trends. **Ongoing geopolitical tensions**, particularly in the Middle East and between Ukraine and Russia, are keeping volatility high. These tensions directly affect global supply chains, influencing both the availability and pricing of LNG. As a result, **securing a stable supply to Europe has become a priority**. Europe, in its bid to diversify away from Russian gas, has increased its reliance on LNG imports, making it vulnerable to geopolitical shifts.

Additionally, the **implementation of methane regulations by the European Union** is introducing new compliance requirements for the industry. Methane, a potent greenhouse gas, has come under scrutiny, and the EU's regulations are a step towards more stringent environmental governance. This move aligns with broader global trends, pushing the industry towards more sustainable practices.

#### **How should the industry respond?**

1. **Maintain Flexibility:** The LNG sector must enhance its flexibility to react to unforeseen geopolitical and market events. This means having diverse supply sources and flexible contracts that can adapt to changing conditions.
2. **Prepare for Black Swan Events:** The industry should develop strategies for low-probability but high-impact events, as Europe's import infrastructure is still not fully at pre-war capacity levels.
3. **Support EU Solidarity Mechanisms:** The LNG industry should actively support and participate in strengthening EU solidarity mechanisms. This is particularly critical for landlocked countries like the Czech Republic and Austria, which rely heavily on coordinated efforts across the EU for their energy security.



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4. **Develop Tools for Methane Reporting and Active Communication:** With the EU's focus on methane emissions, the industry should invest in technology and practices for accurate methane measurement and reporting. Moreover, proactive communication about these efforts will be crucial in maintaining public trust and regulatory compliance.

- **How do you see the LNG sector evolving in the next ten years?**

Over the next decade, the LNG sector is expected to undergo significant transformations, driven by both **global growth and regional dynamics**. We anticipate a continued expansion of the global LNG market, fueled by rising demand in Asia and Europe's ongoing energy diversification efforts. However, this growth will be accompanied by **increasing competition, especially in Europe**, as more suppliers enter the market and existing players seek to consolidate their positions.

**Decarbonization** will be a key theme in the evolution of the LNG sector. There is an emerging trend towards decarbonizing the entire LNG supply chain. This shift is not just a response to regulatory pressures but also a strategic move to align with global climate goals and ensure long-term sustainability. The development of **zero-methane policies** will likely become more prominent, pushing companies to innovate in reducing emissions across the supply chain.

The sector will also see advancements in technology, particularly in areas such as carbon capture and storage (CCS) and renewable energy integration, which will help reduce the carbon footprint of LNG operations. Digitalization will play a pivotal role in optimizing supply chains and enhancing transparency and efficiency across operations.

- **What are you most looking forward to at this edition of the World LNG Summit & Awards?**

This year's World LNG Summit & Awards in Berlin presents a unique opportunity to engage with the **global leaders of the LNG industry** in the capital of Europe's largest economy. The event offers a platform to discuss pressing challenges and opportunities in the LNG sector, share insights on evolving trends, and forge partnerships that can drive the industry forward. It's also an excellent occasion to discuss Germany's role in the global energy transition and highlight our hometown Berlin as a pivotal hub for energy dialogue and innovation. Meeting with industry peers and exploring new technologies and strategies to navigate the complex LNG landscape will be invaluable.