



Policy Analysis /
Policy Forum

Gas in Iraqi Kurdistan: Market Realities, Geopolitical Opportunities

by [Matthew Zais](#), [Barozh Aziz](#), [Rob Waller](#)

January 12, 2021



ABOUT THE AUTHORS



[Matthew Zais](#)

Matthew Zais is the principal deputy assistant secretary for the Energy Department's Office of International Affairs.




[Barozh Aziz](#)

Barozh Aziz is a senior advisor to the Kurdistan Regional Government's minister of natural resources. A chemical engineer who joined the ministry in 2018, he has led the institution's COVID-19 response.



[Rob Waller](#)

Rob Waller is the U.S. consul-general in Erbil, America's top diplomat to the Kurdistan Region.


Brief Analysis

Watch as Iraqi Kurdish officials explore the future of the natural-gas sector in the Kurdish Region of Iraq.

Recently, the U.S. Department of Energy and its partners completed a major study on the future of the natural gas sector in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, with a focus on how to commercialize supplies for domestic use, export within Iraq, and external export to Turkey. To discuss the study's findings and highlight supporting initiatives involving the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, The Washington Institute hosted an on-the-record virtual Policy Forum with three senior U.S. and Iraqi Kurdish officials.

Matthew Zais is the principal deputy assistant secretary for the Energy Department's Office of International Affairs. Previously, he served two years as director for Iraq on the National Security Council.

Barozh Aziz is a senior advisor to the Kurdistan Regional Government's minister of natural resources. A chemical engineer who joined the ministry in 2018, he has led the institution's COVID-19 response and took part in four recent delegations to Baghdad to discuss revenue sharing and joint energy initiatives.

Rob Waller is the U.S. consul-general in Erbil, America's top diplomat to the Kurdistan Region. A career member of the senior foreign service, he previously directed the State Department's Office of Iraq Affairs and served as acting deputy assistant secretary for Iraq and Iran.

The Policy Forum series is made possible through the generosity of the Florence and Robert Kaufman Family. ❖


[View/Print Page as PDF](#)

SHARE



EMAIL ALERTS


[Sign Up](#)


TO TOP

RECOMMENDED



BRIEF ANALYSIS

Avoiding the Iranian Trap: Iraqi Shia are not Loyal to Iran

Jan 15, 2021

Munqith Dagher

BRIEF ANALYSIS

How Might Iran's "Axis of Resistance" Test Biden?

Jan 15, 2021

Michael Eisenstadt,
Christine McVann



Half of Egyptians Value U.S. Ties, But Few Want Normalization with Israel

Jan 15, 2021

Mohamed Abdelaziz,
David Pollock

TOPICS

Energy and
Economics

Gulf and Energy
Policy

REGIONS & COUNTRIES

Iraq

STAY UP TO DATE



SIGN UP FOR EMAIL ALERTS



THE
WASHINGTON INSTITUTE
for Near East Policy

1111 19th Street NW - Suite 500
Washington D.C. 20036
Tel: 202-452-0650
Fax: 202-223-5364

[Contact](#)

[Press Room](#)

The Washington Institute seeks to advance a balanced and realistic understanding of American interests in the Middle East and to promote the policies that secure them.

The Institute is a 501(c)3 organization; all donations are tax-deductible.

[About TWI](#) /

[Support the Institute](#)



© 2021 All rights reserved.

[Employment](#) /

[Privacy Policy](#) /

[Rights & Permissions](#)