

© Kamla-Raj 2011

PRINT: ISSN 0971-8923 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6756

J Soc Sci, 27(3): 187-191 (2011)

DOI: 10.31901/24566756.2011/27.03.05

Energy Security in the Gulf of Guinea and the Challenges of the Great Powers

Idahosa Osaretin

*Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Benin,
Benin City, Nigeria*

Telephone: 08066400829; E-mail: thechurchofbelievers@yahoo.com

KEYWORDS Imperialism. Competition. Natural Resources. Strategic Petroleum. Dynamics Hegemonic Energy Sub-region. Militants

ABSTRACT The Gulf of Guinea is a sub-region of Africa with a growing strategic importance due to global resource needs. Since the last decade of the 19th century, international attention has been drawn to this research-rich area of the continent, primarily due to the intensified global competition for increasingly scarce energy resources. This paper looks at the rivalry among the great powers (US, EU and China) for energy resources in the gulf occasioned by the escalating instability in the international oil and gas supplier nations. It concludes that the policies of the competing powers in the sub-region are meant to further the corporate national interests of the countries concerned. And because of their reliance on the supplies from this area, any drop in the supply of energy resources to these countries will be disruptive to their national economies.