This doctoral thesis concerns the policies adopted in Italy in the energy resources field by the second postwar years.

The thesis is divided into two main parts. The first section is about a definition of the global energy market, and the utilization of each source of energy within national economy. We tried to review and analyze the notion of energy intensity, EROIE (Energy return on invested energy), and a prompt analysis of the energy resources referred market. One chapter of this section is also dedicated to the status of the energy market in Italy and its growth outlook.

The second part of the thesis deals with the energetic history of Italy from 1945 on. The economical Italian path has been retraced - a country with a really poor energetic resources- emphasizing the transformation of power from hydroelectricity plants to gas power plants. We also describe the strategy for the mineral resources depletion in our country, and the tactics of Italian oil company within international scenario.

In the sixties many of Italian energetic resources (electricity and natural gas) were been nationalized, as well as the whole transmission line, and many private operators were been substituted by the public company. This condition leaded , after the oil crisis of the seventies and eighties, to the European decade of the privatization and liberalization, which took place in Italy at the end of the century.

The survey goes through with a time-and-motion study of the current Italian energetic policies, in the light of Kyoto protocol mechanism, which roles the each country’s pollution emission, by suggesting Italy and adherent countries the rules for the limitation of polluting substances.

We finally argue about the strategy for the emancipation of the energy dependence of the Italian economy, building a comprehensive long term strategy for the development of a national energy sector and implement an efficient process for identifying where critical energy infrastructure, including nuclear power, is needed and subject it to an effective, streamlined siting and permitted process.