Thanks to the “shale revolution”, the United States is on its way to achieving energy independence, which has a significant impact on not only its economy, but also its foreign policy. Energy imports from the Middle East, for many years, determined the US’ involvement in this sensitive region of the world. Today, a new range of possibilities has opened up to the Americans, because they can look at international problems from a different perspective. The US’ relations with the major oil exporters may change not only in the Middle East, but also in Russia, whose advantage, i.e., energy, is weakening. It is not only the United States that can benefit from the “shale revolution”. If the superpower enters the international market as an exporter of natural gas and, in the long term, crude oil, this can bring tangible benefits to US allies, freeing them from the gas dictates of Russia. Achieving energy independence will strengthen the position of the United States in the world and cause it to re-evaluate its geostrategic priorities. Although this does not mean turning away from international problems that require a common effort to solve, such as the Ukrainian crisis or the growing power of the “Islamic state”, Americans will gain even more freedom in making decisions about their selective involvement in military operations that do not conform to their national interest. The purpose of this article is to explicate changes in the US’ geostrategy that were introduced in the era of the “shale revolution”. Strategic documents, decisions and actions taken by the US government are examined. The chronological span of the work includes Barack Obama’s two terms as President. Although the “shale revolution” began in the United States more than a decade ago, the tangible benefits in the form of a significant increase in production, a decline in imports and the prices of natural gas and crude oil can be seen to have manifested during the reign of Obama.

Keywords: security, the United States of America, geostrategy, “shale revolution”, Barack Obama