

The Other Side of the Coin: Can Turkey "Get" West by Oil?

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Abstract

This study shortly brings forward the oil situation of the world and Turkey's current role in this picture. Within this frame subjects of article have been searched in depth as follows: the current oil status of the world in terms of proven reserves, production, consumption and trade, insufficient use of renewables as against oil, main reasons changing the balances in global oil market. The topic of article is and has always been a current issue. Oil has always come to the forefront taking into account for example oil crises throughout history, the global developments together with new technologies or growing population together with increasing energy demand alongside of its wide range of use in different sectors from textile to transportation. On this basis the aim of article was to reveal how in fact developed but oil poor regions are relied on oil rich but developing regions and Turkey's importance as a transit country within the context of supply for oil poor regions.

Keywords: Alternatives, Middle East, Oil, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, US, West.

1. Introduction

"A drop of oil is more valuable than a drop of blood", said British artist, writer, non-academic historian, officer, statesman and former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom H.E. Sir Winston Leonard Spencer-Churchill. When examined the world history notably 1970s, 1990s and 2000s' energy crises after his death arising from oil or wars focused on energy, this statement reminds us how Churchill was right and was forward looking in fact.

Against to ongoing development of the world together with continuing improvement of technology, growth trends of energy demand and its consumption are likely to remain. In this context oil also as an energy item has a large share in total energy consumption because it is used widely in numerous sectors notably from textile or manufacturing to transportation with a broad consumption network. Accordingly it's so crucial and vital also in economic sense and when depletion for example comes to the agenda, world can get into a panic as it was before.

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However various methods have been developed through high technologies by economically developed countries to extract oil unconventionally towards storage or trade and obviously to have a substantial power in the world under current "hard" conditions which may also be seen as one of the main reasons of today's low oil prices.

Still there is a visible conventional oil consumption in the world where Turkey comes into play. By being a natural bridge between Europe and Asia or between the West and the East and having a neighbourhood where exist 72% of proven oil reserves of the world Turkey plays a crucial role as a transit country or energy-hub on oil supply from oil rich east to oil poor West.

2. The research

The methodology of research. Literature research, historical method, comparison method and statistical method have been used for the study.

Literature research. Literature research has been done as the first stage for subject determination and content creation. Within this frame several articles, news, reports, statistics and web-sites of public authorities related to given article have been read and used through internet access.

Historical method. Historical method has been used only to reveal the changes and developments of Turkey's energy strategies. Within this frame Turkey has been aiming to change the advantages of its geographical location into opportunity instead of undertaking the expenditures of neighbouring regions arising from economic and political instabilities as it was before. Accordingly Turkey has started to built its fundamental axis of energy policies through the aim of "being an energy hub" in the recent period. In this context Turkey has 4 pipelines 2 of which are internationally known: Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) Pipeline, which is the main component of East-West Energy Corridor known i.e. as the Silk Road of the 21st Century has been operating since 2005. The second one is Kirkuk-Yumurtalik Crude Oil Pipeline (KY) carrying Iraqi oil to Turkey and has been operating since 1977. On the other hand Samsun-Ceyhan Pipeline Project has been in question since 2000s which was planned to be an alternative route for Russian and Kazakhstani oil.

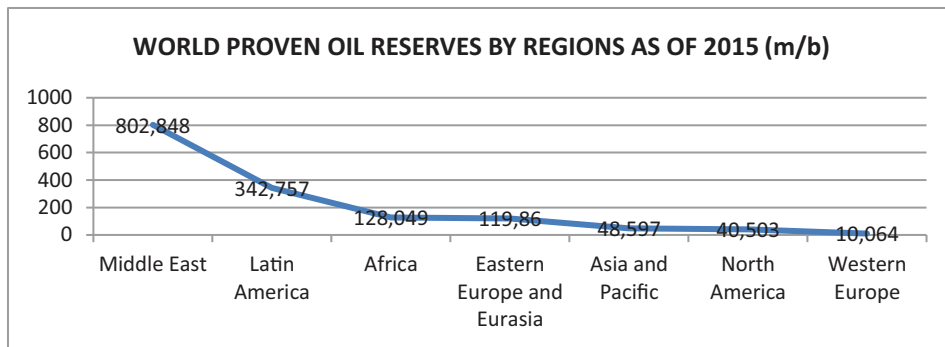
Comparison method. This method has been used to reveal the differences between oil rich and oil poor regions as well as changes in oil prices. Within this frame the largest share of proven oil reserves are held by the Middle East, while the smallest share of it are held by Western Europe however Asia&Pacific and North America are dramatically lacking in oil despite all these three regions have developed technologically and economically. US and China are leading countries in terms of oil production, consumption, refinery, and importation contrary to exportation unlike Russia and Saudi Arabia on a country basis. On the other hand total renewable energy share in global final energy consumption is more than twice in comparison with oil's share in global final energy consumption. With regards to prices brent oil's price is about 48 \$ per barrel currently which was 115 \$ on June of 2014. Besides it's necessary to state as a comparison that internationally known pipelines of Turkey have a combined capacity of 2.7 million barrels per day which is for example more than three times greather than UK's daily production known as one of the oil rich states of Western Europe and almost two times more than Norway's when they operate in full capacity.

Statistical method. Finally statistical method has been used to create figures

from numbers and to account value changes and variables.

Current oil status. Considering global developments in parallel with new technological improvements, energy demand and energy consumption of the world states increase day by day. Within this frame oil as one of the main items of energy sources is a very important energy input in terms of current economies. One of the main reasons is its large share in the world's total energy consumption. The most important reason why oil is densely used is its broad consumption network. In other words it is used extensively from electricity production to transportation at the present time.

Figure 1. Proven oil reserves of the World by 2015



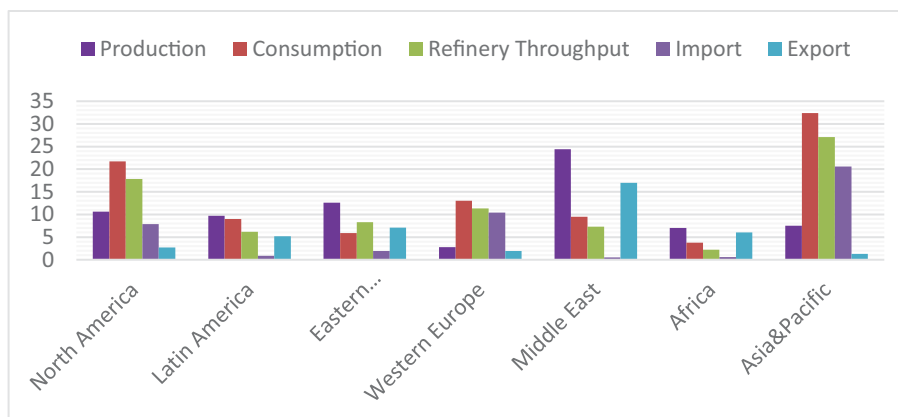
Source: OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin, 2016.

Oil takes part at fossil sources within the classification of energy resources because its formation takes too many years. Number of the world's proven oil reserves are almost 1.5 trillion barrels by 2015, 54% of which is held by the Middle East while per 3% are held by both North America and Asia-Pacific and 1% is owned by Western Europe.

As to states, Venezuela with 300 BB (Billion barrels) takes place on the top in terms of rich oil sources. Then Saudi Arabia with 266.6 BB, Iran with 158.4 BB, Iraq with 142.5 BB, Kuwait with 101.5 BB, UAE with 978 MMbbls (Million barrels), Russia with 80 MMbbls, Libya with 48.3 MMbbls, Nigeria with 37 MMbbls and US with 36.8 MMbbls follow Venezuela. All these countries except for US are members of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), however Russia has observer status in OPEC and US attends each annual OPEC Summit [8;22].

When Figure 1 is examined, we can see that North America, Asia-Pacific and Western Europe are dramatically lacking in oil, however all these regions are generally considered as developed in terms of economy and technology. Even if their technologies are sufficiently able to drill and refine oil, they have insufficient sources together with their growing demand and consumption showing how they are dependent on other oil rich regions.

Figure 2. Oil production, consumption, refinery throughput, import and export of the World by 2015 (MMBD- Million barrels per day)



Source: OPEC Annual Statistical Bulletin, 2016; BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2016.

When Figure 2 is taken into account, it's seen that notably Asia&Pacific and North America together with Western Europe are consuming oil more than they are producing and exporting, even if they have large-scaled refinery capacity for further manufacturing of petroleum products. When we go into detail, impacts of industrially and technologically advanced countries on this status are pretty obvious. On the other hand we shouldn't forget about oil's wide range of use. So distribution of utilization especially in countries having large population shouldn't be overlooked. Within this frame both United States and China come to the forefront. Daily oil consumption of US is 19.3 MMBbbls/d while China's is 11.9 MMBbbls/d [2;9]. Then India, Japan, Saudi Arabia and Russia follow them respectively. On the other hand US and China again come to the forefront in terms of refinery throughput. While US's daily refinery throughput is 16.1 MMBbbls/d, China's is 10.6 MMBbbls/d. Russia is behind them with 5.7 MMBbbls, while India and Japan follow respectively Russia [8; 36]. But numbers are changing as to the production. Saudi Arabia with 10.192.6 MB/d (Thousand barrels) of daily oil production takes place on the top while Russia with 10.111.7 MB/d of daily production is ranked as the second with a small difference. Then US with 9.4 MMBbbls/d, China with 4.2 MMBbbls/d, Iraq with 3.5 MMBbbls/d and Iran with 3.1 MMBbbls/d follow them [8; 28]. With regard to import US is the biggest oil consumer of the World with 7.3 MMBbbls/d while China is the second with 6.7 MMBbbls/d. India with 3.9 MMBbbls/d, Japan with 3.3 MMBbbls/d, South Korea with 2.7 MMBbbls/d and Germany with 1.8 MMBbbls/d follow both those countries [8;61]. Finally in terms of export generally OPEC countries are leading notably Saudi Arabia. In this context Saudi Arabia ranks first with 7.1 MMBbbls/d, Russia takes the second place with 4.8 MMBbbls of oil export per day and Iran ranks 3rd with 3 MMBbbls/d. UAE with 2.4 MMBbbls/d, Nigeria with 2.1 MMBbbls/d and Venezuela with 1.9 MMBbbls/d follow those three countries [8;52]. As is generally understood from numbers, US and China are leading countries in terms of oil production, consumption, refinery, and importation

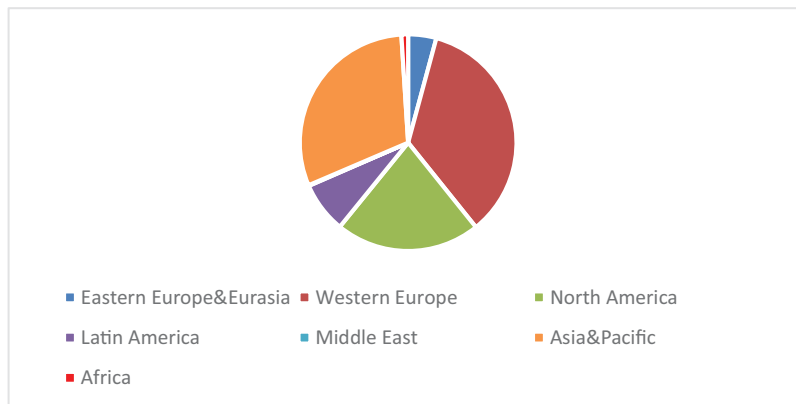
contrary to exportation. That means oil had by them is likely to be kept within their borders so it can be preserved against to a possible threat of oil depletion or it can serve their population and technology and it can be exported as manufactured petroleum products. For example 90% of US's transportation is dependent on oil. Russia and Saudi Arabia contrary to those countries are active in all fields thanks to their endowed sources.

Oil against alternatives. Proven oil reserves of the world are almost 1.5 trillion barrels as mentioned above, however oil consumption of the world is 95 MMbbls/d, which is a significant figure. Even if oil depletion was in question in 2000s that triggered Oil Crisis, concerns in this aspect are lower to some extent through developed technologies helping to discover new reserves and new drilling methods and tendency to alternative energy sources.

As is known to all wind, geothermal, solar, biomass and waste were included in the scope of alternative energy sources. Today total renewable power capacity of the world is 785 GW while total renewable energy share in global final energy consumption is 19.2%. However oil's share in global final energy consumption is 39.9% which is more than two times comparing with renewables. This situation shows that oil is still widely used in the world that makes it dependent on this energy item even if it is prone to increase the capacity and use of renewables.

Overall picture of renewable energy consumption by regions as well as by countries is almost same with oil consumption excluding little nuances (See Figure 3). Within this frame Western Europe has the highest share with 35%. Then Asia&Pacific follows it with 30,4% and North America with 21.6% respectively. Despite Middle East has been tending to use of renewables notably solar energy, it has the smallest share in this picture with 0,1% meaning that Middle East is still likely to use its rich oil reserves to provide energy for inhabitants.

Figure 3. Share of renewables consumption by regions in 2015



Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2016.

If it is focused on countries' alternative energy consumption, US with 71.7 Mtoe and China with 62.2 Mtoe take first two places respectively in rating and Germany with

40 Mtoe follows them. Then UK with 17.4 Mtoe, Brazil with 16.3 Mtoe, India with 15.5 Mtoe, Spain with 15.4 Mtoe, Italy with 14.7 Mtoe, Japan with 14.5 Mtoe and France with 7.9 Mtoe accompany those countries [2;38].

So, overall picture of consumption is showing us that notably Western and Asia&Pacific states including US which are economically and technologically developed are leading and benefitting from renewables' advantages and 60% of top ten renewable consuming states are consisting of Western states.

Table 1. Top 10 oil and renewable consuming countries in 2015

No.	Oil Consumption Ranking	Renewable Consumption Ranking
1	US	US
2	China	China
3	India	Germany
4	Japan	UK
5	Saudi Arabia	Brazil
6	Russia	India
7	Brazil	Spain
8	South Korea	Italy
9	Germany	Japan
10	Iran	France

Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy, 2016.

New oil technologies threaten global oil market. On the other hand emergence of new extracting and processing techniques through developing technology has become a current issue especially in recent years in relation to oil. Within this frame unconventional oil sources commonly known as shale oil, oil sand and tight oil come into prominence. It has been estimated that current world resources of shale oil are about 4.8 billion. This is almost 4 times more than above stated crude oil reserves while economically recoverable oil shale sources are much lower. In this context about 77% of shale oil reserves are held by US. Then Brazil and Russia respectively follow US. Russia's total shale oil reserves are estimated at 43.41 Bln t (Billion tonnes). Israel with the reserves of 79 BB and Jordan with 28 BB come to the forefront in the Middle East in this sense contrary to their limited proven oil reserves: While 15 million barrels are held by Israel, a million barrels are held by Jordan according to the US. Energy Information Administration (EIA). With regard to tight oil US, Russia and China respectively have the largest resources. Contrary to that Russia together with Kazakhstan have lesser sources while Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Canada have larger resources of oil sands in the world.

Conventional oil drilling and unconventional oil extracting are different techniques and methods as is known to all. This process in terms of unconventional oil sources requires to further developed technology as well as investment. Today only few countries have been concentrated and specialized on this field notably US, Canada, Brazil China, Germany, Israel, Russia and UK. Thereby even if rest of the world are

wealthy in this context, they aren't technologically and financially able to extract oil through this method.

In this manner countries having and extracting these sources are adding much more oil to their reserves, which also effects oil market. Canada is one of the most visible cases. Canada's oil sands are the 3rd largest known reserves in the world after Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. 97% of Canadian oil reserves underlie the oil sands. In this context Canada's proven crude oil reserves are 4.118 BB as of 2015 which reached up to 172 BB with contribution of new extraction methods of oil sands. This is providing Canada to be ranked as the 3rd after Venezuela and Saudi Arabia in terms of oil richness in the world.

One of the most important balance changes in oil market is obviously oil prices. Within this frame US's major oil exporter status has recently turned into net producer due to new extracting technologies. Its biggest competitor China devaluated in terms of currency and demonstrated us economic slow down from 7.3% to 6.9% of GDP in 2015. And global oversupply led global increase of oil stocking. But one of the most important reasons arising from US's unconventional use is US-Saudi competitiveness. Saudi Arabia has been lowering prices to destroy its competitors. With regards to prices brent oil's price is 51USD for per barrel currently which was 115 USD on June of 2014 of which average is forecasted to be around 52 USD for 2016 [1]. Due to such changes OPEC and Russia have decided to cut oil output (about 1.2 million barrels per day) during the recent OPEC Summit held on November 30, 2016. Accordingly in the face of all those factors, unconventional oil extracting and processing become meaningless in economic sense to a certain extend because of its high costs. That's why returning to conventional oil at this point may be more economic for states which may reincrease demand in parallel with prices at global oil market when their stocks are ending. On the other hand OPEC's cut may lead non-OPEC countries to get bigger share from global oil market by producing and exporting their crude oil sources contrary to OPEC members. US comes to forefront in this context.

Turkey's irreplaceable role as a hub on oil supply. Another serious element can't be overlooked in this context is obviously energy supply which provides energy items such as oil to demanding states. Within this frame oil can be transported via pipelines, highways, seaways, railways and rarely via airways. The way that oil will be exported is determined by proximity and cost.

In this context tankers and pipelines are the most commonly used oil transportation methods. Pipeline is the cheapest and the most efficient way to transport oil after its construction which is also one of the most important development elements of a state. With regards to tankers, 55% of global oil transportation is provided by tankers while more than 50% of tanker traffic is formed by oil transportation.

On one hand, airway transportation isn't preferred so much due to its high cost on the other hand railways to a certain extend are used however they are still limited considering their global routes. Contrary to this road transportation is preferred due to its flexibility however it's not used as much as pipelines and tankers.

Besides all these to provide efficient and sustainable energy supply including oil is depending on stability and security of the routes. Within this frame possible political, economic and social instabilities emerging in Middle East, Eastern Europe and Africa where oil rich countries are located and exporting oil to the rest of the world especially to Americas and to Western Europe can threaten oil supply. Ongoing conflicts and their

impacts are currently one of the most important concern areas of the world.

Another important point at energy supply is geographical location. Being an easily accessible destination point is an advantage. This can contribute a country on being an energy hub that helps a country to come to the forefront and to have a voice at global arena alongside of being economically stronger.

Here Turkey comes into play. Turkey is a unique Eurasian country covering 3% of European and 97% of Asian continents. In terms of energy notably oil it neighbours with oil rich countries especially with Middle East, Asia and Caucasia that are forming 72.7% of the world's proven oil reserves. Accordingly, it naturally creates a bridge between oil exporting and oil demanding countries, which makes Turkey irreplaceable in this context and which notably oil poor Western Europe and US to a certain extent are relied on.

Turkey's energy demand together with its growing economy has been increasing day by day. It has been one of the fastest countries within OECD states in terms of increase in each field of energy demand over the last decade. According to the forecasts Turkey's that tendency will continue in the medium and long term.

As a result of rapidly growing energy demand Turkey's energy importation notably its natural gas and oil imports are increasing. While 25% of total energy demand of Turkey is met by local sources, the rest of it including oil is imported. However 35% of natural gas, 28.5% of coal, 27% of oil, 7% of hydro and 2.5% of other renewables meet Turkey's primary energy demand as of 2014.

Turkey has a significant potential in terms of renewable energy sources which ranks as the 7th in the world with geothermal potential. But when percentage of used renewables are considered, Turkey's ongoing weakness is still can be seen in comparison with other oil poor countries that are using densely renewables.

With regards to energy import Turkey unfortunately has a similar fate with Western Europe notably at natural gas. Turkey imported 99% of natural gas and 48% of which was used at electricity production and more than 50% was supplied by Russia in 2015. But oil is more promising for Turkey however significant amount was imported as well. Within this frame 89% of crude oil was imported while 11% was produced in Turkey of which proven oil reserves are 300 million barrels [11]. Turkey's oil supply is generally provided by middle eastern countries notably 45.6% from Iraq, 22.4% from Iran and 12.4% from Russia which formed top 3 oil importers of Turkey in 2015 [7].

Table 2. Turkey's major oil and natural gas suppliers

Ranking	Major Oil Suppliers		Major Natural Gas Suppliers	
	1	Iraq	45.6%	Russia
2	Iran	22.4%	Iran	12.7%
3	Russia	12.4%	Azerbaijan	12.7%
4	Saudi Arabia	9.6%	Algeria	8.1%
5	Columbia	3.5%	Nigeria	2.6%

Source: EMRA (Republic of Turkey, Energy Market Regulatory Authority), 2015.

This recent period when Turkey has been capturing high economic growth rates it has entered into a serious transition period to meet its energy demand. Turkey is aiming to change the advantages of its geographical location into opportunity instead of undertaking the expenditures of neighbouring regions arising from economic and political instabilities as it was before. Within this direction Turkey has started to build its fundamental axis of energy policies through the aim of "being an energy hub". In this context signatures were put to important projects and cooperations with Russia, Azerbaijan, Iran with whom Turkey has ongoing energy trade, and with Iraq, Turkmenistan and Eastern Mediterranean countries which want to transfer their energy sources to foreign markets [4;7].

Growing economies, increasing population as well as developing technology are the facts underlying energy demand growth of the world. According to EIA total energy demand is currently more than 549 quadrillion Btu (British thermal units) which is equivalent to 93.3 BB of crude oil approximately, which is expected to reach up to almost 107 BB in 2020 and 138.5 BB in 2040. Share of oil demand is extremely big on this picture considering the world's oil demand amounted approximately 93 MMBbls per day getting almost a share of 10%.

Against such huge amounts of demand oil transportation comes to the agenda. In this context above mentioned pipelines and tankers come to the forefront worldwide, which is similar for oil as well. Taking Turkey's unique location into account at this situation, its role in the sense of being a transit country on Eurasian axis and being an energy hub on this route increases and becomes serious. Turkey is also aware of this situation and gains favour when examined its operating pipelines and ongoing pipeline projects.

Turkey has 4 different operating pipelines at the present time. Two of them are internationally known. One of them is called as Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) Pipeline, which is the main component of East-West Energy Corridor known i.e. as the Silk Road of the 21st Century (See Map 1). It's length is 1.768 km of which 249 km is located in Georgia, 443 km is located in Azerbaijani and the longest part with 1.076 km is located in Turkey. This pipeline brings Caspian crude oil from Azerbaijani and Kazakhstan (Kazakhstan's oil is shipped to Baku across the Caspian Sea) to Ceyhan terminal on the south-eastern Mediterranean coast of Turkey via Georgia. In this manner Caspian crude oil is distributed to the Western markets by tankers. BTC is the second longest pipeline of the world with the capacity of 1 MMBD of oil which is almost equivalent to 1.5% of the world's daily supply. BTC has been operating since 2005 when the first oil was pumped [3;2]. 262 MB of oil was carried by 361 tankers alone in 2015 however as of 20 January 2016 approximately 2.3 BB of oil has been delivered to the world markets by 3128 tankers.

Turkey's second operating pipeline is Kirkuk-Yumurtalık Crude Oil Pipeline (KY) which has two different lines. The first line's length is 986 km while the second line's long is 890 km. It starts from Kirkuk and surrounding oilfields and reaches to the Mediterranean Sea to Yumurtalik county in Adana closed to Ceyhan terminal (See Map 1). Approximately 500-600 MB/d of Iraqi oil had been carried through this pipeline since 2014 until 17 February 2016, when it has been suspended within the frame of temporary security measures due to commonly known conflict with PKK. Besides 192.4 MB of oil was carried through this pipeline alone in 2015 [6].

It's necessary to remind that those two internationally known pipelines have a combined capacity of 2.7 million barrels per day which is for example more than three times greater than UK's daily production known as one of the oil rich states of Western Europe and almost two times more than Norway's when they operate in full capacity.

On the other hand there are 2 different operating domestic pipelines. One of them is Ceyhan-Kırıkkale Pipeline which has 448 km of length. It has been operating since 1986 with a capacity of 7.2 MTPA (Million tonne per annum). Almost 30 MB of oil was carried through this pipeline in 2015. Another domestic pipeline is Batman-Dortyol Crude Oil Pipeline. It is the first crude oil pipeline of Turkey and has been operating since 1967. Its capacity is 4.5 MTPA through which 13.1 MB of oil was carried in 2015 [9].

There has been another pipeline project in question in Turkey since 2000s known as Samsun-Ceyhan Pipeline (SCP). It is a crude oil pipeline starting from the Black Sea and reaching to the Mediterranean Sea (See Figure 4). It has been planned to be an alternative route for Russian and Kazakhstani oil to facilitate sea traffic in the Bosphorus and the Dardannels. Its destination point will also be existing Ceyhan terminal. Its length will be 550 kilometres of which capacity will be 1.5 MB/d. Cost of the project will be around 2 billion US\$ [10].

Figure 4. Routes of Internationally Known BTC, KY and SCP



Source: European Dialogue, 2006

Turkey's value as a maritime oil route is another issue that is necessary to be touched on. As we stated above Turkey has a unique geopolitical location linking Europe to Asia and has a gate status opening from Asia to Europe together with its straits. Accordingly it comes into prominence again as a crucial oil route that remakes it an energy hub when we combine its straits and oil transportation by tankers alongside of oil pipelines.

As is known to all Turkey has 2 straits: the Bosphorus and Dardanells. Notably Russian and Caspian crude oil are transported via these straits from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean Sea i.e. to the global oil market particularly to the Western markets. According to US government statistics about 2.9 million barrels per day of crude oil and petroleum products were carried by tankers through Turkish straits in 2013. This amount was equal to 51% of the 56.5 million barrels per day of world maritime oil trade while it created 3.2% of the 90.1 million barrels a day of world supplies. Within this frame Turkish straits became as the sixth biggest chokepoint in the world [5].

Besides it's necessary to remind that 80% of Europe's crude oil is supplied by regions such as Russia, Libya, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan or Nigeria, however Russia has 30% of share alone in this picture. Considering these suppliers and location of Turkey we can understand Turkey's importance more clearly.

In brief, with 300 million barrels of proven crude oil reserves and 89% of oil import Turkey proves that it cannot have a voice as an oil rich country in the eyes of Western countries, however thanks to its geographical location it can be a very crucial energy hub as well as a strategic partner for Western countries. Accordingly, a possible problem within Turkish borders arising from especially national security might affect directly the supply security which could enter into the concern area of Western states. The coup attempt on July 15, 2016 could be counted as a good example to this situation that can remind the world's energy-dependent countries the geopolitical importance of Turkey.

Since then state of emergency has been in effect in Turkey which also has triggered the suspension of negotiations between Turkey and EU on membership accession. But there are various valid reasons that EU is relied on Turkey and Turkey is dependent on EU. Firstly there is an ongoing Customs Union Agreement between Turkey and EU through which bilateral trade reached up to 142 billion US\$ in 2015. Within this frame today EU is the largest trade partner of Turkey, while Turkey is the 5th largest partner of EU. With regards to energy Turkey is a considerable important transit country in at EU's both oil and natural gas imports i.e supplies. Besides as we all know EU is highly dependent on Russia's oil and natural gas and seeking for alternatives such as supply from the Caspian Sea region where Turkey is entering into play as an energy hub. Accordingly we can understand that despite they have "roller coaster" relations they cannot easily break the connections.

3. Conclusion

Despite North America, Western Europe and Asia&Pacific regions are economically and technologically developed, they are densely dependent on export of crude oil from Eastern Europe and Middle East and Africa where 93% of crude oil reserves are held by. Accordingly North America with some countries have started to implement new oil extracting techniques towards its underground resources related to oil which have changed balances at oil market by dropping oil prices and have resulted with OPEC's oil output cut. While stocks are ending together with this cut, prices in long-term could increase. However this cut may lead non-OPEC countries to get bigger share from global oil market by producing and export their crude oil sources contrary to OPEC members.

On the other hand again North America, Asia&Pacific and Western Europe are

densely using alternatives against oil, however Western Europe is at the forefront. 60% of top 10 renewable consuming states were Western European countries in 2015.

When examined oil status on a country base, US and China are leading countries in terms of oil production, consumption, refinery and import contrary to export. That could be a national energy strategy as they may desire to keep oil in their borders so it can be preserved against to a possible oil depletion threat or it can serve their population and technology and can be exported as manufactured petroleum products. Russia and Saudi Arabia contrary to them are active in all fields thanks to their endowed sources.

Considering alternatives' and oil's places in the world we can see a huge difference. Total renewable energy's share in global final energy consumption is 19.2% while oil's is 39.9%. This shows us that alternatives don't have a broad consumption network as much as oil has and the world is still dependent on oil.

As is known to all oil poor countries need supply to meet their oil demand. Proper routes, instability, geography and security come to the forefront. Even if Turkey almost shares the same fate with West by importing 89% of crude oil, it plays a crucial role as a transit country and an energy-hub on oil supply from oil rich east to oil poor West by being a natural bridge between Europe and Asia and having a neighbourhood where exist 72% of the world's proven oil reserves, which also makes it irreplaceable and makes it different and unique among other Western countries. In this context about 2.9 million barrels per day of crude oil and petroleum products were delivered to the global market via Turkey. Accordingly if West manages close and good political, economic and socio-cultural relations with Turkey it will be beneficial for both sides.

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