The Bosphorus Energy Club is a discreet and peer-to-peer channel of dialogue and partnership for executive leaders of energy in government, business, finance and international organisations across our region covering Eurasia, the Middle East, North Africa, the Gulf, South Asia and Southeast Europe. It provides an exclusive platform to consider energy, infrastructure and investment needs, share strategic knowledge, power network among the partners, develop innovative solutions, and help reduce geopolitical tensions as a Track –II platform when so needed:

In recognition of the significant power shift and dynamics in our region the club’s primary objectives are, inter alia:

- Further promote dialogue, partnership, investment and strategic communications at the highest possible level and outside the regular channels to enhance the regional energy flows, trade shifts, investment and engagements across the borders;
- Forge an exclusive convening power to enable senior government, business, finance and international organisation leaders in energy to engage with each other on an equal footing and in a relaxed atmosphere;
- Offer unique advantages to the club members, personal and corporate alike, and organise special activities to enhance cohesion, solidarity and social ties among them;
- Provide unique insights into national, regional and global trends, partnerships, projects and players through sound assessments in a multi-disciplinary and holistic fashion exclusively for the club members, help develop common multi-country regional projects and contribute to the existing ones;
- Undertake “messenger” or “facilitator” roles between the club members, if so asked, on matters of dispute or conflict settlement before any serious legal and political actions are considered;
- Provide support in strategic message development, stakeholder alignment and communications in and outside of the club membership on matters of common interest in regional energy; and
- Perform other functions, which the club members want in to assume.
NETWORK...

The Club is a strong as its members, who are drawn from a formidable network of contacts nationally, regionally and internationally. This network, set to further expand and enrich in the years ahead, is only available to and is run solely for the benefit of the club members. The network gives the club members swift, top level reach into a wide range of corporate, governmental, professional and third sector organisations for “win-win” propositions.

Spanning across all energy business sectors, the Club acts as an effective ambassador, gaining attention at the right level, which the Club member can then convert into new and valued relationships. Its intimate atmosphere is designed to allow frank exchanges and genuine dialogue, stripping away participants’ official armour and without any strait-jacket.

The Club members will meet the host country’s Prime Minister and the President as well as senior energy business executives wherever they meet. They will also have the opportunity to have similar engagements with the leaders of the Club members’ countries in the region to maximise their business and policy impacts.

WHAT...

The Club’s activities usually take the form of an annual gathering in a regional capital, special dinner events with guest speakers, expert roundtables with leaders in the private, public and third sectors and task force “White Paper” on important policy issues. One of the annual meetings each year is to be held in key energy capitals of the region—such as Moscow, Dubai, Baku, Astana, Ashgabat, Tehran, Erbil, Baghdad, Islamabad, Athens, Riyadh and Cairo.

Although the Club is located on the shores of the Bosphorus and the Turkish Government and several energy companies have agreed to provide much appreciated support in the initial phase, it must be underlined that the club has a regional focus and ownership, which will be duly reflected in its range of activities and management leadership after the inaugural meeting in Istanbul.

If so requested, the club plans to organise executive development programmes, whether for senior executives and board members or for tomorrow’s emerging business and public sector leaders in energy.

Briefing and discussions are held under the “Chatham House Rules” so that no opinion may be attributed outside the meeting to any individual or organisation. The subject matters reflect members’ interests and cover industry sector-specific topics, international affairs, Government policy and regulation, investment, technology and global economic dynamics.
MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDING...

Members of the Club are senior leaders from government, major energy and finance corporations, government institutions and international/regional organisations, which collectively form a membership that represents a good cross-section of leadership, size, sectors and skills in our region.

Attendance to the Club’s year-long events, ad hoc activities an annual summit is by-invitation-only. Each club member can delegate a senior executive as alternate to stand for him or her in absence with due regard to seniority and exclusivity of the membership, the club and its activities are financed entirely through membership fees and company/government sponsorships. Please ask for details if you wish to join the select group of members.

The members are offered a higher profile and power to influence the programme of work and enjoy exclusive access to senior-level engagements, strategic insights and activities. Regular club members pay a fixed subscription per year in order to benefit from the club activities and engagement.

We are grateful to our members i.e. EgeGaz (egegaz.com.tr), Genel Energy (genelenergy.com), Global Resources Corporation (globalresourcescorp.org), SOCAR (socrar.com) and Turkish Airlines (thy.com), TPAO (tpaocctpao.gov.tr), BOTAŞ (botas.gov.tr), BP (bp.com), Tüpraş (tupras.com.tr), AYGAZ (aygaz.com.tr) Opet (opet.com.tr), Akfel Holding (akfel.com), Bayegan (bayegan.net), Denizbank (denizbank.com), HSBC (hsbc.com.tr), Shell (shell.com.tr), Schneider Electric (schneider-electric.com). We are also thankful for the valuable in-kind support from the Turkish Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (enerji.gov.tr) and PwC (pwc.com.tr) to organise the Club meetings anc activities. Our efforts are underway to gradually reach a wider group of businesses and organisations in the region to ensure a sound and transparent basis to financially sustain the Club while at the same time further sharpening its core mission in accordance with its members’ priorities and interests.

PARTNERS AND INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS...

The Club has entered into mutually beneficial partnership with many like-minded, influential international groups including, inter alia:

- The Windsor Energy Group
- The East-West Institute
- Institut français des relations internationales
- Le Cercle
- Global Strategy Forum
- OECD
- Energy Charter Secretariat
- International Energy Forum
- SAARC Energy Center
- The D Group
- London Oil Club
- Brussels Energy Club
- The Oil Council
- Beijing Energy Club
- Paris Energy Club
- Kazanenergy’s Eurasia Energy Forum
- The Arab Energy Club
- Gulf Research Center
- Defence and Security Forum
- The Center for Strategic and International Studies
- Oxford Institute of Energy Studies
- Iraq Energy Institute

The Club is also in the process of creating a network of international energy advisors from Central Asia/Caspian, Russia, China, the MENA, the Gulf, Africa, South Asia and South East Europe, who will serve as regional liaison and advise the club activities and its members.
GOVERNANCE...

The Turkish Minister of Energy and Natural Resources in office (currently H.E. Mr. Taner Yıldız) is the Honorary Chairman of the club. A co-chair from the region is due to be selected on the basis of nominations from the members.

A graduate of the Istanbul Technical University with degree in electrical engineering, Taner Yıldız was elected as a member of Parliament in 2002 for Kayseri, his home town. He previously worked for the Kayseri Electricity Generation Company where he became a Board Member and General Manager. After entering the Parliament, he served as an energy advisor to the Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and, since May 2009, has been Turkey’s Minister of Energy and Natural Resources. In addition to effectively addressing domestic energy challenges and mobilizing critical investments, he has led the crafting and implementation of an intense energy diplomacy strategy involving critical deals and partnerships with Russia, Iran, Iraq, Azerbaijan, China, Japan, the East Mediterranean, the MENA and Gulf regions, and the EU.

Mehmet Öğütçü serves as the Club’s Founder and President, supported by a small Secretariat in Istanbul and London.

A former Turkish diplomat (having served in Ankara, Beijing, Brussels and Paris), Prime Minister’s advisor International Energy Agency and OECD senior executive, and BG Group global director for government relations, Mehmet Öğütçü is currently the chairman of Global Resources Partnership (globalresourcescorp.org) and serves as an independent non-executive director in several multinational companies, and a special envoy for the Energy Charter in Brussels. He studied at Ankara University “Mulkiye”, London School of Economics and Political Sciences, and College d’Europe (Bruges), and taught at Dundee University, Harvard University and LSE. Mehmet is a prominent international author and speaker on energy, investment, futurology and geopolitics covering from China to South East Europe, from the Gulf to Russia and Central Asia. He speaks English, French and Mandarin, and be reached at mehmet.ogutcu@bosphorusenergy.org

The Club’s Board of Directors, yet to be finalised, will consist of its members who provide guidance to management, determine key strategic priorities, as well as the scope of issues to explore and prominent speakers to invite. It will meet as needed, at least twice a year.

We have also taken steps to create The Bosphorus Energy Club Advisory Board to benefit from the contributions of select experts and thought leaders in world and regional energy.

Contact details...

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