Would geopolitical confrontation or international/regional collaboration prevail in future cross-border energy and infrastructure projects?

Of course yes, has to be. The route of Europe wants to change and demanding only Russia is a risk. So when we look Middle East huge resources able to supply this. The recent news came from Lavantine Basin tell us the future of energy will be determined here. Israel is waiting until discover in 2009 and Egypt added new one. We know potential of basin is higher so second drilling programme will start soon in Egypt by Eni. It will go on. Egypt’s discover two things one importance of Israel’s discover and secondly existing suppliers. Of course there are existing and generating problems in this region. As a Israel report published in 2013 they wanted to transport natural gas to Europe via Turkey. When we looked at increasing consumption of Turkey it is not only a bridge or hub at the same time it is a good customer when we compared Israel’s resources. Turkey wanted to increase Iran gas but not possible yet both political and technical reasons. Not only Europe and Turkey wants to reduce demand of Russia and wants has role in energy projects. Tanap will be finished in 2017-2018 (hope). Iraq may be a supplier for Turkey and Turkey wants this for both oil & gas. In Iraq and Iran they burn in every year they half of Turkey’s gas consumption which they produce with oil. Gas is not as same as oil by transportation problem seven though you have to find customer before developing your gas field so in recent meetings Israel energy experts say they might not develop Tamar field if a pipeline is not impossible via Turkey.

And another Mediterranean resources around Cyprus. What can they do with that gas without pipeline and customers? Could they choose LNG? An expert said in Israel they will transport their gas by LNG. Is it logical and economic? Without solving problems in this region how can support new LNG stations Israel’s security? And they have to spend billions of dollar and construct LNG stations and only they can deliver this gas to countries have LNG stations. And Egypt if they say we will transport by LNG too, I can laugh this resource is huge, we talk about a giant field.

And another countries Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan and Syria as a supplier and logistic center how can act. Because of new destination of Europe Russia feels itself alone so started to travel around Middle East, over Syria. Mayne they got the smell. With all of these problems the energy will be a problem or a solution.

Turkey as geopolitical location will be center of new energy World if we want or don’t want, this will come as a natural result. Developments can effect this situation but not eliminate. The region need new organisation. It could be found by governments or companies or both of them. The countries & companies that have resources will be one shareholder and customers can be other shareholder and center is Turkey. We know gas will more free than oil in the future and energy consumption will increase but will change. We will use electricity for our cars but gas will be used by big conversion stations for oil not exist so much. And the giant fields and suppliers are exist the way is simple. Less risks much sharing and better World. Do big companies let this? Why not they will be part of this situation or …..

In the next future we will see new World and new energy maps and Turkey will be in the middle of this the gas prices will be determined in Mersin or in Adana. Everybody can join this organisation instead of kill someone for oil & gas. Finance, energy companies, countries, suppliers and customers. Why not. Let’s start to construct new pipelines.

Mustafa Akyol