

Russia Geo-Economic Evolutions in Middle East; Position and Strategy

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Abstract

With ending energy cold war which had Geopolitics definition changed to Geo economy definition and also transformed into the most influent element in relationship among major world powers and basically especial areas of the world which had Energy converted to an important strategic Phenomenon. Russia with having huge energy resources and industrial bases play an important role in the arena of world energy. Full energy recourses and its related issues in close foreign countries have attracted intention of zone and ultra zone power sand also huge companies and the mobility of the region based on geo politic and geo economic valences and caused some conflicts. Economical destiny of Russia have consociation with close foreign countries in many occasions and every kind of evolution in these countries may have good or bad influence on Russia economy and these countries are in Russia security domain and Whatever, presence of other powers in that domain is influential on Russia security. It has been tried in this research to examine Russia geo economy subject and the relation of this country in union with close foreign countries and also assessment of Russia politics from the viewpoint of energy

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resources in contrast to these countries and especially the world powers.

Keywords: Geo Economy, Energy, Russia, Energy Security.

Introduction

20th century was century of governing geostrategic thoughts that led to war and conflicts for gaining political –economical-cultural and social –military– and security goals and also some improvements come of it. With respect to today's competition between huge powers is capturing zone energy resources, (central Asia & Caucasus) the Russia final goal is attempting for imposing a domain and penetrating in CIS countries area and controlling energy sources of the zone. By development of technology and industry in these zones their need to energy consumption is necessary. Apparently emperor of Russia has ended and is intended to move toward Europe with economical thought as a world player. This paper is analyzing-descriptive and historical analyzing was used in it .by the way, library and internet data gathering ways were used.

- **Problem expression**

In 21th century, the world powers have realized a determined status, so that it should be away from conflicts .as so for that energy has a special status in world strategies until 2025, so we can call 21 century, the century of geo-economics and energy focal. Geo-economics is assessed based on energy, which play a role in determining security and zone conflict. Russia is looking for regaining its position in the world area .Full energy resources in close foreign countries are vital vessels for industrial countries .The

Russia object is attempting to presence in domain and Area of CIS countries and controlling zone resources. Undoubtedly controlling economical resources and at the head energy will cause a big challenge that also Russia will gain important points from western countries. In addition, Russia with having high capacity of energy resources is considered as first exporter of gas to Western Europe.

- **Research Questions**

So, this question arise that does changing in soviet union former cause some changes in Russia geo economy thoughts? how Russia keep its governing by using energy instrument in close foreign countries ?

- **Research findings**

- 1- Energy and geo economic**

Berlin wall Collapse 1991, introduced huge evolutions in geo strategic thoughts that led to Russia breakup.

Now, we have economical strategy .in past in notion of strategic zones , military thoughts were considered ,and today it has fallen into the fourth rank from first rank .We should be looking for geo economics thoughts for knowing strategic zones .For classifying strategic thoughts we should confine ourselves to minimum having , that is minimum of Gross products and economical thoughts is an axis for providing new geo strategic domains in 21 century in world divisions .

Today, strategic zones are according to economic zones and actually in geo strategy anyone who can control energy lines will be prominent world power .Russia with having huge resources of

energy and industrial bases for expanding energy has a considerable role world economics and energy of the world.

Europe Union buys 62 percent of Russia gas that provides 20 % of its gas import. Also, Russia provides 70 % of turkey gas export .PROM Company in Russia is going to construct a huge straight transferring gas line from Yamal peninsula to Germany border. E.N.L Italian Company along with PROM Company will construct a huge gas transfer line through black sea which empowers Russia in export.

So, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan have gas very much. Also, their oil export largely depend on Russia will be the most important gas country in the future world (wash,2003: 11).In 21 century economical power will be at the highest rank as a political instrument in hands of governments , which have a fundamental pore with the past. In new space of the world, is a geo economics way for understanding international problems (Ezzati, 1380: 21).

2- Energy status at international politics area

Today the biggest energy source in the world are in middle east , America, north Africa and Russia .The first oil well excavated by Edvinderbek in 1859 in Pennsylvania – America .Central Asia and south of Caucasus in geo strategic and geo politics are the power full countries in the world .and in 21 century has an important status in energy resources and excellent geographical position in old pole of geography .so all theories of Hartland Mackinder rim land and are valuable applicable in this area. Nicolas Sparkman

Natural gas used for light source .After 1980 decades gas replaced by electricity and after world war natural gas was available easily .one of the first gas lines constructed in 1891 that its length was 120 miles which took the gas from Indian to Chicago.

Time after time gas placed in group of the important fuels of human for future .also economical power will be at the highest rank as a political instrument in hands of governments, which have a fundamental pore with the past.

Decreasing world resources (oil & gas) and consumer countries and at the other hand bio environment concerns rising from abnormal usage of Fossil fuels caused world countries come to using natural gas , so that gas demand increased (Ezzati,1379:2)

Politicians of consumer countries faced with some problems for leveling between economic, bio- environmental and security of energy resource. CIS countries play an important role in this structure with having gas and oil resources and geographical position and accessibility to world huge markets of gas and oil. after world war natural gas was available easily .one of the first gas lines constructed that its length was 120 miles which took the gas from Indian to Chicago.

3- Energy security in 21 century

Energy security is an extended and complicated matter which is related to multiple energy resources and hydrocarbons combination and some matters like investment , infrastructures and bioenvironmental ,economical and political and availability of energy resources . Energy security refers to dependency between consumers and producers (yadegari,1385:25).From experts viewpoints in energy domain , structure of oil and gas international markets and necessity of having energy led to fundamental evolutions. The most important of new play against past plays are as follows:

- Increasing of world energy demand.
- Evolution of consumption focals towards developing countries such as India and china.

- Keeping oil and gas divisions in world energy basket and increasing capacity of commerce for these two goods.
- Oil and gas production falling in consumer countries.
- Emerging new oil and gas geography in the world, Arabia, Caspian Sea, Siberia and Canada at the other hand oil zones countries are coincide with crisis geography and they have provided energy providing ways for they needs (ghanbari,1388: 15).

These governments are realized as providers of industrial Countries needs. These are international stock markets that determine destiny of production and consumption energy and this is because they are faced with severe crisis.

4- Russia is superpower in energy

Russia with the area of 17075400 kms constitutes more than 76 percent of soviet union and now having 11.5 percent of export. At the other hand, oil zones countries are coincide with crisis geography and they have provided energy providing ways for their needs.

These governments are realized as providers of industrial countries needs. With respect to today's competition between huge powers is capturing zone energy resources, (Central Asia & Caucasus) the Russia final goal is attempting for imposing a domain and penetrating in CIS countries area and controlling energy sources of the zone.

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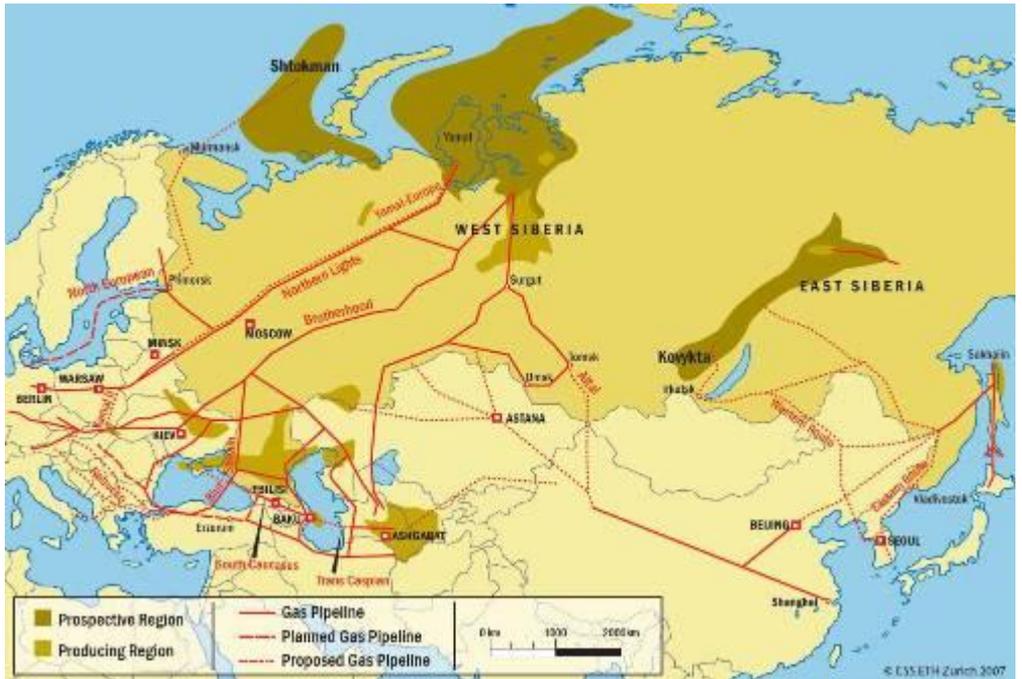
Russia with the area of 17075400kms constitute more than 76 % of soviet union and now having 11.5 percent of earth is considered as one of the biggest countries in the world .(Amir Ahmadian,1387: 6)

Energy security refers to dependency between consumers and producers. From experts viewpoints in energy domain, structure of oil and gas international markets and necessity of having energy led to fundamental evolutions. Russia always wanted to transfer energy to world markets in order to have energy instrument in hand not only Russia forced to access its objects but it caused more presence of west and near north boards of Russia .

Soviet Union breakup in 1991 was an end to an important course of international relationship which called cold war period or bipolar military. With establishing American bases in CIS republics, American forces settled in south boards of Russia.

The structure of economics and politics faced with diversity. Central Asia and Caucasus was dynamic and it has been based upon geo-economics and geopolitics and also there were some conflicts in area with huge powers competition.

By the way, Kremlin knows yet himself as one of the two superpowers in the world. the attempt for utilizing with west and spreading relations with east governments (china, India, north Korea) and unity with former friends (Syria, Libya, Iraq and Yugoslavia) have put Russia leaders in difficult choices. Russia always wanted to transfer Caucasus energy to world markets in order to have energy instrument in hand not only Russia forced to access its objects but it caused more presence of west in Caucasus and near north boards of Russia (Omidi, 1387).



Source: Government – proposed Far East Oil and Gas pipelines

With passing the time nationalists leaders got that west countries don't accept powerful Russia and America tries to exile Russia from its traditional domain and tearing the earth of that country but these evolutions are not like past and Russia under nationalist order tries to strength its penetration in its around lands in close board.

With establishing American bases in CIS republics, American forces settled in south boards of Russia. After sep. 2001 Russia tried to gain its power in area .stopping the gas sending to Europe by Russia due to conflict with Ukraine , energy crisis in Europe turned to a serious threat .Danger of dividing close countries to Russia like Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan in separate political polar.

These two countries will be providers of Europe gas in future .Russia agreed to deliver Belarus 6300000 tons of oil with duty custom so this duty increased by 11 %.

Germany depended on Russia oil through a gas line of 1200 kms. For transferring 55 billion m3 Siberia gas to west Europe .Germany independency to Russia energy is increasing and in 2008 highest rank in Germany had invited European countries to decreasing independency to energy.

At this time 1/3 of Germany gas needs is provided by Russia and it is expected that about half of their needs will be gained by Russia.

Regarding Russia veto right in united nation and its prominent position in providing Europe gas and existence of one of the biggest nuclear bases of the world in Russia (shouri,1386).

6- Russia and CIS Countries

The most of energy resources of CIS countries are in Azerbaijan Kazakhstan (in oil field) and Turkmenistan (in gas field) which they don't have necessary backup in technology and finance to excavate and as Caspian sea has no way to free waters , these three countries should find the ways of transferring these energy resources to their consumers From Russians viewpoints any kinds of excavation and energy transferring through other countries ,provides field of increasing penetration of those countries so , this is a security danger for Russia .It is important to study role of energy in internal Russia evolution.

Russians in starting period of falling and disassembling didn't share soviet union in CIS countries problems and they didn't follow a dynamic policy in case of this area because in Bouriss Yeldsinpolicy period and Andrew Kouzirouf foreign minister all looks was towards west but internal crisis of Tajikistan and Caucasus led to following dynamic presence policy in past

republics Caspian sea in case of strategic in security domain can have a good effect on Russia (Emamjomeh Zadeh, 1386: 6).

Russia and CIS countries Russia is the second country in the world after Arabia which has more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of gas resources (about 1680 trillion ft.m³) and Europe imports $\frac{1}{4}$ of its need from Russia.

Russia also has 463 billions of dollars gold storages .it appears that Russia oil incomes have increased and Europe dependency on Russia have raised .Russia gas exports will increase Europe economical dependency on Moscow. west countries don't accept powerful Russia and America tries to exile Russia from its traditional domain and tearing the earth of that country but these evolutions are not like past and Russia under nationalist order tries to strength its penetration in its around lands in close board.

Russia, like Soviet Union is the most powerful country in the region and any regional cooperation organization would be useless without it and CIS countries always had this problem so that Russia presence may rebuild Soviet Union. undoubtedly, CIS leaders are worrying about Russia power but the benefits of relationships have defeated on those worries .Tajikistan borders are in central of Russia because that country wanted Russia to keep its board from Afghanistan .with spreading NATO and its activity in different military domain and even technical and bioenvironmental areas in central Asia areas and CIS have entered in west security and Nato and have used this factor in weakening Russia. America is not interested to this matter that Russia leave Caucasus and Central Asia because we should consider that America is beneficial in field of penetration in China and zone countries (Yazdani, 1384 :5).

Complexity between Russia and china relationships as the second big neighbor with all conflicts may help gaining benefit from this matter .European believe that Russia lands federation should not make relationship with CIS, but they find the truth during helping

Europe to CIS republics which were doing local wars that without using Russia transportation Network which was not trustable this is not practical.

7- The big Game in close foreign countries

Lack of accessing to free waters through CIS countries caused a kind of interdependency to transit countries which had some effects on geo politics of the region .this means that the way of transferring energy changes from commercial and economical matter to political and geostrategic.

Oil companies want the best and the cheapest way to market send at the other hand other countries are worrying about that passing the pipe line through this country may increase the power and political penetration (Bergin, 1378: 3).

by the way we should find the way for compromising commercial benefits and strategic benefits .Also analyst say that each country that have control on oil and gas pipe lines can have the potential for penetrating in this region.

This matter caused some competitions in the region .and a new big game started for controlling central Asia and Caucasus region in this game rotate over the 2 axis of: 1-controlling of oil and gas generation in region.

2- Controlling energy currency to the world markets (Charmi, 1377: 8).

In this region Russia is trying to keep its role as a linked bridge to Europe

Any way , some projects were designed for decreasing potential exclusiveness which Russia used for prominence some CIS countries republics in export networks .accessing to energy

resources in the region will decrease west interdependency to traditional middle east oil.

Also oil incomes can help providing independency and improvement close foreign countries to Russia through bonus of utilizing oil resources and transit right.

- **Analyzing**

Independence and self-sufficiency of close Russia countries will effectively block Russia emperor rebuilding in the area and this aim were being intentioned to America successfully. any way west benefits are in this matter that it will be ensured from independence of countries who have energy and they be in part of secular regional governments and west proponent .It is appear that in CIS countries there is a big checker scene which its all origin is in 21 century.

Oil and gas resources of CIS countries are vital for west geo strategic and economical benefits .they have this capability which provides economical growth based on energy in low price .Russian companies don't have alone financial and technical resources for utilizing hydrocarbon benefits of central Asia and Caucasus.

Regional government need oil companies for doing this aim .between CIS countries it is Gorgia that have access to the sea in kind of intermediate .as the other countries can keep fully open hardly their geo politic without Russia observation. So, Russia geo strategic with all complexity and limitations make deniable dependency of these countries to the main land of Russia .Today, Russia politics is having more reliance to economical and strategic benefits than competition in ideological and strategic matters with America.

So, Russia is looking for maximizing pressure lever in CIS countries so it gains the first priority in Russia foreign policy in relation with former Soviet Union.

Nowadays, the world want to move according Geo economy solidarity, basically Russian strategy had always in such away that they choose their strategy when there is a lack of security in the region.

Gorgian matter in the past years is declaration of this fact and thought. The Russia military and political aim is trying to imposing a penetration in domains of CIS countries and securing resources controlling and also controlling on CIS countries will let the Russia to have more close cooperation with anti-west regimes specially America.

Conclusion

At the end of 1980 evolution of geo strategic thoughts, which led to falling Berlin wall and evolution of geopolitics in Soviet Union finally led to appearance of commonwealth of independent states.

Geo economics was meaning that these areas are located in center of Eurasia evolutions .so their security issues are linked together in a large scale. With respect to geo economic definition, these areas got in center of evolution. As a result security issues tied in large scale that we should consider it in bed of geo politics.

Basically, geo economics thoughts is a new thought arising from 21 century strategic objects for capturing economical goals in order to reach political goals in a geo political bed .strategy framework of 21 century located on energy axis .so energy centers ,transfer lines and consumption centers gain importance.

Gas and oil resources and CIS countries are vital for west geo strategic and political benefits . Russia tried to gain its power in

area .stopping the gas sending to Europe by Russia due to conflict with Ukraine, energy crisis in Europe turned to a serious threat.

Gas and oil resources and CIS countries gas are critical for geo strategic and economic benefits of west in 21th century and today are only way for new independent countries to enter the world of stock markets.

These countries are going to spread their cooperation with west and creating balance with Russia .by the way oil and gas will remain as main resources for providing world energy.

In analyzing classic geo politics domain on the most important resources and energy and power areas considers as ruling in the whole world. CIS countries in case of a fundamental program can provide benefits for themselves in field of production, transferring.

Russia has a considerable technology level and facilities for discovering and excavation of oil and gas resources and has the widest export net and oil and gas transit .this country now has some limitations in filed of foreign investment and can increase exports, production and excavation only with new investments .from CIS countries viewpoints as a valuable commercial partnership in fields of consuming-industrial goods is a good market for work power , raw material and export goods and at the other hand Russia is considered as a security warrantor.

Russia is producing area energy and opposition and coincidence of these countries with big power benefits and long zones effects will be in Russia and CIS republics.

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