

**THE ROLE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY
IN EU- TÜRKİYE RELATIONS AND REGIONAL STABILITY
IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN**

Nasuh Sofuoğlu & Rabia Kalfaoğlu

Introduction

The renewable energy sector has emerged as a crucial element in shaping the future of EU – the Republic of Turkey (Türkiye) relations, particularly within the geopolitically sensitive region of the Eastern Mediterranean. As the EU aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 under the European Green Deal, renewable energy's role in mitigating climate change and fostering economic growth has become increasingly significant. For Türkiye, aligning its energy policies with the EU's ambitions not only supports global climate action but also strengthens its strategic partnership with the EU, particularly as a candidate country. This focus on renewable energy offers a pathway for enhancing bilateral relations, promoting regional stability, and reducing reliance on fossil fuels, historically a source of geopolitical tension in the region. As the EU and Türkiye face economic disparities, energy security concerns, and geopolitical rivalries, their collaboration on renewable energy initiatives presents an opportunity to address these issues collectively, ultimately contributing to regional stability and a sustainable energy future.

Key Motivations for EU- Türkiye Renewable Energy Focus

The EU and Türkiye possess the potential to prioritize renewable energy, motivated by common environmental and climate objectives. The EU's commitment to achieving climate neutrality by 2050, outlined in the European Green Deal, underscores the pivotal role of renewable energy in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the renewable energy target to 42.5% by 2030 (European Commission, n.d.a). Similarly, Türkiye, as a candidate country and

significant partner of the EU, is aligning its energy policies with these goals to support global climate action and transition to a low-carbon economy. Türkiye's ratification of the Paris Agreement and its target of net-zero emissions by 2053 further demonstrate this commitment (Net Sıfır Türkiye, 2021). Investing in renewable energy is essential for both regions to achieve the goals outlined in the Paris Agreement and to lessen their dependence on fossil fuels. Accordingly, collaboration between the EU and Türkiye in fossil fuel energy is anticipated to diminish in significance over the next two to three decades (Tastan, 2022).

In addition to their environmental and climate objectives, the EU and Türkiye have various economic and technological incentives to emphasize renewable energy. The EU offers funding for research and innovation in renewable energy technologies through initiatives such as Horizon Europe (European Commission, 2021), providing Türkiye with access to cutting-edge technologies and innovations that can accelerate its transition to renewable energy. Collaborative projects and partnerships, such as the EU-supported Geothermal Development Project in Türkiye, demonstrate the potential for technological advancements and the development of more efficient renewable energy solutions (AFRY, n.d.). The EU possesses valuable knowledge and expertise in renewable energy technologies that can be shared with Türkiye, further driving innovation. Cooperation in renewable energy projects also presents opportunities to modernize and expand energy infrastructure in the Eastern Mediterranean. A similar initiative to the EU4Energy Program (European Union, 2019), focused on enhancing Türkiye's energy infrastructure with smart grid technologies and energy efficiency measures, could support the integration of renewable energy and ensure a reliable energy supply. By investing in renewable energy, Türkiye can strengthen its competitiveness in the global clean energy market, aligning with the EU's objective of advancing technological leadership in the green economy.

Türkiye's renewable energy potential offers opportunities to create jobs and boost economic growth. Developing this sector, particularly in wind and solar energy, requires a skilled workforce and EU programs like the European Training

Foundation (ETF) can support vocational education and training to meet this demand (European Training Foundation, 2021). By investing in renewable energy and fostering a well-trained workforce, Türkiye can enhance its competitiveness in the global clean energy market, while also creating significant employment opportunities in this expanding industry (Shokri Kalehsar, 2019).

Given the current geopolitical challenges in the region, collaboration in the field of renewable energy can lay the groundwork for strengthening EU – Türkiye relations. Both parties can foster mutual trust and cooperation by jointly pursuing environmental and energy objectives. Türkiye’s strategic location between Europe and Asia positions it as a significant player in the regional energy landscape. Türkiye seeks to position itself as a pivotal energy hub by advancing its renewable energy agenda, promoting stability and cooperation in energy affairs (European Commission, 2023). These driving forces emphasize the significance of renewable energy in fostering the EU – Türkiye relationship, advancing economic and strategic interests, and contributing to global sustainability objectives.

Improving EU – Türkiye Relations through Renewable Energy Initiatives

The Eastern Mediterranean region is rich in renewable energy resources, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and biomass, creating a significant opportunity for collaboration between the EU and Türkiye. Greece, the Republic of Cyprus, and Türkiye are leading in solar energy production, with Greece generating 19.02%, RoC 15.21%, and Türkiye 5.75% of their electricity from solar sources (Our World in Data, 2024). The region also boasts excellent wind resources, particularly in coastal and offshore areas, while Türkiye is exploring hydroelectric power from rivers such as the Munzur and Ikizdere, enhancing its renewable energy production (*Enerji Atlası*, n.d.). Furthermore, geothermal energy from Türkiye, Greece, Greek Cyprus, and Italy, along with biomass energy derived from agricultural waste in Türkiye and Greece, provides various pathways for sustainable energy. By integrating their energy infrastructure,

aligning policies, and promoting investments, the EU and Türkiye can improve energy security, lessen dependence on fossil fuels, and build a resilient regional energy system.

A robust and harmonized regulatory framework is necessary for advancing EU – Türkiye cooperation on renewable energy in the Eastern Mediterranean, fostering energy security through shared targets, standardized certification, and coordinated incentives. The EU’s Renewable Energy Directive (RED II), which mandates a 42.5% renewable energy target for member states by 2030, provides a valuable model (European Commission, n.d.b); Türkiye could align its renewable strategy by adopting similar goals and support mechanisms, such as feed-in tariffs and renewable energy auctions, to attract EU investment and encourage joint projects. Ensuring long-term policy stability is also crucial, as investors need consistent support throughout project lifespans. The EU’s 2030 Climate and Energy Framework, with its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% from 1990 levels (European Commission, n.d.c), offers a structured approach that Türkiye could emulate to secure investment and strengthen collaboration on renewable initiatives.

Investing in renewable energy projects offers significant economic and environmental benefits that bolster energy security. These projects create jobs, attract investments, and foster regional stability while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, which is essential for long-term sustainability. Collaborative EU – Türkiye research can also drive technological advancements, enhancing the efficiency and competitiveness of renewables against fossil fuels. EU – Türkiye projects, like the Black Sea Synergy, which focuses on wind, solar, and hydropower in the Black Sea, exemplify the regional benefits of such cooperation (Council of the European Union, 2024). Extending similar efforts to the Eastern Mediterranean could stimulate mutual economic growth and foster opportunities for SMEs in manufacturing, services, and research, promoting innovation and resilience. Additionally, both regions are exploring joint efforts in green hydrogen production to lower emissions in transportation and industry,

supporting a sustainable future (Anadolu Agency, 2021; CEENERGYNEWS, 2021).

Türkiye could strengthen this cooperation by harmonizing its electricity regulations with the EU's, facilitating renewable integration and cross-border trade. The EU's Electricity Market directive and platforms like RE-Source, which includes Turkish participants, provide models for expanding renewable access, allowing Turkish companies to directly source wind energy and support wind power growth (RE-Source Platform, n.d.). Türkiye's YEKDEM program, offering feed-in tariffs for solar projects with EU financial support, has similarly boosted solar energy development (Balkan Green Energy News, 2020). Also, given their reliance on fossil fuel imports, the EU and Türkiye face energy security challenges that renewable projects can help mitigate. Projects such as solar and wind farms reduce dependence on coal, oil, and gas, while EU investment, including the EIB's funding for hydropower projects like those developed by Enerjisa Enerji Üretim A.Ş and initiatives like the Crescent Clean Energy Fund, strengthens Türkiye's renewable infrastructure (European Investment Bank, 2008). Moreover, since efficient renewable integration into Türkiye's grid is essential, policy frameworks should prioritize grid modernization, such as smart grids, to manage renewable variability. The EU's Trans-European Networks for Energy (TEN-E) (European Commission, n.d.d) regulation supports cross-border energy infrastructure, a model Türkiye could adopt to enhance grid efficiency and renewable distribution. Liberalizing the energy market, lowering entry barriers, ensuring grid access, and enabling cross-border electricity trade will further attract investment and innovation, advancing the renewable energy sector.

Facilitating technological innovation and knowledge exchange between the EU and Türkiye is vital for advancing renewable energy in the Eastern Mediterranean. Collaborative research and development initiatives have been effective, with Türkiye actively involved in EU research programs since 2003, receiving €743 million in assistance (European Commission, 2024). The Horizon Europe program, with a €95.5 billion budget (2021-2027) (European Commission,

n.d.e), supports renewable energy research, and the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) has allocated over €700 million to boost Türkiye’s economic competitiveness and innovation. The first EU – Türkiye High-Level Dialogue on science and technology in Brussels on 15 November 2022 emphasized the European Green Deal’s goals, focusing on human capital, innovation, and technology transfer (European External Action Service, 2024). Joint research projects unite universities, research institutions, and private companies from both regions to improve solar panel efficiency, wind turbine technology, and energy storage, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean. Additionally, the 2nd Türkiye – European Union High-Level Dialogue on April 25, 2024, in Istanbul, themed “Sustainable Innovation Axis: Joining Forces for Innovation and Green Digital Transformation”, promoted partnerships for technology transfer, including patent sharing, licensing, and collaborative projects (TÜBİTAK, 2024). European incubators like InnoEnergy also collaborate with Turkish counterparts to support Turkish start-ups and companies in adopting advanced EU-developed renewable energy technologies, fostering innovation and market-ready solutions (Ufuk Avrupa, n.d.a).

Establishing centres of excellence in renewable energy research and innovation could significantly boost EU – Türkiye collaboration, with specialized centres in areas like solar, wind, and geothermal energy creating spaces for experts in research, engineering, and industry to pioneer new technologies. For example, a solar energy centre in Türkiye could unite EU and Turkish specialists to develop advanced photovoltaic solutions. Knowledge-sharing platforms and networks, such as the EU’s Covenant of Mayors – which includes Turkish cities like İstanbul and Ankara – are also essential for exchanging best practices in local renewable energy deployment (GIZ, 2024). Additionally, public-private partnerships (PPPs) are vital for combining government support with private sector innovation. Policy support, such as tax credits, grants, and subsidies, and financial incentives from initiatives like the European Innovation Council (EIC) within the Horizon Europe program, where Turkish companies already participate, are crucial to advance new

technologies (Ufuk Avrupa, n.d.b). Academic exchange programs, like Erasmus+, also play a role in cultivating a generation of renewable energy professionals; expanding these programs for Turkish students and researchers would build expertise and foster lasting collaboration. The Eastern Mediterranean's renewable energy projects have significant potential to enhance energy security for the EU and Türkiye by increasing energy diversity, reducing fossil fuel dependency, strengthening grid stability, and supporting economic and technological progress. Strategic development and regional teamwork, backed by robust policies, are essential to address energy security challenges and secure a reliable, sustainable energy landscape for the region (Raimondi, 2022).

Challenges and Conflicts Hindering the Pursuit of Renewable Energy Resources in the Eastern Mediterranean

The Eastern Mediterranean region has significant potential for sustainable development, energy security, and economic growth by utilizing renewable energy resources. However, there are various obstacles to achieving these objectives, including geopolitical tensions, environmental concerns, financial interests, and social impacts. Disputes over maritime borders and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) involving Türkiye, Greece, and RoC have intensified due to conflicting claims over energy-rich areas suitable for offshore wind and solar energy projects. Renewable energy development in these disputed zones could exacerbate conflicts and potentially lead to diplomatic or military tensions. This competition for control over valuable energy resources could escalate regional rivalries, impeding efforts to promote regional cooperation and collaborative renewable energy initiatives. To overcome these challenges, it is crucial to engage in sustained diplomatic efforts to resolve territorial disputes and establish clear agreements on maritime boundaries. One effective solution could involve creating joint development zones, where countries agree to share the benefits and responsibilities of renewable energy projects. Such arrangements would not only ease tensions but also encourage regional cooperation, allowing the Eastern Mediterranean to harness its renewable

energy potential for the benefit of all involved parties (Rau, Seufert, & Westphal, 2022).

Large-scale renewable energy projects like offshore wind farms and solar parks can disrupt marine ecosystems, lead to habitat loss, and alter land use patterns, potentially threatening local livelihoods in fishing, agriculture, or tourism. Conducting thorough Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and involving local communities in the planning process can help mitigate these impacts and ensure the projects benefit both the environment and the population. While these initiatives offer economic advantages, they can also exacerbate existing economic disparities if benefits are unevenly distributed. Governments must implement policies for fair economic gain distribution, such as revenue-sharing and support for SMEs, and conduct Social Impact Assessments (SIAs) to ensure inclusive development. Additionally, integrating renewable energy into existing grids presents technical challenges, requiring advanced grid management, robust energy storage, and significant infrastructure investment, often through public-private partnerships (PPPs). Differences in regulations and energy policies between the EU and Türkiye further complicate collaboration on joint renewable energy ventures. Aligning these frameworks is crucial for reducing barriers, facilitating cross-border projects, and promoting sustainable energy development.

The Eastern Mediterranean region faces significant political instability and security challenges that impact renewable energy projects and complicate cooperation. Türkiye's involvement is crucial for achieving balance in the region, particularly given the on-going tensions with Greece over maritime boundaries and the situation in RoC. The EastMed Gas Forum, currently viewed by Ankara as a de-facto alliance against Türkiye, should evolve into a platform where all regional countries, including Türkiye, cooperate on energy policies, especially renewable energy. The dispute over maritime boundaries between Türkiye, Greece, and RoC is a major geopolitical challenge that complicates collaboration on offshore energy projects. Addressing these disputes requires diplomatic dialogue among the EU, Türkiye, Greece, and RoC, along with confidence-building measures such as joint

marine research and shared renewable energy projects. Focusing on less contentious areas for initial cooperation could help build trust over time (İşeri & Bartan, 2020; Melcangi, 2020).

Non-state actors, such as militant groups, further heighten security concerns, making it challenging to ensure the safety and stability necessary for successful renewable energy project implementation. Additionally, renewable energy infrastructure, especially offshore installations, could be at risk of security threats like sabotage, terrorism, or military conflict. These vulnerabilities could lead to disputes over the protection and security of these assets, potentially disrupting renewable energy projects. Türkiye has been taking responsibility against such unconventional security threats in different regions throughout the world. With Türkiye's increasing naval capacity and power projection capabilities, a thaw between Türkiye, Greece, and Greek Cyprus would lead to a formidable region-wide cooperation that would foster stability and certainty. To address these risks, comprehensive security plans and thorough risk assessments are crucial for renewable energy infrastructure. Furthermore, sustained diplomatic engagement and conflict prevention efforts are vital for creating a more stable environment conducive to renewable energy development in the region.

The strained political relationship between Türkiye and the EU, stemming from disagreements over human rights, migration policies, and Türkiye's EU accession process, complicates cooperation on renewable energy and other strategic issues. To rebuild trust and foster collaboration, strengthening structured dialogues like the EU – Türkiye High-Level Energy Dialogue is essential, with regular, focused meetings on energy cooperation serving to depoliticize the relationship. Small-scale, non-controversial renewable energy projects could gradually build trust while addressing broader political issues through separate diplomatic channels could prevent them from spilling over into energy cooperation. In the strategically important and unstable Eastern Mediterranean – marked by conflicts in Syria and Libya, the September 7 incident involving Israel, migration crises, and the presence of multiple military forces – enhancing security

cooperation between the EU and Türkiye is crucial for stabilizing the region and creating a more favourable environment for renewable energy projects. Joint efforts to address shared security concerns, such as combating terrorism and managing migration, alongside regional stabilization initiatives like peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction, can reduce instability. Additionally, establishing conflict prevention mechanisms, such as early warning systems and crisis management frameworks, could minimize the risk of regional conflicts disrupting energy cooperation. Developing a joint strategic vision for the Eastern Mediterranean centred on renewable energy, involving regional actors and international organizations in a multilateral cooperation framework, such as expanding the Eastern Mediterranean Gas Forum (EMGF) to include renewable energy cooperation with Türkiye's involvement, could reduce competition and promote shared goals like reducing carbon emissions and enhancing regional energy security.

Economic sanctions imposed by the EU on Türkiye over political issues, such as actions in RoC or the Eastern Mediterranean, undermine cooperation on renewable energy projects. This conundrum can be addressed by (1) targeted sanction relief, i.e., sanctions structured to minimize their impact on strategic sectors like renewable energy or exemptions for renewable energy projects could be negotiated as part of broader diplomatic efforts; (2) negotiating new trade agreements or updating existing ones to include provisions that facilitate renewable energy cooperation could mitigate the impact of sanctions; and (3) third-party mediation by international organizations or neutral countries could offer a backdoor for keeping diplomatic channels open in cases where direct negotiations are challenging.

The current energy ties between Türkiye and Russia significantly impact the potential for renewable energy cooperation between Türkiye and the EU. Türkiye's reliance on Russian natural gas and oil, with Russia being its primary energy supplier – accounting for 24% of Russia's oil product exports and 18% of its total export earnings from top importers – significantly influences its energy security

and policy decisions and complicates its ability to commit to EU-aligned renewable projects fully (Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air, 2024). Despite Türkiye's efforts to explore alternative energy sources, including renewables, its energy policies are deeply influenced by strategic collaborations with Russia, such as the TurkStream pipeline and the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant. These projects highlight the substantial role of Russian investment in Türkiye's energy infrastructure, which could make EU – Türkiye cooperation in renewables appear as a challenge to Russia's regional influence. However, Türkiye could leverage EU collaboration to assert greater strategic independence and reduce its reliance on Russia, enhancing its energy security and regional autonomy (Zachmann, & Tagliapietra, 2017). The EU can support Türkiye's energy transition by offering technical assistance, funding, and policy guidance, aligning Türkiye's energy transition with EU standards and reducing Türkiye's carbon footprint. This approach would help Türkiye navigate its balancing act between maintaining its energy ties with Russia and aligning more closely with EU policies and standards, ultimately strengthening its position as a regional energy hub (Sözen, Goren, & Limon, 2023).

The Eastern Mediterranean region holds significant potential for renewable energy but faces challenges such as geopolitical tensions, environmental impacts, economic disparities, infrastructure difficulties, regulatory misalignment, and security risks. Overcoming these obstacles requires diplomatic efforts, inclusive policy-making, technical innovation, and strong regional cooperation. Geopolitical and diplomatic challenges, particularly between the EU and Türkiye, can be addressed through sustained diplomatic efforts, confidence-building measures, and cooperative frameworks that align both parties' interests. By focusing on shared goals like energy security, economic development, and environmental sustainability, the EU and Türkiye can unlock the full potential of renewable energy cooperation in the region. Although Türkiye's reliance on Russian energy complicates its policies, it also highlights the need to diversify energy sources through renewables. The EU has a crucial role in assisting Türkiye with this

diversification, reducing its dependence on Russian energy, and fostering regional stability and energy security. Addressing these challenges requires balancing geopolitical interests, economic factors, and strategic investments to build a robust and sustainable energy partnership between the EU and Türkiye.

Conclusion

Renewable energy cooperation between the EU and Türkiye holds immense potential to redefine their relationship, offering a means to overcome historical tensions and work towards common goals of environmental sustainability, economic growth, and regional stability. Despite the myriad challenges, including geopolitical disputes, regulatory misalignment, and Türkiye's complex energy ties with Russia, the pursuit of renewable energy presents a unique opportunity for both parties to build a more integrated and resilient partnership.

By adopting successful strategies from other regions, the EU and Türkiye can further strengthen their collaboration in the Eastern Mediterranean. For instance, the Nordic countries' integrated energy market, Nord Pool, serves as an exemplary model for cross-border electricity exchange that optimizes renewable resources. Similarly, Germany's *Energiewende* policy illustrates the effectiveness of stable, long-term frameworks, such as feed-in tariffs and PPPs, in attracting significant private investment in renewables. Adopting decentralized strategies akin to California's Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) could empower local governments in Türkiye to set and achieve their renewable energy goals with EU support. Additionally, by drawing on China's experience in rapidly scaling wind and solar energy, Türkiye could focus on building domestic manufacturing capacity for renewable technologies, thereby reducing costs, creating jobs, and accelerating the transition to renewable energy.

By integrating these best practices, the EU and Türkiye can create a robust framework for renewable energy development, overcoming challenges, attracting investment, and advancing towards a sustainable energy future in the Eastern Mediterranean. By focusing on shared interests in energy security, technological

innovation, and climate action, the EU and Türkiye can transform their bilateral relations, foster regional cooperation, and contribute to a more secure and sustainable global energy landscape. Through sustained dialogue, strategic investments, and collaborative frameworks, they have the potential to lead the way in renewable energy development, setting an example for other regions facing similar challenges.

References

- AFRY. (n.d.). Geothermal energy power and heat generation in Türkiye: Minimising exploration risk. Retrieved from <https://afry.com/en/project/geothermal-energy-power-and-heat-generation-in-turkiye-minimising-exploration-risk>
- Anadolu Agency. (2021, June 15). Green hydrogen could be new player in Turkey's exports to Europe. Retrieved from <https://www.aa.com.tr/en/energy/renewable/green-hydrogen-could-be-new-player-in-turkey-s-exports-to-europe/32966>
- Balkan Green Energy News. (2020, February 4). Renewable energy producers in Turkey get EUR 5.8 billion in incentives in 2019. Retrieved from <https://balkangreenenergynews.com/renewable-energy-producers-in-turkey-get-eur-5-8-billion-in-incentives-in-2019/>
- Center for Research on Energy and Clean Air. (2024, June). June 2024: Monthly analysis of Russian fossil fuel exports and sanctions. Retrieved from <https://energyandcleanair.org/june-2024-monthly-analysis-of-russian-fossil-fuel-exports-and-sanctions/>
- CEENERGYNEWS. (2021, October 25). Turkey's new renewables expansion targets and prospects for green hydrogen. Retrieved from <https://ceenergynews.com/renewables/turkeys-new-renewables-expansion-targets-and-prospects-for-green-hydrogen/>

Council of the European Union. (2024, July 3). Council conclusions on the EU's response to global challenges (Document No. ST 11900/24). Retrieved from <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11900-2024-INIT/en/pdf>

Enerji Atlası. (n.d.). Hidroelektrik santraller. Retrieved from <https://www.enerjiatlası.com/hidroelektrik/>

European Commission. (2019). EU4Energy Eastern Partnership: EU invests in energy reforms. EU Neighbours East. Retrieved from <https://euneighbourseast.eu/news/publications/eu4energy-eastern-partnership-eu-invests-in-energy-reforms/>

European Commission. (2021, April 20). Horizon Europe, the EU research and innovation programme 2021-2027: General overview. Retrieved from https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/horizon-europe_en

European Commission. (2022). EU's global leadership in renewables: Final synthesis report July 2021. Publications Office of the European Union. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.2833/523799>

European Commission. (2023). Commission staff working document: Türkiye 2023 report. 2023 Communication on EU enlargement policy (SWD(2023) 696 final). *EUR-Lex*. Retrieved from <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52023SC0696&qid=1729851909816>

European Commission. (2024, October 19). European Green Deal: Commission proposes new climate and energy targets for 2040. Retrieved from https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_24_2305

European Commission. (n.d.a). Delivering the European Green Deal. Retrieved from https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/delivering-european-green-deal_en

European Commission. (n.d.b). Renewable Energy Directive: Targets and rules. Retrieved from https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-directive-targets-and-rules/renewable-energy-directive_en

- European Commission. (n.d.c). 2030 climate targets. Retrieved from https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/climate-strategies-targets/2030-climate-targets_en
- European Commission. (n.d.d). Trans-European networks for energy (TEN-E). Retrieved from https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/infrastructure/trans-european-networks-energy_en
- European Commission. (n.d.e). Türkiye's association to Horizon Europe. Retrieved from https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/europe-world/international-cooperation/association-horizon-europe/turkiye_en
- European External Action Service. (2024, April 24). EU-Türkiye high-level dialogue on science, research, technology, and innovation. Retrieved from https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/t%C3%BCrkiye/eu-t%C3%BCrkiye-high-level-dialogue-science-research-technology-and-innovation_en?s=230
- European Investment Bank. (2008, July 15). Turkey: EIB lends EUR 135 M for hydro power project. Retrieved from <https://www.eib.org/en/press/all/2008-065-turkey-eib-lends-eur-135-m-for-hydro-power-project>
- European Training Foundation. (2021, July 27). The future of skills in Turkey. Retrieved from <https://www.etf.europa.eu/en/news-and-events/news/future-skills-turkey>
- GIZ. (2024, February). EU4 Energy Transition: Covenant of Mayors in the Western Balkans and Türkiye. Retrieved from <https://www.giz.de/en/downloads/giz2024-en-eu4et-western-balkans-t%C3%BCrkiye.pdf>
- İşeri, E., & Bartan, A. Ç. (2020). Turkey's geostrategic vision and energy concerns in the Eastern Mediterranean security architecture: A view from Ankara. In *The new geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean*, 111–124. Yaşar University. Retrieved from <https://cms.yasar.edu.tr/tr/wp->

[content/uploads/2020/02/TURKEYS-GEOSTRATEGIC-VISION-AND-ENERGY-CONCERNS-IN-THE-EASTERN-MEDITERRANEAN.pdf](#)

Melcangi, A. (2020). The fragile geopolitical scenario of the Mediterranean and the need for a stronger EU vision. In *SHADE MED 2020: The role of Operation IRINI in the Mediterranean*, 5–9. Retrieved from <https://www.operationirini.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Booklet-of-Shade-Med-2020..pdf>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs. (n.d.). Turkey's energy strategy. Retrieved from <https://www.mfa.gov.tr/turkeys-energy-strategy.en.mfa>

Net Sıfır Türkiye. (n.d.). 2053 net-sıfır hedefi ve Türkiye'nin uzun dönemli iklim değişikliği stratejisi. Retrieved from <https://netsifirturkiye.org/2053-net-sifir-hedefi-ve-turkiyenin-uzun-donemli-iklim-degisikligi-stratejisi/>

Our World in Data. (n.d.). Share of electricity from solar. Retrieved from https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/share-electricity-solar?tab=chart&country=TUR~GRC~CYP~OWID_EU27#research-and-writing

Raimondi, P. P. (2022). Eastern Mediterranean energy resources between energy security and energy transition: A regional perspective. Istituto Affari Internazionali. Retrieved from <https://www.iai.it/sites/default/files/iaip2211.pdf>

Rau, M., Seufert, G., & Westphal, K. (2022, February 10). The Eastern Mediterranean as a focus for the EU's energy transition: Deep-rooted enmities and new opportunities for cooperation between Greece, Turkey, and Cyprus. *Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.18449/2022C08>

RE-Source Platform. (n.d.). National hubs and partners. Retrieved from <https://resource-platform.eu/about-us/national-hubs-and-partners/>

Shokri Kalehsar, O. (2019). Energy insecurity in Turkey: Opportunities for renewable energy (ADB Working Paper No. 1058). *Asian Development*

- Bank Institute*. Retrieved from <https://www.adb.org/publications/energy-insecurity-turkey-opportunities-renewable-energy>
- Sözen, A., Goren, N., & Limon, C. (Eds.). (2023). Conflict resolution in the Mediterranean: Energy as a potential game-changer. *Diplomeds – The Council for Mediterranean Diplomacy and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung*. Retrieved from <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/zypern/20302.pdf>
- Tastan, K. (2022). Decarbonising EU-Turkey energy cooperation: Challenges and prospects (SWP Comment 2022/C 23). *Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik*. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.18449/2022C23>
- TÜBİTAK. (2024, May 14). Second Türkiye-EU high-level dialogue meeting was held in Istanbul. Retrieved from <https://tubitak.gov.tr/en/news/second-turkiye-eu-high-level-dialogue-meeting-was-held-istanbul>
- Ufuk Avrupa. (n.d.a). European Institute of Innovation and Technology. Retrieved from <https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/en/cluster-programs/european-institute-innovation-and-technology>
- Ufuk Avrupa. (n.d.b). European Innovation Council (EIC). Retrieved from <https://ufukavrupa.org.tr/en/cluster-programs/european-innovation-council-eic>
- Zachmann, G., & Tagliapietra, S. (2017). A new strategy for European Union-Turkey energy cooperation (Policy Brief). Bruegel. Retrieved from <https://www.bruegel.org/policy-brief/new-strategy-european-union-turkey-energy-cooperation>