Oil & Gas Bulletin

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Turkish spot gas system could spur cross-border trade

Anadolu Agency, *16.04.2018*

Turkey's pilot online natural gas trading system could help the country become a regional gas hub if the system expands and incorporates international cross-border trade, Director of the EFET told Anadolu Agency.

Jan Haizmann said the onset of Turkey's online natural gas trading system through the Turkish Energy Stock Exchange in Istanbul, EPIAS, paves the way for the creation of a spot market for natural gas in the country and for price balancing. EPIAS, which launched online testing of its spot natural gas trade system on the energy stock exchange on April 1.

It is expected to continue testing for five months before the official online launch in September. However, he argued that market reform is needed in the country and this would require the unbundling of Turkey's state-owned crude oil and natural gas pipelines and trading company BOTAS. "This is good news for Turkey, for Turkish traders and for Turkey's asset holders but it does not replace the need to have a fundamental decision on BOTAS," he said. "This is a must," he warned, adding that without such a decision, the impact of opening of an online natural gas trading system would be limited. "It will only have a complete effect if there is an independent transmission system operator that can deliver data on its usage and also data on the way balancing costs are calculated," he explained. The trading platform is initially for domestic transactions and no international or cross-border products as yet plan to be marketed. "But with new gas arriving next year in Turkey via the TurkStream gas pipeline and maybe equally on the TurkStream 2, Turkey's situation may change. It may, because of gas arriving here, put Turkey in a completely new position. It could become an exporter of gas," he affirmed.

The TurkStream natural gas pipeline will be active in the coming months and will bring 15.75 billion cubic meters of Russian gas directly to Turkey. According to Haizmann, with this development, the gas market environment could completely turn around for Turkey, from that of a gas importer, as Turkey traditionally has been heavily reliant on Russian gas on long-term contracts, to that of a gas importer. "But recently Turkey has been diversifying [gas sources]. The building of LNG facilities and more capacities are all good news for Turkey and good news for Turkey's consumers. The building of gas storage is also good news for the security of supply and the operation of a cross-border network," Haizmann said. Turkey benefits from LNG supplies and brings LNG to its terminals from Algeria, Qatar, Norway and Nigeria. Additionally, Turkey's first Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) was launched in Aliaga, Izmir in December of 2016.

Since then a second FSRU, with 20 million cubic meters of send-out capacity per day, was launched in Hatay - a province in the Mediterranean region in early February 2018. He noted that all these developments showcase Turkey as a bridge for gas. For the last two years, Turkey has voiced its desire to become a natural gas hub in the region. Turkish Energy Minister Berat Albayrak said late last year that Turkey would take concrete steps to utilize its geopolitical position near oil and gas-rich countries in the Middle East, Caspian and Central Asia to become an energy-trading hub. Albayrak affirmed that Turkey's geopolitical position could play a crucial role in projects to diversify energy resources and transportation routes and fill the gap in the inactive energy market in southeastern Europe.

TANAP to deliver first commercial gas on June 30

Anadolu Agency, *18.04.2018*

First commercial gas from the Trans Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline Project (TANAP) to Turkey will begin transit by June 30, Saltuk Duzyol, TANAP's general manager said on Tuesday.

TANAP, which will carry Azeri gas to Turkey and then onto Europe, is currently 93.5 percent complete, Duzyol confirmed at TANAP's Eskisehir Measurement and Compressor station where Turkey receives Azeri gas. "Phase 0, which starts from the Turkey-Georgia border and ends in Turkey's Eskisehir province is almost completed,"

Duzyol said and added that the second part of the project - Phase 1 - starts from Eskisehir and continues to the Ipsala district of Edirne on the Turkey-Greece border, where TANAP will be connected to the Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP), the pipeline that will bring Azeri gas to European markets. "We completed 80.7 percent of Phase 1. When we finish building this phase, we will wait for TAP. The percentage of the total completion of TANAP is currently 93.5 percent," he said. Phase 0, which started testing on Jan. 23, is still ongoing but from June 30 commercial gas transfer will start, Duzyol said. The TANAP project has seen the employment of around 13,000 and currently has around 7,000 employed. The project had 82 million man-hours worked and the equivalent length of 175 million kilometers driven. The project has also revealed many unexpected surprises during its construction phase, Duzyol said, disclosing that nine species of bugs were discovered along with a new plant species, previously unknown to the scientific community.

"We also discovered 154 archeological sites during the route selection and construction," he added. He said the total value of contracts signed for the project to date is $5 billion. Duzyol lauded the project management and the procurement process as a success in bringing the costs of the project under budget. The estimated investment cost was $11.7 billion at the start of the project, he explained adding that, and "We have successfully pulled this figure down to $7.99 billion with the procurement process and project management we have successfully provided.

I am proud to say that this is a huge financial success." He disclosed that project partners awarded $3.75 billion in credit from international financial institutions and the European Union provided $10.2 million in grant aid. The stakeholder numbers for the project have also increased from three to four. "The Southern Gas Corridor Company (SGC) had previously a 58 percent share but transferred a 7 percent stake to SOCAR Turkey. Currently, the SGC holds 51 percent, Turkey's BOTAS 30 percent, BP 12 percent and SOCAR Turkey 7 percent," he explained. Duzyol also stressed that the TANAP pipeline could also be used to transfer gas from the Eastern Mediterranean or Iraq, conditional on sufficient demand and agreements. TANAP's initial capacity per year will be 16 billion cubic meters from which Turkey will withdraw 6 billion cubic meters while the remaining 10 billion cubic meters will be delivered to Europe.

Iran oil arrives in Gdansk as Poland diversifies supplies

Reuterst, *14.04.2018*

Poland's biggest oil refiner PKN Orlen said on Friday that a shipment of 130,000 tonnes of Iranian crude oil has arrived at the Baltic seaport of Gdansk. Most of the oil refined in Polish refineries comes via pipelines from Russia, but state-run PKN Orlen and Lotos are increasingly buying from other sources, including Iran and the United States. "Delivery from Iran has become a fact.

Oil from the Middle East gives us many opportunities. First of all, it enables diversification of delivery directions and increases the energy security of the state," PKN said in a statement.

The Iranian oil, which is lighter than the Russian crude and contains less sulphur, will be refined at PKN's plant at Plock, northwest of Warsaw. PKN said that earlier tests of the Iranian oil "confirmed its significant potential". It took a month for the Delta Kanaris tanker to transport the Iranian cargo from the Kharg island to Gdansk.

Iraq's oil development contracts may draw 14 bidders

Reuters, *14.04.2018*

Fourteen companies have expressed interest in oil and natural gas exploration and development contracts to be auctioned by Iraq on April 25, the oil ministry in Baghdad said on Saturday.

The 14 have bought a package containing the bidding documents and terms of the contracts for the 11 exploration blocks to be auctioned, it said in a statement. The blocks, located in border areas with Iran and Kuwait, and in offshore Gulf waters, were to be auctioned in June. That date was brought forward to April 15 and then postponed to April 25 to give bidders more time.

The oil ministry last month announced measures to reduce the fees paid to oil companies in the contracts to be auctioned. The new contracts will exclude oil by-products from thecompanies' revenue, establish a link between prevailing oil prices and their remuneration, and introduce a royalty element. Oil companies operating in Iraq currently receive a fee from the government linked to production increases, which include crude and oil by-products such as liquefied petroleum gas.

OPEC's second-largest producer after Saudi Arabia, Iraqdecided to change the contracts after a glut caused oil pricesto crash in 2014, reducing Baghdad's ability to pay such fees. Companies including BP, Exxon Mobil, Eni, Total, Royal Dutch Shell and Lukoil have helped Iraq expand production in the past decade by over 2.5 million barrels per day (bpd) to about 4.7 million bpd. The semi-autonomous Kurdistan Regional Government produces oil and gas from fields it controls in northern Iraq under a production-sharing model that is more profitable to companies. The new contracts offered by Baghdad will also set a time limit for companies to end gas flaring from oilfields they develop.Iraq continues to flare some of the gas extracted along side crude oil at its fields because it lacks the facilities to process it into fuel.Iraq hopes to end gas flaring by 2021. Flaring costs the government nearly$2.5 billion in lost revenue each year and could meet most of its unmet needs for gas-fired power, according to the World Bank.

Iraq postpones oil and gas auction to April 25

Reuters, *13.03.2018*

Iraq has postponed its oil and gas bidding round for 11 new blocks to April 25, a senior Iraqi oil official said on Thursday.

Iraq had originally planned to award oil and gas exploration and development contracts for the new blocks, located in border areas with Iran and Kuwait, and in offshore Gulf waters, on April 15. "The bidding process was rescheduled to be on April 25. It is just to give the companies a little bit more time to submit the bid bonds and be prepared for the bidding," Abdul Mahdi al-Ameedi, head of the Iraqi oil ministry's licensing and contracts office, told Reuters.

The new contracts will exclude oil by-products from the companies' revenues, establish a linkage between prevailing oil prices and their remuneration, and introduce a royalty element. Oil companies operating in Iraq currently receive a fee from the government linked to production increases, which include crude and oil by-products such as liquefied petroleum gas and dry gas. OPEC's second-largest producer after Saudi Arabia, Iraq decided to change the contracts after a glut caused oil prices to crash in 2014, reducing Baghdad's ability to pay such fees. Companies including BP, Exxon Mobil, Eni , Total, Royal Dutch Shell and Lukoil helped Iraq expand production in the past decade by over 2.5 million barrels per day (bpd) to about 4.7 million bpd.

The semi-autonomous Kurdish Regional Government produces oil and gas from fields it controls in northern Iraq under a production-sharing model more profitable to companies. The new contracts offered by Baghdad will also set a time limit for companies to end gas flaring from oilfields they develop on territory under its control. Iraq continues to flare some of the gas extracted alongside crude oil at its fields because it lacks the facilities to process it into fuel for local consumption or export. Iraq hopes by 2021 to end gas flaring, which costs nearly $2.5 billion in lost revenue for the government and would be sufficient to meet most of its unmet needs for gas-based power generation, according to the World Bank.

Russian gas transits through Ukraine to plunge dramatically

RT, *12.04.2018*

After Russia builds natural gas pipelines to Europe and Turkey, transit through Ukraine is expected to fall by more than 80 percent, according to Gazprom CEO Aleksey Miller.

There are neighboring states, there are regions that are on the border with Ukraine, and, without doubt, supplies to these European regions will be carried out using Ukrainian transit. The other thing is that the volumes will undoubtedly be less significant," Miller told Channel One Russia. The volumes will fall from last year's 93.5 billion cubic meters to about 10 to 15 billion cubic meters, said the head of Gazprom.

The gas-transit contract between Russia and Ukraine expires in 2019 and Moscow has repeatedly said Ukraine will lose its status as a key transit hub to Europe. Russia wants to bypass Ukraine by doubling the capacity of the existing Nord Stream pipeline under the Baltic Sea. In the beginning of March, Gazprom announced it had been forced to break its contract with Ukraine's Naftogaz for the supply of natural gas. The announcement came after the Stockholm Arbitration sided with Kiev, ordering Gazprom to compensate Ukraine's Naftogaz to the tune of $2.67 billion. Miller responded by saying the Russian company does not intend to help neighboring countries restore their economies at its own expense.

Gazprom and Naftogaz signed the contract, which runs until the end of 2019, in January 2009. Under the agreement, Ukraine was to buy 40 billion cubic meters of gas per year. From 2010, the volume rose to 52 billion cubic meters annually. However, since 2012, Naftogaz has ceased buying the contracted volume, and stopped buying Russian gas entirely in November 2015, replacing it with reverse gas supplies from Europe.

Gazprom extends gas deal with Slovenia until 2023

Anadolu Agency, *16.04.2018*

Russia's Gazprom signed a new five-year gas supply deal with Slovenia's natural gas company Geoplin in Slovenia's capital, Ljubljana, the company said late Friday.

The new contract provides for the annual supply of 0.6 billion cubic meters of gas from Jan. 1, 2018 to Jan. 1, 2023, and constitutes an extension of the previous contract that expired on Dec. 31, 2017, the company said. "This year marks 40 years since the start of Russian gas deliveries to Slovenia in 1978.

Geoplin is our long-standing partner. I am confident that the new contract for natural gas supplies will reinforce the relations between our companies and open a new page in the history of energy cooperation between the two countries," said Alexander Medvedev, deputy chairman of the Gazprom. Russian gas supplies to Slovenia began in 1978, and up to 2017, more than 14 billion cubic meters of gas was delivered to Slovenia, including 607.2 million cubic meters in 2017 alone. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia, Karl Erjavec and the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Russian Federation to the Republic of Slovenia Doku Zavgayev attended the signing ceremony. Geoplin, a major natural gas importer to Slovenia, is a partner of Gazprom Export in the Slovenian market.

EU close to update MoU with Egypt in energy cooperation

Anadolu Agency, *13.04.2018*

The EU is in the final stages of agreeing on an updated Memorandum of Understanding with Egypt to deepen energy sector cooperation on a wide range of issues, including gas, Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Arias Canete, said on Thursday.

The EU is intensifying its efforts at making the very extensive gas resources discovered in the Eastern Mediterranean basin available to Europe, Canete noted during a speech at the 4th EU Energy Summit that was transcribed in the European Commission's website.

Canete said that an upcoming visit to Egypt to discuss energy cooperation could potentially add to the rapid expansion of the LNG market. “In the coming weeks I will pay a visit to Egypt and discuss our energy cooperation,” he said. “Better access to LNG can reinforce our energy resilience by enhancing supply optionality and flexibility, by allowing the EU to draw upon a global rather than just a regional supply of gas,” he continued. The U.S.’ presence as a major energy exporter on the global market is an “important development,” according to Canete.

“And while we very much appreciate the U.S. LNG that has so far been delivered to Europe, we believe that we have an attractive, large and competitive market that can attract more U.S. companies to actively compete with their gas on our market,” he added. He acknowledged the work that the EU is doing to ensure that all member states can benefit from LNG supplies, but argued that because most LNG import terminals are based in western Europe, eastern EU countries are losing out because of their inability to access terminals due to missing interconnections. “So we issued an LNG Strategy which outlined exactly what needs to be done inside the EU, including identifying the key missing infrastructures and we are now actively working to realize them,” the commissioner said.

Kenya’s national oil and Schlumberger sign field development deal

Energy-Pedia, *15.04.2018*

Kenya’s National Oil Corporation and U.S. oil services company Schlumberger have agreed to finalize a field development plan on behalf of the government for oil blocks in the northwest of the country.

National Oil said in a statement seen by Reuters on Friday that the agreement with Schlumberger would create a development blueprint for the field in the next year. ‘This FDP will provide the government with an independent view of the development of the Lokichar oil discoveries, which will be useful in supporting the government in evaluating work already being done by investors Tullow, Africa Oil , Maers Oil.

Britain’s Tullow Oil and Canada’s Africa Oil were first to discover oil in Kenya, holding an equal share in the 10 BB and 13T blocks where Tullow is the operator. French oil major Total later acquired a stake in the blocks from AP Moeller-Maersk and the Kenyan government is expected to take a stake through National Oil. National Oil did not disclose the value of the deal. Tullow expects to reach a final investment decision (FID) on the project in 2019 and first oil production by 2021-22. Last year the government signed an agreement with Tullow and its partners for a feasibility study on a proposed pipeline to transport the crude oil to a seaport on the Indian Ocean coast.

Recoverable reserves are estimated at 750 million barrels and considered feasible for production with oil prices at $55 a barrel, which is below current levels. The ministry said last year that the pipeline — to run 820km (500 miles) between Lokichar and Lamu on Kenya's coast — would cost $2.1 billion and was expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2021. National Oil handles the government's interest in both the upstream and downstream oil activities. It owns exploration blocks and runs petrol stations in Kenya with about a 5 percent share of the fuel retail market.

More foreign oil companies expected to invest in Zambia-Yaluma

Lusaka Times, *15.04.2018*

Government has disclosed that more British companies have shown willingness to invest in the oil industry in Zambia.

Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry Christopher Yaluma said this in an interview with ZANIS at Copthorne Tara Hotel in London today. Mr. Yaluma said following the launch of oil exploration project in Luapula and Northern Provinces by Tullow Oil, a British company, more foreign oil exploration firms are eager to invest in the energy sector. He observed that Zambia still has oil blocs which are not yet committed to potential investors.

Mr. Yaluma revealed that oil exploration by Tullow Oil has indicated positive results so far and government is hopeful that the outcome of the project will be a success. The Minister has since assured foreign investors that government is harmonising investment policies so as to protect their investment in Zambia. He said with consistent and predictable policies in place, Zambia will attract more foreign direct investment from potential investors. And Mr. Yaluma, who is in London for the Commonwealth summit, said Zambia will take advantage of the business forum to woo investors from the other commonwealth countries. The Minister said the Commonwealth business forum is vital to member states because it brings together business experts and players to share best practices of sustaining trade and investment in the Commonwealth countries.

Mr. Yaluma said Zambia is therefore determined to grow the Small and Medium Entrepreneurs (SME's) in order to boost economic development in the country. He also explained that government wants to see a vibrant SME sector as it is key to job creation and economic growth. Mr. Yaluma is part of Vice President Inonge Wina's high profile delegation at this year's Commonwealth summit which starts tomorrow April 16, 2018 in London, United Kingdom.

Crude reality forces India and China to consider oil alliance

Times of India, *13.04.2018*

India and China, which together accounted for 17 per cent of world oil consumption last year, will look for ways to leverage the combined size of their shopping baskets for a better bargain from West Asian crude producers.

This was decided at a meeting between oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan and CNPC (China National Petroleum Corporation) chairman Wang Yilin and other Chinese officials on the sidelines of the 16th International Energy Forum ministerial round that concluded on Thursday. "As consumers, we have certain mutual interests.

Today during our fruitful talks we agreed to promote B2B (business-to-business) co-operation… and we are hopeful that in future buyers will be able to dictate prices," Pradhan said. He, however, did admit that there will be "fair competition in some areas as it happens in business", an oblique reference to acquisition of overseas oil and gas fields. Pradhan's views were echoed by Li Fanrong, deputy administrator of China's National Energy Administration. Sanjiv Singh, chairman of India's largest refiner-marketer, and CNPC chairman Yilin have been tasked to chart a future course.

This is a throwback to 2005, when the then Indian oil minister, Mani Shankar Aiyar, proposed forging a common front in on oil to China's National Development and Reforms Commission vice-chairman Zhang Xiaoqing on the sidelines of the Asian Round Table – a buyer-seller meet – hosted by India to seek reasonable oil pricing. That proposal resulted in a co-operation MoU in 2006 but lost in the complexities of bilateral relations. This time, however, the move comes when the centre of gravity of the global oil market has shifted to Asia amid an oversupplied market. China and India today are the world's second and third largest oil consumers, respectively. International Energy Agency sees the two fuelling half of global demand growth in the next five years, with India driving incremental demand growth through the next two decades. For both, 'Asian Premium' – or a higher price – charged by West Asian oil exporters for shipments to Asian buyers, as opposed to Europe, has been the pet peeve. The hardening oil prices have amplified the effect. But exporters deny any premium, saying it is market dynamics, with each region having its own pricing norm. But how long they can stonewall world's leading buyers is yet to be seen. But there are other challenges, apart from the border wrinkles in the relationship between India and China, to finding a common way forward. Different crude buying pattern and preference and the huge difference in quantity may slow down progress. Besides, a wider co-operation with Japan and South Korea will also have to deal with their unease with Beijing's muscular policy in the Asia-Pacific region. But when there is a diplomatic will, there will be a way.

Is peace in the (gas) pipeline for Pyongyang?

Platts, *18.04.2018*

What's the similarity between a peace pipe and a gas pipeline? When a senior South Korean minister revived talks last month of a gas pipeline, running through North Korea, and carrying Russian natural gas to the south, it piqued the interest of gas players.

Such a move would put piped gas in direct competition with seaborne LNG, in the third-largest LNG importing country in the world for the first time. The gas pipeline between the two Koreas and Russia could be reviewed if the security situation on the Korean Peninsula improved.

State-affiliated Yonhap News reported in late March, citing South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha, who was speaking at a Seoul forum on regional energy cooperation. The security situation she referred to was the planned summit between US President Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un. The talks would be the first time a serving US president has held a meeting with a North Korean leader. But the trans-Korea gas pipeline project has been in the works for decades, long before Pyongyang's charm offensive at the recently held Winter Games, that set the stage for peace talks.

This 2011 roadmap to bring 10 billion cu m (7.5 million mt) of Russian piped gas to South Korea from 2017, was supposed to lead to commercial negotiations, and the signing of intergovernmental and host government agreements with Pyongyang, which would be paid a gas transportation fee. But the project was derailed due to the aftermath of the financial crisis, deteriorating security situation on the Korean peninsula, western sanctions on Russia and Pyongyang, and South Korea's focus on LNG on the back of the world's biggest shipbuilding industry. Today, there are two major drivers for the pipeline project to go forward. Russia is keen to boost gas supply to Asian markets, and diversify from its European customer base. So far, besides LNG, it only has pipelines to China, and a new customer could give it greater pricing leverage in Asia.

Under its long-term energy plan — Russian Energy Strategy 2030 — Moscow wishes to diversify as much as 25% of its natural gas markets to Asia, the biggest market for LNG. The other driver is South Korean President Moon Jae-in himself, who has been pushing to normalize relations with Pyongyang even before he was elected. The cornerstone of his presidency is an energy plan that phases out coal and nuclear power with gas and renewables. His "New Northern Policy" and "Presidential Committee on Northern Economic Cooperation" are focused on joint projects including energy, shipbuilding, fishery and transportation, with its northern neighbors. Russia is central to Seoul's "northbound" policy, and ASEAN to its "southbound" policy, both aimed at diversifying its economy from excessive reliance on China and the US. So what is stopping the pipeline from going forward? Basic energy security considerations for starters.

"It doesn't make strategic sense based on Seoul's threat perception," Singapore's S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies research fellow Collin Koh said. Koh said the possibility of an inter-Korean deal for such a pipeline cannot be discounted, though it's likely to be met with fierce domestic resistance in Seoul, where many won't be too enthusiastic. Kim is unlikely to interfere with any pipeline that has Russian interests as it will incur Putin's wrath. But no one in their right mind would want to give him the keys to Seoul's energy supply that he could turn off at will. The role of the US may be the biggest show stopper. An energy alliance in the Far East involving American allies, Russia and North Korea will not sit well with Washington or help US geopolitical strategy in any way. After all, South Korea was one of the first countries to fall in line with American interests, when the US imposed sanctions on imports of Iranian crude.

China-Philippines oil and gas exploration deal for South China Sea 'near'

SCMP, *12.04.2018*

The Philippines and China are forging ahead with plans for joint oil and gas exploration in the disputed South China Sea, even as both sides recognise and accept each other's firm "red lines" in protecting their sovereignty claims.

In an exclusive interview with the South China Morning Post, the Philippine Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano said that a solid guarantee from China that it would not build new installations on Scarborough Shoal – a rocky outcrop claimed by both Beijing and Manila – formed the basis of the cooperation between the two neighbours. Cayetano has told his speech.

"We separate the two [issues]... China drew some red lines. We drew some red lines. Our red line is building in uninhabited areas including Scarborough," Cayetano, Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and other senior Philippine leaders are in Hong Kong for a three-day visit following their attendance at the Boao Forum in Hainan.

The top Philippine diplomat said the start of exploration efforts was "quite near" and contingent on China agreeing to a legal framework on the process, following the set-up in February of a special panel on the technical details of the venture. "If they [the Chinese] agree, we can have the exploration right away. It could take a week, it could take six months," said Cayetano. The foreign secretary's comments are the latest sign that the Philippines under Duterte is going all out to strengthen ties with Beijing that had been strained following the 2016 ruling by The Hague's Permanent Court of Arbitration that declared China's claim to vast areas of the South China Sea were invalid. Along with China and the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Taiwan, Vietnam and Indonesia all have claims over different sectors in the waterway, through which some US$3.4 trillion in trade passes annually. China claims 80 per cent of the waterway under its U-shaped nine-dash line maritime boundary.

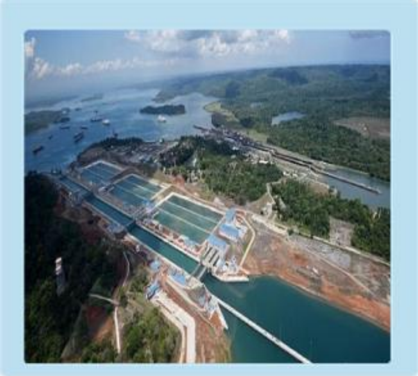
Bilateral ties plummeted after Duterte’s predecessor Benigno Aquino in 2013 filed the suit that led to the 2016 ruling. But soon after the arbitral court’s non-binding decision – which came months after Duterte came to power – the newly minted president sharply repudiated Aquino’s hawkish stance. Instead, in multiple visits to Beijing he said he was keen on bringing the country closer under China’s diplomatic umbrella, breaking from a decades-old foreign policy of tightly embracing the United States. The Philippines remains one of just two US treaty allies in Southeast Asia, along with Thailand. Cayetano said Duterte’s pragmatic approach of diplomatic neutrality and keeping the territorial dispute separate from overall ties heralded a “pendulum swing” in the country’s China policy. China has pledged billions of dollars in investment in the Philippines in the two years since Duterte came to power. “The arbitration award is there. Just because we don’t shove it in the face of everyone in multilaterals doesn’t mean it has no value. We have public opinion, and remember, China has much at stake in having peace and stability too,” Cayetano said. “Before we weren’t talking and there were no red lines and might was right. But now we are being treated as a sovereign equal,” he added.

Asked if there were concerns of asymmetry in negotiations given China’s vastly greater economic and diplomatic clout, Cayetano said Manila had much to lose if it did not even try to get a fair shake. “There are going to be sensitive parts, emotional parts, ups and downs in talking about the South China Sea,” the foreign secretary said. “But we already lose if we don’t try. What’s the alternative? If we follow the Aquino administration’s strategy, we’ll just be shouting and be heroes to the rest of the world for standing up for ourselves but [China] would continue building et cetera.” Still, Manila will not waver on its territorial claims in the disputed waters. “We are taking all diplomatic actions about it ... including discussing it in bilateral and in some multilateral settings,” Cayetano said. But for a peaceful settlement, all parties – including non-claimants like the United States – must refrain from aggravating the situation, the foreign secretary said.

The US navy has increased the frequency of its so-called freedom of navigation exercises through the disputed waters as part of measures signalling to China that it will not tolerate any restrictions to nautical movement in the waterway. Washington views China’s construction of islands and military facilities in the South China Sea as an affront to international law. But Cayetano said this was exacerbating the situation. Cayetano said while the Chinese were not “correct” in putting so-called defensive assets on islets it occupies in the waterway, such actions were understandable given the fact that “other claimants are doing it and the Western maritime powers are sailing left and right”. He added: “If the US was China, wouldn’t the US build its defensive posture around the South China Sea?” On overall bilateral ties, Cayetano said he was optimistic further inroads would be made because of the close rapport between Duterte and Chinese President Xi Jinping – despite their vastly different personalities. “They are two different people, but two people who deeply believe in their countries and deeply believe that they can at this juncture in history choose to be either useless or to be a game changer,” he said. “They are two people who want to find the solution to a common problem and don’t want to fight each other.”

The Panama Canal needs to be expanded again

Oil & Price, *18.04.2018*



When the Panama Canal was expanded, it drew a lot of enthusiasm, with many seeing U.S. oil and gas exports surging thanks to the wider waterway that cuts the journey to several key markets by between 15 and 30 days, therefore cutting the costs of this journey as well.

Besides the shorter journey times for tankers and LNG carriers, the wider Panama Canal could handle larger vessels such as the Neopanamax class, which is widely used for shipping LNG globally, and Aframax crude tankers. Yet not all is bliss.

Forbes' oil correspondent Gaurav Sharma wrote in a recent story that although LNG carriers passing through the expanded Panama Canal have increased significantly in numbers, they are still below what the canal can handle on a daily basis: 12 Neopanamaxes. Right now, the average daily transit of this size of vessel is five. What's more, not all five carry LNG. In fact, the Panama Canal Authority has reportedly only allocated one slot daily for LNG carriers, which will inevitably lead to congestion as U.S. production—and especially export-bound production—continues to boom.

At the end of last year, tensions flared between the PCA and LNG producers about whose fault it is that not enough LNG tankers are using the freshly expanded channel that saves 11 days from the journey to Asia, which has become a key market for U.S. LNG. According to the producers, the canal has expanded the access of cargo vessels at the expense of LNG tankers. According to the authority, LNG producers can't comply with timetables. The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies shares the concern. In a recent paper on the Panama Canal and LNG, the institute said the Panama Canal Authority was working with LNG producers to increase the allocation for LNG carriers by the fall of this year, but the problems remain. This happens after last year the Authority said it would gladly grant LNG producers another daily slot if they "proved worthy."

So, it seems the LNG industry and the PCA have come to at least a tentative agreement that something must change, so exporters can take fuller advantage of the canal's expansion. But some believe that a further expansion is necessary. Right now, despite the official only slot daily for LNG carriers, two are becoming more frequently allocated, allowing for the shipping of 38.3 billion cu m of gas. U.S. energy companies, however, are pumping ever more gas and building more and more liquefaction terminals. The Oxford Institute for Energy Studies believes the Panama Canal will become congested with LNG carriers as soon as next year or, under a better-case scenario, by 2021. This will happen even if the PCA boosts the allocations for LNG to four daily. For now, the Panama Canal is a great passage for LPG and condensate carriers. But it's LNG that urgently needs to reach global markets.

As production grows, the risk of bottlenecks in the canal will inevitably become a harsh reality. It may well be the case that the freshly expanded waterway could need another expansion. The alternative would be costlier for both buyers and sellers in the long term.

Merkel coalition hits back at trump's attack on gas pipeline

Bloomberg, *11.04.2018*

Germany's governing coalition pushed back against President Donald Trump's criticism of a gas pipeline with Russia, widening trans-Atlantic tension beyond conflicts over trade and security.

Trump on Tuesday reprised his allegation that Germany isn't "paying" its fair share for NATO, while throwing in a hit at the Nord Stream 2 pipeline that directly links Germany and Russia. Germany will be paying "billions of dollars" to Russia, Trump said at the White House. "That's not right." "This is fake news," Joachim Pfeiffer said in an interview.

"He's comparing apples and oranges." It's the latest evidence that Europe's biggest economy is a running target for Trump, who has decried Germany's trade surplus with the U.S., its defense spending that falls below a NATO-set target and now its energy ties with Russia, which are also a point of tension with Germany's European Union allies. Lawmakers in Merkel's coalition ridiculed Trump's comments, saying the president must be looking for ways to promote exports of U.S. liquefied natural gas from shale fracking. "After his unsuccessful attempt to impose punitive tariffs on steel and aluminum in Europe, he ignites the next stage of escalation in order to safeguard national export interests," said Timon Gremmels, a Social Democrat member of the lower house. Trump's motive "is as simple as it is obvious."

During a White House visit by leaders of the three Baltic nations, Trump conflated the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's defense-spending target of 2 percent of economic output with Nord Stream 2, which was approved by German regulators in March and has Merkel's support. "Even now, Germany is paying 1 percent and they're not even paying the full 1 percent," Trump said. "Germany hooks up a pipeline into Russia, where Germany is going to be paying billions of dollars for energy into Russia. And I'm saying, 'What's going on with that?"' German defense spending increased to more than 1.2 percent of gross domestic product last year, or about 37 billion euros ($45 billion), according to the Defense Ministry. Merkel's new coalition government has agreed to stand by its NATO commitments, though her Social Democratic coalition partner has rejected a boost to 2 percent of GDP.

Nord Stream's planned expansion is raising concern among eastern EU members, including Poland and the Baltics, about dependence on Russian gas. Uniper SE, Engie SA, Royal Dutch Shell Plc, OMV AG and BASF SE's Wintershall are Gazprom PJSC's partners in Nord Stream 2, which would double the pipeline's capacity to almost 30 percent of current EU demand. Roderich Kiesewetter, a CDU member of the German parliament's foreign affairs committee, said U.S. interests won't dictate Europe's energy policy, regardless of EU divisions over the pipline. "The U.S. obviously has its own energy policy, which involves the export of liquefied natural gas," he said by phone.

US oil rig count rises 10th time in 12 weeks

Anadolu Agency, *14.04.2018*

The number of oil rigs in the U.S. increased for the 10th time in the past 12 weeks, according to oilfield services company Baker Hughes data released on Friday.

The oil rig count in the country rose by seven for the week ending April 13, the company said. With the latest increase, the number of oil rigs, which indicates the short-term change in the U.S.' oil industry, is now at 815. The current level also shows around 19 percent increase in the oil rig count, which stood at 683 in the same period last year. Despite the increase in the number of oil rigs.

International benchmark Brent crude traded at $72.73 per barrel with a 1 percent daily gain at 1330 EST (1730 GMT). American benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) was at $67.53 a barrel at that time with a 0.7 percent gain.

US Henry Hub sets standard for other hub host hopefuls

Reuters, *13.03.2018*

Discussions are underway in the EU, Singapore and Turkey to create new natural gas hubs based on the U.S. Henry Hub model, according to the latest article of Branko Terzic, a senior fellow with the Atlantic Council Global Energy Center.

Terzic said that these new potential hubs would provide pricing points for spot markets transactions and gas futures trading. These hubs would also facilitate gas purchases and sales at specified points to enable financial trade and provide a recognized location point for published natural gas prices and transparency.

However, he said that to do so, the new hubs would need to have adequate natural gas pipelines and natural gas storage infrastructure in place. “In addition to these, there should be access to diversified gas supplies available from a competitive market. Natural gas should be deliverable to the hub by third party/open access to pipelines operating under acceptable regulatory conditions,” Terzic noted. He said that other factors need to be considered, including tradable transmission rights on pipelines, an operating liberalized natural gas market with no governmental price controls on natural gas and an established hub operator and exchange system. Terzic, however, cautioned that at present these preconditions for successful new natural gas hub operations are a tall order to fulfill.

“The EU may have the most difficult barriers to overcome in establishing a competitive gas hub, given the nature of internal gas markets and the lack of a central regulator to enforce uniform policies across all member states,” he said. He said the EU may have sufficient supply diversity in natural gas from its four principal suppliers, Norway, Algeria, the Netherlands, and Russia, together with more than a dozen operating LNG receipt terminals and gas storage at many market areas. “In addition, the EU may obtain additional future supplies via Turkey from the Middle East, Eastern Mediterranean discoveries, and fields in the Caucasus,” he said. But he warned that as long as the EU is unable to implement a single gas pipeline policy and have it enforced the same way in every member state, ideally by an EU wide regulator, the goal of an efficient and competitive single natural gas market will be elusive—and the dream of building an effective gas hub even more so.

Terzic signaled that the Henry Hub in North America is the most successful natural gas market in the world and stands as an example for other gas markets to emulate. The expert said the creation of a natural gas hub is perceived in international quarters as a means of meeting national goals for competitive natural gas supplies and delivery, providing market prices to producers and consumers, and creating a security of supply based on diversification of sources. “This U.S. hub trades the third-largest commodity futures contract in the world by volume and the price has become a national benchmark for natural gas with growing global reference,” he said. “The U.S.’ Henry Hub provides the example of a hub which delivers reliable and transparent price signals and liquid contracts,” he added. He noted that this success is measured in terms of increasing trade volumes; a large pool of customers trading standardized natural gas products, and services at adequate churn rates. For the last two years, Turkey has voiced its desire to become a natural gas hub in the region. Turkish Energy Minister Berat Albayrak said late last year that Turkey would take concrete steps to utilize its geopolitical position near oil and gas-rich countries in the Middle East, Caspian and Central Asia to become an energy-trading hub.

He affirmed that Turkey’s geopolitical position could play a crucial role in projects to diversify energy resources and transportation routes and fill the gap in the inactive energy market in southeastern Europe. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) confirmed this in its report in 2017 when it highlighted the growing importance of Turkey’s geographical position as an oil and gas transit hub. Turkey already has two crude oil import pipelines - the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline from Azerbaijan and a pipeline from northern Iraq, which stretches from Fishkhabur, on the Iraq-Turkey border, through Kirkuk in Iraq to Ceyhan in Turkey. The country has direct natural gas pipelines from Iran, Azerbaijan and Russia, and in the future will have additional transit infrastructure in place including the TurkStream natural gas pipeline. The TurkStream natural gas pipeline will be active in the coming months and will bring 15.75 billion cubic meters of Russian gas directly to Turkey.

Turkey also benefits from LNG supplies and brings LNG to its terminals from Algeria, Qatar, Norway and Nigeria. Additionally, Turkey’s first Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) was launched in Aliaga, Izmir in December of 2016. Since then a second FSRU with 20 million cubic meters of send-out capacity per day, was launched in Hatay - a province in the Mediterranean region in early February 2018.

Freeport LNG confirms Train 1 start seen in September 2019, cites flooding of yards

Platss, *18.04.2018*

Freeport LNG has confirmed that its engineering, procurement and construction contractor has pushed back the expected commercial start date for the export terminal's first train to September 1, 2019, a roughly nine-month delay from a previously released target of fourth-quarter 2018.

The delay stems from flooding following Hurricane Harvey of lay-yards where equipment, including steel piping, was stored, and the resulting need to clean and test that equipment, Freeport LNG spokesman Zdenek Gerych said Wednesday in an interview with S&P Global Platts.

Under the revised schedule the contractor presented, Gerych said Train 2 is targeted to enter commercial service January 1, 2020, and Train 3 on May 1, 2020. He credited the contractor with creative scheduling to shave time off the expected six-month interval between each of the subsequent two trains. “If you look at the time when you have all three trains up and running, it will be close to the original schedule,” Gerych said. But he added “it was a lengthy process to just to clean everything from the mud and then inspect it.” There was a need to inspect steel and equipment, including with x-rays, to ensure the surface of the metal didn't pit or that other qualities were not affected, he said. The new timeline is expected to trim Texas LNG feedgas demand by roughly 0.9 Bcf/d in 2019 and 0.3 Bcf/d in 2020, according to S&P Global Platts Analytics. The most notable impact would be during the second half of 2019, when expected feedgas demand would be reduced roughly 1.2 Bcf/d, Platts data showed.

Nameplate capacity of each train at Freeport LNG is 5 million mt/year (equivalent to 670 MMcf/d), putting the full three-train facility at 15 million mt/year, or roughly 2 Bcf/d. According to technical specifications reported to the US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Freeport LNG has a peak liquefaction capacity of 5.3 million mt/year (or 700 MMcf/d) per train. The engineering procurement and construction contractor is a consortium of CB&I, Zachry Group and Chiyoda. CB&I, the lead contractor, was not immediately available for comment on the schedule. Gerych emphasized that the Freeport's terminal's construction sites, built up on higher ground, were unaffected by the flooding, as water was pumped out within days.

The contractor's lay-yards held structural steel, pipes, and other equipment, in Brazoria County, Texas, an area of extensive flooding. In addition, one of the pipe manufacturers in Beaumont suffered substantial damage, Gerych said. In May 2017, Freeport filed a variance request with FERC indicating that, due to delays in fabrication and delivery of materials to site, the EPC contractor was looking at potential nine- to 12-month delays. The roughly $13 billion Freeport liquefaction and export terminal is being built on Quintana Island along the Texas Gulf Coast.

Brent oil below $72 at week beginning April 16

Anadolu Agency, *16.04.2018*

International Benchmark Brent crude traded at $71.36 per barrel at 08.46 GMT while American benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) saw prices of $66.34 per barrel on Monday.

The international Brent crude price saw $67.10 per barrel on Monday, April 9. However, concerns over the Syrian crisis escalated oil prices, which reached as high as $72.72 per barrel on Friday, April 13. After the limited U.S.-led operations on Bashar al-Assad's regime early Saturday, international Brent oil prices endured limited decreases despite an expected oil price rise.

The U.S., the U.K., and France launched airstrikes on the Assad regime's alleged chemical weapons facilities in Syria on Saturday. The strikes came after the Assad regime was accused of carrying out a chemical attack in Syria's Douma, which killed 78 civilians and injured hundreds of others. Furthermore, an increase in the oil rig count in the U.S. helped the oil price decline. The number of oil rigs in the U.S. increased for the 10th time in the past 12 weeks, according to oilfield services company Baker Hughes data released on Friday. The oil rig count in the country rose by seven for the week ending April 13, the company said.

LNG prices soar on rising geopolitical tension

Oil & Price, *09.04.2018*

As President Donald Trump threatens to launch missile strikes in Syria over a suspected poison gas attack, and continues his harsh tone against Russia, tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran in Yemen's proxy war continue to mount.

These key geopolitical developments have placed tremendous upward pressure on global oil prices, but there is another take away that is often being glossed over in energy news – this tension also has a significant impact on global liquefied natural gas (LNG) prices.

How we got here; Trump said on Wednesday that missiles “will be coming” in response to the attack in the Syrian town of Douma on April 7. He also chastised Moscow for standing by Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. Yet, on Thursday, Trump back-peddled, stating on Twitter: “Never said when an attack on Syria would take place. Could be very soon or not so soon at all!” Never said when an attack on Syria would take place. Could be very soon or not so soon at all! In any event, the United States, under my Administration, has done a great job of ridding the region of ISIS. Where is our “Thank you America?” Also, on Wednesday, Saudi Arabia faced what the Associated Press (AP) called a flurry of attempted attacks by Yemeni rebels. Saudi Arabia’s defense forces said they intercepted missiles that targeted key infrastructure in Riyadh and another city, and drones targeting an airport and an Aramco oil facility in the country’s south.

Impact on LNG; Correspondingly, Asian LNG prices this week rose by 25 cents from last week to $7.25/MMBtu, despite falling demand due to the onset of spring in the northern hemisphere. Historically, prices drop in the warmer weather months as demand for the super cooled fuel recedes. For example, this past winter as China ramped up gas demand as part Beijing’s mandate to replace dirtier burning coal needed for power generation with gas, LNG prices breached the $11/MMBtu mark, the highest in three years. However, almost on cue, gas prices have dropped nearly 40 percent since those January highs due to warmer temperatures.

Oil price linkage; In Asia, most natural gas is imported as LNG, while the price is indexed to crude oil on a long-term contractual basis, though there has been an increase in spot and short-term trading in recent years. Consequently, geopolitical pressure on oil prices also impacts LNG prices. The Asia Pacific market accounts for around three-quarters of global LNG trade and one-third of global natural gas trade. Moreover, increased gas and LNG demand growth in Asia will largely be driven by China. Since there is currently no globally integrated market for natural gas, pricing mechanisms vary by regional market. Internationally traded natural gas has also been largely indexed to crude oil prices such as North Sea Brent or Japan customs-cleared crude (JCC) because of the liquidity and transparency of crude oil prices and the substitutability of natural gas and petroleum products in certain markets.

The possibility of higher LNG prices due to its oil price indexation and geopolitical risk could prove a boon for LNG projects outside the U.S., especially those that still need to sign long-term supply agreements to reach the all-important final investment decision (FID) to move forward. U.S. projects, for their part, offer Henry Hub-linked LNG pricing. More geopolitical pressure on prices; Reuters, citing traders, said the LNG price gain this week was due to rising oil prices, as Brent crude futures hit their highest level since late-2014. “Oil is by far the world’s biggest energy market. It dictates the direction for most other commodities,” said one trader. “It is particularly important for gas and LNG as many supply contracts are priced off crude.” Global oil prices held steady on Friday but remained close to recent highs. Global benchmark Brent crude settled at $72.58 a barrel, up 56 cents by the end of the session, while U.S. benchmark, NYMEX-traded West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures were up 32 cents to $67.39. Prices for both climbed in post-settlement trading. Walter Zimmerman, chief technical analyst at United-ICAP, said “it does look like there’s further upside ahead. People are still nervous about what’s going to happen in Syria ... nothing was solved overnight.”

Oil marketing companies slip 2% to 4%, HPCL, BPCL hit 52-week lows

Business Standard, *19.04.2018*

Shares of oil marketing companies (OMCs) were trading lower in the range of 2% to 4% on the BSE in early morning trade on Thursday after global crude oil prices hit 3-year high on Wednesday.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation or HPCL (down 4% at Rs 308), Bharat Petroleum Corporation or BPCL (down 3.7% at Rs 390) and Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals or MRPL (down 3% at Rs 104) have hit their respective 52-week lows on the BSE in intra-day trade today. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) trading 2% lower at Rs 161.

Oil futures jumped nearly 3% on Wednesday on a decline in US crude inventories and after sources signalled top exporter Saudi Arabia wants to see the crude price closer to $100 a barrel, the Reuters report suggested. Brent crude futures settled at $73.48 a barrel, up $1.90, or 2.7%. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures gained $1.95, or 2.9%, to settle at $68.47 a barrel, their highest since late 2014, added report. Meanwhile, oil exploration & production companies such as Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India, Aban Offshore, Jindal Drilling & Industries, Selan Exploration Technology and Hindustan Oil Exploration were trading higher in the range of 1% to 3% on the BSE. On comparison, the S&P BSE Sensex was trading 0.29% higher at 34,433 points. Analysts at JP Morgan expect OMCs to report sharply lower quarter on quarter earnings in March quarter (4Q) on the absence of large inventory gains that were seen in 3Q, although inventory should still be a positive contributor. Overall underlying profitability should be solid given the improvement in marketing margins, and steady refining margins.

However from a stock price perspective, we do not expect results to have much of an impact as investor concern on the OMCs center around potential capping of fuel prices in an election year and IOCL/BPCL investing in GAIL, the brokerage firm said in Q4 result preview. ONGC had a weak 3Q on sharply higher DDA expense write-offs which had stood at near 4-year high. As these expenses normalize, and higher crude realizations flow through, we forecast ONGC to report 20% year on year jump in profit after tax in 4Q. ONGC stock price has de-linked from crude price as the crude rally has not flowed through to ONGC stock price, added report.

Announcements & Reports

► *Drilling Productivity Report*

Source : EIA
Weblink : https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/drilling/pdf/dpr-full.pdf

► *U.S. natural gas production and consumption increase in nearly all AEO2018 cases*

Source : EIA
Weblink : https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=35792#

► *Disruptive Change in the Transport Sector*

Source : OIES
Weblink : https://www.oxfordenergy.org/wpcms/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/OEF-112.pdf

► *Ghana's Oil Industry: Steady growth in a challenging environment*

Source : OIES
Weblink : https://www.oxfordenergy.org/wpcms/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Ghanas-Oil-Industry-Steady-growth-in-a-challenging-environment-WPM-77.pdf

Upcoming Events

► *Kuwait Oil & Gas Summit*

Date : 16 April 2018
Place : Kuwait City
Website : www.cwckuwait.com/

► *3rd SOCAR International Caspian and Central Asia Downstream Forum*

Date : 24 – 25 April 2018
Place : Baku, Azerbaijan

► 3rd LNG International Summit

Date : 25 - 26 April 2018
Place : Hamburg, Germany
Website : http://lngsummit.org/

► International Conference on Petroleum & Petrochemical Economics

Date : 26 April 2018
Place : Istanbul, Turkey
Website : www.waset.org/conference/2018/04/istanbul/ICPPE

► Mediterranean Oil & Gas Summit

Date : 02 – 03 May 2018
Place : Rome, Italy
Website : https://10times.com/mediterranean-oil-gas-summit

► Iran Oil Show

Date : 06 – 09 May 2018
Place : Tehran, Iran
Website : https://10times.com/iran-oil-show

► FLNG Global 2018

Date : 14 – 15 May 2018
Place : Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Website : https://www.clocate.com/conference/FLNG-Global-2018/49265/

Supported by PETFORM

► Flame Conference 2018

Date : 14 – 17 May 2018
Place : Amsterdam
Website : https://energy.knect365.com/flame-conference/?vip_code=FKA2659PETFORM

► 4th International LNG Congress

Date : 04 – 05 June 2018
Place : Berlin, Germany
Website : http://lngcongress.com/

Supported by PETFORM

► *Energy Trading for Central and South Eastern Europe 2018*

Date : 13 – 14 June 2018
Place : Budapest, Hungary
Website : http://www.energytradingcsee.com/

ETCSEE 2018
ENERGY TRADING | CENTRAL & SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE
13 - 14 June 2018

► *14th Russian Petroleum & Gas Congress (RPGC2018)*

Date : 18 – 19 June 2018
Place : Moscow, Russia
Website : https://www.clocate.com/conference/14th-Russian-Petroleum-and-Gas-Congress-RPGC-2018/27847/

► *27th World Gas Conference*

Date : 25 - 29 June 2018
Place : Washington DC
Website : https://wgc2018.com/?src=Upstream

► *Offshore Oil & Gas and Chemical Industry Technology and Equipment Exhibition*

Date : 23 - 25 August 2018
Place : Shanghai
Website : http://sh.cippe.com.cn/en/For_Visitors/Venue_Time/

► *Gastech*

Date : 17 – 20 September 2018
Place : Barcelona, Spain
Website : http://www.gastechevent.com/

► *The European Autumn Gas Conference*

Date : 07 – 09 November 2018
Place : Berlin, Germany
Website : http://www.theeagc.com/