

**WORKERS' PARTY OF TURKEY**



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# NATURAL GAS RESERVES ARE EXPLORED IN BLACK SEA

**Euphoric meta-fetish manipulative lies of Erdoğan regime:  
A beneficial tool to consolidate public**



By August 19th, Erdoğan have announced that in August 21st, he will give good news which have the potential to change the fate of the country. Whole Turkey waited for the good news for two days until when he publicized exploration of natural gas reserves in Black Sea coast of Turkey. Good news were not only welcome by the citizens of Turkey but found place in international media. However, those who are following Erdoğan regime and who know well about his euphoric manipulations were quite suspicious about it.

The “good news” on newly found natural resources is part of the manipulative strategy of Erdoğan where he utilizes big scale constructions in order to consolidate people while fake news on newly explored natural resources have been part of this game as well.

Once proven by Hitler regime, meta-fetish constructions; long and wide motorways, tall buildings, huge airports and such are known to be excellent tools for authoritarian regimes not only to consolidate public, but also to promote capital accumulation of the bourgeoisie by transferring public funds to a handful of capitalists.

This is what Erdoğan is practicing in Turkey during the last two decades, not different than his predecessors, but in a more rough way and in a larger scale. During Erdoğan regime, Turkey turned into a construction site of huge scale constructions, exploiting whole country's financial and human resources in order to create a new bourgeoisie class loyal to him or to transform the previous ones to be loyal to Erdoğan.



The large scale constructions does not only serve to proliferate the financial resources of Erdoğan's "new" bourgeoisie, but also function well to manipulate the citizens. Large roads, tall buildings, biggest airport... all were functioning well to polish the broken ego of public in Turkey who had been for long humiliated at the gates of EU and with the misbehavior of US governments. During the last two decades under Erdogan regime, despite exploiting the scarce financial resources of the country, the greedy motivation of such an inferiority complex of a tyrant put Turkey in a constant economic crisis making poverty more and more unbearable for the people.

Combining with the bullying acts of Erdogan in international diplomacy, meta-fetish constructions sustained public approval of the costly projects.

In addition to the costly projects, another strategy of Erdogan for sustaining consolidation of people is distributing speculative news. Many times, government have announced production of national airplane, national automobile, national tramway and such where none of them have been materialized never ever. Having exploited country's all resources, Erdogan regime seeks to find other means to consolidate public by creating speculative "good news". "Good news" referring to newly explored natural resources which is said to boost Turkey's economy have always been a tool for manipulation for the right wing politics but it had never been presented that flamboyant way.

Erdogan's latest performance in giving "good news", by a media campaign making people to be curious on and occupying public agenda for two days was a breathtaking governance practice that will be talked over for decades.

The most peculiar thing about the "good news" is that, until Erdogan regime, any of the right wing politicians were not brave enough to present "good news" themselves, but they were using the media, "the owner's voice." "Good news" on exploration of natural gas reserves were something like routine for owner's voice media. Here are some headlines from media given in the last two decades:

- Natural gas discovered in Akçakoca (9 September 2004, Hürriyet)
- Hopes for oil after natural gas in Akçakoca (26 November 2006, DHA)
- Black Sea natural gas commissioned (20 May 2007, Anadolu Agency)
- Oil was caught in the Black Sea (26 August 2007, Sabah)
- Natural gas discovered in Sakarya (15 May 2009, Sabah)
- New natural gas reserve found (17 June 2010, Anadolu Agency)
- TPAO's (Turkish Petroleum) Akçakoca statement pleasing (29 March 2011, Anadolu Agency)
- Minister Yıldız: We found oil, but we cannot extract it (25 August 2012)
- Milliyet: The Black Sea, the new center in oil and natural gas (10 March 2013, Milliyet)
- Minister Dönmez: A natural gas discovery was made in Akçakoca (29 June 2020)

As can be seen from the headlines of the news agencies, giving "good news" on newly explored natural gas has been a routine. However, in August 21st, it was for the first time that the announcement was done by the first hand, instead of using media or some minister.

Despite chronicle attempt of Erdogan regime to distribute speculative news, his manipulations are useless for the working class. We are aware that even if new natural resources will be found, they will be serving the new "bourgeoisie" of the Erdogan regime and will be shared with the international energy monopolies. Since the first day of the announcement of the "good news" TİP declared that; "If the working class will pay the bill, we do not need that gas".

This country does not need surprises and "great good news", but needs to be liberated from Erdogan regime.



# Tension In The Eastern Mediterranean Sea: Hostility Serve Not to Greeks and Turks but Right-Wing Governments of Ankara and Athens!

The discovery of vast hydrocarbon deposits in the Mediterranean region contributes to a deepening situation with growing inter-state tensions. The extraction of these resources in the eastern Mediterranean basin would imply the control of a good part of the energy industry that feeds Europe. Though this industry was paralyzed during the pandemic, it is expected to rebound as the world economy reactivates. Recently, this is the source of the dispute between Turkey and Greece. The discussion revolves around who has the rights to explore and exploit the maritime platforms, something that is very clear in international law — 12 nautical miles from the coast for territorial waters and 200 miles for Exclusive Economic Zones — but which, in the case of Greece and Turkey, is more complicated due to the 5,000 islands that form the Greek territory in the Aegean Sea and its proximity to the Turkish coast. In both countries, nationalism has exploded as was demonstrated in the region of Thrace, where Erdogan has opened the doors to thousands of Syrian refugees to enter Europe, who are systematically repressed by the Greeks.



However, these days, tension between the two countries are at their highest in twenty years. For the moment, a military conflict is unthinkable. Rather, Erdogan's provocations are a response to domestic crises like the collapse of the Turkish lira. Turkish natural gas exploration is an opportunity to address Turkey's economic and energy crisis by becoming a supplier of hydrocarbons and aligning its population behind nationalist and political Islamist projects, while at the same time using this situation in negotiations with other countries. The current tensions are a sign that geopolitical re-arrangements are becoming more complex, shrinking the available space at the table. Imperialist capitalism is in the midst of a crisis which cannot survive without producing rivalries and conflict zones. It should not be forgotten that such extraordinary crisis periods provide ample opportunities to create a favorable climate and actors for the rapid implementation of the driving war scenarios.

In Greece, during the ten years of heavy economic crisis, the workers got poorer. The same situation is occurring in Turkey in the last few years as well.

There is nothing for the sake of the workers in this scenario.

There will be nothing but poverty, heavy exploitation and unemployment for the working people.

Under these circumstances, we must not let the bourgeoisie forget about real problems thanks to the nationalism they have promoted. Let us be aware that the stories of national unity, served the heavy exploitation of the working class.

**Long Live the solidarity of Greek and Turkish people!**



## NEWS FROM THE PARTY



Our vice chairman Barış Atay Mengüllüoğlu has been targeted by the minister of internal affair Süleyman Soylu, then attacked by a group of people. After this fascist attack, we organized a press conference with the participation of other socialist organizations.

The opening of our new branch in Çerkezköy was held with the participation of our Chairman Erkan Baş. After the opening, a badge wearing ceremony was held for our new comrades.



We held a public meeting in İzmir with the participation of our vice Chairman Barış Atay Mengüllüoğlu

We held our Maltepe public meeting with the participation of our Chairman Erkan Baş.





# WORKERS' PARTY OF TURKEY

Contact: International Relations Committee of TİP

[int@tip.org.tr](mailto:int@tip.org.tr)

 tipinternation

 tipinternationalIRC

 tipinternational

## Head Office

Caferağa Mah. General Asım Gündüz Cad. No: 17 D: 4 Kadıköy/İstanbul/Türkiye

T: (+90) 216 418 00 32 F: (+90) 216 418 00 42

**[tip.org.tr](http://tip.org.tr)**

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