

The Black Sea as the most promising petroleum province of the world

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The first crystals of hydrate in the world, which is regarded as the main power supply of the future, came from the Black Sea in 1974. Investigations carried out in this region allow estimation that reserves of methane concentrated in the Black Sea gas hydrates may vary from 130 to 1,300 trillion m³. So gas potential of the Black Sea is very high and the Black Sea area is one of the richest petroliferous regions of the world.

Investigations made by the Department of Marine Geology have revealed more than 4000 methane seepages in the Ukrainian part of the Black Sea. Calculation shows that about 1 bill. m³ of methane per day come from the Black Sea bottom into its waters. These gas seepages enter into the Black Sea water during many thousand years. So the Black Sea is the most gassed sea in the world.

The most prolific petroliferous region on the Earth is the Middle East province, where numerous and abounded oil and gas seepages are observed. Some of them ignited in the air and burn for ages, therefore they were named "the Eternal Fires". Inhabitants hold them sacred as a result religion of fire-worship or Zoroastrism was originated. But in the Black Sea region more gas seepages are known than in the Middle East region. So the Black Sea may contain more oil and gas resources than the Middle East.

New data show that oil and gas fields are inexhaustible and oil and gas industry will exist forever as far as the humankind needs it.