

**2nd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE PETROLEUM GEOLOGY  
AND  
HYDROCARBON POTENTIAL OF THE BLACK SEA AREA**

**22-24 September, 1996  
ile- stanbul, TURKEY**

**MEZO-CENOZOIC PALEOGEOGRAPHY,  
STRUCTURE AND OIL/GAS  
PROSPECTIVES OF THE EASTERN  
BLACK SEA REGION**

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The Eastern Black Sea Region is a part of the European-Minor Asia oil/gas bearing province. On the basis of the present tectonic subdivision this region situates between Eurasian continent to the north and the Pontian-Transcaucasian arc system to the south, representing a backarc basinal setting or a marginal sea during Late Mesozoic and Early Cenozoic; it contains a thick pile of black slates and turbiditic-volcanic sequence. But, along the southern edge of the Eurasian continent and the northern shelf of the arc, terrigenous clastic and carbonic rocks were deposited. All these rock units contain organic materials to some extent.

Immediately after the collision of the Eurasian continent and Pontian-Transcaucasus arc system at the beginning of Oligocene, intracontinental structures such as foreland and intermountain depressions and mountain chains started to have been formed along the Eastern Black Sea Region. Then thick sedimentary sequence which are not deformed much have also been deposited in the shell of Eastern Black Sea and the Rione depression which contain oil-gas resources.