

Russian oil and gas export and the Energy Charter Protocol on Transit : Russia's concerns and draft solutions

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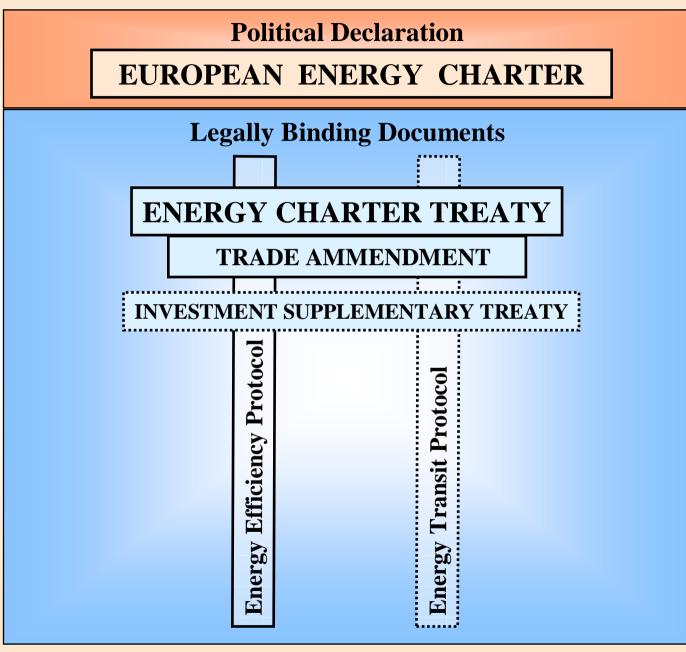
ENERGY CHARTER HISTORY

June 25, 1990	Lubbers' initiative presented in Dublin
December 17, 1991	European Energy Charter signed
December 17, 1994	Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) and Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects (PEEREA) signed
June, 1996	Russia started ECT ratification process
April, 1998	ECT came into full legal power
January 1, 2002	 ECT signed by 51 states + European Communities = 52 ECT ratified by 45 states (excl. 6 countries: Russia, Belarus, Iceland, Japan, Australia, Norway) + EC Russia: provisional application, together with Belarus

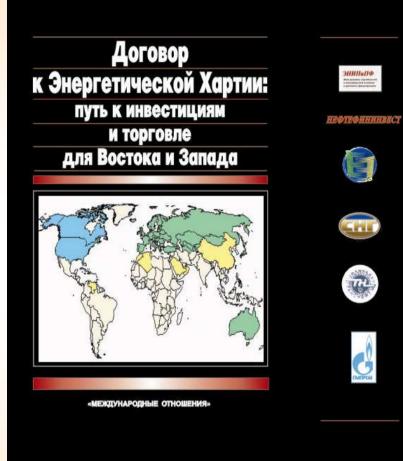
State Duma:Russia will ratify ECT, but not yet (depending on Transit Protocol)

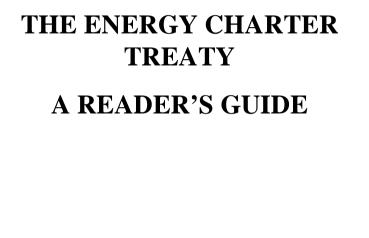


ENERGY CHARTER AND RELATED DOCUMENTS









LIST OF ISSUES RELATED TO TRANSIT OF ENERGY, THAT ARE OF RUSSIA'S CONCERN

TRANSIT PROTOCOL

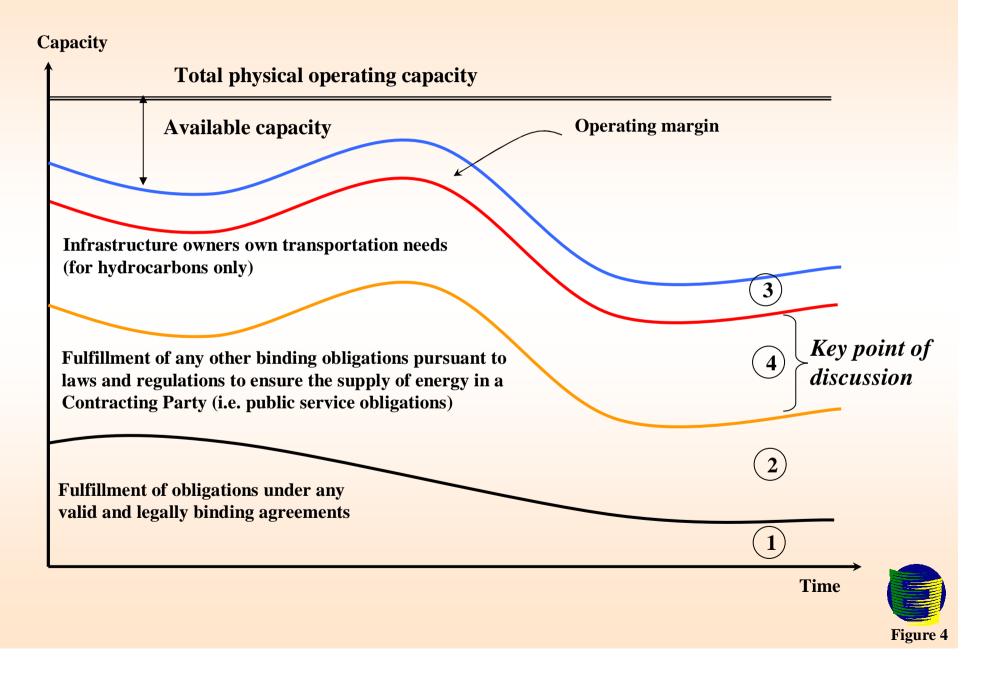
- 1. Available capacity
 - 2. Transit tariffs
- 3. Right of first refusal
 - 4. REIO clause

TRANSIT RELATED ISSUES

5. Conciliation of transit disputes



1. AVAILABLE CAPACITY



1. AVAILABLE CAPACITY (continued)

Russia's concerns:

Any definition of Available Capacity must take into consideration the present organisation of Russian oil and gas complex

* * * * * *

A. Available Capacity = total physical operating capacity, less

1) Fulfillment of obligations under any valid and legally binding agreements

2) Fulfillment of any other binding obligations pursuant to laws and regulations

3) Operating margin

4) Infrastructure owners own transportation needs (for hydrocarbons only)

OR

B. Available Capacity = total physical operating capacity, less

1) Fulfillment of obligations under any valid and legally binding agreements

2) Fulfillment of any other binding obligations pursuant to laws and regulations

3) Operating margin

Conclusions (solution):

The concerns of Russia has been fully addressed by including "infrastructure owners own transportation needs (for hydrocarbons only)" into definition of Available Capacity



2. TRANSIT TARIFFS

Excessive Profits?

Reasonable profits, function of total investments and their financing

Operating costs per year

Investment cost per year, function of total investments in Energy Transit Facilities

Obligations:

Transit tariffs shall be objective, reasonable, transparent and nondiscriminatory

States should prohibit the abuse of a dominant position

Given the fulfillment of these obligations, transit tariffs may be established by any method, such as:

- a) Regulated transit tariff
- b) Negotiated transit tariff
- c) Congestion management mechanism such as auctions



Russia's concerns:

The transit tariffs shall be based on cost and shall include a reasonable profit. No special taxes should be included. Auctions systems can <u>not</u> give a reasonable profit.

Conclusions (solution):

Transit tariffs shall be based on cost stemming from internationally accepted accounting rules and shall yield an acceptable profit. Only taxes in conformity with international agreements may be included in the cost base.

Each of Contracting Parties can choose method for implementation, <u>provided</u> it fulfils the criteria specified.

Auctions can provide a machinery of a recycling-type mechanism transforming "excessive profits" into expansion of available capacity and thus diminishing the very need for further auctions, until the new deficit of available capacity will appear due to increase in demand for it.



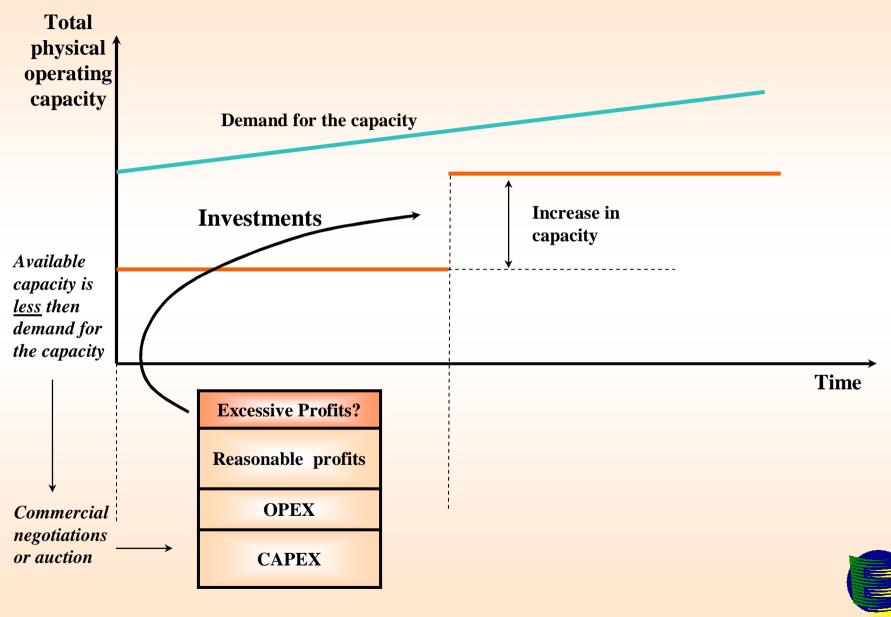
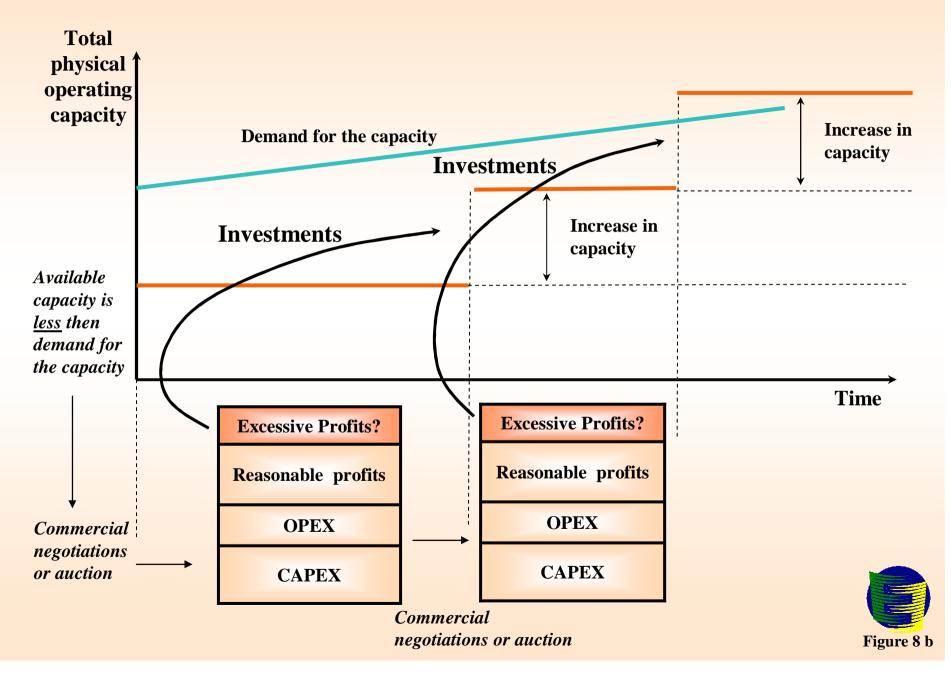
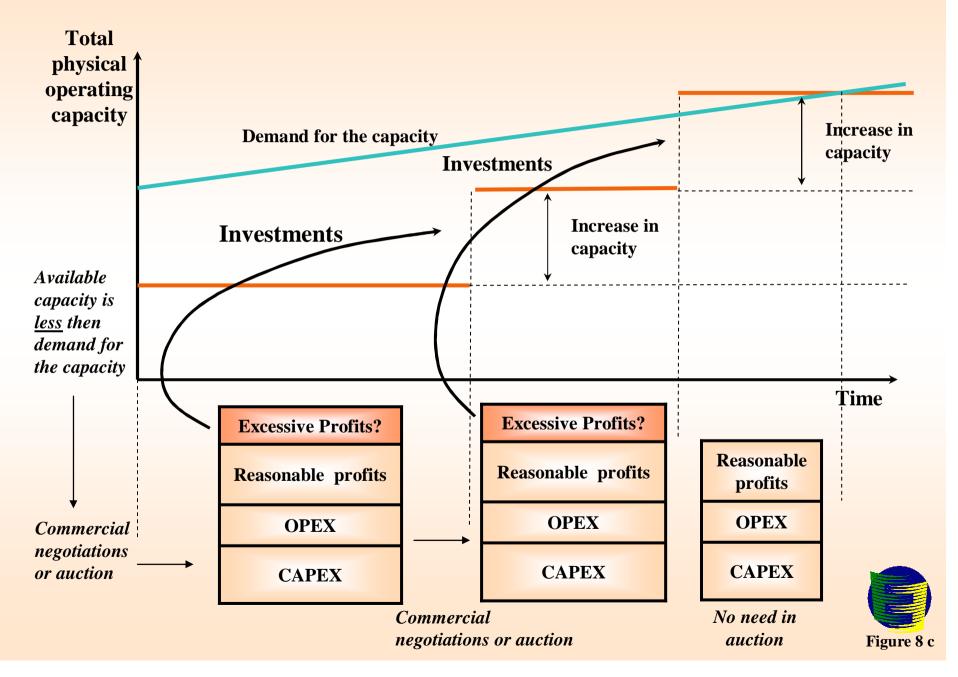


Figure 8 a

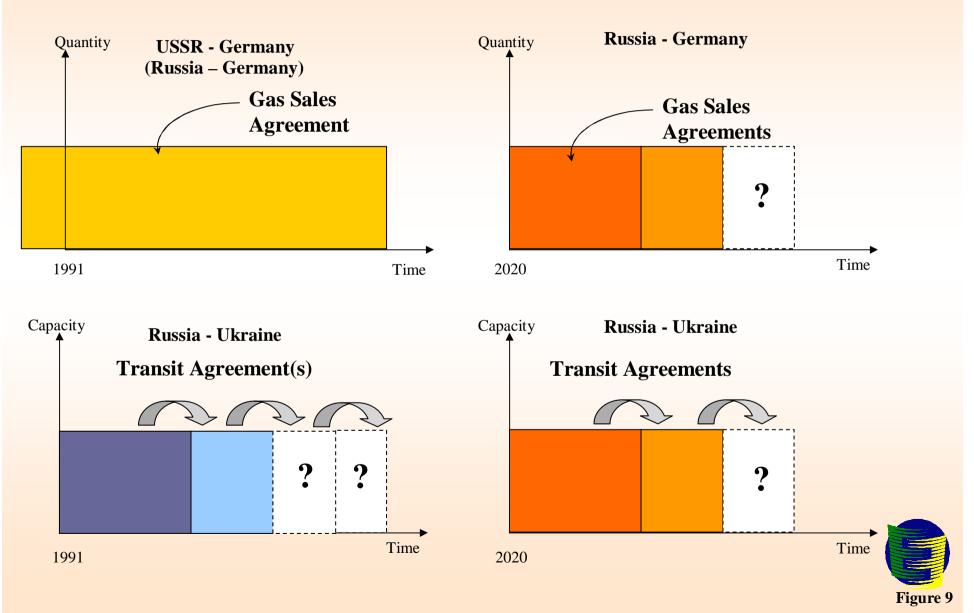




3. RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

Currently

In the future



3. RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL (continued)

Russia's concerns:

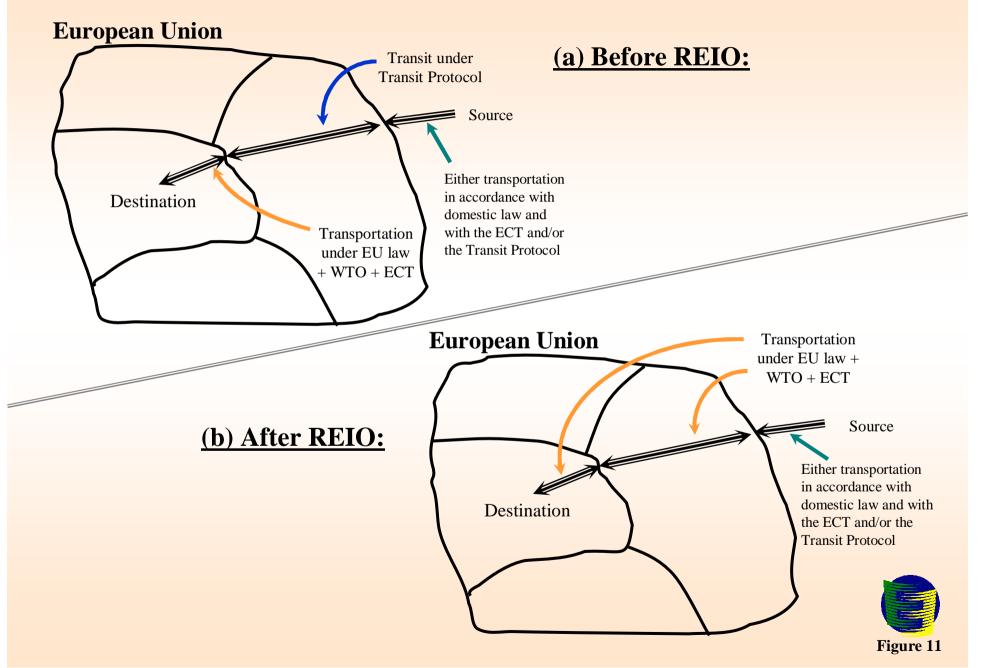
- a) Historical collapse of the Soviet Union, leading to mismatch between the duration of gas sales agreements and transit agreements outside the territory of Russia
- b) Market access or the allocation of limited pipeline capacities between existing gas market players and newcomers

Conclusions (solution):

- Item a) solved in the Transit Protocol
- Item b) still open for negotiations



4. REIO clause



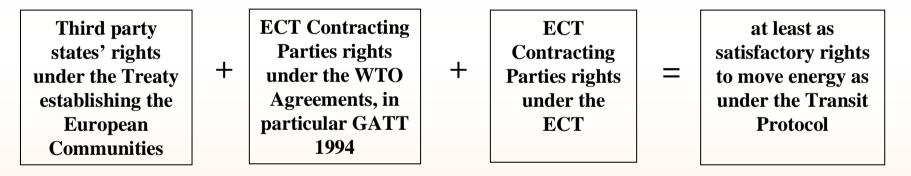
4. REIO clause (continued)

Comparison of "Transit under Transit Protocol" and "Transportation under EU law +WTO+ECT"

Russia's concerns:

- I) Maintain transit and transportation rights comparable to rights contained in the Transit Protocol on the territory of the European Union
- II) Transparency and stability of legal regime

Conclusions (solution):



Sources: EU legal analysis ECS legal analysis

Russian delegation at the TWG meeting (8.03.2002) has agreed with the conclusions of the analysis



5. CONCILIATION

Dispute settlement procedure (b) not in the contract (a) in the contract "...dispute over any matter arising from Transit..." "...all dispute resolution If no "previously agreed" dispute resolution remedies, then straight to remedies previously **Conciliator** agreed..." **END OF DISPUTE** SETTLEMENT PROCEDURE CONCILIATOR

~100% of

transit contracts

100%

0%

1991

Number of transit contracts

2001

not containing DSP

dispute is resolved or 12 months Figure 13

Interim decision applicable until

(whichever is the earlier)

~ 0% of

transit contracts

5. CONCILIATION (continued)

Russia's concerns:

The conciliation mechanism, relying on one Conciliator, can be used to "re-open" the result from an arbitration. In such a situation the Conciliator has too much power.

Conclusions (solution):

The ECT prescribes that the Energy Charter Conference, in which the Contracting Parties meet, shall adopt rules for the conduct of the conciliation.

The proposed solution is to amend the rules, by adding a new one, prescribing that the Conciliator has no jurisdiction if the dispute concerned has been resolved through a final and binding arbitration.



FINAL CONCLUSIONS

Major concerns of Russia has been adequately addressed in the latest draft of the Transit Protocol (TP), at least in substance if not in final legal wording.

Draft agenda for finalising of TP negotiations might be the following (if political will of the Contracting Parties is there):

- Final TWG meeting end of May 2002
- End of negotiations on TP end of June 2002 (Energy Charter Conference)
- Signing ceremony of TP mid-December 2002 (Energy Charter Conference)

That might open the way for ECT ratification procedure in Russia

