

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES OF EUROPEAN UNION AND TURKEY

Sustainable Development is one of the most famous subjects for all sciences nowadays. Since more than 15 years, the environmental capability and social and economical problems of our world has taken into consideration by politicians, scientists and also academicians. Why?

Everybody has been aware that the sources of “mother nature” are not endless. The clean water resources have decreased day by day. Air pollution and climate change are considered one of the main problems that the world will face in the near future. Moreover, the gap between the developed countries and developing/underdeveloped countries has increased day by day. The average income in the 20 richest countries is now 37 times that in the poorest 20. It is estimated that 2 Billion people live with less than \$2 per a day. (World Bank Development Report 2003) It is obvious that we have not only ecological problems but also economical, social and also cultural problems.

We have to do many things for our world and so for our future. This is the main idea that lies behind the “sustainable development”. Everybody should have interest in the well-being of the future generations. But, while coping with the air pollution or climate change, we should take also the poverty, inequality and many more different problems into account. That is to say, we need multi- perspectives policies to solve such multi-faced problem.

Many supra- national institutions deal with sustainable development, especially United Nations, World Bank, OECD and of course European Union (EU). I think that the role of EU is much more important than the other institutions. Because, he holds the legislative and implementing powers into his hands. For that reason, I will work on EU policies regarding on ecological and sustainability problems and I want to compare them with the policies of Turkey and also to figure out the role of Turkey as a developing country in this process.

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