



# Development And Environmental Values Conflict In The Context Of Environmental Impact And Assessment: The Case Of Malatya

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## Abstract

*In the world, where the economic system has been constantly developing and changing from the Industrial Revolution to today, the volume of production and consumption has increased with the increasing world population, and this has brought new burdens to the ecological system. The increase in the use of fossil fuels for energy needs with the Industrial Revolution, the increase in production on a global scale with the development of international trade, while increasing wealth on the one hand, resulted in an increase in environmental problems on the other. As a result of the thesis that the world states will develop with the motto of capitalism, "more production, more consumption", the ecological system has faced a burden that it cannot bear. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which was first introduced to the world within the scope of the National Environmental Policy Act, which came into force in the USA in 1970, on the necessity of ensuring development without damaging environmental values, is a process in which the significant effects of a certain project or development on the environment are determined. It was implemented as a process. This study aims to reveal how EIA applications are used as an effective mechanism in protecting environmental values in Turkey and in Malatya in particular, and to reveal their deficiencies. In the study, a qualitative method based on literature review and observation was used.*

**Keywords:** Environmental impact and assessment, sustainable development, ecology, environmental values

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# Çevresel Etki ve Değerlendirme Bağlamında Kalkınma ve Çevresel Değerler Çatışması: Malatya İli Örneği

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## Öz

*Ekonomik sistemin Sanayi Devriminden bugünlere sürekli gelişim ve değişim gösterdiği dünyada üretim ve tüketim hacmi, artan dünya nüfusu ile birlikte sürekli artmış, bu da ekolojik sisteme yeni yükler getirmiştir. Sanayi Devrimiyle birlikte fosil yakıtların enerji ihtiyacı için kullanımının artması ve uluslararası ticaretin gelişmesiyle birlikte küresel ölçekte üretimin artması bir yandan zenginliği artırırken öte yandan çevresel sorunların artmasıyla sonuçlanmıştır. Kapitalizmin “daha fazla üretim daha fazla tüketim” mottosuyla dünya devletlerinin kalkınacağı tezi, ekolojik sistemi taşıyamayacağı bir yükü karşı karşıya bırakmıştır. Kalkınmanın çevre değerlerine zarar vermeden sağlanması gerekliliği üzerine ilk kez ABD’de 1970 yılında yürürlüğe giren Ulusal Çevre Politikası Kanunu (National Environmental Policy Act) kapsamında dünya ile tanışan Çevresel Etki Değerlendirmesi (ÇED), belirli bir proje veya gelişmenin, çevre üzerindeki önemli etkilerinin belirlendiği bir süreç olarak hayata geçmiştir. Bu çalışma, ÇED uygulamalarının genelde Türkiye özelinde ise Malatya’da çevre değerlerini korumada etkili bir mekanizma olarak nasıl kullanıldığının ve eksik yönlerinin ortaya konulmasına yöneliktir. Çalışmada, literatür taraması, doküman incelemesi ve gözleme dayalı nitel bir yöntem kullanılmıştır.*

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Çevresel etki ve değerlendirme, sürdürülebilir kalkınma, ekoloji, çevresel değerler

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## Introduction

In the fight with natural conditions, humankind had covered an important distance with his/her intelligence and experience and moved to the post-industrial era. Although this fight is seen as a victory of human over nature, it has made human pays a heavy price in many areas in return for what was taken from it.

The basis of the fight that humankind laid into with the environment stems from the dichotomy between "ecology-economy". On the one hand, humanity wants to continue its production and consumption activities by using the earth's resources, and on the other hand, it desires the protection of biodiversity and ecological balance. It must be recognized that it is very difficult to maintain both at the same time and at the same level.

Recognizing this challenge, academician, international institutions, and politicians have brought the concept of "sustainable development" to the world agenda by conceptualizing it as "meeting the needs of the present without preventing future generations from meeting their own needs". With this approach, it is aimed to provide the resources for the use of both living people and future generations (Yıldırım ve Göktürk; 2004, s.450) by capturing a compatible balance between the phenomenon of economy and ecology which can be considered as two poles. However, when the development line of humanity is followed, humanity has always sustained itself, multiplied, its population has increased, and with the increasing population, the consumption imposed by capitalism has increased, and this situation has created the need for more industrialization, higher levels of technology and more natural resources (Erdem, 20165, s.80). Industrially advanced countries which can be regarded as the "spoiled children" of economic growth in the world, have continued their development despite environmental pollution reaching global scales and have upheaved the entire balance of the world in a short period of 150 years.

The most fundamental thing that must be done for sustainable development to be realized is not to abandon the economy to market forces. Therefore, as a result of the need to establish interventionist and protectionist policies for the environment, the implementation of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was introduced to the world agenda in 1970. EIA is a set of actions to ensure that all negative environmental impacts that may be caused

by a planned financial activity are identified in advance and necessary measures are taken by protecting environmental values against economic policies without hindering economic and social development.

## **Methodology**

In the literature, the purpose of EIA, is defined as preserving environmental values against economic policies without hindering economic and social development, determining in advance all the negative environmental effects that a planned activity may cause and ensuring that the necessary measures are taken. In this study, it is discussed how EIA is used as an effective mechanism to protect environmental values in Turkey. The study employed qualitative method based on literature review and document analysis.

## **Development And Sustainability**

The most important concepts emphasized by those interested in the environment are development and sustainability. These two concepts have been on the world agenda since the "Environment and Development" conference organized in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

In today's world, on the one hand, there are southern countries that want to use natural resources for development rashly, and on the other hand, there are developed Western capitalist countries that bring their dirty industries to underdeveloped countries and their corporations. While all these actors realize their financial growth, they cause deterioration of environmental qualities and environmental pollution. Seeing this, many activists or researchers make the mistake of rejecting economic development for the purpose of environmental protection.

In an international meeting organized for environmental protection, Yaşar (1995, s.15), who quoted a mayor from the economically underdeveloped parts of Brazil asking for environmental pollution to be created for his town, pointed out the dilemma in developing countries. There is no doubt that every single country in the world wants to use its resources in the most effective and efficient way to ensure the welfare and happiness of its population. Whatever the economic system is implemented in a country, the main questions that the country's administrators need to answer are the same. These are which goods should be produced in the country, how much should be produced, with which technology should be produced, and how should

the distribution within the country be (Geray, 1991, s.38). The answers to these four questions also provide ideas about the country's economic system. The answer to each of these questions is closely related to the natural environment and its elements.

To analyze development from a conceptual perspective, it can be stated that the concept is discussed and shaped around two different academic views in academic circles. The first of these academic movements is the rationalist movement of thought, led by the liberal movement, which unquestionably accepts meta-based economic development practices in which the concept of development is considered a useful and necessary variable for growth. The other is the movement led by Marxist, post-modernist and dependency school theoreticians and the ones who argue that the content and application of the concept of development are the embodiment of imperialist ideas (Turhan, 2020, s.150). Development economics, which emerged as a sub-branch of economics in liberal circles, has gained strength with the increasing influence of the US on the world and many academic studies have been conducted in this field. In these studies, the phenomenon of development is expressed in terms of increases in national income, while the main objective of development has been to transform the structure of production and employment apart from agriculture to industry and services sectors (Doğan, 2011, s.54). One of the definitions of the concept of development is "the collective transformation of societies with a traditional structure into the modern social and technological structure of developed countries", while another definition is "the state of a country to develop its social and economic structure and catch up with developed contemporary countries" (Özmete ve Özdemir, 2015, s.112). The two definitions have in common the transformation of social structures and economies.

The notions of "sustainability" and "sustainable development" are notions that need to be considered together with the notion of development. These notions are also shaped around liberal thought and are accepted in these environments. Sustainability is defined as "the ability to perpetuate the existence of an existing thing" or "the ability to ensure that socially shaped relationships between society and nature continue in the long term". Although the definitions of sustainable development vary, Keleş (1998, s.112) defines it as "an environmentalist world view that aims to ensure economic development without sacrificing the principle of using environmental values and natural resources in a rational way that does not lead to wastefulness, taking into ac-

count the rights and benefits of present and future generations". Another definition is "the efforts of economies to minimize the damage they cause to the environment in the process of industrialization" (Seyidoğlu, 2002, s.582).

Regional and international organizations held by the United Nations have an important place in the shaping and acceptance of the notion of sustainable development. To summarize the work done on this issue,

1972 Conference on Human and Environment

1980 Strategy of World Protection

1982 World Protection Charter

1987 Our Common Future Report

1992 Conference on Environment and Development

1993 Commission on Sustainable Development

2000 Millennium Summit

2002 Johannesburg Summit

2012 Rio +20 Summit

2015 Antalya Global Development Goals

2016 Delhi Sustainable Development Summit

With the adoption of the concept of sustainable development by the countries of the world, the concept of development focused on quantitative economic growth has been replaced by the idea of development that will allow future generations to meet their needs without completely consuming natural resources, while maintaining the balance between the environment and the economy (Tosun, 2019, s.17).

Although this approach has been adopted, some academic studies indicate that sustainable development is a problematic understanding. For example, Şahin (2004, s.1) states his suspicion about sustainable development with his statements that are "sustainable development, with all its implications, is like a Trojan Horse that has been carefully designed, carefully studied and sent into hostile territory for all ecological and libertarian movements, especially green political movements. One should think carefully before opening the door and letting it in".

Also, in order to realize sustainable development in a healthy way environmental policies, economic policies and social policies should be carried out together and in harmony with each other. Among the factors that form these policies, the economy and society are dependent on the environmental factor, while the environment can survive independently of the economy and the social ground.

## Environmental Impact Assessment

In the current era, environmental problems are encountered in different ways in every country and geography, and even if many governments want to take compulsory and compelling decisions regarding the environment, these decisions cannot be implemented due to companies that are more powerful than them. Because of their financial power, these companies can remain out of government control. While this justification retains its importance, another reason is that economic development is considered as the primary goal by countries, and environmental damages and policies that will eliminate these damages are pushed to the second plan.

Presently, one of the most effective tools of environmental management and planning is the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system. Against the industrialization that started with the Industrial Revolution, rapid population growth, unplanned urbanization and environmental problems that became increasingly globalized after the 1960s, the countries of the world have developed policies either to eliminate the problems after they have occurred or to prevent them from occurring before they occur. Since EIA is a mechanism that prevents environmental problems before they occur, it has become prominent as the method preferred by states after the 1970s.

In the literature, EIA is defined as "the objective determination and evaluation of whether a project and its alternatives will cause environmental problems or not, based on a regular system, where research and results are clearly displayed, where the public and authorized institutions can participate and express their opinions to the extent possible". It is possible to multiply the definitions, but the main point where these definitions unite is that EIA is a monitoring and evaluation process that starts before any investment activity and continues after the activity ends (Aydın, 2003, s.19).

As a tool that reconciles economics and ecology, EIA enables ecological, economic, political, and technical factors to be handled together in environmental issues. Due to its broad content and multi-directional approach, EIA has become an important tool for sustainable development (Ertürk, 2018:422). Also, EIA is a participatory, integrative, predictive, and process that combines public service and law enforcement activities, an administrative procedure, and a technical management tool with interdisciplinary features, in addition to ensuring prevention, which is the basic principle of environmental law (Turgut, 2009, s.210).

The EIA was designed as a legal tool to legitimize the functioning of operating activities that cause or are likely to cause destruction on nature, and thus it has been thought that with this way it will provide ensuring the free functioning of capitalist production and reproduction. However, with the impact of the opposition that emerged both during and after its enactment, as differentiated from the way it was first designed this legal procedure has started to function as an important tool for the protection of the environment.

The EIA is an establishment of a legal form that is based on a substructure that fundamentally aims to provide the interests of the class that controls the economy, but that it cannot shape holistically (Saygılı, 2007, s.25).

For the first time in the world, EIA was come into force on January 1, 1970, with Article 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act in response to increasing environmental problems in the USA. Approximately 10 thousand EIA reports were prepared in the 6 years following the enactment of the law. This number increased to 20 thousand in 1981. In the first EIA studies conducted in the USA, assessments covered physical environmental factors, but later it was observed that socio-economic environments were also included in the scope of EIA (Yücel, 2001, s.15).

After the USA, the developed western capitalist countries took turns in introducing the requirement to prepare EIA. While Canada in 1973, France in 1976, the Netherlands in 1986, and Germany in 1990 started to operate this process, EIA implementation in Turkey started in 1993.

The European Union countries put into force the First Environmental Action Program in 1973 and a number of principles for the implementation of EIA were published in this program. These principles,

\*The best environmental policy, preventing problems at the source instead of preventing effects of environmental problems.

\*Pressures against environment should be analyzed at an early stage in all technical planning and decision-making actions.

\*Any use of natural resources that would harm the ecological balance must be prevented.

\*The level of scientific and technological knowledge of the society should be improved for actions to fight environmental problems, improve and protect the environment and

\* The cost of eliminating and preventing environmental problems should, as a rule, be covered by the polluter.

EU countries prepared the second environmental action program in 1977, the third in 1982, the fourth in 1987 and the fifth in 1993. The primary goals of this program are;

- \* Sustainable and nature-compatible use of natural resources,
- \* Solid waste removal and its integration with nature conservation,
- \* Preventing the use of non-renewable energy sources,
- \* Development of environmentally compatible transportation systems,
- \* Improving the quality of the environment in residential areas, considering the risk of workplace, protecting the health of the public (Yücel, 2001, s.20).

In the Fifth Environmental Action Program covering the years 1993-2000, the evaluation of all plans, programs and policies in the context of the environment was adopted and the EU stated that "policy, plan, program, and legislation in the fields of energy, industry, trade, agriculture, transport, regional development, tourism and other similar activities shall also be evaluated in terms of environmental impacts and the member states of the Union shall apply a similar holistic approach to their own policies".

### **EIA Practices And Relevant Legislation In Turkey**

Although the legal regulation related to EIA in Turkey was implemented in 1993, regulations similar to EIA are contained in the Village Law No. 442 dated 1924, Article 15 of the Municipality Law No. 1580, Article 268 and Article 269 of the Public Health and Hygiene Law No. 1593.

The provision directly related to environmental protection entered the national agenda with Article 56 of the 1982 Constitution. The relevant article regulates that "Everyone has the right to live in a healthy and balanced environment. It is the responsibility of the state and citizens to improve the environment, protect environmental health and prevent environmental pollution". One of the main components of the Environmental Law No. 2872 enacted in 1983 and the policy of the Ministry of Environment is identified as to take and get taken the necessary measures by conducting research and investigation before pollution and to ensure sustainable development instead of cleaning up after pollution, in accordance with the modern approach accepted today.

Article 10 of Environmental Law No. 2872 is defined as Environmental Impact Assessment. With "Institutions, organizations, and enterprises that may cause environmental problems as a result of their intended activities prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report. In this report, the ways in which wastes and residues that may cause environmental pollution can be

rendered harmless and the measures to be taken in this regard shall be specified by taking into consideration all possible impacts on the environment. The type of projects for which the Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be required, the respects it will contain and the principles about the authority by which it will be approved are determined by regulation." states of the relevant article, for the first time in Turkey, the determination of the negative impacts that may be caused by an activity before the realization of this activity and taking the necessary measures has been put on a legal basis.

Article 10 of the Environmental Law No. 2872 prepared the legal basis for the formation of the EIA regulation. EIA regulation enacted in 1993 was discussed in 1997 and a new EIA regulation was published by regulated after the deficiencies were eliminated.

Today, Environmental Impact Assessment operating as one of the general directorates of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, takes part in the duties like;

\*To carry out environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment studies and to take, follow and supervise the necessary decisions in this regard,

\* Following all kinds of activities and facilities for preventing environmental pollution and improving environmental quality, taking and having taken necessary precautions, inspecting, giving environmental permits and licenses

\*To follow up and inspect the emissions, discharges, wastes, purification and disposal systems of activities and facilities that cause environmental pollution,

\*To license, follow up and inspect all kinds of waste disposal facilities,

\*To conduct or have conducted inspections in order to determine the suitability and reliability of the products that fall into the remit of the Ministry in accordance with the relevant legislation and technical regulations, and to provide coordination between the authorized institutions

\* To prepare the environmental inventory and environmental status reports and to conduct relations with the European Environment Agency, of the General Directorate on Permitting and Inspection (<https://ced.csb.gov.tr>).

While the General Directorate explains its mission as "protecting the environment and human health, preventing pollution and providing sustainable development", it defines its vision as "a foundation that is permitting and licensing by assessing the environmental impacts of all activities that have an

impact on the environment in order for the public to live in a healthier environment, and that is conducting environmental inspections and measurements within this scope, aiming to raise the environmental standards with the prevention and control of environmental pollution, providing the improvement of the quality of institutions/organizations working on the environment, providing healthy, up-to-date and reliable environmental information to the public, decision-makers and researchers, working for a more livable world in cooperation with international organizations."

**Table 1:** *EIA Decisions Issued by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change*

YEAR	EIA POSITIVE	EIA NOT REQUIRED	EIA NEGATIVE
2011	308	4592	41
2012	426	3759	37
2013	477	3613	34
2014	471	4058	118
2015	315	3886	87
2016	405	3157	95
2017	431	3301	57
2018	401	3036	76
2019	440	2418	71
2020	390	2822	58

**Source: Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change 2020 Annual Report.**

When the EIA decisions made by the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change in Turkey from 2011 to 2020 are examined in Table 1, it is understood that the number of projects with a negative EIA decision over the years is quite low when compared to the EIA positive and EIA not required decisions.

When all EIA decisions made between 1993 and 2020 within the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulation are examined, it is observed that 6,118 EIA positive, 60 EIA negative, 65,934 EIA not required, and 1,134 EIA necessary decisions were made. Within this period, it is observed that the most EIA decisions were made in the petrol-mining sector (33,830, 47%).

**Table 2:** Sectoral Distribution of EIA Decisions Made in 2020

Sector Name	Number of EIA positive decisions	Number of EIA not required decisions	Number of total EIA decisions	Number of EIA required decisions	EIA process terminated
Petrol/Mining	139	1.175	1.314	51	330
Industry	42	456	498	2	33
Waste/Chemistry	82	338	420	1	63
Agriculture/Food	34	404	438	0	37
Energy	68	162	230	3	37
Transportation/Coast	24	47	71	1	19
Tourism/Housing	1	240	241	0	10
<b>Total</b>	390	2822	3212	58	529

**Source:** Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change 2020 Activity Report.

When the sectoral distribution of EIA decisions in 2020 is examined in Table 2, it is seen that the projects that gave the EIA positive and EIA not required decisions are mainly concentrated in the petrol/mining and waste/chemistry sectors. Considering that the petrol, mining, waste, and chemical sectors are the sectors that cause the most damage to the environment, it can be said that developed countries shift their pollutant industries to developing countries, thus polluting developing countries rather than exposing their own people and their own land to pollutants.

In the 15th article of the Environmental Law; it is ensured that "If the activity that causes contrariety of the Law No. 2872 and contrariety to the regulations published in accordance with this Law, is terminated in case of a one-off period not exceeding one year, If the violation is not remedied at the end of the given period, at the end of the period, immediately, partially or completely, temporarily or indefinitely, if no time is given." In this context, the decision to stop is made by the EIA, the General Manager of Permission and Audit in the Ministry center and the Provincial Managers of Environment and Urbanization in the provinces.

In 2020, 280 facilities are decided to close by 42 Environmental Urbanism and Climate Change Provincial Directorates, 18 facilities by the Ministry Central Organization and 298 facilities in total. 58 of these profits are industrial enterprises operating in Istanbul, 34 in Antalya, 23 in Tekirdağ, 17 in Kocaeli, 15 in Konya, 14 in İzmir and 12 in Çanakkale. Although the closure/stop decision is seen as a heavy sanction for the industrialist, it is one way to protect the environment and environmental values without further destruction.

Türkiye is one of the countries that have a dilemma between environmental values and economy. Yatağan thermal power plant can be given as an example of this dilemma that Turkey is experiencing. Although the environmental problems created by the thermal power plant have a devastating effect on the health and agricultural production of those living in the villages of Yatağan, this situation is interpreted less important by the power plant employees due to the magnitude of the economic value added that created by the power plant (Özgür, 1998, s.52).

Another example of the environment-economy dilemma is given by Tuna (2006, s.36) in his study titled "Environmentalism in Turkey". As the environmental problems that may stem from the gold mine in Bergama are of vital importance for the villagers of Bergama, the villagers of Bergama, who showed a strong resistance and organized themselves during the establishment phase of the gold mine, softened and gave up their resistance after the mine started to operate, when they found jobs in the mine.

As can be understood from the examples and numbers given so far, from the 1970s, when the EIA practice entered the world agenda, to the present day, the environment and its values have mostly remained secondary to economic systems and humanity has been the loser.

### **Malatya City And EIA Practises**

Under this heading, the location of Malatya, the industrial structure of the city, and the Environmental Impact Assessment of industrial establishments by sector are discussed. Therefore, energy, mining, textile, chemical, husbandry and petrol-natural gas facilities among the industrial branches operating in Malatya will be evaluated within the scope of EIA.

#### **Location of the City**

Malatya Province is located in the west of the Eastern Anatolia Region, in the Upper Euphrates section of the Euphrates River Valley, at the northern end of the Hatay - Maraş collapse rill; on the Tohma, Euphrates and Kuruçay valleys and the mountains and plateaus surrounding them. Opening to the Mediterranean with the Sultansuyu and Sürgü Stream valleys, to Central Anatolia with the Tohma valley and to Eastern Anatolia with the Euphrates valley, Malatya is a transition route between these three regions (Bilsam, 2011, s.10). Malatya ranks 23rd among the provinces of Turkey with an area of 12,412 km<sup>2</sup>. Elazığ to the east, Erzincan to the north, Sivas to the north and northwest, Maraş to

the west, Adıyaman to the south, and Diyarbakır to the southeast of it are found. Malatya is 910-950 meters above sea level. The waters of the Karakaya Dam Lake on the Euphrates River form the natural border of the province to the east and southeast (Malatya Municipality, 1990, s.24).

### **Industrial Structure of the City**

Malatya is the most prominent city in the Eastern Anatolia Region in terms of industrialization. The industrialization of the city, which was largely dependent on public investments such as the Sümerbank Weaving Mill, Monopol Cigarette Factory, and Sugar Factory until the 1980s, was shaped by investments made by private enterprise as a result of changing public policies in the 1980s.

The most important reasons for the capital accumulation underlying Malatya's industrialization thrust that started after the 1980s are the return of apricot, which is an important source of income for the city, and the appropriate use of investment incentives provided by the state (Sezik, 2021, s.28). It is seen that 976 out of 1206 industrialists in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry records have EIA certificates. Their distribution according to sectors is presented in Table 3.

**Table 3:** *Sectoral Distribution of Industrial Firms Have Malatya-EIA Certificate*

SECTOR	NUMBER
Energy	50
Mining	436
Industry	64
Food	20
Husbandry	143
Housing (Mass Housing Projects)	33
Textile (Weaving, knitting, yarn, dyeing)	170
Waste (Collecting Parsing, Recycle and Disposal Facilities)	25
Tourism	7
Chemistry	5
Petrol-Natural gas	5
Water	15
Transportation	3
Total	976

Source: Malatya Chamber of Commerce and Industry

## EIA Decisions in Malatya between 2012-2022 years

When industrial enterprises with EIA certificates are evaluated on a sectoral basis, it is seen that the mining sector stands out with 436 firms, while the textile and dyeing sector ranks second with 170 firms.

The most important decision on EIA made by the central administration is the decision that environmental impact assessment is not necessary. These are governorate decisions that examine the environmental impacts of projects subject to selection and elimination criteria and state that there are no significant environmental impacts and that there is no need to prepare an Environmental Impact Assessment Report. A total of 369 decisions between 2012 and 2022 years are in this scope.

**Table 4:** EIA Not Required Decisions in Malatya between 2012-2022 Years

EIA NOT REQUIRED DECISIONS	
SECTOR	NUMBER
Energy	12
Mining	203
Industry	31
Food	4
Husbandry	82
Housing	13
Textile	9
Waste	9
Shore	1
Chemistry	1
Petrol-Natural gas	1
Water	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>369</b>

It is seen that industrial establishments operating in Malatya have been fined 115 times for violating environmental law. A significant portion of the fines are imposed as a result of the unauthorized establishment and operation of facilities whose establishment and operation are subject to authorization. This is followed by other environmental polluting activities, such as firms' violation of the Water Pollution Control Regulation by discharging wastewater from their plant operations or human activities directly into the receiving environment without any treatment. Storage and transportation of wastes by industrial facilities in violation of laws and regulations by leaving their wastes in public places are identified as other criminal acts.

**Table 5:** Fines for EIA violations in Malatya between 2012-2022 years

TYPE OF FINE	NUMBER OF PERSONS, INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS AND AMOUNT OF FINES (TOTAL)	EXPLANATION
<b>Breach of EIA Commitment (pursuant to passage (e) of Article 20 of the Environmental Law)</b>	69- 2.893.017 TL	Fines imposed at the rate of 2% of the project cost on those who violate the undertakings given in the Final EIA reports / Project Introduction Files submitted during the EIA process and those who start operations without making the necessary applications even though they are subject to the EIA Regulation are in this category.
<b>Unauthorized activity (pursuant to passage (b) of Article 20 of the Environmental Law)</b>	23- 2.504.699 TL	Fines imposed on those who install and operate facilities that are subject to permission (within the scope of the Environmental Permit and License Regulation) without permission are in this category.
<b>Water Pollution and Wastewater (in accordance with passage (I) of Article 20 of the Environmental Law)</b>	9 – 638.971 TL	Fines imposed on those who violate the Regulation on Water Pollution Control by discharging wastewater resulting from facility activities or human activities directly into the receiving environment without any purification are in this category.
<b>Waste (in accordance with passages (r), (s), (v) of Article 20 of the Environmental Law)</b>	14- 1.723.922 TL	Fines imposed on those who discharge their waste in public places and those who store, transport and dispose of waste in violation of laws and regulations are in this category.
<b>TOTAL</b>	115- 7.760.609 TL	

SECTOR	NUMBER
Energy	1
Mining	13
Industry	3
Husbandry	2
Textile	1
Waste	2
Chemistry	1
TOTAL	23

In the sectors that are deemed inappropriate to operate at the end of the EIA process, the mining sector takes the first place clearly with 13 project applications. In total, 23 companies' EIA activities were deemed inappropriate, while 976 companies have an EIA Certificate. In addition, 369 companies were given a decision that

EIA was not required.

## Discussion and Conclusion

The world's economic system obtains all the other resources it needs for production, especially the non-renewable and renewable energy resources it uses as energy inputs, from the ecological system. States, which tend to increase their production day by day in the name of economic development, have therefore increased the burden on the ecological system.

The source of the global environmental problems the world is experiencing is the solid wastes and gaseous emissions released into the environment as a result of economic activities and the use of natural resources in excess of the renewal capacity of the environment. Although the harmful effects of the economic system on the environment increased at the end of the 20th century, the goal of economic growth, which is the priority of the economic policies of the states, has not been abandoned and the protection of the environment has been put in the second plan.

Seeing that this is unsustainable, states have integrated the Environmental Impact Assessment System into their environmental policies in order to protect environmental values against economic policies without hindering economic and social development, to ensure that all negative environmental impacts that a planned activity may cause are identified in advance and necessary measures are taken.

With the EIA regulations, it is aimed to raise environmental awareness and consciousness in existing and planned industrial facilities and the public, and this goal has been achieved to a considerable extent. However, the main goals to be achieved by the EIA, such as foreseeing the damages that industrial investments may cause to the environment in advance, providing full information about the investment project and increasing participation, have not been fully realized. Implemented as the most important instrument of the "sustainable development" approach of liberal environments, EIA has been seen as a legitimization ground for economic development rather than the protection of environmental values.

It can be said that this situation is equally valid for both Turkey and Malatya. When the data were analyzed, it can be asserted that the number of highly polluting industries such as mining and chemistry, which impose significant burdens on the environment, is quite high. In addition, 203 of the 369 decisions for which an environmental impact assessment is not required are companies operating in the mining sector, while 31 are companies operating in the industrial sector. When all these data are considered together, it is seen

that Western developed capitalist countries direct their polluting industries to Turkey's cities, and Turkey protects these sectors, which it considers to support economic development, at the expense of putting their negative externalities at the expense of environmental values.

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