The Economic Aspect of the Russian-Ukrainian War

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Abstract

The research dealt with the economic aspects of the Russian-Ukrainian war in the context of food security and energy security, as it becomes clear that these conflicts have caused significant negative impacts on the agricultural and energy sectors in the world. Wars may disrupt the approach to agricultural resources necessary for food production, leading to a scarcity in supplies and an increase in prices, in addition to the disruption of energy supplies necessary to operate industries and meet the population’s needs, which exposes the economy to more challenges.

Keywords: Energy Security, Universal Food Security, Energy Supply Crisis, Black Sea Initiative.

INTRODUCTION

Let us observe beyond the suffering and humanitarian crisis resulting from the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the global economy will feel the effects of slower development and faster inflation. Russia and Ukraine are two of the central countries in the Eastern European region, so any conflict between them negatively affects the economy in the region significantly. The total national product of the two countries has declined in recent years, and investments, trade, tourism, and many other sectors have been damaged. In addition, the war led to the deterioration of economic relationships between Russia and many Western countries, which affected the policy of economic sanctions imposed by the United States of America and the European Union on Russia. The influence of the war is not limited to local economies only but extends to the global economy in general. It affected global financial markets and produced fluctuations in stock and currency prices. It posed a major confront to the global economy and affected international relations significantly.

Research Importance

The substance of the research lies in knowing the economic impact of this war, which is extremely important in ensuring energy and food security at the regional and international levels. The economic impact may lead to a decrease in global energy supplies and an increase in prices, negatively affecting the stability of the global market and countries' economies.

Research Problem

The main difficulty of the research is the extent of the impact of the Russian-Ukrainian war on energy security and global food security, and sub-questions revolve around it:

What are the negative outcomes on energy prices, and do they affect consumers' purchasing power?

Does the shortage of energy sources lead to unrest, which in turn creates uncertainty in the global market?

Research Hypothesis

To counter the problem of the study, a hypothesis was formulated stating that Russia and Ukraine are two of the most important food exporters in the world. Therefore, the Russian-Ukrainian war led to a significant reduction in food and energy, which led to an increase in food and energy prices worldwide.

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RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
Due to the complication of the topic, it has become necessary to use more than one scientific approach to prove the study hypothesis, including the inductive approach and the prospective approach.

Research Structure
The research included two necessitates as follows:
The first requirement is energy reassurance.
The second requirement is worldwide food security.

The First Requirement is Energy Security
The Russian-Ukrainian war has not yet over, but its severity is increasing daily, continuing to confuse the global scene, especially in the energy file, and raising more doubts about the future expectations of the markets. As the war remains, the global energy sector is among the most affected and volatile, and by the end of the year, during the first period of the war, the energy sector around the world in general and the European continent in particular witnessed major changes and fluctuations in the energy industry. The crisis is connected to Russia, one of the most important energy arteries in the world, and represents a major player in global energy markets, and this, in turn, prompted countries to take exceptional steps to confront the repercussions of that crisis. The energy factor represents an important component in determining the course and direction of Russian foreign policy, as Russia is considered the richest country in the world in terms of energy sources. It is the first country in the world regarding natural gas reserves and acquires the seventh largest oil reserves. The energy sector is considered a basic support of Russian national security. It is an important tool of its foreign policy, and this sector in Russia represents a basic economic supply whose returns are sufficient to develop the rest of the production sectors, improve the economy, and achieve independence and influence at the external level.

Determinants of Energy Security
Energy security is linked to a set of elements that force countries to adopt various mechanisms and strategies at the national and international levels, including:
The existing imbalances between the equilibrium of supply and demand in the global energy market, due to the increasing consumption of energy resources, especially oil and natural gas, and with the growth in population at the global level, energy resources are still insufficient to meet the increasing global demand, which witnesses a significant increase in consumption every year.
Climate disruption pressurizes the existence of fossil fuels in the future.
International conflicts connected to border demarcation problems.
Imposing Western and major countries’ control over supplying countries, such as seizing the oil and mineral wealth of the African continent and investing in renewable energy there.
Global disasters and disruption of transport actions in commercial crises such as the Corona pandemic.

Russian Policy of Imposing Impact through Energy
Energy is considered one of the crucial causes of power, coercion, manipulation, and motivation in the contemporary global economy. Energy has a main role in shaping the state’s foreign affairs in international politics and constitutes an important source of political influence as a bargaining chip in international diplomacy. The geopolitics of energy was not restrained to the great powers but included countries. The smaller ones began to become effective in their quest for power and control, through each country using its natural resources in more than one way to effectively strengthen its position in international politics. Since the mid-2000s, the ruling group in Russia began to reinforce its power through state control over oil and gas production, as the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation viewed energy as a type of geopolitical tool and one of the soft power assets that Russia uses to maintain its sphere of influence in the world, as it Russian energy exports have greatly enhanced its revenues and economic power. Moscow has adopted some tactical positions, such as
increasing prices or discounts and disrupting supplies, to strengthen its geopolitical motives. Gas pipelines have emerged as an effective political weapon in the indicators of the state against other parties.

Map 1. Russian gas pipelines to Europe.
Source: Yasmine Selim, Cobwebs Feeding Europe Why Is Russian Gas Important, 2022, at the link https://2u.pw/g1ATnack, access time 4/22/2024.

Russia is one of the main natural gas exporters to the European Union through the company “Bromine gas” especially in Eastern European countries, through several main corridors with a capacity of 16 billion cubic feet per day, with associated small lines. This company has a major character in the energy infrastructure of the European Union and controls imports. Of oil and gas, Russia also obeyed various dimensions to support its competitiveness in the European energy market in terms of tightening its grip on energy transmission and distribution networks, as Russian-European relations in the field of energy are a strategic partnership in terms of confirming the security of energy supplies and because the European Union is the main consumer of Russian energy.

The energy sector has become like a scope that guides Russian policy and governs its movement because it is a basic pillar of Russian national security in its comprehensive sense and the backbone of the economy of the Russian Federation. Alexander Dugin mentions in his book Foundations of Geopolitics (Russia’s Geopolitical Future), “Russia is the natural source of natural raw materials to other countries. This state of matters has a long history and has become, to a large extent, the determining factor in Russia’s geopolitical situation”.

**Russian pipelines to Europe are**

Nord Stream 1 pipeline or Nord Stream 1: The largest pipeline in terms of quantity, amounting to 55 billion cubic meters. It transported Russian gas to Germany, the Netherlands, France, the United Kingdom, and several European countries but was closed. Because of maintenance work, according to what was explained by the Russian “Bromine gas Company,” Western governments accused Moscow of looking for an excuse to cut off supplies in reaction to the sanctions imposed on Russia after it invaded Ukraine.

Nord Stream 2 pipeline or Nord Stream 2: A second double pipeline of the similar size, work completed in 2021, and Germany refused to approve its operation due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022.
Yamal-Europe Pipeline: Its capacity is 33 billion cubic meters. It spreads from the Russian Yamal Peninsula through Belarus and Poland to Germany at the Milano station and other European countries. It has been working in reverse since 2021, transporting gas from Germany to Poland. Berlin took this step in response to fears of cutting off Russian supplies.

Turk-Stream pipeline or Turkish Stream: a dual line with a capacity of 31.5 billion cubic meters, which transports and exports gas from Russia to Turkey via the Mediterranean Sea and then send it to southern and southeastern Europe via Turkey. Both lines have a capacity of 15.75 billion cubic meters. For each of them, the first line provides Turkey, while the second line supplies Europe via Bulgaria.

Blue Stream pipeline or Blue Stream routes through the Black Sea, carries gas from Russia to Turkey, and transports 16 billion cubic meters annually.

The Russian-Ukrainian War Caused Worrying Regional and International Repercussions, Including

First: Increasing Pressures on Global Prices

Both Russia and Ukraine constitute a large proportion of global exports of a large number of strategic commodities, as Russia is a major exporter of natural gas and occupies the second largest exporter of crude oil, as Russia represents almost 25% of global natural gas exports with 18% of coal exports, and 14% of global natural gas exports. A percent of platinum exports and 11% of global crude oil exports, the potential risks will control to pressures with a significant decrease in the supply of these commodities. The war has caused shock waves in global energy marketplaces, leading to price volatility, supply shortages, security issues, and economic uncertainty. Poor countries will support the brunt of the negative consequences resulting from the energy crisis. The most noticeable alteration for people is that energy prices are rising. According to statements by the International Energy Agency, the increase in fuel costs represents 90% of the increase in average electricity generation costs around the world. As oil prices continued from their lowest levels since the occurrence of the Corona pandemic (COVID 19), as the monthly change in the global average price of crude oil recorded an increase of 20.3% at the end of March 2022, compared to February of the same year, reaching $113/barrel, and it rose by 76.1% compared to the price in March of 2021, and according to the latest release on May 3 of 2022, which was published in the “Commodity Market Outlook” distributed by the World Bank, the monthly change in the global average price of crude oil declined by 8% in April of 2022 compared to In March, the normal price of Brent crude reached $116/barrel at the end of March 2022, which is much higher than its level before the pandemic, as it rose by an increase of 20.7% compared to February of 2022, and rose by 77.3% compared to March of 2021, and in in April, the average price of Brent crude declined by 8.5% compared to May of the same year. Natural gas prices increased as an alternative to oil for heating purposes, as data issued by the World Bank showed an increase to 273.1 in March 2022, a monthly increase rate of 38.24%, and an annual increase rate of 316.1% compared to March of 2021, as the price of gas rose in Europe reached $42.4/million thermal units in March 2022, with a monthly increase of 55.7% compared to February, with an annual increase of 591.9% compared to the same month of 2021, when the price was $6.1/million thermal units. Between mid-2022 and mid-2023, global product prices fell by about 40%, which helped drive most of the decline of about two percentage points in global inflation. However, since mid-2023, the World Bank’s commodity price index has stayed unchanged. Current geopolitical tensions over 2023-2024 have led to rising oil prices and many other commodities even as global growth slows. World Bank forecasts specify that Brent crude prices will average $84/barrel in 2025, assuming uninterrupted supplies because of conflict.

The forecasts of economists at the British Petroleum Company concerning the future of global energy indicated that demand for fossil fuels would decline by 2035 and the possibility of global demand for oil recording approximately 73 million barrels per day by 2050, a decrease of approximately 25% compared to 2019. In this concern, Spencer Dale, chief economist at British Petroleum, stated that the growing interest in energy security due to the Russian-Ukrainian war raises the problems of switching to renewable energy sources and relying on non-fossil fuels at an accelerating pace.
Second: Energy Sources and The Supply Crisis

Russia, along with the OPEC countries, operates the global energy market represented by oil and gas, as coordination is made between the two parties to supply the oil market with the oil and gas it needs. Russia’s strength lies in this feature, as the European Union countries depend on Russian gas for About 31% of oil supplies, 30% of gas supplies, and 30% of coal, so the increase in sanctions imposed on Russia by the United States of America and the European Union, especially on the energy area, will result in a global crisis, and a shortage in the source of oil and gas, which leads to a significant increase in energy prices, and this rise may be difficult to control in the future. All European Union countries have agreed to decrease the use of natural gas by 15% in 2023, reducing the need for Russian gas. There are different opinions among European Union countries about the method used throughout the energy crisis. Some countries differ on Russian energy and must activate other alternatives by relying on Different countries to diversify energy sources and radically improve the European Union's energy security, independence, and resistance to external pressures by strengthening the energy sector.

Europe’s dependence on natural gas introduced from Russia became apparent in February 2021, as the European Union imported more than 380 million cubic meters per day of gas via pipelines from Russia, meaning about 140 billion cubic meters for the entire year and about 15 million cubic meters were delivered. One billion cubic meters of liquid-natural gas and 155 billion cubic meters introduced from Russia represent about 45% of the European Union’s gas imports in 2021. Therefore, decreasing dependence on Russian gas will not be easy, as it requires concerted and sustainable political efforts across different sectors to provide alternative pipelines.

Some countries face challenges that prevent increasing gas exports via pipelines to European Union countries, including:

**Norway:** Although national consumption of gas in Norway is very low, allowing the export of 95% of the gas produced in the country, the Norwegian gas fields and pipelines are currently operating at maximum capacity, meaning they will not be able to increase the quantities of gas exported, while gas production will decrease significantly. As of 2030, unless new fields are determined and developed, Norway has exported via pipelines in 2021 about 113 cubic meters of natural gas and 155 billion cubic meters introduced from Russia represent about 45% of the European Union’s gas imports in 2021. Therefore, decreasing dependence on Russian gas will not be easy, as it requires concerted and sustainable political efforts across different sectors to provide alternative pipelines.

**Algeria:** It is the largest exporter of gas from Africa, as Europe accounts for 83% of its exports, especially Spain and Italy, as two main purposes that in 2021 accounted for 65% of the total Algerian gas exports. Natural gas is conveyed from Algeria to Europe via three main pipelines.

**Medgar pipelines** can pump 10.7 billion cubic meters annually.

**Transmed pipelines** can pump 33.5 billion cubic meters annually.

The **Moroccan-European gas pipeline**, which pumps 10.3 billion cubic meters annually. (It prevented working in 2021 due to tension between Morocco and Algeria).

Yes, Algeria is suffering from growing domestic gas consumption, as it is expected to exceed 55% of production, in addition to its good relations with Russia.

**Libya:** Libya sends gas to Italy via the “Grim-stream” line, established by an arrangement between the National Oil Corporation and the Italian company Eni. The gas is forced from a gas compression station in the Mellitah complex and sent via a 520-kilometer-long line to another station that receives gas on the island of Sicily, with a maximum capacity of up to 8 billion cubic meters annually, and most of Libya’s gas exports are generated from the Bahr al-Salam field and the Wafa field in the southwest of the country, and are sent to the Mellitah
complex for processing before exporting to Italy. The country's weak invention and ongoing conflict have made this line unsuitable. It is completely convenient as supplies through it stop from time to time.

Azerbaijan: To reward for Russian gas, Europe turned to Azerbaijani gas, whose share in its imports rose from 2% in 2021 to 4% in 2023, according to the Eurostat statistics office, as Baku exports its gas through the gas corridor in southern Europe, which is a group of pipelines. Gas pipelines that lead to Europe via Georgia and Turkey, containing the trans-Adriatic pipeline, which to double its capacity, necessitate heavy investments and long-term commitments from companies managing and operating European gas facilities, according to Rystad. The main problem opposite the export of Azerbaijani gas to Europe is that Asian countries compete with Europeans to obtain new contracts. Increasing the pumping of gas from Azerbaijan to Europe requires increasing pipelines to increase their capacity to 10 billion cubic meters annually, which requires a minimum of 5 years.

It seems that decreasing dependency and the issue of transportation methods have become crucial, as the European Union needs a “practical energy security strategy” based on diversification to exclude the potential cost in case of an interruption of gas supplies from Russia. European countries have already begun to expand their energy sources for some time, and this indicates that energy security for the European Union is equal to ensuring regular, reliable, and uninterrupted energy commodities, as well as diversifying energy transmission lines after the energy disaster led in the first place to serious losses to industrial production and a shortage of raw materials in industrial production areas.

The Second Requirement is Global Food Security

The Russian-Ukrainian war had a main impact on food security, as the deterioration of the security situation led to faltering agricultural production and food trade, negatively affecting food availability and prices. Therefore, food security is counted a vital matter that must be taken very seriously during periods of conflict to ensure the stability and health of the people.

First: The Impact of the Russian-Ukrainian War on Prices

Since the first week, a group of effects began to perform and cast a shadow on the global economy, and this was evident in the confusion that global markets witnessed. This is because the current war extends beyond the Russian-Ukrainian borders only, as both Russia and Ukraine are among the largest. Countries export grains, especially wheat, to all countries of the world through the Black Sea ports, as each has a noticeable role in supplying global markets. They supplied to the export of approximately 20% - 30% of wheat and corn during the three years 2019 - 2021 - 2022, in addition to oil. Sunflowers account for almost 80% of the total, so any decrease in the percentage of exports to these two countries may be obvious regarding food prices and global food security.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Global production (1000 ton)</th>
<th>Russia</th>
<th>% of global production</th>
<th>Ukraine</th>
<th>% of global production</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>192,579</td>
<td>37,267</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>18,056</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>185,133</td>
<td>2,289</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>27,952</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat flour</td>
<td>11,386</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Russia and Ukraine's exports of wheat and corn characterize a large portion of global exports during the year 2020, as shown in the figure above.

According to the FAO's reports and its food price signs, international prices of food commodities registered an upward curve in mid-2022, and in March of the same year, they recorded a qualitative leap that reached their highest level, and the reason for this is due to the Russian-Ukrainian war, and with the gradual rise of all basic commodities. In March, the prices of grains and oils were the most involved, as they rose by 17.1% and 32.2% compared to February 2022. As for April, there was a slight weakening, although prices are still at their highest
levels. The organization organized a plan within the framework of the United Nations rapid appeal in March 2022, which requires securing 50 US dollars to assist 100,000 farmers. In the same year, the organization modernized its rapid response plan in Ukraine by seeking to secure an amount of 115.4 million US dollars. To help 979,320 rural people who were affected, almost 9% (or $10.7 million) was secured, which enabled assistance to be provided to about 71 thousand people.

Based on the Economic Research Service of the US Department of Agriculture, at the end of the 2023-2024 period, global wheat stocks are expected to reach their lowest level in 8 years, as they will decline by about 0.6 million metric tons to reach 258.3 million metric tons. The main cause for this decline is that Wheat stocks in India have declined, as they are expected to decrease by about 2.1 million tons to reach 6.9 million tons due to faster consumption rates than preceding estimates and end-of-season stocks in India will decrease by more than 20 million metric tons compared to the peak level in 2020-2021 and this amount It represents a significant reduction, and in general, global stocks witnessed a decrease of 39 million metric tons.

The Russian-Ukrainian war aggravated the state, especially in wheat markets and the fluctuation of their prices, and affected food shortages in many countries and a rapid rise in food prices, which led to the destabilization of fragile societies, an increase in hunger and malnutrition, migration, and severe economic turmoil, in addition to exacerbating issues of Food security at the global level. The invasion pressures the global supply of food grains to meet global needs.

Second: The Impact of the War on Global Supplies of Food Grains

The causes of the grain crisis are due to the wheat fields that were smashed by Russian bombs, as well as the prevention of Ukrainian ships from exporting their goods from the Black Sea ports by Russian forces. The forces avoided the export of more than 20 million tons of grain through Ukraine to various countries of the world, including countries in Eastern Europe; according to reliable reports, the Russian armies are working to transport wheat outside Ukraine towards areas under the control of Russian forces. Although Russia has stopped exporting numerous types of grains and fertilizers to many countries due to the war, Eastern European countries, especially Poland and Romania, are extending a hand. Assistance is offered by transporting grain by land, but limited capabilities and high costs make this a temporary solution.

The International Grains Council indicated negative dangers to grain and oilseed crops in Ukraine in 2022-2023, which may exacerbate the shortage of export supplies in the long term, as well as the lack of availability of fuel, labor, agricultural equipment, and their components, because approach to some fields is currently impossible, which leads to increasing concerns about farmers’ inability to plant winter crops and spring varieties.

Data from the Ukrainian Ministry of Agriculture indicated a weakening in Ukraine’s grain exports by 17.7% in the 2022-2023 seasons to 36.9 million tons as of March 27, 2023, which reflects a drop in crop production and logistical difficulties resulting from the Russian invasion. The Ministry also confirmed that Ukraine exported 44.8 million tons of grain in 2022, containing exports until June of 2023, which amounted to 12.6 million tons of wheat, 21.7 million tons of corn, and 2.27 million tons of barley. He added that grain exports in March of 2023 amounted to 4.63 million tons. One million tons, and after a blockade that continued for several months on the ports, three Ukrainian ports on the Black Sea returned to work according to an agreement between Moscow and Kyiv (Odesa-Chornomorsk-Yuzhny/Pevdenny) mediated by the United Nations and Turkey.

Therefore, political coordination, such as the Black Sea Initiative, is needed to keep the grain and fertilizer trade open.

This initiative was launched in Istanbul in assistance between Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United Nations on July 22, 2022. This initiative resulted in the institution of a mechanism to transport grains, related foodstuffs, and fertilizers safely from the ports of Ukraine to global markets. The initiative targets to contribute to preventing Global hunger and reducing global food insecurity. The initiative stipulated an understanding of assisting unhindered access to global markets for food, fertilizers, and raw materials:

The Russian Federation will last to supply commercial fertilizers to countries that need them.
The United Nations Secretariat agrees to make attempts to facilitate transparent, unhindered access to food and fertilizers.

Establishing support between the Russian Federation and the General Secretariat in exchanging information. From the Russian side, the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York will be responsible for communicating information, while from the General Secretariat’s side, the Conference on Trade and Development will exchange information.

Resolving disputes between the two parties through meetings between them.

This memorandum will record into force as of the date of the last signature, signed on July 22, 2022, in Istanbul.

Table 2. The countries that benefited most from the Black Sea Grains Initiative for the year 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>8 Million Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>1.55 Million Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>More than 713 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>558 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Yemen</td>
<td>260 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>146 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>212 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>111 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>98 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Oman</td>
<td>86 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>95 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>246 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>65 thousand Tons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table was organized by the researcher based on: What does Russia’s withdrawal from the Black Sea Grains Initiative mean, 2023, at the link https://2u.pw/OypkU4yf, time of access 5/6/2024.

Before the starting of the Russian-Ukrainian war, sea shipments through the Black Sea represented more than 90% of Ukraine’s exports of agricultural goods. Since the launch of the inventiveness on March 15, 2023, it has contributed to the delivery of 927 ships distributed among 45 countries, as these countries received an amount of 24 million tons of grains and foodstuffs, including Eastern European countries, as Romania received 17 transports of grains amounting to 85 thousand tons, and Bulgaria 7 Ships loaded with grain amounting to 69 thousand tons. Through the Black Sea Initiative, Ukraine's exports contributed around 49% of the corn crop, 28% of the wheat crop, 11% of the sunflower crop, and 12% of various other crops.

Figure 1. Ukrainian grain exports through the Black Sea Initiative 2022.

The chart was organized by the researcher based on what was mentioned in the paragraph above.

In 2023, Russia revealed the cessation of the agreement to export grains through the Black Sea. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Pskov stated that the deal was halted today, but Moscow is ready to repay to it as soon as
The Russian part of it is implemented. Russia has set some demands, including resuming the source of agricultural machinery and spare parts, lifting restrictions on insurance, resuming the work of the ammonia pipeline linking the Russian city of Tolyatti with Ukrainian Odesa, and unfreezing the assets and accounts of Russian companies functioning in the field of food export. These demands have been lengthened. The creativity was extended three times, for 120 days in November of 2022, 60 days in March of 2023, and again in May of the same year. The last delay period of the initiative ended on July 17, 2023, and was not renewed for an additional period.

Despite the achievement of this initiative in achieving its main objectives, in reducing food prices, protecting against rising prices, and stabilizing food supplies, as the food price index fell to approximately 14% from its peak in March of 2023, the Ministry of Construction The Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that the initiative is at risk of being halted, due to Russia once more preventing inspections of ships in Turkish waters under the Black Sea Initiative Agreement.

CONCLUSION

First: Results

The Russian-Ukrainian war influenced energy and food security significantly, which led to confusion in the possibility of obtaining energy and food in Ukraine on the one hand and the rest of the world on the other hand, and caused a shortage in the amount of production of basic foodstuffs and how to supply them, in addition to significant inflation that is still occurring. Most countries experience from it, which has led to the spread of hunger in many countries that depend on Ukraine and Russia to import their products, such as African countries and some Asian and European countries. Therefore, the extension of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict may lead to famine. As for energy, most European countries have revolved to clean energy as a substitute for Russian gas or are searching for new sources of supply despite the additional effort and high cost of those alternatives.

Second: Recommendations

Energy resources of oil and gas are not just profitable commodities, but they are strategic and geopolitical resources that Russia has used as a weapon in its policy against the European Union to restore its global role.

European Union countries must acquire a clear and specific strategy for diversifying energy sources.

In light of the impossibility of discovering alternatives to Russian gas due to technical and logistical difficulties, European countries must rely on clean energy sources to achieve energy security.

Finding more solutions to decrease the impact of the war in the long term and trying to find ways to negotiate between the two parties to end the suffering for both parties.

Strengthen international efforts to confirm the provision of food to countries affected by the war and that food supply chains are not interrupted. Therefore, the international community must deliver more support and ensure food reaches the affected countries.

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