

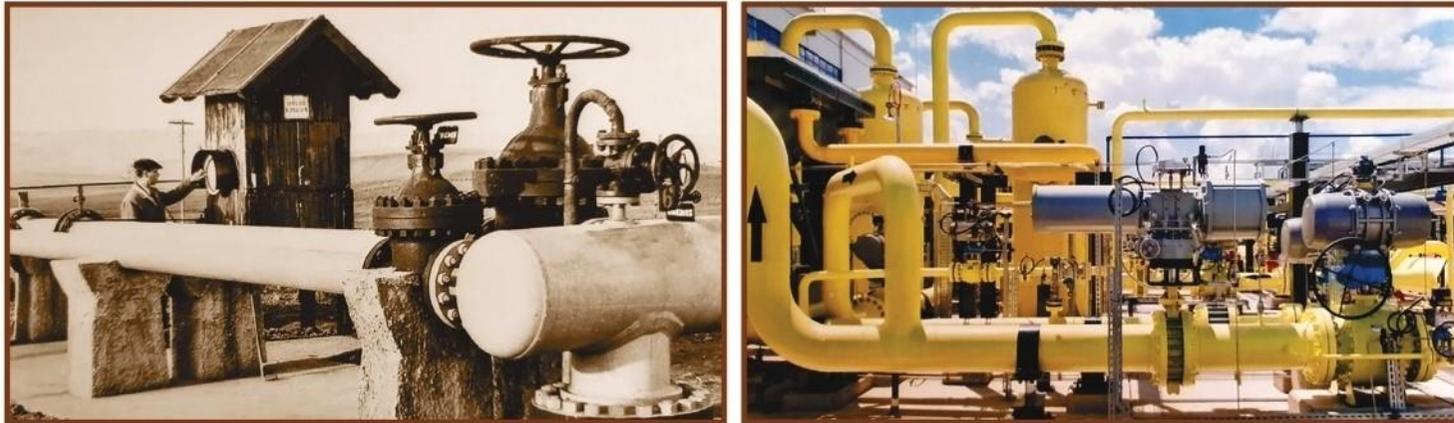
PROIECT INIȚIAT DE ACADEMIA DE ȘTIINȚE TEHNICE DIN ROMÂNIA

DESFĂȘURAT SUB EGIDA COMISIEI PENTRU ȘTIINȚĂ ȘI TEHNOLOGIE DIN CAMERA DEPUTAȚILOR A PARLAMENTULUI ROMÂNIEI

GHEORGHE STĂNESCU MIHAIL MINESCU DRAGOȘ GABRIEL ZISOPOL CĂTĂLIN NIȚĂ

PETROLUL ȘI GAZELE NATURALE ROMÂNEȘTI

▪ Istorie în imagini ▪



ROMANIAN OIL AND NATURAL GAS

▪ History in images ▪

PROJECT INITIATED BY THE ACADEMY OF TECHNICAL SCIENCES OF ROMANIA

CARRIED OUT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES OF THE ROMANIAN PARLIAMENT

Exhibition "Romanian oil and natural gas – History in images"

Authors: Gheorghe Stănescu, Mihai Minescu, Dragoş Gabriel Zisopol, Cătălin Niţă

"Romanian oil and natural gas – History in images" exhibition was realized within the project with the same title initiated by the Technical Science Academy of Romania – Section X – Petroleum, Mining and Geonomy Engineering, and carried out under the auspices of The Science and Technology Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and it aims to become a modest tribute in images paid to those who contributed and/or are still contributing to the development of the petroleum and natural gas industry of Romania, an essential component of the national power system. At the same time, it is a challenge for the young generation, and not only, to penetrate the secrets of the Romanian oil and gas universe.

The exhibition contains both representative images of the beginning of the petroleum and natural gas extraction and processing in Romania, our country's position and its role during the two World Wars, as well as the current situation of this industry. The images are distributed on 33 posters with the dimensions 1500x1000 mm.

The images (illustrated postcards, photos, documents, shares, etc.) most of which being very rare, accompanied by brief explanations, represent an appeal to acknowledge one of the historical steps in Romania's modernization in the last 150 years, a remembrance of the rich and tumultuous past of our country's petroleum and gas industry.

The leap from the manufacturing to the technical started in 1857 with the building of the first refinery for the kerosene production in Ploiesti carried on with an increase in geological prospecting, technical innovations, drilled meters, investors and refineries, determining the spectacular growth in production, especially after 1900, and the positioning of the Romanian petroleum industry of the top of the world hierarchy. The petroleum, and, later on, the natural gas represented the foundation of the Romanian society's modernization during the interwar period. After the Second World War, owing the accomplishments in the petrochemistry domain, especially to the manufacturing of petroleum and petrochemical equipment, which became a true brand, Romania returned to the international elite of the petroleum and natural gas domain. The presence of petroleum and natural gas resources represented a real benefit for Romania. In the 1980s, Romania had a processing capacity of about 30 million tons of crude oil per year, and it was considered the second manufacturer and exporter of petroleum and petrochemistry equipment in the world. In this context, an essential role was bestowed upon Romanian and foreign specialists trained at the Petroleum and Gas University of Ploiesti. After the social and political events in 1989, the petroleum and gas industry, as well as the production of petroleum and petrochemical equipment recorded a decrease, similar to the entire Romanian industry. Nevertheless, nowadays, Romania represents the second greatest manufacturer of natural gas in Europe.

Some major events that hallmarked Romania's ranking among the first in the petroleum and gas industry in the world were, as follows:

1. Romania's official recording as the first country in the world to achieve 275 tons in petroleum production in 1857
2. Bringing into service the first industrial refinery of kerosene, in Râfov, near Ploieşti, in 1857
3. The inauguration of the kerosene public lighting in Bucharest, during the same year.
4. In 1908, the drilling session discovered the natural gas deposits from Sărmăşel, which represented the beginning of natural gas exploitation in the Transylvanian Basin

5. In 1928, the first European gas compressor station was built in Sărmășel.

The main bibliographic sources that underpinned our projects are personal collections (illustrated postcards, photographs, documents, actions, etc.) and works of own or other authors dealing with aspects of the history of Romanian oil and gas.

The authors thank all those who contributed and will add their contribution to the development of the project entitled “Romanian Oil And Natural Gas - History In Pictures”, initiated by the Technical Science Academy of Romania – Section X – Petroleum, Mining and Geonomy Engineering, and carried out under the auspices of The Science and Technology Committee of the Chamber of Deputies.