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## Near Future Economic Effects of Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial on Çanakkale Region

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### Review Article

**Abstract:** Food specialized organized industrial zone is an industrial zone specifically designed and equipped to cater to businesses operating in the food sector. These zones are established in Turkey to meet the needs of businesses engaged in activities such as food production, processing, packaging, storage, and distribution. The economic impacts of food specialized organized industrial zones are being widely assessed. These zones contribute to economic development by increasing employment opportunities and facilitating job placement for the local population. Furthermore, they encourage technological advancements, support R&D activities, and enhance productivity within the sector. By focusing on export-oriented production, these zones boost foreign trade volumes and add value to the national economy. This study aims to analyze and evaluate the potential future economic effects of the Ezine food specialized organized industrial zone in Çanakkale region. This review paper examines the current status and development plans of the industrial zone, identifies the key economic sectors that will be impacted, and explores the potential benefits and challenges that may arise as a result. The findings contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the future economic landscape of the region and provide insights for policymakers, investors, and local communities.

**Keywords:** Çanakkale, Ezine, food specialized organized industry, economy

## Ezine Gıda İhtisas Organize Sanayisinin Çanakkale Bölgesine Yakın Gelecekteki Ekonomik Etkileri

**Öz:** Gıda ihtisas organize sanayi bölgesi, özellikle gıda sektöründe faaliyet gösteren işletmelere yönelik olarak tasarlanmış ve donatılmış sanayi bölgelerindedir. Bu bölgeler, Türkiye'de gıda üretimi, işleme, paketlenme, depolama ve dağıtım gibi faaliyetlerle uğraşan işletmelerin ihtiyaçlarını karşılamak amacıyla kurulmuştur. Gıda İhtisas Organize Sanayi Bölgelerinin ekonomiye etkileri geniş çapta değerlendirilmektedir. Bu bölgeler, yerel halkın istihdam olanaklarını artırarak ekonomik kalkınmaya katkı sağlamaktadır. Ayrıca, teknolojik ilerlemeleri teşvik etmekte, Ar-Ge faaliyetlerini desteklemekte ve sektör içinde verimliliği artırmaktadır. İhracata odaklanarak üretim yapan bu bölgeler, dış ticaret hacmini artırmakta ve ulusal ekonomiye katma değer sağlamaktadır. Bu çalışma, Ezine Gıda İhtisas Organize Sanayi Bölgesi'nin Çanakkale bölgesi üzerindeki potansiyel gelecekteki ekonomik etkilerini analiz etmeyi ve değerlendirmeyi amaçlamaktadır. Araştırma, sanayi bölgesinin mevcut durumunu ve gelişim planlarını inceleyerek, etkilenecek ana ekonomik sektörleri belirlemeyi ve ortaya çıkabilecek potansiyel faydaların ve zorlukların keşfedilmesini amaçlamaktadır. Bu araştırma bulguları, bölgenin gelecekteki ekonomik manzarası hakkında kapsamlı bir anlayış sağlamak ve politika yapıcılar, yatırımcılar ve yerel topluluklar için önemli içgörüler sunmaktadır.

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**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Çanakkale, Ezine, gıda ihtisas organize sanayi, ekonomi

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## Introduction

The establishment of Organized Industrial Zones (OIZs) in Turkey commenced in the 1960s. During this period, the industrial sector was regarded as the "locomotive" sector, and long-term goals were set, including the establishment of economic balance, the pursuit of social and economic development in unison, the achievement of a certain growth rate, and the prioritization of industrialization. In accordance with these objectives, the establishment of the OIZ in Bursa in 1962 marked the inception of OIZ practices, which constituted one of the numerous incentive measures implemented with the intention of fostering industrial growth within the country. During this period, the Bursa OIZ was realized with the assistance of a loan received from the World Bank. (OSBUK, 2007). The organized industrial zone application in Turkey is relatively novel in comparison to its counterparts elsewhere. According to the Organized Industrial Zones Supreme Council (OSBÜK), as of 2022, there were 375 organized industrial zones in operation in Turkey, with varying degrees of development and under the supervision of different ministries (OSBÜK, 2022). Subsequently, a fund was established within the Ministry of Industry and Trade, with resources transferred from the state budget to the fund. These OIZs were then loaned from the fund and construction commenced. The establishment of OIZs was carried out in accordance with the targets set out in the 5-year development plans at the time. Following the decision of the Council of Ministers to establish an OIZ, 99% of the infrastructure investments of OIZs were financed by the aforementioned fund. The remaining 1% was covered by the chambers of commerce and industry/chambers of industry or chambers of commerce and local governments that established the OIZ (Çetin, 2015).

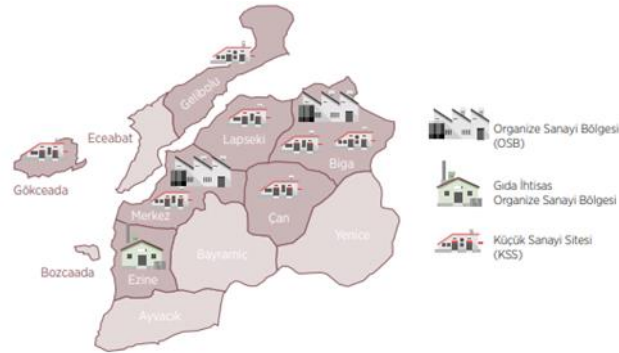
The establishment of organized industrial zones represents a significant step in the implementation of both regular environmental policies and robust industrialization strategies. Organized industrial zones facilitate the establishment of collective motivation and mutual trust between companies. OSBs not only enhance the quality of production, but also improve the efficiency of the materials used. The concentration of businesses in specific regions has the potential to contribute to increased production and the creation of synergies (Saikku, 2006). Concurrently, it offers the possibility of maintaining a state of constant readiness to address potential threats to the security of these regions, such as fire or natural disaster. Furthermore, OIZs contribute to the positive development of the regional economic structures. Furthermore, they contribute to the development of the social structure. OIZs present an opportunity to enhance employment prospects and facilitate regular vocational training (Saif, 2006).

Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone is located 2 km from Ezine on the Çanakkale - Izmir highway, within the boundaries of Çınarköy and Balıklı Villages, covering an area of 1.360,000 m<sup>2</sup>. It was established in 2016 under the leadership of Çanakkale Governorship, with the participation of Çanakkale Provincial Administration, Ezine Municipality, and Çanakkale Chamber of Commerce and Industry, under the registration number 326 of the Ministry of Science, Industry, and Technology (Bulut, 2013). The Industrial Zone comprises 91 industrial parcels of various sizes. The map of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone is presented in Figure 1. Situated strategically close to domestic and international markets, ports, and airports, Ezine Food Specialized OSB is 316 km from Istanbul and Izmir, 45 km from Çanakkale Airport, and 50 km from Çanakkale Port, enabling product shipments to global markets (Gürdal, 1997; Anonymous, 2022).

This study elucidates the role of industrial zones in directing economic development, attracting investments and creating employment opportunities. Furthermore, the rationale behind investigating the future economic impacts of the industrial zone and its potential implications for the Çanakkale region is discussed. The objective is to analyse and evaluate the potential future economic impacts of Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industry in Çanakkale region. The study aims to examine the current status of the industrial area and its development plans,



identify the key economic sectors that will be affected, and investigate the potential benefits and challenges that may arise.



**Figure 1.** Location of Ezine food specialized organized industrial zone on the map.

### Overview of Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone

The Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone was established as a designated industrial zone in the Çanakkale region. Its establishment was driven by the goal of promoting the growth and development of the food industry in the area. The industrial zone aims to attract food-related businesses and provide them with a favorable environment for operations, including specialized infrastructure, support services, and a collaborative business ecosystem (Gürtürk and Pazarcık, 2022).

**Development Plans and Infrastructure:** The industrial zone has undergone significant development in recent years. It has witnessed investments in infrastructure, including roads, utilities, and industrial facilities. The development plans prioritize the creation of a modern and efficient industrial environment, fostering innovation, productivity, and competitiveness. The infrastructure improvements aim to attract both domestic and international investors, encouraging them to establish or expand their operations within the industrial zone (Vidova, 2010).

**Industries and Sectors in the Industrial Zone:** Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial is focused on the food industry and encompasses a wide range of sectors within this domain. It provides opportunities for food processing, packaging, storage, distribution, and other related activities. The industrial zone aims to accommodate various sub-sectors, including dairy products, meat processing, confectionery, fruit and vegetable processing, and more. By promoting diversification and specialization within the food industry, the industrial zone aims to create a robust and sustainable economic ecosystem. Understanding the establishment, purpose, development plans, and industries within the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial provides a comprehensive overview of the industrial zone. This information forms the basis for analyzing the potential economic effects and opportunities that the industrial zone can bring to the Çanakkale region (Kelkit, 2011).

### Current Economic Landscape of Çanakkale Region

**Key Economic Sectors:** The Çanakkale region is characterized by a diverse economic landscape encompassing various sectors. The region's economy is driven by several key sectors, including tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Tourism plays a significant role in the region, attracting both domestic and international visitors to its historical and natural attractions, such as the ancient city of Troy and the Gallipoli Peninsula. Agriculture is another vital sector, with the region known for its olive oil production, vineyards, and other agricultural products. Manufacturing activities range from food processing and textile production to automotive and chemical industries. The services sector, including trade, transportation, and hospitality, also contributes to the region's economic growth (Mercan and Uzulmez, 2014).

**Employment and Labor Market:** Employment opportunities in Çanakkale region are closely tied to the key economic sectors. The tourism sector is a significant source of employment, particularly during the peak tourist seasons. The agricultural sector provides jobs for a significant portion of the population, especially in rural areas. Manufacturing activities also contribute to employment generation, while the services sector offers job

opportunities in various fields, such as retail, transportation, and hospitality. The labor market in the region is influenced by factors such as seasonal fluctuations, skill requirements, and workforce demographics (Genç et al., 2014).

**Infrastructure and Transportation Infrastructure:** Development plays a crucial role in supporting economic activities in the Çanakkale region. The region benefits from well-developed transportation networks, including highways, railways, and ports. The Çanakkale Bridge will further enhance connectivity between the Asian and European sides of Turkey, offering new opportunities for trade and investment. The presence of industrial zones and organized industrial areas, including the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial, provides the necessary infrastructure to support manufacturing and industrial activities (Tarı, 2022).

Understanding the current economic landscape of the Çanakkale region, including its key sectors, employment opportunities, and infrastructure, provides a baseline for assessing the potential economic effects of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone. This analysis helps identify the areas where the industrial zone can have a significant impact and how it can contribute to the region's overall economic growth and development (İlgar, 2011).

### **Potential Economic Effects of Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone**

The establishment and growth of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone have the potential to generate significant employment opportunities in the Çanakkale region. The industrial zone can attract food-related businesses, leading to the creation of direct and indirect jobs in various sectors, including manufacturing, logistics, maintenance, and support services. The influx of new businesses and investments can provide employment options for both skilled and unskilled labor, contributing to the reduction of unemployment rates and improving the livelihoods of local communities (Anonymous, 2019).

The presence of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial can stimulate business and investment opportunities in the Çanakkale region. The industrial zone can attract domestic and international investors interested in the food industry, creating a favorable environment for entrepreneurial activities and fostering innovation. The establishment of new businesses within the industrial zone can lead to synergistic effects, encouraging the growth of local supply chains, creating business networks, and promoting collaboration among industry players. These opportunities can contribute to the economic diversification and resilience of the region.

The Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial can facilitate the development of local supply chains in the Çanakkale region. The presence of food-related businesses within the industrial zone can create demand for raw materials, agricultural products, and services from local suppliers. This can lead to the integration of local farmers, producers, and suppliers into the industrial value chain, providing them with stable markets and enhancing their economic viability. The development of a robust local supply chain can contribute to the growth and sustainability of both the industrial zone and the broader regional economy.

The industrial zone's focus on the food industry can contribute to the economic diversification of the Çanakkale region. Traditionally, the region has relied on sectors such as tourism and agriculture. The establishment of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone introduces a new economic sector, creating opportunities for expansion and development beyond the region's traditional strengths. Economic diversification can enhance the resilience of the regional economy, reducing its vulnerability to external shocks and creating a more balanced and sustainable economic base.

The establishment of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone can drive infrastructure and service upgrades in the Çanakkale region. The industrial zone's development plans may involve improvements to transportation networks, utilities, and other infrastructure elements. These upgrades can benefit not only the businesses within the industrial zone but also the broader community. Enhanced infrastructure and services can attract further investments, improve the overall business environment, and contribute to the region's economic competitiveness.

The potential economic effects of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone in terms of employment generation, business and investment opportunities, local supply chain development, economic diversification, and infrastructure upgrades have the potential to positively impact the Çanakkale region. However, it is important to consider and address any challenges and risks that may arise from the industrial zone's

establishment to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

### **Challenges and Risks**

The establishment and operation of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone may pose environmental challenges and risks. Increased industrial activities can lead to pollution, waste generation, and potential harm to natural resources, including water and air quality. It is essential to implement robust environmental management practices, such as proper waste management, emissions control, and sustainable resource use, to minimize the negative environmental impact and ensure the long-term sustainability of the region.

While the industrial zone can bring economic benefits, there is a risk of exacerbating socioeconomic disparities within the Çanakkale region. The concentration of economic activities in specific areas, such as the industrial zone, may lead to unequal distribution of wealth and resources. It is crucial to implement inclusive policies and programs that promote equitable access to employment, training, and business opportunities for all segments of society. This can help mitigate potential social inequalities and foster inclusive economic growth (Karadeniz and Yılmaz, 2021).

The successful operation of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone relies on a skilled and qualified workforce. However, there may be challenges in aligning the skills and training of the local workforce with the needs of the industrial zone. Skill gaps and mismatches can hinder employment opportunities and limit the potential economic benefits. It is crucial to invest in vocational training programs, education, and skills development initiatives that cater to the specific needs of the food industry. This can enhance the employability of local residents and support sustainable economic growth.

The establishment of the industrial zone may require significant land use and urban planning considerations. The expansion of industrial activities must be carefully managed to minimize conflicts with other land uses, such as agriculture, residential areas, and natural habitats. Effective urban planning and land use policies can ensure the compatibility of different sectors, optimize land utilization, and mitigate potential land-related challenges. Balancing industrial development with environmental conservation and urban quality of life is essential for the long-term prosperity of the region (Ceyhan and Tulu, 2020).

The province of Çanakkale is subject to strong winds throughout the majority of the year. It is therefore imperative to consider the prevailing wind directions when selecting locations for industrial facilities planned for development throughout the province. The location of the Organized Industrial Zone (OIZ), which is currently under construction in the city centre, affords a view of the city centre and is aligned with the prevailing wind direction. Consequently, it is imperative that immediate action be taken to mitigate potential issues such as air and visual pollution that may arise from the Organized Industrial Zone in the future. In order to achieve this, it is necessary to install the requisite treatment systems in the facilities that are to be established, and to create a buffer zone by means of intensive planting works in the wide and rugged area between the OIZ and the city centre (Kelkit, 2003).

Addressing the challenges and risks associated with the establishment of the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone is crucial for sustainable economic development in the Çanakkale region. By implementing appropriate environmental management practices, promoting socioeconomic inclusivity, investing in workforce skills and training, and adopting effective land use and urban planning strategies, the potential negative impacts can be minimized, and the benefits can be maximized. This requires proactive collaboration among policymakers, industry stakeholders, and local communities to ensure a balanced and responsible approach to the industrial zone's operation. Furthermore, it is recommended that owners of industrial facilities be informed about environmental issues through a variety of educational forums, including seminars, panels, and symposia. It is also important to foster a greater environmental awareness among these individuals (Esenlikci, 2023).

### **Policy Implications and Recommendations**

Policy initiatives should be implemented to support the participation of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone. This can be achieved through providing financial incentives, access to credit, and technical assistance to SMEs interested in establishing their businesses



within the industrial zone. Supporting SMEs can foster entrepreneurship, promote local economic development, and contribute to job creation. Additionally, encouraging collaboration between larger companies and SMEs can facilitate knowledge transfer, technology adoption, and innovation within the food industry (Gül et al., 2010).

To maximize the benefits of the industrial zone, policymakers should focus on enhancing skills and education in the Çanakkale region. This can be achieved through partnerships between educational institutions and industry stakeholders to develop industry-relevant training programs and curriculum. Skill development initiatives should prioritize the specific needs of the food industry, including technical skills, innovation, quality control, and entrepreneurship. By equipping the local workforce with the necessary skills, the industrial zone can attract investments, enhance productivity, and create sustainable employment opportunities (Mercan and Yıldız, 2014).

Policies and regulations should prioritize sustainable and inclusive development in the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone and the surrounding region. This includes implementing strict environmental standards, promoting resource efficiency, and encouraging the adoption of sustainable practices by businesses operating within the industrial zone. Inclusivity should be ensured by fostering equal access to employment, training, and business opportunities for all segments of society, including women, youth, and disadvantaged groups. Policies should also encourage social responsibility and corporate citizenship among industrial zone occupants, promoting community engagement and social impact initiatives (Çağlar, 2006).

To harness the full potential of the industrial zone, policymakers should promote collaboration and partnerships among various stakeholders. This includes fostering collaboration between the public and private sectors, industry associations, research institutions, and local communities. Collaborative initiatives can facilitate knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and innovation. Public-private partnerships can be formed to develop infrastructure, provide supportive services, and implement sustainable development projects. Such collaborations can enhance the competitiveness and attractiveness of the industrial zone, driving economic growth and benefiting the wider region (Çağlar and Kurtal, 2011).

Monitoring and evaluation of the industrial zone's economic effects, social impacts, and environmental performance are essential. Policymakers should establish mechanisms to collect and analyze data on key indicators, such as employment rates, investment flows, environmental indicators, and social well-being. This information can guide evidence-based decision-making, identify areas for improvement, and ensure that policies and interventions are effectively addressing the goals and challenges associated with the industrial zone. Regular evaluations can help policymakers adapt policies, adjust strategies, and ensure the long-term sustainability of the industrial zone and its economic benefits (Karadeniz and Yılmaz, 2021).

By implementing these policy implications and recommendations, policymakers can promote sustainable economic development, foster inclusive growth, and mitigate potential challenges associated with the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial. These measures can maximize the positive impacts of the industrial zone on the Çanakkale region, create a favorable business environment, and contribute to the long-term prosperity of the local economy and communities.

## **Conclusion**

Given that macroeconomic stability, which represents the most significant challenge for Turkey, has been achieved for an extended period, it is evident that this situation will have a positive impact on the development of OIZs. In addition to energy costs, the high employment taxes and the overall tax burden in Turkey continue to contribute to the elevated level of production costs, which in turn impairs the competitiveness of companies. These developments demonstrate that the state continues to play a pivotal role in the development of OIZs. The combination of effective OIZ management with the strengthening of cooperation-oriented relations between companies and the measures taken by the state will result in the formation of a strong synergy, enabling OIZs to grow in a healthier and more effective manner.

The Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone holds significant potential for the economic development of the Çanakkale region. The establishment of this specialized industrial zone focused on the food industry can bring about various economic effects and opportunities. It can generate employment, attract investments, stimulate business growth, and contribute to the diversification of the region's economy. The

industrial zone has the potential to foster the development of local supply chains, enhance infrastructure, and create a collaborative business ecosystem.

However, it is crucial to address the challenges and risks associated with the establishment of the industrial zone. Environmental impacts need to be carefully managed, and sustainable practices must be adopted to minimize pollution and preserve natural resources. Socioeconomic disparities should be addressed through inclusive policies that ensure equitable access to employment, training, and business opportunities for all segments of society. Skill development and education initiatives should be prioritized to align the local workforce with the needs of the food industry. Land use and urban planning should be carefully managed to optimize space and mitigate potential conflicts with other sectors.

To maximize the benefits of the industrial zone, policymakers should support SMEs, enhance skills and education, promote sustainable and inclusive development, foster collaboration and partnerships, and establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. These policy implications and recommendations can create an enabling environment for the industrial zone to thrive and contribute to the long-term economic growth and development of the Çanakkale region.

In conclusion, the Ezine Food Specialized Organized Industrial Zone presents a promising opportunity for economic advancement in the Çanakkale region. With the right policies, strategies, and collaborative efforts, the industrial zone can stimulate employment, attract investments, foster innovation, and contribute to the sustainable development of the local economy. By addressing challenges, promoting inclusive growth, and embracing sustainable practices, the industrial zone can serve as a catalyst for positive change, benefiting both the industrial sector and the broader community.

## Additional Information and Declarations

**Authors' Contributions:** All authors have contributed equally to this review article.

**Conflict of Interests:** The authors of this review article declare that they do not have any conflict of interest.

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