



Economic Development Foundation Five Years of Accession Negotiations

IKV Publications
No: 242

From the President

By the time this booklet is published, we will have left behind the fifth year of the accession negotiations with the EU. During this time, thirteen chapters were opened and only one chapter was opened and provisionally closed. Due to the decision of the European Council not to open eight chapters and provisionally close any chapters as well as vetoes by some Member States, the negotiations did not proceed at the desired pace. While we are feeling a little resentful when evaluating the fifth year, we should continue with our work fully aware of the fact that EU membership is a cumbersome process, which requires patience and perseverance.

EU membership objective still holds true for Turkey. This objective is the driving force behind Turkey's modernization, whereby citizens will attain a more prosperous standard of living. In the realm of democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms as well in different spheres of daily life, which affect our quality of life such as environment, food safety, animal welfare and work life, European standards remain to be the most advanced model in the world and in the region. In this context, Turkey's striving to reach for these standards is a rational choice. Nevertheless, Turkey's EU goal should not only be seen as an instrument of modernization. In the globalizing world, we witness an increasing interdependence among countries. Nowadays, countries feel the



pressing need to act together in areas like trade, investment, energy and collectively fight against global problems such as poverty, climate change and illegal migration. In this regard, collaborating with the other countries in the Union will bring numerous advantages to Turkey in resolving both cross-border problems and having a bigger say in the global governance system.

Turkey encounters some difficulties in her relations with Europe and sometimes Turkish public feels unjustly treated. This, in turn, leads to confidence crisis, frustration and resentment. This is a point, which should be taken into account by Turkish and European officials. It should not be forgotten that, an integration process can only be built on mutual trust and solidarity. For that, the EU should realize how important and

valuable Turkey's EU target dating back to 1959 is. Likewise, as Turkey, we should not forget this target requires a serious determination, preparation and diligence.

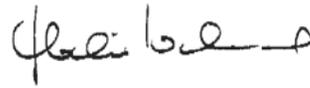
Another point that needs to be emphasized is this: As quoted by Jean Monnet, the founding father of the EU, "we unite people, not states". In this way, joining the EU does not only mean that the public authorities work with the EU. Rather, it means that all institutions and all individuals encompassing the public sector, the private sector, civil society and universities should work together in a coordinated manner. In the accession negotiations, the relevant public authorities should work in close cooperation with the private sector and the civil society and they should be included in the negotiating delegations. In this context the EU Communication Strategy initiated by the Minister and Chief Negotiator Egemen Bağış and Secretariat General for EU Affairs should be reinforced and taken forward.

In the EU, there are those who oppose Turkey's EU membership as well as those that support it. As underlined in the reports authored by the Independent Commission on Turkey, which includes prominent European politicians, Turkey is indispensable for Europe's future. Turkey, as a secular and democratic country with a predominantly Muslim population, dynamic economy and workforce and a unique location is EU's "life insurance", as quoted by the former French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, for the sustainability of EU policies and EU's place and credibility in the globe.

Lastly, I would like to briefly touch upon our Foundation. Economic Development Foundation, which I've been presiding over since 2007 under the auspices of the valuable board of directors, has been monitoring the European integration process and working for Turkey to take her place. In this context, IKV is the first and foremost specialized institution. Our Foundation, which aims to be the voice of the Turkish business world on EU-related matters, carries out various activities to raise awareness among the business world and the public at large about the EU process and its impact. You will find detailed information about those activities in this booklet. Our Foundation has pursued its activities about the EU and Turkey's EU process at all times including those when the process was interrupted or problems dominated. Fully aware of its responsibilities, IKV will carry out its activities resolutely until Turkey becomes an EU member and also in the aftermath of membership as a specialized institution

Prof. Dr. Halûk Kabaalioglu

Chairman of IKV



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| | |
|-----------------|---|
| APD | Accession Partnership Document |
| CU | Customs Union |
| ECJ | European Court of Justice |
| EP | European Parliament |
| EU | European Union |
| EUROSTAT | Official Statistical Office of the EU |
| EUSG | Secretariat General for EU Affairs |
| FTA | Free Trade Agreement |
| GASC | Greek Administration of Southern Cyprus |
| IGC | Intergovernmental Conference |
| IPA | Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance |
| IPARD | Instrument of Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development |
| PM | Prime Minister |
| TGNA | Turkish Grand National Assembly |
| TPC | Turkish Penal Code |
| TRNC | Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus |
| UK | The United Kingdom |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |

While Reading this Booklet...

As an institution actively involved in Turkey's EU journey for the last 45 years, we have not only witnessed and took part in the new period, which started with the opening of the accession negotiations on 3 October 2005, but we have also strived to share our knowledge, experience and most importantly excitement with all the relevant parties. Despite demanding, intensive and highly variable internal dynamics of politics in Turkey, we have tried our utmost to keep the EU perspective as a prioritized agenda item. In this scope, at the fifth anniversary of the accession negotiations, we have prepared a chronological timetable, which displays the turning points and milestones that have occurred in the last five years. We are guided by the belief that the significant events in the political, economic and social spheres marking Turkey's EU process, which is in essence a "societal transformation project" – though neglected sometimes – and closely relates to all segments in the society and as such should deserve due attention.

With this publication, our aim is twofold. On one hand, we want to refresh our collective memory; on the other hand, by shedding light on the developments at EU and Member States level, we intend to facilitate the reading and contemplation of the accession process. Regarding this 5-year period, this booklet allows us to make both a simultaneous and comparative reading. As seen in the chronology,

despite all the ups and downs on the way, important progress was made in Turkey-EU relations. In Turkey, many noteworthy legal changes were carried out, elections took place, steps were taken in the way of EU integration and although sometimes the process slowed down to the degree of coming to a halt, it was taken forward, fortunately without the occurrence of a "train crash" incident. Parallel to this, critical political and institutional changes took place in the EU and even though sometimes internal events prevailing in the EU Member States came to the fore, the Union has continued to evolve and change as a moving target. In the light of the changes at the background, Turkey-EU relations stayed on its track, although it failed to achieve the required momentum.

As has been the case for the last 45 years, İKV, from this day onwards will continue to closely monitor the accession process in all its dimensions and will pursue its actions, which aim to accelerate the process. We sincerely hope this publication will be a reference booklet for all the stakeholders involved, most notably the business world and the civil society as a way to remember the past, to understand the present and to prepare for the future. In the continuation of the accession process, we wholeheartedly wish that all the obstacles and hurdles are overcome and the EU accession process is speeded up with the objective of reaching full membership as soon as possible.

Economic Development Foundation

Economic Development Foundation, which is as old as the history of Turkey-EU relations itself, was founded in 1965, only two years after the signing of the Ankara Agreement establishing an association relation between Turkey and the EU. IKV, which was established to monitor and evaluate Turkey-EU relations, to inform the public and to represent the Turkish business world vis-à-vis the EU, is the brainchild of the then Presidents of Istanbul Chamber of Commerce and Istanbul Chamber of Industry, Mr. Behçet Osmanoğlu and Mr. Fazıl Zobu respectively.

With its Head Office in Istanbul and a Permanent Representation in Brussels since 1984, the first representation of the Turkish private sector in the EU, IKV, parallel to the developments in Turkey-EU relations and the needs of the increasing number of trustee institutions and supporters, has increased its activities, expanded the target audience and reinforced its mission.

We are a specialized organization and,

- have been resolutely working for Turkey's membership to the EU for 45 years regardless of any conjectural shifts;
- are a non-profit making organization, having no ideological motives and/or links, and are equally distanced from all political parties;
- are fully financed by the private sector and receive no financial support from the government;

- express impartial evaluations and opinions on EU and Turkey-EU relations clearly and without any reserve;
- have established a well-deserved reputation as a respected and trustworthy "Specialized Organization" both in Turkey and the EU.

Founded by the joint initiative of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce and Industry in 1965, the number of trustee institutions and IKV supporters have increased over time parallel to the developments in Turkey-EU relations.

As of 2010, IKV Trustee Organizations comprise of Union of Chambers and Stock Exchanges of Turkey, Union of Textile and Apparel Exporters of Istanbul, Turkish Exporters Assembly, Istanbul Commodity Exchange, Izmir Commodity Exchange, Union of Banks of Turkey, Confederation of Employers' Union of Turkey, Union of Agricultural Chambers of Turkey and Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen Association. IKV also has 42 "Foundation Supporters", including many representative organizations and companies.

The Board of Directors, chosen among the delegates of the Founders and the Trustee Institutions, consists of 19 members, namely 17 Board Members and 2 Auditors.

➔ Our Goal

Facilitating and accelerating Turkey's EU membership process;
Ensuring active participation of the Turkish business world and civil society in this process.



www.ikv.org.tr

In line with our goal, IKV, publishes studies on various EU policies, the effects of these policies on Turkey, Turkey's level of harmonization regarding these policies and other studies on all aspects of Turkey-EU relations. In this scope, IKV, is a productive organization, which publishes extensively and formulates strategies on EU matters in Turkey. To this date, IKV has published over 500 studies. Even during the most stagnant periods of Turkey-EU relations, IKV has kept its confidence in Turkey's EU membership target and continued its activities without interruption, always leading the way through its pioneering studies. IKV's publications include perspectives and projections on the future in addition to current items on Turkey-EU relations agenda, and this allows IKV also to act as an early warning mechanism.

The IKV library is the oldest library specializing on the EU and the only "depository library" of the EU in Turkey. The library includes IKV publications as well as various national (SPO, TURKSAT, UFT, etc.) and international organizations' (EU, OECD, UN, WTO, UNIDO, IMF, EFTA, etc.) studies on issues concerning

or related to the EU together with statistical and periodical publications. IKV library, which is open to public and regularly serves a wide portion of the population including business representatives, civil society institutions, public sector employees, academia and students, is constantly adding to its collection of over 25,000 registered books and expanding its archive of 300 Turkish and 150 foreign periodicals.

IKV website, which is restructured according to the needs of the modern age and regularly updated, provides visitors with news and announcements on Turkey-EU relations, information on main EU policies, comprehensive information on the EU, Turkey-EU relations and accession negotiations, glossary of basic concepts on Turkey-EU relations, IKV's evaluations on various subjects, bimonthly IKV bulletin archive, studies and projects undertaken by IKV, core documents on the EU and Turkey-EU relations, online catalogue of the IKV library...

Our Goal

➔ Projects

IKV, which has significant experience in developing and implementing projects, is continuously developing its cooperation with various organizations and institutions, most notably the public sector, business world and the civil society.



Training and Informative Projects

Turkey's EU accession process can be seen as a macro-level restructuring project, which will deeply influence the political, economic and social life in Turkey. Guided by this belief, IKV aims to include all related segments in this process through projects, which aim to address general and technical issues. In this framework, informative projects are implemented, whereby the business world, civil society representatives, media and the public opinion are trained by high-level officials in Turkey and the EU.

Some Exemplary Projects Conducted by IKV in the Last Five Years

- SME's On Their Way to the EU (2010-...)
- Visa Hotline Project (2009-2010)
- EU Presidencies and Informing About Turkey (2009-...)
- Window to Turkey Seminars (2009-...)
- Transformation of the Women Workforce in the Agriculture (2008)
- ABC Project in the Primary Schools (2008-...)
- The Effects of the Horizontal Implementation of the EU Acquis on the Leading Turkish Sectors (2007)
- Strengthening of the Impact Analysis Capacity of



the Turkish Business World in the EU Harmonization Process (2007–2008)
Seminars on Accession Negotiations with the EU (2005–...)

Seminars, Conferences and Panels

IKV organizes seminars, conferences and panels on EU and Turkey–EU relations in Turkey and in various EU Member States with the participation of high-level representatives and experts.

Formulating Basic Opinions and Proposals

IKV closely monitors developments in the EU and Turkey–EU relations and formulates proposals on behalf of the Turkish private sector. While forming opinions, IKV is in constant dialogue with the private sector and obtains regular feedback to help better prepare its proposals.

Since the beginning of Turkey’s full membership perspective, IKV plays a leading role in the process through the reports and strategies it prepares and presents to the government; the briefings it gives to various parliamentary commissions and high-level ministry officials and through close cooperation

with the Turkish Parliament, political parties, public institutions, private sector representative organizations and NGOs.

Coordination, Promotion and Lobbying

Through its Brussels office, IKV carries out extensive promotion activities, vis- a-vis the EU institutions and the Member State delegations. IKV ensures a regular flow of information to the European Commission and Parliament as well as to European NGOs and media representatives including activities undertaken by Turkey in the harmonization process, supports and participates in the meetings held in EU Member States and carries out lobbying activities regarding Turkey.

With the support of the Turkish business world representative organizations, IKV has undertaken the task of coordinating their relations with EU institutions and public sector on EU matters. In this context, IKV executes versatile campaigns of communication, promotion and lobbying with the participation of interested segments of the society and primarily the “Turkey Platform”, which brought together over 250 NGOs under IKV’s coordination with the aim of supporting Turkey’s EU membership.



Our Publications

More than 500 IKV Publications covering different topics are regarded as reference publications by all actors included in the process.



IKV has been producing publications since its inception, the number of which has now reached over 500 and which cover different topics ranging from EU policies, to the effects of these policies on Turkey's harmonization process to various aspects of Turkey-EU relations. These publications are regarded as reference publications by the business world, public sector, civil society and the academia.

Since the start of the accession negotiations between Turkey and EU in 2005, IKV has guided the process by its pioneering studies, the number of which has exceeded 50. These publications cover issues ranging from the accession experiences of the Central and Eastern European States, which joined the Union in 2004 to visa applications towards Turkish nationals; EU Community Programmes, which Turkey participates in to Lisbon Treaty. Consequently, IKV has both contributed to strengthening the technical knowledge and keeping the public support and enthusiasm alive.

IKV Magazine which aims to reflect the current affairs in Turkey-EU relations is relaunched in March 2010.



On Turkey's EU Membership

Remarks of European decision-makers from different EU Member States on Turkey's EU membership.

Europe needs Turkey and Turkey needs Europe.

Olli Rehn

Commissioner for Economic and Monetary Affairs, European Commission

I am confident that at the end of the process it will be a new, modern and reformed Turkey whose accession to the EU will be to the benefit of both the EU and Turkey.

Stefan Füle

Commissioner for Enlargement, European Commission

Turkey belongs to Europe.

Günter Verheugen

Ex-Commissioner for Trade, European Commission

We believe that there are big gains for Britain, Europe and Turkey from a process of closer and closer collaboration on issues ranging from security, energy to cultural Exchange.

David Miliband

Ex-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

I'm not asking you to be a different country, to abandon your values, your traditions or your culture. We want you to be Turkey – because it's as Turkey that you can play the unique role I have described in building greater security and greater prosperity for all our citizens. But we want you to push forwards aggressively with the EU reforms you're making (...) Because just as countries draw great strength from the openness of their societies, so Europe will draw fresh vigour and purpose from a Turkey that embraces human rights and democracy.

David Cameron

Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

I want to encourage you to carry on.

Guido Westerwelle

Vice-Chancellor and Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany

All accession negotiations have one goal – accession, once all the criteria have been fulfilled.

Manuel Lobo Antunes

Portuguese State Secretary for European Affairs



Expressions such as 'privileged association' are unacceptable. Any candidate fulfilling the criteria for adherence should have the right to be a member of the EU.

Mirek Topolánek
Prime Minister of the Czech Republic

Greece believes that Turkey's fulfilment of all the compromises that have been agreed with the EU will lead to its adherence as full member.

Kostas Karamanlis
Ex-Prime Minister of Greece

Somehow, resistance to Turkish membership is a sign of mistrust toward Europe, a Europe which has, however, already produced ample evidence in the past that it knows how to address the difficulties associated with its growth. Turkey's accession could provide Europe with the opportunity to regain the momentum that characterized its best moments.

Silvio Berlusconi
President of Italy

We will take a very heavy responsibility for history if, faced with a people who tell us 'We have adopted all your values, all your rules, all your objectives', we tell them, 'No thanks'.

Jacques Chirac
Ex-President of France

We strongly support every effort the Turkish government is making to meet the accession requirements (...) and everything it is doing to galvanize momentum towards accession.

Mary McAleese
President of Ireland

Turkey's great potential will add a new meaning to European integration. We support Turkey's effort to join the European Union.

Danilo Türk
President of Slovenia

Arguably, Turkey today is more influential in the world than any of our Member States, together or separately (...) We're not talking about some kind of privileged partnership; we're talking about deep integration and cooperation.

Alexander Stubb
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland



When I say Turkey's membership is the EU's life insurance, I mean it in terms of peace in the region and safe and permanent access to a very important part of the world.

Michel Rocard

Ex-Prime Minister of France

There is a principle we follow in government: *pacta sunt servanda*. If a previous government and the EU decided to initiate accession negotiations with Turkey, then it is our duty to follow through on that.

Angela Merkel

Chancellor of Germany

The EU will be stronger with Turkey as a member. Together we are more than the sum of our parts.

William Hague

Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

In 10 years, Turkey won't be the same Turkey as today ... and certain fears that exist today can be put aside.

José Manuel Barroso

President of the European Commission



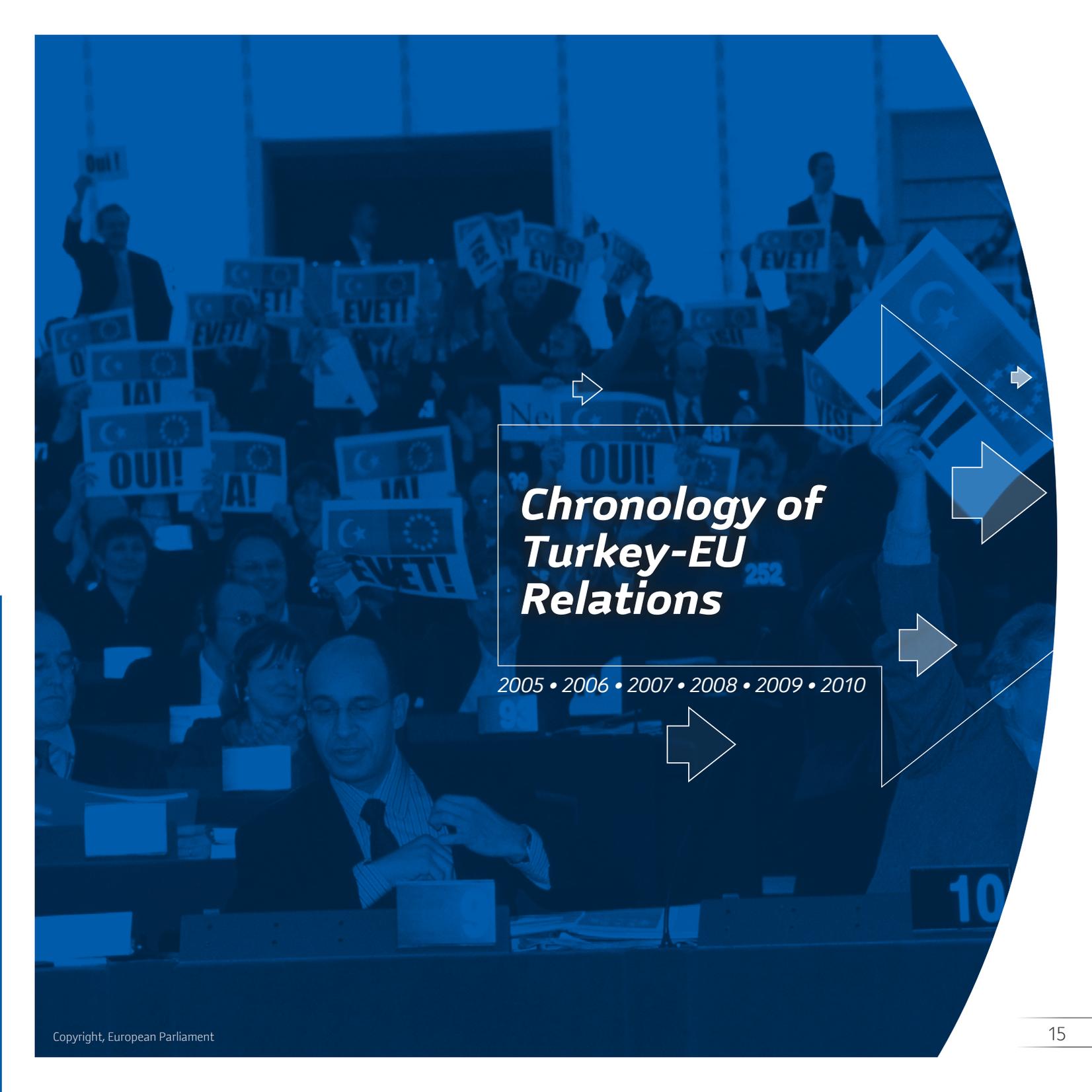
Key Dates of Turkey-EU Relations

- 1959** Turkey applied for an association agreement with the EEC. into force on the basis of decision number 1/95 of the Association Council.
- 1963** Ankara Agreement was signed between Turkey and EEC
- 1970** The Additional Protocol was signed, preparing the ground for the establishment of the Customs Union.
- 1973** Additional Protocol entered into force.
- 1996** Customs Union between the EU and Turkey was completed and entered
- 1999** Turkey was recognised as an EU candidate country in the Helsinki European Council.
- 2004** The European Council in Brussels decided that Turkey sufficiently fulfils the Copenhagen political criteria to open accession negotiations and decided to open negotiations with Turkey on 3 October 2005.

Turkey at a Glance

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Area | 783,562.38 km ² | Tourist Number | 27.3 million people (2009) |
| Population | 73m. (2009) | Foreign Direct Investment | USD 7.9 billion (2009) |
| Labor Force (Population) | 24.7m. (2009) | Number of Companies with Foreign Capital | 23,500 (2008) |
| Median Age | 28.8 (2009) | Major Exports Markets | Germany (9.6%), France (6.1%), UK (5.8%), Italy (5.8%), Iraq (5%) (2009) |
| GDP | USD 618 billion (2009 – Current Prices) | Major Imports Sources | Russia (14%); Germany (10%); China (9%); USA (6.1%); Italy (5.4%) (2009) |
| GDP Per Capita | USD 8,590 billion (2009) | | |
| Exports Value | USD 102 billion (2009) | | |
| Imports Value | USD 141 billion (2009) | | |
| Tourism Revenue | USD 21.2 billion (2009) | | |

Turkey is the 16th largest economy in the world and 6th largest economy compared to the EU area in 2009.



Chronology of Turkey-EU Relations

2005 • 2006 • 2007 • 2008 • 2009 • 2010

2005

-  **1 January 2005**
Luxembourg took over the EU Presidency.
-  **2 January 2005**
The EU Constitution was approved by the EP.
-  **29 May 2005**
The EU Constitution was rejected by 55% in France by referendum.
-  **1 June 2005**
The EU Constitution was rejected by 61,6% in the Netherlands by referendum.
-  **3 June 2005**
Minister of Foreign Affairs Ali Babacan was appointed as Turkey's EU Chief Negotiator.
-  **13 June 2005**
EU Foreign Ministers approved the Additional Protocol that extends the Ankara Agreement to new Member States including the GASC.
-  **29 June 2005**
The Negotiation Framework Document for Turkey was published.
-  **1 July 2005**
The UK took over the EU Presidency.
-  **30 July 2005**
Turkey signed the Additional Protocol which extended the Ankara Agreement, signed in 1963 and constituted the basis of the relations between EU and Turkey, concerning the new ten members on the 1st of May 2004. Turkey declared that this does not amount to a recognition of the GASC in a parallel declaration.
-  **3 October 2005**
Negotiations for full membership with Turkey started.
-  **20 October 2005**
First stage of EU accession negotiations, Screening Process started with Detailed Screening on Science and Research Chapter.
-  **9 December 2005**
European Commission published Regular Reports on candidate countries.

2006

-  **1 January 2006**
Austria took over the EU Presidency.
-  **20 January 2006**
Turkey presented its new plan to the Secretary-General of UN. In the plan, it was demanded that if Turkey opens its ports and airports to Greek vessels and planes, the isolations on TRNC must be removed.
-  **26 January 2006**
APD of Turkey was published in the Official Journal of the EU.
-  **18 May 2006**
UN Convention against Corruption was accepted by Turkey.
-  **12 June 2006**
Being the first Chapter to be opened and temporarily closed, Chapter on Science and Research was provisionally closed.
-  **1 July 2006**
Finland took over the EU Presidency.
-  **31 July 2006**
EU pre-accession funding provided by the European Commission since 2006 was channelled through a new framework IPA for the years 2007-2013.
-  **27 September 2006**
EP adopted the Turkey Report without any reference to the recognition of the alleged Armenian genocide as a precondition of Turkey's EU accession.
-  **27 September 2006**
Turkey ratified the Revised European Social Charter.
-  **13 October 2006**
First stage of Turkey's EU accession negotiations, Screening Process on 33 Chapters was completed.
-  **27 October 2006**
European Commission released the first 38,1m. € of financial aid to be used by TRNC for the years 2004-2006.
-  **8 November 2006**
European Commission published its first Regular Progress Report on Turkey following the start of official negotiations together with a document entitled EU Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges.
-  **13 November 2006**
The Council of the EU entitled Istanbul as the European Capital of Culture in the year of 2010.
-  **29 November 2006**
European Commission recommended the suspension of negotiations with Turkey, regarding the Chapters; Free Movement of Goods, Right of Establishment

and Freedom to Provide Services, Financial Services, Agriculture and Rural Development, Fisheries, Transport Policy, Customs Union and Foreign Affairs.

 **7 December 2006**

Turkey submitted a comprehensive settlement plan within the UN framework to the European Council, which consisted of Turkey's opening of one airport and one port to trade with the GASC for one year in return for opening Ercan airport to international traffic and opening Mogusa port to the direct trade under Turkish Cypriot authority.

 **11 December 2006**

European Commission's recommendation on the suspension of negotiations with Turkey on 8 Chapters was accepted by the European Council. The European Council also confirmed the Commission recommendation that none of the chapters shall be provisionally closed until Turkey's fulfilment of her commitments relating to the Additional Protocol.

2007

 **1 January 2007**

Germany took over the EU Presidency.

 **1 January 2007**

Bulgaria and Romania joined the EU as 26th and 27th Member States.

 **6 February 2007**

Under the framework of IPARD established by the European Commission to support candidate countries' accession process, 159m. € was earmarked for Turkey for the 2007-2009 period.

 **24 February 2007**

Optional Protocols No.1 and No.2 of International Convention on Civil and Political Rights entered into force.

 **15 March 2007**

"Report to the Conference of Presidents of the High-Level Contact Group for relations with the Turkish Cypriot community in the northern part of the island" was approved by the EP.

 **29 March 2007**

The Enterprise and Industrial Policy Chapter was opened to negotiations.

 **30 March 2007**

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was signed.

 **17 April 2007**

Harmonization Package of Turkey to EU Acquis including legal regulations and timetable prepared by the EUSG was declared.

 **11 May 2007**

Turkey signed the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in the Programme Culture 2007 (2007 - 2013).

 **30 May 2007**

Turkey signed the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in the Lifelong Learning and Youth Programme from 2007 to 2013.

 **1 June 2007**

Turkey signed the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in the 7th Framework Programme.

 **20 June 2007**

European Commission declared 3,961m. € financial aid for candidate and potential candidate countries to be used from 2007 to 2009.

 **26 June 2007**

The Statistics and Financial Control Chapters were opened to negotiations.

 **1 July 2007**

Portugal took over the EU Presidency.

 **22 July 2007**

In the general elections, AKP won the first place with 47% of the votes; followed by CHP (21%) and MHP (14%).

 **23 July 2007**

EU leaders came together in an IGC to negotiate the Reform Treaty amending the EU Constitution.

 **28 August 2007**

The former Foreign Minister Abdullah Gül was elected as Turkey's 11th President.

 **2 October 2007**

According to Eurostat statistics dating from August 2007, unemployment in the Euro Area of 13 members reached a historical low level by 6,9 %.

 **15 October 2007**

Readmission and visa facilitation agreements were signed between Moldova and the EU.

-  **17 October 2007**
Turkey signed the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in PROGRESS Programme.
-  **18 October 2007**
EU Heads of State and Government reached a political consensus on the Reform Treaty during the unofficial summit held in Lisbon.
-  **21 October 2007**
A series of constitutional changes including the election of the President by the electorate was put to referendum under the Constitutional Reform Package.
-  **6 November 2007**
European Commission published its yearly strategy paper on enlargement policy and Regular Reports for candidate countries.
-  **7 November 2007**
The Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Serbia was initialled.
-  **12 December 2007**
Charter of Fundamental Rights was signed by the European Commission, the EP and the European Council.
-  **13 December 2007**
Lisbon Treaty was signed.
-  **19 December 2007**
Trans-European Networks and Consumer and Health Protection Chapters were opened to negotiations.
-  **21 December 2007**
Malta, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and the Czech Republic joined the Schengen Area.

2008

-  **1 January 2008**
Slovenia took over the EU Presidency.
-  **1 January 2008**
Malta and GASC joined the Euro Zone.
-  **1 January 2008**
Readmission and visa facilitation agreements signed between the EU and Bosnia Herzegovina, Albania, Montenegro, Serbia and Macedonia entered into force.
-  **15 January 2008**
First meeting of Alliance of Civilizations headed by Turkey and Spain was held in Madrid.
-  **18 January 2008**
Agreements on energy security were signed between Bulgaria and Russia.
-  **12 February 2008**
Turkey signed the Memorandum of Understanding to participate in the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme.
-  **17 February 2008**
The Assembly of Kosovo declared Kosovo's independence as the Republic of Kosovo.
-  **20 February 2008**
EP approved the Lisbon Treaty.
-  **26 February 2008**
APD of Turkey was published in the Official Journal of the EU.
-  **3 February 2008**
Lokmacı Gate was opened to pedestrian passage between the two parts of Cyprus after 45 years.
-  **29 April 2008**
The Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Serbia was signed.
-  **30 April 2008**
A series of changes were made on the Article 301 of the TPC within the framework of freedom of expression and thought.
-  **12 June 2008**
Lisbon Treaty was rejected in Ireland with 53% marking the beginning of a renewed crisis on the constitutional process.
-  **12 June 2008**
Company Law and Intellectual Property Law Chapters were opened to negotiations.
-  **1 July 2008**
France took over the EU Presidency.
-  **11 July 2008**
IPA Framework Agreement was signed between Turkey and the EU.
-  **30 July 2008**
The Constitutional Court announced its decision on the closure case of AKP.
-  **3 September 2008**
Negotiations started between the President Mehmet Ali Talat of TRNC and the President Dimitris Hristofyas of GASC.

3 November 2008

The first meeting of the Union for the Mediterranean, which aims to enhance economic, social and cultural relations between 16 countries having coasts on the Mediterranean and 27 EU Member States took place.

5 November 2008

European Commission published its yearly strategy paper on enlargement policy and Regular Reports for candidate countries.

13 December 2008

Switzerland joined the Schengen Area, being the first non-EU country to join.

18 December 2008

Free Movement of Capital and Information Society and Media Chapters were opened to negotiations.

31 December 2008

National Programme of Turkey prepared by the GSEU on harmonization to the EU acquis entered into force.

2009

1 January 2009

Czech Republic took over the EU Presidency, being the first country to do so among the new Member States that joined the EU in 2004.

1 January 2009

Slovakia joined the Euro Zone.

1 January 2009

TRT 6 started broadcasting in Kurdish.

10 January 2009

Egemen Bağış, Minister of EU Affairs, was appointed as the Turkey's Chief EU Negotiator.

14 January 2009

EP approved biometric passport rules in order to increase document safety in the Schengen Zone.

5 February 2009

Turkey signed the Kyoto Protocol.

19 February 2009

ECJ announced its decision regarding the Soysal case. The Court ruled that the visa requirement for Turkish nationals is in breach of the Association Law.

25 February 2009

In the Turkish Parliament, the Law on Committee on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women passed.

29 March 2009

In the local elections with the voter turnout of 78,23 %, the political parties got the following percentage of votes. AKP (38,83 %), CHP (23,11 %), MHP (16,07 %), DTP (5,65 %), SP (5,23 %).

1 April 2009

Radio broadcast in Kurdish and Armenian started.

4 April 2009

SAP Action Plan (2008–2012) was approved.

5 April 2009

Second meeting of Alliance of Civilizations was held in Istanbul.

27 April 2009

May 1st was again declared as a public holiday ("Labour and Solidarity Day").

28 April 2009

Albania officially applied for the EU membership.

4 June 2009

In the EP elections with the voter turnout of 43,1 %, central right parties got most of the votes and obtained the majority of the seats.

5 June 2009

Following the ECJ's ruling on the Soysal case, Germany announced an administrative change in law regarding her visa policy towards certain categories of Turkish nationals.

24 June 2009

EU-Croatia IGC was postponed and membership negotiations of Croatia were blocked due to the ongoing border dispute between Croatia and Slovenia.

25 June 2009

EUSG's institutional structure was reformed.

30 June 2009

Taxation Chapter was opened to negotiations.

1 July 2009

Sweden took over the EU Presidency.

1 July 2009

The "Turkey Season" activities commenced in France.

8 Temmuz 2009

European Commission report on the implementation of the Financial Aid Package of 259m. € for supporting the economic development in TRNC for the years 2006–2011 was published.

-  **13 July 2009**
Intergovernmental Agreement on Nabucco Project was signed in Ankara.
-  **14 July 2009**
Former Polish PM and MEP (Christian Democrat) Jerzy Buzek was elected as the new President of the EP.
-  **31 July 2009**
50 years had passed since Turkey's application to the European Economic Community (EEC).
-  **5 August 2009**
EU's population reached to 500m. according to Eurostat.
-  **25 August 2009**
Judicial Reform Strategy was approved.
-  **1 September 2009**
Turkey presented its letter of intention regarding her participation to the EU Agency of Fundamental Rights.
-  **9 September 2009**
First negotiating session in view of Turkey's accession to the Energy Community Treaty took place.
-  **16 September 2009**
José Manuel Barroso was appointed as the President of the European Commission for another 5 years.
-  **18 September 2009**
ECJ ruled that the residence permit fees taken from the Turkish nationals were excessive and had to be lowered.
-  **27 September 2009**
Christian Democrats won the general elections in Germany.
-  **2 October 2009**
Lisbon Treaty was accepted in Ireland with 67.1%.
-  **4 October 2009**
PASOK won the general elections in Greece.
-  **11 October 2009**
The protocols between Armenia and Turkey with a view to normalizing the relations between two countries were signed in Switzerland.
-  **14 October 2009**
European Commission published its yearly strategy paper on enlargement policy and Regular Reports for candidate countries.
-  **15 October 2009**
FTA was initialled between South Korea and the EU.

-  **3 November 2009**
Czech President Vaclav Klaus signed the Lisbon Treaty. Thus, the last obstacle to the Lisbon Treaty's coming into force was cleared.
-  **19 November 2009**
Herman Van Rompuy and Catherine Ashton were appointed as EU's first President and EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy respectively, following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.
-  **27 November 2009**
José Manuel Barroso, declared the new European Commissioners who will work until 2014.
-  **1 December 2009**
The Lisbon Treaty entered into force.
-  **5 December 2009**
EUSG's Istanbul Representation was opened.
-  **7 December 2009**
UN Climate Change Conference was held in Copenhagen.
-  **11 December 2009**
The Constitutional Court declared its decision on the closure case of DTP.
-  **11 December 2009**
A new programme on the area of justice and home affairs, Stockholm Programme was approved.
-  **19 December 2009**
Citizens of Serbia, Macedonia and Montenegro obtained visa-free travel to Schengen countries on their visits up to 3 months.
-  **21 December 2009**
Environment Chapter was opened to negotiations.
-  **22 December 2009**
Serbia officially applied for EU membership.

2010

-  **1 January 2010**
Spain took over the EU Presidency.
-  **1 January 2010**
Istanbul 2010 European Capital of Culture has officially started.
-  **2 January 2010**
Economic crisis was declared in Greece.

-  **5 January 2010**
EU Communication Strategy entered into force.
-  **1 February 2010**
Interim Agreement on Trade between the EU and Serbia entered into force.
-  **17 February 2010**
Two new Directorates-General (DG Energy and DG Climate Action) have been established within the European Commission.
-  **3 March 2010**
Replacing the Lisbon Strategy, European Commission put forward a new strategy, Europe 2020: A Strategy for Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth.
-  **25 March 2010**
Civil Aviation Agreement between Turkey and the EU was initialled.
-  **31 March 2010**
European Commission set out the rules for commencing a citizens' initiative stipulated in the Lisbon Treaty.
-  **5 April 2010**
EU Visa Code including a standardized application of visa policy towards third country nationals entered into force.
-  **22 April 2010**
Belgium PM Yves Leterme has resigned from his position the third time since 2007.
-  **2 May 2010**
Stabilization Agreement providing financial aid for Greece to overcome economic crisis was signed between Greece, the IMF and the EU.
-  **6 May 2010**
23 articles and 3 provisional articles of the Constitutional Reform Package were voted in the second round of the parliamentary talks.
-  **6 May 2010**
Conservative Party led by David Cameron won the general elections in the UK with 36,1% of the votes.
-  **AB - 7 May 2010**
The Euro Area Finance Ministers agreed on tightening budgetary discipline and the establishment of European Stability Mechanism.
-  **AB - 8 May 2010**
Report prepared by EU Wisemen, Project Europe 2030: Challenges and Opportunities was presented to the European Council.
-  **22 May 2010**
Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu was elected as the new leader of CHP.
-  **2 June 2010**
European Commission's DG Justice, Freedom and Security was split into DG Justice and DG Home Affairs.
-  **6 June 2010**
Slovenia voted to accept an agreement on a border dispute with Croatia, which paved the way for Croatia's membership talks with the EU.
-  **9 June 2010**
Central right-wing People's Party for Freedom and Democracy won the elections in the Netherlands.
-  **13 June 2010**
Belgium's Flemish separatist party, the New Flemish Alliance has won the majority of votes in the general elections.
-  **17 June 2010**
Estonia joined the Euro Area.
-  **30 June 2010**
Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy Chapters were opened to negotiations.
-  **1 July 2010**
Belgium took over the EU Presidency.
-  **27 July 2010**
Membership talks with Iceland started.
-  **12 September 2010**
Referendum regarding the Constitutional Reform Package was accepted with 58% of the votes.

3 October 2010

5th year of Accession Negotiations with Turkey and Croatia.

Turkey

Chapters opened: 13
Chapters provisionally closed: 1

Croatia

Chapters opened: 33
Chapters provisionally closed: 22

Epilogue



As seen in this booklet, the first five years of Turkey–EU negotiations were very intense. On one hand, the EU faced several problems such as the constitutional crisis and the global economic crisis and its legal and institutional basis continued to evolve with the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty. The changes in government in several Member States had in general an adverse impact on relations with Turkey. On the other hand, Turkey went ahead with democratization and development in the face of a dynamic political and economic agenda. In the neighbouring regions, major changes and upheavals took place. Turkish foreign policy continued to evolve towards an active, multilateral and multidimensional structure. In this environment marked by change and growing interaction, Turkey's EU membership has immense potential for both sides. By accepting Turkey, EU, will benefit from the economic and political advantages an emerging regional power will bring and will grow stronger by merging with this country that is already engaged in increasing cooperation with the EU in many policy areas. Turkey, by becoming a part of a close-knit Union of 27 Members in its geographic vicinity will have a weight in the

decision making mechanisms and will become an important actor in shaping tomorrow's world. Therefore, we should continue to put efforts in a determined manner to reach the EU membership goal. Negative developments should not deter us from this goal. Both Turkey and the EU should look at the bigger picture and not just the conjectural shifts and realize how important it is for EU to take Turkey on board in a globalizing world.

As the Economic Development Foundation, we will decisively continue with our EU-related activities of 45 years. In this context, while generating knowledge as the voice of the business world and continuing to raise awareness among the public, we will keep on our advocacy and lobbying activities at EU and Member State levels with a view to promoting Turkey's EU membership. We sincerely hope that the work undertaken by the government, the Chief Negotiator and the Secretariat General for EU Affairs will continue effectively. As the Economic Development Foundation, we reiterate that we will always support the work undertaken and will continue to be a staunch advocate and monitor Turkey's accession process.

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