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SECURITY AND DEFENSE REFORM 2023-2053 TURKEY VISION WORKSHOPS



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CONSEPT DOCUMENT

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21st century in which changes have been taking place particularly in security and defense areas, the global security environment is in a state of common confusion and unsteadiness due to the impact of new political initiatives and forms of cooperation as well as various crises and changes. The collective regulatory power tends to lose its influence, while foreign intervention and international power struggle is changing its scope. The new period has been evolving towards the multi-polarity and international environment has gradually turned into a chaotic atmosphere.

Turkey, which stepped inside the 21st century with significant domestic and foreign security issues, but without breaking the political habits of the Cold War period, has been slowly tending towards the new security and defense strategies that the new period requires. The new national power, which can be described as “leadership in technological innovation, large military and economic capacity, soft-power and handling international communication networks”, is being seen, from now on, as a common ability that happens by coming together the geography, population, natural resources, policy, economy, armed forces, psychosocial factors, technology and scientific capacities.

Security concept of a large number of states has changed into strategic thinking “based on security and risks”, moving away from strategic thinking that “placing importance on defense and based on threats”. It has caused to be unavoidable the strategic security perspective that non-affiliated the geographical frontiers in maintaining the national security of the country against, particularly, terrorism without borders, cyber-attacks and inter-continental ballistic missile threat. On the other hand, from now on, it is much more difficult that the security is to be ensured only by military forces because political, economic, cultural and technological developments towards growth have become more of an issue for the countries. For this reason, states and multi-national security organizations such as NATO tend towards a state of affair in quest for the simultaneous use of military and civil capabilities.

Having a high opinion of high performance and quality in products of defense industry which is being an integral and essential part of defense and security policies, and developing as part of economy, the use of state-of-the-art technology, and extensity of research-development activities have led to evolvment of this sector as an area for technological information production. The technological supremacy that achieved in defense industry also provides some political and economic advantages. A defense industry that is minimized its dependence on foreign sources, using its own resources in a way that optimally



effective, capable of high-tech production is also a safeguard for strong economy, peace, stability and security. Turkey's Defense Industry 2023-2053 Vision is to be one of the countries that largely export their weapons, military equipment and ammunition produced by themselves as an output of their technologies, which developed by themselves as well, and turn this outcome into a significant economic value.

It appears, from Turkish Armed Forces' (TSK) activities of projection for the future and of vision, that the primary objective for its future is to be "an army whose survival capability and warfare force is high, of which has technological supremacy as well as information and training, which is capable of carrying its duties in every circumstances with an educated staff". The armament that based on national industry in maximum and a force structure which can perform military operations without being dependent foreign factors is also among its objectives.

The primary objective, according to the activities by Turkish General Staff, is to be built a structure that can protect Turkey's national interests beyond its frontiers starting from its borders. This depends on having a land force that can fast and effectively operate, both a navy that can fly the flag in off-shore and fleets that can protect Turkey's air-space against all types of threats and air defense systems. TSK, in the new period, aims to make the external security threats ineffective before they pose, by means of its defense force as well as "dissuasiveness" factor.

TSK's new comprehensive perspective intends collaborations with diverse institutions and civil society organizations. Performing military, diplomatic and economic activities in coordination and in a way that they can create synergy by supporting each other take primacy for its agenda.

It is clear that Turkey, as a "Proper Size Power/Midsize Global Power", wants and tries to take part effectively in regional and global struggles as well as with in the concentrations of forces. The system must be interpreted again in accordance with this request. It is generally accepted that Turkey's security and defense field is need to go to the reforms and revision (especially with the emergence of some concrete problems experienced) in the new power objectives. In the light of similar problems faced by different countries in the world before, in Turkey especially education process, institutional bilateral relations and public opinion creating with alternative channels of communication are found to be problematic.

In this regard, **Security and Defense Reform 2023-2053 Turkey Vision Workshops**, which will be held as part of 2016 Istanbul Security Conference will be organized with the support of related authorities to evaluate the Armed Forces 2033 projector developed by the General Staff and predicted vision of Turkish National Police as the milestones in the stipulated reform process in Turkey with the TASAM's studies developed in the frame of the 2023 Vision before and revised as 2053 Vision and besides main areas of reform processes.



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WORKSHOP THEMES

Security, Defense and Defense Industry 2023-2053 Vision

Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) 2033 Vision

Turkish National Police (EGM) Security Vision

Defence and Security Education

Authority Management in Defence and Security (Civilian – Soldier – Police)

Political Communication and Public Diplomacy in Defence and Security
(West-East Media and Public Opinion)