

TURKEY - GERMANY STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

**“Thinking Diplomacy:
New World New Horizons”**



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VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

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“Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons”

(Turkey - Germany)

Turkey distinguishes itself with an 84-million inhabitants, growing economy and geo-strategic status in the center of Afro-Eurasia. Turkey's historical, political and cultural ties between Europe, Black Sea, Caucasus, Asia, Middle East and African countries, rising activity in the international arena, especially in the United Nations, being an important member of organizations such as NATO, OSCE and CICA and with active foreign policy, it has become an increasingly important actor on the global platform.

Germany, with its population of 83 million and GDP (2019) of 3.853 trillion dollars, is a prominent country in Europe and also a global actor in international arena. Since its establishment, Germany is considered one of the most powerful countries in Europe and the World. In 21st century Germany is still a prominent political and economical power in the global arena. Germany's national power comes from its strong and dynamic economy, qualified human resources, cultural and historical heritage, technological developments and influential position in international politics. These factors make Germany a strong regional and global power.

Turkey-Germany relations have long-standing history. Ottoman Empire signed a treaty of amity with Kingdom of Prussia in 1790 and during the reign of Abdülhamid II military relations with Germany had improved. During First World War, besides being allies, Turkey and Germany had cooperated in many fields such as construction of Baghdad Railway Project.

Various German leftist, liberal and Jewish academics and engineers were invited to Turkey after Hitler came to power in 1933. These academics and engineers contributed to the establishment and development of various universities, industries and companies. During Cold War era, Turkey and Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) had cooperated in trade, economy and culture. In 1960 Germany signed Labor Recruitment Agreement with Turkey and many Turkish workers migrated to Germany.

The bilateral trade volume between Turkey and Germany stood at nearly 36 billion dollars in 2019 and trade gap weigh against Turkey was approximately 2.7 billion dollars. In 2019, Germany as Turkey's largest trading partner, took the 1st place among its exporting countries and the 2nd place among its imports. The main products exported by Turkey to Germany are clothing and its accessories, land transportation vehicles, internal combustion, reciprocating engine parts; parts for land vehicles, textile fibers and products. The main products exported by Germany to Turkey are automobiles, station wagons, racing cars; parts for land vehicles; therapeutic/prophylactic drugs (dosed); electrical machinery and devices.

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Approximately 8 thousand companies with German capital operate in Turkey. Germany ranks first in terms of number of foreign-owned companies established in Turkey. And the number of Turkish businesses in Germany is around 80 thousand. These enterprises generate a turnover of more than 52 billion dollars and provide employment opportunities to approximately 500 thousand people. Germany is one of the most important allies of Turkey. Main elements in Turkey-Germany relations include; 3 million German citizens of Turkish descendants, trade volume of 36 billion dollars, Turkey's EU membership process, 5 million German tourists visiting Turkey annually and defense industry projects.

Besides dual relations; Germany is a close partner of Turkey in NATO, OSCE and European Council. High level official visits between Turkey and Germany take place frequently. Common traits between Turkey and Germany are commitment to democracy, secularism, membership to G20 and World Trade Organization and being developmentalist economies.

The basis tendency coming with globalization and multidimensionality which gained momentum after the end of the Cold War, aims to strengthen the countries not by themselves but through certain regional cooperation and trans-regional partnerships. Countries are now moving towards an open structure based on dialogue and cooperation in economic, political and cultural terms, while those who cannot adapt are experiencing serious instability.

It is being deeply felt that there is an urgent necessity for collaborative works of the two countries so that the solutions for the regional issues can be found. Now it is required that the two countries head towards a future structure, in order to uplift the Turkey - Germany relations an ideal point within a world power schema which takes its form in a multi-dimensional way, by creating a mutual deepening not only in political and strategic basis but also in its each parameter. History offers both the two countries opportunities for deepening their interdependency. In this regard, the **Turkey - Germany Strategic Dialogue**, which will bring together the representatives of the related sectors in a comprehensive way that includes the strategic dimension of the relations, will play a significant role.

Main Theme

Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons

Sub Themes

New Balances New Economy

Turkey-Germany Economical Relations: Opportunities and Risks

Energy Policies: Geopolitics and Security

Technological, Academic and Cultural Cooperation

Sectoral Cooperation Perspectives, Defense Industry and Transportation

Social, Economical and Political Developments

Turkey's European Union Membership Process and Turkey-Germany Relations

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Middle East, Africa, Central Asia and Turkey - Germany

Relations with USA and New Partners: Regional Strategies

Rising Powers in Multi-Polar World and Adaptation to the Global Management Structures

Academic and Cultural Cooperation

Primary Sectors

Public Diplomacy, Education and Language

Culture and Tourism

Construction, Construction Business and Infrastructure

Health and Health Tourism

Energy, Petro-chemistry and Investments

Logistics, Transportation and Communication

Banking and Finance (Strategic Investment Fund)

Economy and Trade

Media and Communication

Science and Technology

Brand Cities and Environment

Defence and Space Industry

STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES (DRAFT)

Method

Inductive Reasoning, Participation and Economic Deepening

Turkey - Germany Committee of Wise Persons Meetings Workshop

Building Capacity and Ecosystem Inventory

Preparation of Research Projects and their Reports

Development of Pro-active Policy Recommendations

Round-Table Meetings/Workshops

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Multilateral Workshops/Studies

Sector Workshops/Activities

Applied Interactive Modelings

Strategic Reports

Publication of sector studies as strategic reports for decision makers, private sector, media and public opinion of the two countries. Providing literature and memory support.

Media Conferences

Other Academic Studies

Strategic Reports, Books, Articles, Thesis and so on Academic Studies

Event Page

Event details and the vision document can be reached via the link below:

<https://tasam.org/en/Etkinlik/16241/turkey - germany strategic dialogue>