

TURKEY-EU RELATIONS



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STORY BEGINS MUCH BEFORE...



- **Turkey is the only pluralist secular democracy in the Muslim world**
- **Turkish culture has had a profound impact over much of Eastern and Southern Europe**
- **Turkey's "westernisation", its economic, political and social structures (in the 19th century)**
- **Proclamation of the Republic in 1923, Turkey chose Western Europe as the model for its new secular structure.**



- Founding member of the United Nations
- Member of NATO-1952
- Member of Council of Europe (1949)
- Member of OECD-1948
- Associate member of the Western European Union 1992
- Cold War-Western Alliance



- 1958- Creation of European Economic Community
- 1959- Turkey's Application to join
 - Creation of an Association with Turkey
 - 1963 Ankara Agreement

ANKARA AGREEMENT (1963)



- **Aim:**

- Securing Turkey's full membership in the EEC through the establishment in three phases of a customs union which would serve as an instrument to bring about integration between the EEC and Turkey
- Progressive establishment of Custom Union
- Closer economic and trade relations
- Financial assistance to Turkey
- Abolition of tariff and quantitative barriers to trade
- Common External Tariff to imports from third countries
- Harmonisation with EEC policies in virtually every field relating to the internal market



- Although the Ankara Agreement envisaged the free circulation not only of goods, but of natural persons, services and capital between the Parties, it excluded Turkey from the EEC decision-making mechanisms and precluded Turkey from recourse to the ECJ for dispute settlement.

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL (1970)



- How the Customs Union would be established
- EEC would abolish tariff and quantitative barriers to its imports from Turkey
- Same for the Turkey – Timetable 12-22 years
- Harmonisation of Turkish legislation with that of the EU in economic matters
- Free circulation of natural persons between the Parties in the next 12 to 22 years

FULL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(1987)



- Military Intervention 1980-freezing relations
- Multi-party elections in 1983
- Full membership applications
- Commission Opinion
 - Turkey is eligible (Morroco was rejeceted)
 - in-depth analysis of Turkey's application until the emergence of a more favourable environment
 - Single Market matters-No enlargement
 - Complete Customs Union

CUSTOMS UNION (1995)



- Customs Union between Turkey and the EU in industrial and processed agricultural goods
- Turkey abolished all duties and equivalent charges on imports of industrial goods from the EU.
- Common External Tariff
- Adoption of EU's industrial policy preferential trade arrangements with specific third countries

Impacts of CU



- In 1996, Turkey's imports from the EU rose by 34.7% compared to 1995 and reached 22.7 billion dollars, while our exports, amounting to 11.477 billion dollars, rose by only 3.6%.
- EU is biggest trading partner with a 52.9% share in Turkey's imports and 49.5% exports.
- 1997 and 1998 Turkey's exports to the EU rose from 12.2 billion dollars in 1997 to 13.4 billion dollars in 1998 and imports from the EU increased from 24 billion dollars in 1997 to 24.8 billion dollars in 1998. In 1997, the share of Turkish imports from EU in total imports increased further reaching 51.1% and in 1998 52.5%, also the share of EU exports in total exports increased from 46.6% in 1997 to 50% in 1998. According to 1997 figures, Turkey's share in total EU exports is 3.1% representing the significance of Turkey's potential as a growing market for the EU while Turkey's share in total EU imports is 1.8%.
- The Turkish economy was able to withstand EU competition

LUXEMBOURG SUMMIT 1997



- **1997 Luxembourg Summit- Turning Point**
 - Turkey has not been declared as candidate country

Customs Union was functioning satisfactorily and that it had demonstrated Turkey's ability to adapt to the EU norms in many areas, BUT same political and economic arguments against Turkey and made no reference to Turkey's full membership objective

political issues as pre-conditions for moving our relations forward???

LUXEMBOURG SUMMIT



- In the light of the EU's claims that all candidates would be judged according to the same objective criteria and that there would be no prejudice in their evaluation, Turkey found the Commission's approach unjust and discriminatory.
- Turkey did not participate in the inaugural meeting of the European Conference held in London on 12 March 1998

HELSINKI SUMMIT 1999



- Turkey was declared as candidate country
- Benefits of pre-accession strategy
- Participation to Community Programmes



- Accession Partnership by the Council-2001
- National Programme-Adaptation of EU Acquis, short and medium term priorities
- Progress towards accession, opening of accession negotiations, which depends on the fulfillment of the Copenhagen political criteria

REFORM PROCESS



- **Review of the Constitution**
 - Thirty-four Articles of the Turkish Constitution have amended
 - Improving human rights, strengthening the rule of law and restructuring of democratic institutions.
 - Harmonization of Turkish legislation with the acquis

LEAKEN EUROPEAN COUNCIL 2001



- Possibility of opening accession negotiations with Turkey, which for the first time has been explicitly mentioned
- Turkey will be taking part in the Convention on the future of Europe on an equal basis with the other candidates, however only with “observer” status, not included in decision making
- Clear membership perspective along the lines of the other candidates has been given to Turkey.



- **Progress Reports by European Commission:** Evaluate the candidate states' progress towards membership only for that specific year.



- December 2004: In the summit meeting made by the European Council in Brussels, the resolution was saying that Turkey had made impressive progress in respecting the political criteria, enough for negotiations on EU membership to start on the 3rd October 2004.
- The negotiation process is said to be “**open-ended**”.



- Accession Negotiations have been launched on October 3, 2005 with the adoption of the [Negotiation Framework](#) by the Council of the European Union.
- The [Screening Process](#) lasted about a year from October 20, 2005 until October 13, 2006.

- 1) Free Movement of Goods
- 2) Freedom Movement of Workers
- 3) Right of Establishment and Freedom to Provide Services
- 4) Free Movement of Capital
- 5) Public Procurement
- 6) Company Law
- 7) Intellectual Property Law
- 8) Competition Policy
- 9) Financial Services
- 10) Information Society and Media
- 11) Agriculture and Rural Development
- 12) Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy
- 13) Fisheries
- 14) Transport Policy
- 15) Energy
- 16) Taxation
- 17) Economic and Monetary Policy
- 18) Statistics
- 19) Social Policy and Employment
- 20) Enterprise and Industrial Policy
- 21) Trans-European Networks
- 22) Regional Policy and Coordination of Structural Instruments
- 23) Judiciary and Fundamental Rights
- 24) Justice, Freedom and Security
- 25) Science and Research
- 26) Education and Culture
- 27) Environment
- 28) Consumer and Health Protection
- 29) Customs Union
- 30) External Relations
- 31) Foreign, Security and Defence Policy
- 32) Financial Control
- 33) Financial and Budgetary Provisions
- 34) Institutions**
- 35) Other Issues**



- **29 Nov. 2006:** The Commission recommended to partially suspend membership negotiations with Turkey due to lack of progress on the Cyprus issue.
- **11 Dec. 2006:** EU foreign ministers decided to follow the Commission's recommendations and suspend talks with Turkey on eight of the 35 negotiating areas.
- **26 June 2007:** Two further negotiating chapters, on statistics and financial control, were opened, however the opening of the chapter on economic and monetary union was taken off the agenda.

Problems/Concerns



- Fundamental rights and freedoms
- Minority issues
- Freedom of Expression
- Cyprus Conflict-trade links with Cyprus, access to Turkish Airports and Harbours
 - Turkey demands putting and end to the isolation of Northern Cyprus and emphasises that it was the Greek side of the island that rejected the UN's plan in 2004.
- Migrant and refugee crisis
- Rule of law
- Fight against terrorism

EU' s Enlargement



- Cold War Years-Changing Context
- Aim-FULL MEMBERSHIP
- Enlargement Process Copenhagen Criterias
 - Membership requires that candidate country has achieved stability of institutions guaranteeing [democracy](#), the [rule of law](#), [human rights](#) and respect for and, protection of [minorities](#), the existence of a functioning [market economy](#) as well as the capacity to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the Union. Membership presupposes the candidate's ability to take on the obligations of membership including adherence to the aims of political, economic and [monetary](#) union
- Luxembourg Summit-Excluded Turkey from Enlargement Process
- Helsinki Summit

Main Issues



- Turkey's Population?-85 million in 20 years time
- Geographic borders- Based on Common Values?
- Cultural and Religious Differences-Irrelevant
- Identity
- Global and regional security issues-Terrorism
- Human rights?
- Migration management?
- Increase Europe-wide of scepticism towards Turkey's European prospects.
- Turkey's public is more and more tired of the negotiation process.
- Cooperation areas: economic, migration, energy