

# TİSK *information*

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## Viewpoint



President  
Yağız EYÜBOĞLU

### A new era in relations with the EU?

Relations of Turkey with the EU date back to 1959 when Turkey made its first application to establish ties with the European integration which it considered as an important target on its road to modernisation. During the 57 years passed since then, Turkey signed the "Ankara" Association Agreement in 1963 and achieved a Customs Union with the EU in 1996 which covers only industrial goods and processed agricultural products. Since the final aim of the Ankara Agreement was Turkey's accession to the Union, Turkey applied for full membership in 1987. Only 18 years after this move, could the accession negotiations be started in 2005.

Another 11 years have passed since then, but we are still far away from our objective, with only 15 chapters out of 35 opened for negotiations, and many others embargoed by some EU members like France and Southern Cyprus which are tacitly even openly supported by some other members like Austria, Netherlands, etc.

The doubts in the minds of Europeans and this stalemate of Turkey's accession to the Union are worrisome for Turkey, because since its foundation, the Country anchored its modernization in European political, economic and social values and institutions.

Recently, the refugee crisis which resulted in one million people coming to Europe in 2015 alone has forced the EU to rethink its relationship with Turkey in efforts to control the flow of refugees to Europe. This, of course, brought Turkey's long-stalled membership process problems to the table.

The EU-Turkey Agreement on Migration, dated March 18, 2016 is the result of these talks which first took its concrete form in the EU-Turkey Joint Action plan activated on November 29, 2015. With the Migration Agreement, the EU and Turkey have decided to end the irregular migration from Turkey to the EU.

The final deal includes the readmission of illegal refugees by Turkey from Greece from March 20 onwards and in return an EU agreement to resettle legal refugees from Turkey, up to a total of 72,000, for every refugee readmitted to Turkey. Moreover, to improve the conditions of refugees in Turkey, the EU will allocate 3 billion euros to fund projects in the field of health, education, infrastructure, food and other living costs. The EU will also provide an additional 3 billion euros for Syrian refugees by the end of 2018.

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## TİSK 2015 CSR Awards Presentation Ceremony



TİSK 2015 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Award Ceremony took place in Çırağan Palace on March 23, 2016.

AK Party Member of Parliament Öznur Çalık, Vice Undersecretary of Ministry of Labour and Social Security Dr. Serhat Ayrım, ILO Director for Turkey Numan Özcan and DSP President Önder Aksakal presented the awards to the winner companies.

58 Projects, consisting of 52 large-scale and 6 SMEs, had applied to TİSK 2015 CSR Awards. Projects were first evaluated by the Nomination Committee which consisted CSR experts. Based on the preliminary screening, 23 projects passed to the finale. The finalist projects afterwards evaluated by the Selection Committee which composed of respected names from different stakeholders. The Selection Committee selected 7 winner projects in various categories and awarded 2 SME's an honorable mention award.

In his opening speech TİSK President Yağız EYÜBOĞLU declared that the projects participated in the competition reflected the importance paid by the Turkish Business World to the development of society. He also stated that most of the projects presented to the Selection Committee were prepared with an emphasis on 'Corporate Citizenship'. "This year we also added a new category, 'GAN TURKEY Special Award' to the existing ones. Our intention was to establish a connection between social responsibility and apprenticeships through Global Apprenticeships Turkey Network (GAN TURKEY)", he added.



### Winners of TİSK 2015 CSR Awards

#### LARGE SCALE COMPANIES:

- **Grand Award:** FORD Otosan – "Disabled Friendly Plant"
- **Inclusion Award:** Allianz Turkey- "Mine Accident Psychosocial Support"
- **Effectiveness Award:** Boyner Büyük Mağazacılık- "Recycle into Goodness"
- **Best Practice Award:** Opet – "Opet Traffic Inspectors"
- **Sustainability Award:** Visa Europe- "I Can Manage My Money"
- **Innovation Award:** STFA Group- "TEVİTÖL Future Camp / Let Your Future Be Same Color As You"
- **GAN TURKEY Special Award:** Mercedes-Benz Türk- "On the job training @MBT"

#### SME's:

- **Honorable Mention Award:** KOPPERT - Promotion Of Natural Agricultural Techniques Among Producers And Consumers
- **Honorable Mention Award:** Polat Organic Fertilizer - Fertilizer Production From Agricultural Waste

### Corporate Social Responsibility and TİSK's Role

Today, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is increasingly high on the agenda of business, the media, international organizations and civil society around the world, including Turkey. CSR is regarded as an opportunity for businesses to achieve growth and prosperity and to become positive contributors to society and the environment. Moreover, with its rapidly expanding sphere of influence, CSR has not only become a process

in which more and more enterprises aspire to become involved, but companies exercising CSR increasingly need to be able to appraise their performances as well.

TİSK, being a role model to many employer organizations in the world, is implementing the European Union funded CSR for ALL Project since 2012. The project aims to raise awareness and build the capacity of employers' organisations in Southeast Europe with regard to CSR and SR.

In return for Turkey's cooperation, the EU also agreed to revitalize Turkey's accession process by opening chapter 33 on financial and budgetary provisions by the end of June and promised to accelerate preparatory work for other chapters. The EU also promised visa liberalization for Turkish citizens by the end of June, if Turkey could meet 72 benchmarks by the end of April.

Although it was forced by the inhuman conditions faced by millions of refugees, the Agreement can be seen as a significant step in EU-Turkey relations frozen for years. It is true that it contains several loopholes and faces serious criticism from both sides. But the EU and Turkey, by trying to fully implement it, should do their best not only to save the lives of refugees, but also the future of EU-Turkey relations taking into account the basic fact that today Turkey's accession to the EU is still a win-win situation as it was half a century ago.

### Recent Updates from TİSK

Apart from what has been going on in terms of Turkey-EU relations, TİSK 2015 CSR Awards Ceremony took place on March 23 and created an opportunity to congratulate all winners and shed light on their successful CSR projects as well as to commemorate the late Mustafa Koç who passed away on January 21, 2016 at the age of 56. He will always be remembered not only as a highly successful business leader, but also as a pioneer in the CSR field heading large-scale initiatives for social development of Turkey.

Once again, many thanks to the winners of TİSK CSR Awards for setting a model for other private companies. TİSK will continue its efforts to support social responsibility projects with the belief that social development is the sine qua non of economic development.

## Bülent Pirlar: "Syrians could fulfill jobs unwanted by Turks"

TİSK Secretary General Bülent Pirlar was recently interviewed by the Hürriyet Daily News on the employment of Syrians in Turkey. Following are some excerpts from his answers to the questions of Barçın Yinanç:



Bülent Pirlar answering Barçın Yinanç's questions

- The government's recent decision to enable Syrians to be employed in Turkey will present a win-win for both Turks and Syrians. They can be employed in jobs unwanted by Turks in a recent report prepared by TİSK(\*), we have seen that 60 to 70 percent of Syrians do not have the intention of going back. A large portion of the Syrians who came to Turkey have a low educational level. We are faced by an uneducated crowd. There is a high birthrate among them; the number of newborns is estimated to be somewhere around 170,000.
- An organization of this dimension needs to be administered. This cannot be managed solely by the state. We need to have a civil society dimension working together with the state. We need a governance model, whereby the design at the center needs to be duplicated at the local level. It is through this model that decisions that are taken at the center can meet the needs of demand and supply at the local level.
- Turkish society has tolerated this situation remarkably well, and Syrians have adapted to the order in the cities they live in. This has taken place by itself. Now we have to construct policies on that base. Syrians need to earn

(\* ) The report's english version is also available under the title *Perspectives, Expectations and Suggestions of the Tursih Business Sector on SYRIANS IN TURKEY.*

for their livelihoods; they need to work. The first priority is teaching them Turkish and providing them basic education and vocational training.

- The decree of the Labour Ministry giving work permits to Syrians was based on a rational strategy. Work permits are provided for certain regions. This is very important. A Syrian can work in the city he or she is registered in. If they want to work in cities other than the ones they are registered in, then they have to transfer their registrations.
- [Syrians entry into the labour force] will obviously have a negative effect. But we need to be realistic. Turks are avoiding working in certain labor-intensive sectors. Some of the graduates that have received let's say vocational training in the textile sector prefers to work in the service sector, in a shopping mall, instead of a textile atelier, even though the pay is better in the latter. We have a shortage of qualified personnel in organized industrial zones. Turkey has come to a stage where there are jobs Turks don't want to work in.

## EU – Turkey Agreement on Migration

On 18 March 2016, following on from the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan activated on 29 November 2015 and the 7 March 2016 EU-Turkey statement, the European Union and Turkey decided to end the irregular migration from Turkey to the EU. The Agreement targets the people smugglers' business model and removes the incentive to seek irregular routes to the EU, in full accordance with EU and international law. According to the Agreement reached between the Members of the European Council and the Turkish Prime Minister A. Davutoğlu in Brussels:

- 1) All new irregular migrants crossing from Turkey to the Greek islands as of 20 March 2016 will be returned to Turkey;
- 2) For every Syrian being returned to Turkey from the

Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled to the EU;

- 3) Turkey will take any necessary measures to prevent new sea or land routes for irregular migration opening from Turkey to the EU;
- 4) Once irregular crossings between Turkey and the EU are ending or have been substantially reduced, a Voluntary Humanitarian Admission Scheme will be activated;
- 5) The fulfilment of the visa liberalisation roadmap will be accelerated with a view to lifting the visa requirements for Turkish citizens at the latest by the end of June 2016. Turkey will take all the necessary steps to fulfil the remaining requirements;
- 6) The EU will, in close cooperation with Turkey, further

speed up the disbursement of the initially allocated €3 billion under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey. Once these resources are about to be used in full, the EU will mobilise additional funding for the Facility up to an additional €3 billion to the end of 2018;

- 7) The EU and Turkey welcomed the ongoing work on the upgrading of the Customs Union.
- 8) The accession process will be re-energised, with Chapter 33 on budget policy to be opened during the Dutch Presidency of the Council of the European Union and preparatory work on the opening of other chapters to continue at an accelerated pace;
- 9) The EU and Turkey will work to improve humanitarian conditions inside Syria.

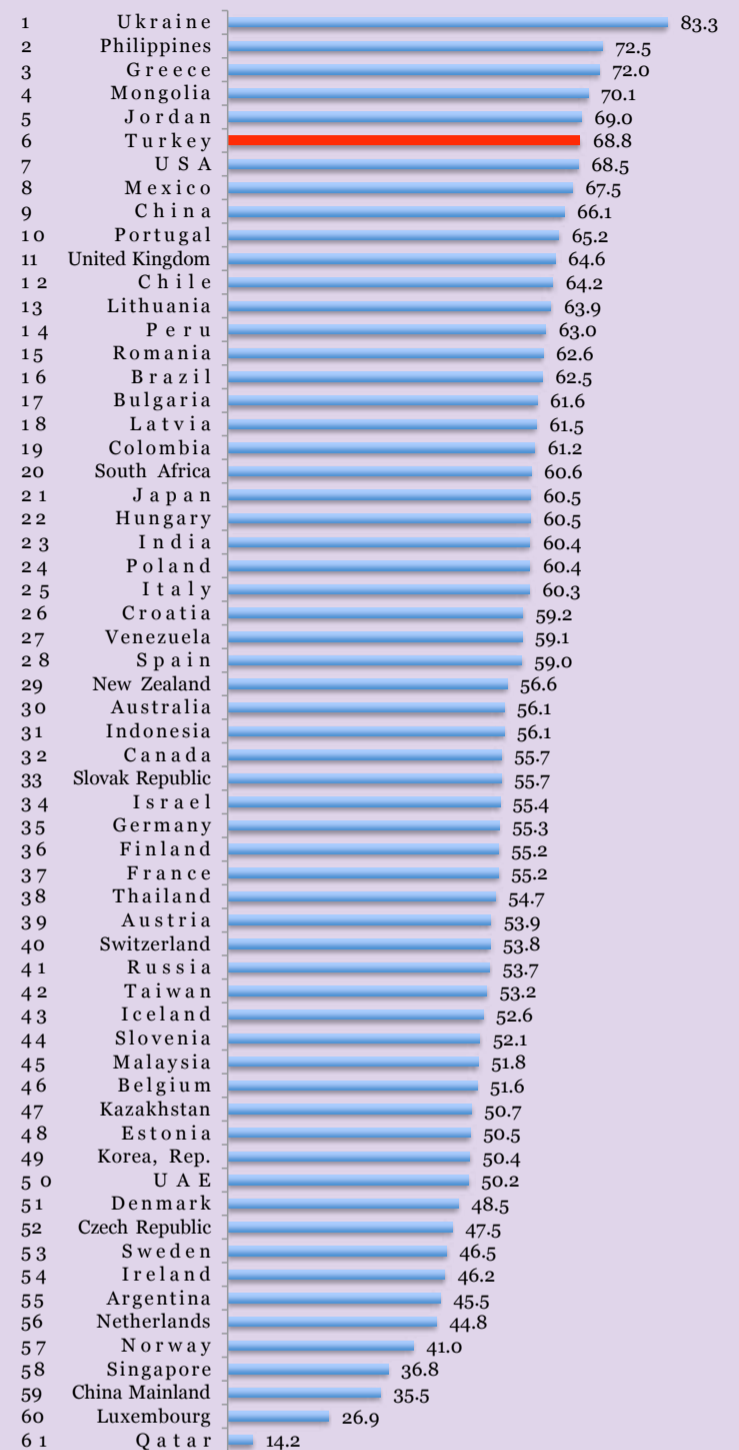
## Turkey ranks 6<sup>th</sup> with its household consumption expenditure

According to the International Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Competitiveness Yearbook 2015, the household consumption expenditure in Turkey as a percentage of GDP is 68,8 percent. Household final consumption expenditure is the market value of all goods and services, including durable products purchased by households. The data also includes the expenditures of nonprofit institutions serving households.

Among the 61 countries covered by the Index, Turkey ranks 6<sup>th</sup> following Ukraine, Philippines, Greece, Mongolia and Jordan. Countries with the least percentage of household consumption expenditure are China, Luxembourg and Qatar.

Taking into account Turkey's 79 million population and intercontinental position, high expenditure rate clearly shows Turkey's promising trade opportunities.

### Household Consumption Expenditure 2014, as % of GDP



Source: IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2015

## Turkey is the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest growing economy among G20 Countries

Turkish economy has grown by 4 percent in 2015, as targeted. The annual growth rate was fueled by 5,7 percent real GDP growth in the last quarter of 2015 raised the annual growth rate. Acceleration in the domestic consumption and investment expenditures supporting growth played a role in these results.

Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Şimşek made the following remarks regarding this performance:

“Our economy has grown by 4 percent in 2015 as forecasted by the Medium Term Programme. Turkey became the 4<sup>th</sup> fastest growing economy among the G20 Countries, experiencing a growth rate more than the double of developing economies’ growth, excluding China and India. In 2015, domestic demand underpinned Turkey’s economic growth with 4,3 point contribution. 2,7 percent rise in private investments contributed half a point to total GDP growth last year. On the other hand, net foreign demand has restricted the growth with 0,3 point negative contribution. This is mainly caused by the slow recovery in EU, our biggest trading partner, and problems faced in the neighboring countries. Despite the drawbacks faced in our export market, current account deficit as share of GDP declined to 4,5 percent in 2015. Our aim is to join world’s high-income nations through strong, sustainable and inclusive growth. We will continue to implement the necessary structural reforms to achieve this.”

### Change in Real GDP, 2015 (%)

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>7,6</b>
<b>Industry</b>	<b>3,3</b>
Mining	-2,3
Manufacturing	3,8
Energy	2,4
Water supply etc.	10,4
Construction	1,7
<b>Services</b>	<b>4,8</b>
Trade	2,1
Financial activities	10,1
Education	5,4
Public administration	2,2
Information and communication	3,3
Other service activities	3,9
<b>GDP</b>	<b>4,0</b>

Source: Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK)

## Turkey's trade deficit continued to decline in January

Turkey's foreign trade deficit declined 13.4 percent year-on-year in January 2016, in line with the oil plunge and the decreasing trend in imports.

In January, the deficit fell to \$3.76 billion, down from \$4.34 billion from same month last year, plummeting 13.4 percent, according to data released by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK) on Feb. 29.

In December 2015, Turkey's annual trade deficit shrank by more than 25 percent to around \$63.3 billion according to TÜİK data released on Jan. 29. Steep decreases in energy costs in December 2015 enabled the country to post the lowest trade gap since 2009, according to analysts.

Turkey's exports amounted to \$9.6 billion, a 22 percent decrease from January 2015, and imports were \$13.4 billion, a 19.7 percent decline year-on-year, according to the data.

## Turkish representatives shared best practices for women's empowerment in New York



8<sup>th</sup> Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) Annual Event "Business Partners for Gender Equality: Multipliers for Development," was held on 15-16 March 2016 in New York with the participation of business leaders, civil society, the UN and Government. Through high-level panels and interactive sessions, participants learned how diverse companies around the world are implementing the WEPs and helping to achieve the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), set forth in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Global Compact Türkiye\* Women's Empowerment Working Group members, Borusan Holding, Boyner Group, BPW Turkey, Garanti Bank, KAGİDER, Koç Holding, SUTEKS Group, UN Women and Vodafone, attended the meeting. The Working Group, launched in June 2014, is being coordinated by TİSK and supported by UN Women and UNFPA Turkey.

Event's keynote remarks were delivered by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, President of Costa Rica Mr. Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera, UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and UN Global Compact Executive Director Lise Kingo.

SUTEKS Group Chairwomen, WEPs Business Advocate and WEPs Leadership Group Member Nur Ger spoke at the main opening plenary "The World We Want": Delivering for the 2030 Development Agenda. Ger highlighted the importance of access to decent jobs worldwide and shared examples from her company, SUTEKS Group. Vodafone and Boyner Group representatives took part in panel discussions on 16 March and shared how their companies remove barriers to women's empowerment, benefit society and improve business at the same time.

WEPs, a partnership initiative of the UN Global Compact and UN Women launched in 2010, provide 7 Principles, for the private sector to empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community. More than 1100 CEOs have signed WEPs worldwide. Turkey ranks as the 4<sup>th</sup> country in terms of the number of WEPs signatories, standing at 82.

### \*Global Compact Türkiye:

Launched on the ground in 2002 by TİSK and UNDP, the Local Network has evolved to become Turkey's largest and most inclusive sustainability platform. Global Compact Local Network Türkiye attained formal status in 2012 when the secretariat was established jointly between TİSK and TÜSİAD.

The Local Network is being represented by more than 300 different stakeholders and is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest Network in Europe and 11<sup>th</sup> largest Network in the world.

### Borsa İstanbul's Opening Bell once again rings for gender equality

A bell-ringing ceremony was held at Borsa İstanbul on March 8, 2016 like last year, in cooperation with the UN Global Compact, UN Women, World Federation of Exchanges, Women in ETFs, Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative and International Finance Corporation in order to raise awareness on gender equality and empower women in economy.

First Lady Emine Erdoğan, Minister of Family and Social Policies Dr. Sema Ramazanoğlu, Borsa İstanbul Chairman Dr. Talat Uluşsever, UN Women Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia and Representative to Turkey Ingibjörg Gísladóttir, IFC Turkey Country Manager Aisha Williams, Koç Holding CEO Levent Çakıroğlu and SUTEKS Group Chairwoman and WEPs Business Advocate Nur Ger rang the bell for gender equality and delivered speeches subsequently. Following the ceremony, new WEPs signatories were announced.



### Global Compact Türkiye Women's Empowerment Working Group Meeting

Global Compact Türkiye Women's Empowerment Working Group held its meeting on 23 February 2016. Attended by large number of representatives from private sector, civil society and academia, the meeting focused on 2016 work plans.

During the meeting, communication team representative shared information on e-newsletter, planned media visits and WEPs Implementation Guide team representatives shared details on the Guide's preparation process. The working group members shared information about their institution's activities and discussed possible ways of further engagement within the working group members.

## New Rights for Working Women and Adoptive Parents in Turkey

The working women have been given a new option following the statutory maternity leave in order to care with their infants with the adoption of new omnibus law dated 10 February 2016. The "Law Amending the Income Tax Code and certain Laws" numbered 6663 has granted preference to working mothers for working half-time up to 60 days on the first childbirth. The half-time work will be extended to 120 days in second delivery and 180 days in third delivery. This option can also be used by the working women or men who adopt a child under the age of 3.

In scope of the new law, until a child begins primary education, one of the parents will have the option to work part-time. However, if the spouse of the employee who is eligible to work part-time is unemployed, the employee is not entitled to take advantage of the flexible work option.

## The New Draft Law for Agency Work and Distance Work in Turkey

Long-awaited draft to legalise of temporary agency work was submitted to the Turkish parliament in 8 February 2016. The regulation of temporary agency work has been a contentious issue in Turkey for at least a decade. There were various attempts to regulate temporary agency work in 2003, 2009 and 2011, but none of these attempts succeeded.

The draft stipulates that temporary work agencies authorized by the Turkish Employment Agency can conclude temporary work contracts with user enterprises in order to provide services in particular circumstances. The agency work can be utilized in circumstances as follows;

- The suspension of actual employment contract due to birth, parental duties and military service;
- Seasonal agricultural work;
- Domestic work;
- Occasional work and tasks beyond the scope of daily business of an enterprise;
- The urgent tasks regarding the occupational health and safety or in the existence of compelling situations to the production;
- The unexpected expansion of workload,
- The periodical increase of daily business except seasonal work.

The draft also includes provision which will enable distance work and tele-work arrangements. These instruments will facilitate a more flexible environment for enterprises and they will be beneficial for workers who seek more opportunities with regard to work-life balance.

## Minister Bozkır: “Turkey must be a part of the TTIP”

Turkey must be a part of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), otherwise the country will face serious hurdles in its economic and trade power, European Union Minister Volkan Bozkır said in a meeting hosted by the Istanbul Chamber of Industry (İSO) on Feb. 13.

“Not being a part of the TTIP will cost a lot to Turkey. Our country must be a party to the deal. Otherwise we’ll face serious hurdles in our economic and trade power,” he said.

According to Bozkır, there are two options for Turkey to ease the process.

“We’ll start to update the Customs Union with the EU this year. Some crucial areas, including agriculture, services and public purchasing, have not yet been included in the deal. With the addition of these sectors, Turkey’s trade volume with the EU may increase to \$300 billion from around \$150 billion... Here we have two options. We have wanted to put an article in the updated Customs Union allowing the automatic adoption of any trade deal of the EU with third parties in Turkey. We aim to achieve the inclusion of this before the TTIP deal is signed. If we can make it, the TTIP conditions will be effective for Turkey as well. Otherwise, Turkey will see additional costs until we sign a free trade deal with the United States, but we cannot handle these costs. At this point, the Customs Union may need to be frozen. Another option is that we want to add an article to the TTIP if the Customs Union deal is not updated before the TTIP deal is signed. This article should say: ‘The TTIP will be applicable for the Customs Union members,’” he said.

## Economic reforms to be speeded up

Deputy Prime Minister Lütfi Elvan has said a number of judicial and administrative reforms will soon be realized to boost investment, production, exports and employment, following a meeting of the Coordination Council for the Improvement of the Investment Environment (YOİKK). The public procurement law will be revised in accordance with the European Union rules, he noted.

“We realized some 50 percent of the promised reforms which were projected to be made in the three-month period after the action plan was announced. The YOİKK was at the level of undersecretaries before, but we have changed its structure to the ministerial level and included the related non-governmental organizations on the board. We will soon simplify bureaucratic procedures before local and foreign investments. The procedures for launching new companies and taking work licenses will also be simplified. It will be easier to take business licenses in the energy sector,” he said, adding that the single-window system will be applied for customs.

## Government contribution to the cost of minimum wage increase

The Turkish government will cover some 40 percent of the cost of an increase in the minimum wage which came into effect on the first day of the new year but only for 2016. The minimum wage has been increased from 1,000 Turkish Liras to 1,300 liras, a move expected to cost the private sector around 20 billion liras (\$9.2 billion).

“We’ll meet around 9.7 billion Turkish liras [\$3.3 billion] of the cost from the hike,” Labour and Social Security Minister Süleyman Soylu said in an earlier meeting on Dec. 30, adding that the rise in the minimum wage may cause employment to fall but additional measures would be taken to reduce the impact. He said the rise will likely add 0.5-0.8 percentage points to inflation, but it will have a positive effect on growth.

The cost of the previous minimum wage to employers was 1,496 liras per employee, but with the new increase this figure went up to 1,935 liras, according to calculations.

## Over 22,000 properties sold to foreigners in 2015



A total of 22,830 properties were sold to foreigners in 2015, representing a 20.4 percent increase from the previous year, according to fresh data from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK).

The largest number of houses was bought by Iraqis at 4,228 units in 2015, followed by Saudi Arabians at 2,704 units. Kuwaitis bought a total of 2,130 properties, Russians 2,036 units and Brits 1,054 units, said TÜİK in a written statement on Jan. 22.

Istanbul was the most popular spot for foreign property buyers as a total of 7,493 units were sold to foreigners in 2015. Istanbul was followed by the Mediterranean resort of Antalya at 6,072 units and the northwestern province of Bursa at 1,501 units, according to TÜİK data.

In 2014, foreigners bought properties worth \$4.32 billion in Turkey, marking an all-time annual high, according to sector representatives.

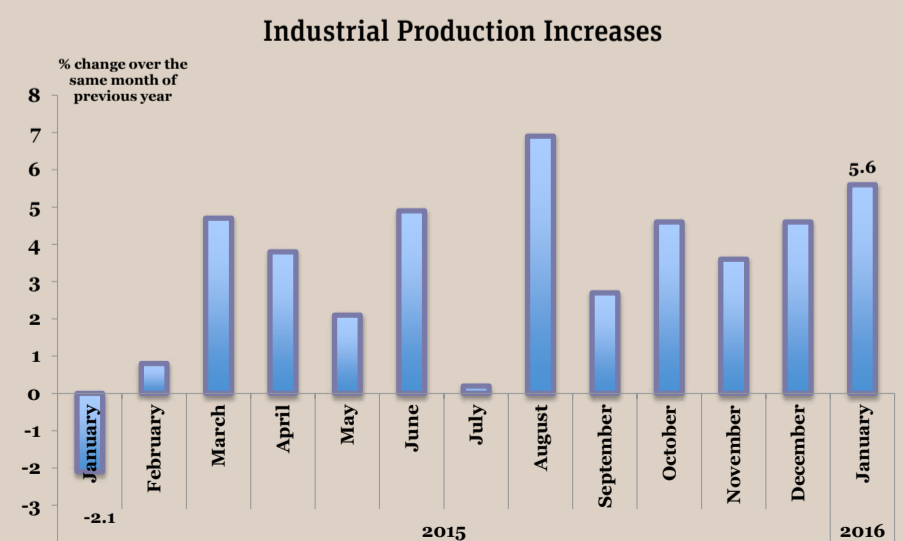
An important factor behind the increase in foreigners’ property acquisition is the amendment of a law that set reciprocity rules between Turkey and other countries. Earlier, a foreigner who wanted to buy a house in Turkey was subject to the same restrictions that his or her country applied to Turkish citizens.

## Industrial production increased by 5.6% in January 2016

According to data by Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK) released on March 8, 2016, seasonally and calendar adjusted industrial production in Turkey increased by 1.0% compared with the previous month and reached 5.6% in January 2016.

In the sub-sectors of the industry (based on 2010=100), manufacturing index had the largest increase with 5.8%. Moreover, mining and quarrying index increased by 4.1%, and electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply index increased by 5.2% in January 2016, compared with the same month last year.

The improvement in the industrial production index is mainly stemmed from increase in domestic demand.



Source: Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK), Industrial Production Index

## Turkey top destination for laser eye surgeries



Turkey has ranked as the world's top country for the number of eye surgeries done annually according to a senior Health Ministry official, as over 40,000 operations are carried out yearly in Turkey, mainly on foreign patients amid rapidly rising demand.

The highest number of foreign patients came from Britain, Germany and Middle Eastern countries, according to sector representatives.

With the rise in investments in health tourism, Turkey has become one of the top destinations across the globe, said Health Ministry Health Development General Manager Ömer Tontuş, as quoted by Anadolu Agency.

"Turkey has become quite popular in laser eye surgeries to cure myopic and hypermetropic problems. As the use of advanced laser technologies has become common, the number of such operations has seen a dramatic hike," he said.

Turkey is followed by India, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand in the world, but the number of operations made in these four countries has been below the Turkey's figure, according to sector representatives.

## Turkish exports of TV dramas reach 250 mln

The Turkish drama sector, which has steadily attracted fans across the world in recent years, exported series worth \$250 million in 2015.

Turkish productions are now being broadcast in more than 70 countries, after Turkey first started to export TV dramas to the Turkic republics in 2001, followed by the Balkans, the Middle East and Latin America. Drama exports hit \$200 million in 2014 and \$250 million in 2015, sector representatives told

state-run Anadolu Agency.

Around 70 new dramas are produced annually in Turkey are estimated to reach over 400 million viewers across the world and the sector has now defined new markets to expand into, including South American and Scandinavian countries. Indonesia, Malaysia, India and China are also on the radar of distribution companies.

## Gaziantep cuisine in UNESCO list

Turkey's southeastern province of Gaziantep has been added to the list in the gastronomy category of UNESCO's Creative Cities Network. UNESCO recently announced the designation of 47 cities from 33 countries as new members of the network, which includes cities within its seven creative fields including Crafts and Folk Art, Design, Film, Gastronomy, Literature, Media Arts and Music.

Gaziantep Mayor Ms.Fatma Şahin praised the move, saying the variety and quality of Gaziantep's cuisine had been registered by the world and the city had become one of the world's "capitals of taste."

"We received the Nobel of our own category. Now Gaziantep's cuisine is recognized as one of the world's most important cuisines," Şahin said after the announcement.

Launched in 2004, UNESCO's Creative Cities Network comprises 116 cities worldwide. It aims to foster international cooperation with and between cities committed to investing in creativity as a driver for sustainable urban development, social inclusion and cultural vibrancy.



## Concerts & Exhibitions

### Ankara Piano Festival

March 26 – May 07, 2016

Organised by Altus Arts & Culture, Ankara Piano Festival welcomes the most famous and gifted pianists from around the world in the capital of Turkey. The festival concerts will be held not only in various concert halls of Ankara, but also at unique public areas.

Spectacular historical venues will bring together the passionate music lovers and remarkable musicians. The Festival aims to facilitate an environment where intercultural sharing and harmonizing role of music & arts are promoted by the events that take place in Ankara each month.

The festival will not only have stage performances.



Artists will meet with students at workshops arranged at schools to give youngsters the opportunity to grow interest in music and piano. These events will boost positive emotions and habits, among youngsters, such as fellowship, friendship, love of art, and universality of music.

### Joshua Bell, Istanbul and Ankara

May 15-16, 2016



Grammy Award-winning American violinist and conductor Joshua Bell will visit Turkey in May for two concerts in İstanbul and Ankara. Famous around the world as “Violinist at the Metro”, the 47-year-old Bell will be onstage on May 15 at İstanbul’s Zorlu Performing Arts Center and at Congressium Ankara on May 16.

Bell has received many accolades: In 2013 he was honored by the New York Chapter, The Recording Academy; in 2012 by the National YoungArts Foundation, in 2011 he received the Paul Newman Award from Arts Horizons and the Huberman Award from Moment Magazine. Bell was named “Instrumentalist of the Year, 2010” by Musical America and received the Humanitarian Award from Seton Hall University.

Bell has recently been popular with an experiment initiated by The Washington Post columnist Gene Weingarten. Bell donned a baseball cap and played as an incognito busker at the Metro subway station L’Enfant Plaza in Washington, D.C. on January 12, 2007. The experiment was videotaped on hidden camera; of the 1,097 people who passed by, only seven stopped to listen to him, and only one recognized him.

### Istanbul Theater Festival

May 3-28, 2016



This year the 20th Istanbul Theatre Festival presents theatre, dance and performance pieces to theatregoers with a total of 32 performances – 9 from abroad and 23 from Turkey – in 25 different venues.

The festival will see the Turkish premiere of 21 local productions as well as a world premiere of one international production. The Istanbul Theatre Festival has been involved as co-producer in nine of the festival’s local projects and four international projects.

For its 20th edition, the Istanbul Theatre Festival is launching a new project under the title Dance Platform. Within Dance Platform, professional dancers will stage short performances of their projects.

### Istanbul Music Festival

June 1-24, 2016

The 44th Istanbul Music Festival will take place between 1 - 24 June 2016. The festival will present music lovers with an impressive programme built around this year’s theme inspired by Shakespeare’s verse, “If Music be the Food of Love, Play On”.

The 44th Istanbul Music Festival will host close to 600 local and international artists, including names like İdil Biret, Murray Perahia, Gautier Capuçon, Angel Blue, Gérard Caussé, Herbert Schuch, Patricia Petibon, Alice Sara Ott, Maria João Pires, Antonio Meneses, Maxim Vengerov, Richard Galliano, and Sylvain Luc, as well as some of the world’s leading ensembles, such as Vienna Symphony Orchestra, Venice Baroque Orchestra, Orchestra of the Swan, Artemis Quartet, Academy of

St Martin in the Fields, and Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, this year’s Guest Orchestra in Residence.

Hosting two world premieres and one Turkey premiere, this year’s festival will feature 26 concerts, comprising symphony and chamber orchestras, recitals, and special projects, and will take place across 17 different venues.



### "MACK. Just Light and Colour" Exhibition, Sabancı Museum

Until July 17, 2016

Sakip Sabancı Museum is hosting the leading artist of German modernism, Heinz Mack, with an exhibition showcasing the artist’s long and prolific career with over a hundred works.

The exhibition titled ‘MACK. Just Light and Colour’, focuses on the significant oeuvre of German artist Heinz Mack, who is notably among the founders of the mid-20th century avant-garde art network, the ZERO movement. The exhibition, encompassing the artist’s formative earlier works that informed the revolutionary philosophy of the ZERO movement, brings together paintings, monumental sculptures and kinetic works produced throughout the artist’s long career.



# Hatay Archaeology Museum

The world famous Hatay Archaeology Museum is located in Antakya the main city of Hatay Province in the southern Turkey, on the Mediterranean coast. With its geographical features, natural beauty and cultural significance, Hatay has been hosting a diverse range of civilizations almost since the beginning of human history. One of the jewels of the country with its history, culture, civilizations, nature and diverse cuisine, Hatay possesses the 2nd largest mosaic collection in the world. The city is located in the southwest of the Plain of Amuq, at the point where three major highways of Asia Minor intersect and head towards the western Mediterranean. Since 2000 B.C., Amuq had a determinant role on regional economy and politics; and footprints of 13 different civilizations are visible.

The museum is known for its extensive collection of Roman and Byzantine Era mosaics. The first excavations in Hatay date back to 1932. The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago conducted an archeological survey of the Plain of Amuq between 1933 and 1938, focusing on Cüdeyde, Dehep, Çatalhöyük and Tainat. In 1936, Sir Leonard Woolley carried out excavations in Al Mina, Samandağı on behalf of the British Museum,

to be followed by intermittent diggings until 1948. Excavations by Princeton University in 1932-1939 revealed many mosaics from places surrounding Antakya. These excavations now make up the principal wealth of the museum. This important mosaic collection is currently dispersed amongst 20 museum and private collections including the Hatay Archeology Museum, Princeton University Art Museum (USA) and the Louvre Museum (France).

Following an initiative to gather all excavated artifacts in one place, the Museum was completed in 1939 and opened to visitors in 1948, on the 10th anniversary of the Hatay's integration into the Turkish Republic. In addition to the 8 galleries of the museum, there are also artifacts displayed in the museum's yard. The museum has 5 storages and a total floor space of 1,140 square meters. Artifacts are displayed over an area of 984 square meters. In 2011, construction of a new archeology museum started to better accommodate this rich collection. As of 2011, the total number of artifacts is 35,433.

The museum is composed of mosaic and non-mosaic

collections such as coin collection and items from the Hittite civilization items. The museum space is divided into halls consisting of: Paleolithic Period Cave Hall, Neolithic-Chalcolithic, Bronze and Iron Age Hall, Hellenistic Period Hall, Mythology Hall, Roman Hall, Mosaic Road Hall, Medieval Hall and Islamic Hall.

## Mosaic Collection

The mosaics displayed in the Hatay Archeology Museum were all made between the 2nd Century AC and 6th Century AC. There is a wide variety of themes in the mosaics including mythology and scenes from daily life in addition to their geometric and botanic ornamentation. There are also floor mosaics which serve a decorative purpose. The mosaics excavated in and around Antakya are justifiably famous around the world for their size, production techniques and variety of themes.

## Non-mosaic collection

The coin collection is the second most important collection in the museum due to its size and the variety of its pieces. Coins are particularly important for researches because they provide important clues about the political, economic and daily conditions of their time.

Another important collection in the museum consists of items from the Hittite civilization.

In the museum display, items can be seen in chronological order from the Neolithic period to the Middle Ages. However, the museum also possesses a much wider collection, which is not on display, covering items from the Paleolithic period to modern times.

## Mosaic of Oceanus and Tethys

The outer border of the Mosaic of Oceanus and Tethys is ornamented with a flounce motif. The mosaic depicts the figure of old sea-gods Oceanus and a Tethys figure, surrounded by fish, dolphins and Eros figures.



## Pebble Mosaic

The oldest mosaic in the museum, this artifact has black, white, brown and gray pebbles in each corner. The outer border has wave patterns and the center is decorated with herbal and geometrical patterns.



## Yarim-Lim



Yarim-Lim is a Bronze Age King. Yarim-Lim statue head is made up of diorite. The figure wears a hat and a beard. Eyes of the statue head are hollow to be filled with some other material.

## Yakto Mosaic

The Yakto Mosaic consists of three sections. The middle is Megalopsychia (Great Spirit) figure surrounded by hunters. The outer border depicts daily life and architectural texture of Antioch.



## King of Suppiluliuma



Suppiluliuma was king of the Hittites. He achieved fame as a great warrior and statesman, successfully challenging the then-dominant Egyptian empire for control of the lands between the Mediterranean and the Euphrates. The King's statue is exhibited in the middle of the quadrangle together with king's guard lion statue.

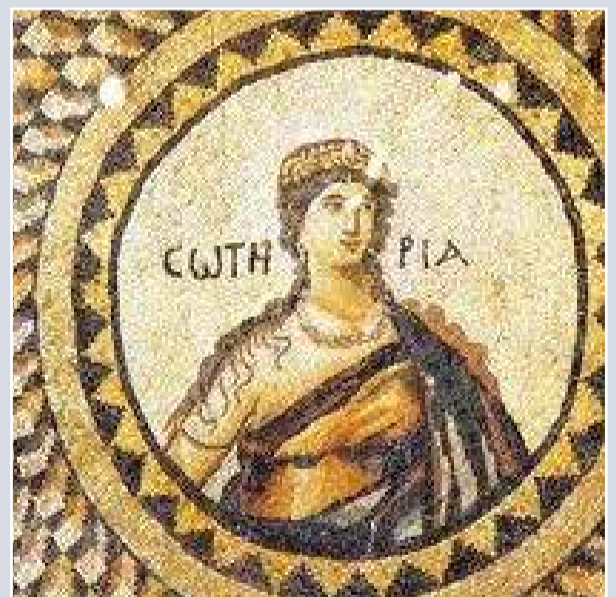
## Tykhe of Antiocheia



Tykhe is the luck and fortune goddess of Antiocheia since Hellenistic times. Perpetuating even in Roman times, Tykhe was known with symbols unique to Antiocheia.

## Soteria Mosaic

In Greek mythology, Soteria was the goddess or spirit of safety and salvation, deliverance, and preservation from harm. Octagonal Soteria Mosaic has a female bust at its center and inscriptions around the bust. The frame of the mosaic is decorated with geometrical patterns.



## How to reach Hatay ?

Hatay is a province in southern Turkey. One can easily reach Hatay by car, bus or plane.

From Istanbul to Hatay takes it takes approximately 14 hours, from Ankara 9 hours and from Adana 3 hours by car. Turkish Airlines and Pegasus have daily flights to Hatay Airport from Ankara (1 hour 15 minutes) and İstanbul (1 hour 35 minutes). The museum is 25km away from the airport.