

Connecting Regions - Creating New Opportunities

With the start of EU accession talks, Turkey has entered a new stage of economic and political development, which will require many tough choices. With its strategic position as a hub bridging Europe with the Middle East, Central Asia and the Balkans, Turkey's adjustment process will have major implications for the whole region, and will at the same time open up new opportunities. Together with a thriving domestic market and sustained growth rates, the ongoing accession-related reforms will provide the basis for a prolonged surge in trade and investment in both Turkey and adjacent regions.

The questions of how to unlock this potential and meet the related challenges will be at the centre of this exclusive gathering, which is co-hosted by the Government of Turkey and open to a select group of 250 key business executives from the region, as well as Partners and Members of the World Economic Forum.

Why should I participate?

This unique meeting will:

- bring together international and local business leaders, government officials as well as representatives from the media, academia and civil society, with the main purpose of assessing Turkey's choices and examining their implications for the country and beyond;
- foster discussion on the FDI environment, market opportunities and the business aspects of EU accession;
- focus on investment opportunities in key sectors of interest to the Forum's Partners and Members, both in Turkey and the region;

- identify Turkey's long-term competitive advantages and work out action steps to boost its competitiveness in the global economy;
- create insight and assess challenges related to the region's geopolitical role, using the World Economic Forum's work on Global Risks, Scenario Building and Energy Security;
- provide a multistakeholder platform to advance intercultural dialogue and mutual understanding.

"We want a Europe where there is a reconciliation of civilizations... We are not considering an introverted Turkey or an introverted economy. We want to be open to the world and we want to establish a peaceful world."

Recep Tayyip Erdogan,
Prime Minister of Turkey, Annual Meeting 2005 of the World Economic Forum, Davos

Frequently Asked Questions

When will the meeting take place?

The World Economic Forum in Turkey will take place on 23-24 November 2006 at the Ciragan Palace Kempinski in Istanbul.

Where will I stay?

Block reservations have been made at the Ciragan Palace Kempinski in Istanbul. We will send you a hotel booking form upon confirmation of your registration.

What does registration include?

The participation fee (€2,500 for Members, €3,500 for non-Members) includes access to all sessions, plenaries, workshops, lunches and dinner. Please note that Foundation Members are entitled to register a Member of the Board from the parent company at no cost.

What is the working language of the meeting?

Sessions will be held in English; simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Turkish in certain sessions.

By when should I register?

The registration deadline and closing date for information to be included in the printed Participants' Booklet is 1 November 2006.

Do I need a visa?

Citizens of some countries need a visa to enter Turkey. Please check with the Turkish embassy or consulate nearest you.

Where do I find additional information?

Please visit our website at www.weforum.org/turkey. Upon registration, you will receive your personal password to access the private area of the website.

For more information, please contact:

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Programme Structure

Thursday 23 November	Friday 24 November
09.00 Registration Opens	08.30 – 10.30 Industry Workshops
11.30 – 12.45 Welcoming Buffet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a Regional Hub for Financial Services • Guardians of Europe's Energy • Stimulating Sectoral Innovation
13.00 – 14.15 Update Sessions in Parallel	10.45 – 12.00 Plenary Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Turkey and its Role in the Region • Global Energy Security Update • Global Risks Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Can Turkey Compete in the Global Economy?
14.45 – 16.45 Workshop/Interactive Sessions	12.00 – 13.15 Networking Lunch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Competitiveness Update • Making Europe's Educational System Competitive • FDI: The Colour of Money 	13.30 – 15.00 Workshops in Parallel
17.15 – 18.30 Opening Plenary Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigating Europe's Risks – A Role for Turkey? • Bridging Civilizations • Economics of Gender (In)equality
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkey and the EU: Mutually Influential 	15.15 – 17.15 Workshop/Interactive Sessions
19.00 – 19.30 Transfer to the dinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branding Turkey: Changing Perceptions • Privatization: What's Next?
19.30 – 22.00 Cultural Reception at the Dolmabahce Palace	17.30 – 18.45 Closing Plenary Session
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking Responsibility – A Roadmap for Action
	19.00 – 22.00 Farewell Dinner