

## **ASIAN UNI-ON(!) TO BE DISCUSSED IN İSTANBUL**

**Asian countries are coming together in Istanbul for 6th International Turkish Asian Congress under the theme “Asian Union?: Parameters of Politics, Security, Economy and Culture”.**

In the frame of Intellectual Capacity Building Program 2012 in Asia; 6th International Turkish Asian Congress will be carried out by Turkish Asian Center for Strategic Studies (TASAM) on 7th and 8th June 2012 in Istanbul. Congress will be attended by government representatives, academics, experts and researchers, bureaucrats, journalists and diplomats.

Congress will take place at Ortaköy Princess Hotel and it will start with the opening speeches of Süleyman Şensoy Chairman of TASAM, H.E. Mr. Mehmet Fatih Ceylan Deputy Undersecretary for Bilateral Political Relations at Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Princess Basmah Bint Saud Bin Abdulaziz from The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Hossain Toufique Imam, Adviser to the Prime Minister, Cabinet Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Dr. Hadi Soleimanpour, Deputy Foreign Minister of Islamic Republic of Iran, Fatma Şahin\* Republic of Turkey Family and Social Policies Ministry and Bekir Bozdağ\* Republic of Turkey Deputy Prime Minister.

6th International Turkish Asian Congress will be carried out for 2 days with 6 sessions. The titles of the papers that will be presented in the congress are: “Have the Conditions for the Integration on the Issues of Politics, Economy and Security in Asia Been Formed?”, “Nuclear Weapons Proliferation in the Middle East/West Asia – An Assessment”, “The Integration of the Turkic World”, “Security Challenges in Asia and China-Turkey Cooperation”, “Changing Global Security Balance and Turkey's Opening to Asia”, “The Concept of the East Asian Community: Opportunities & Difficulties”, “Political Integration in Asia: Lessons from Comparative Regionalism Studies”, “Constructing Cooperative Security in Asia through Political and Security Dialogue”, “Japan and Security Cooperation in Asia”, “Afghanistan: From Black Security Hole to Heart of Asia”, “Cooperation in Asia”, “Potential Alliances in Asia and Turkey in 21st Century”, “ASEAN Security Challenge amidst Big Power Rivalry”, “The Cooperation and Security in Asia: The Chinese Diplomacy’s Borders”, “Regional Security in South Asia: Confidence-Building and Survival amidst Vulnerabilities, Faultlines”, “The Importance of NGO Activism on APEC and ASEAN”, “Addressing Security in Central Eurasia: Attitudes of the Caucasus Countries Towards NATO and CSTO”, “Eurasian Integration is an Important Factor of Political and

Economic Cooperation in Asia”, “Israel's Economic Cooperation with the Countries in Eurasia”, “Whither Economic Integration in East Asia? - Some Empirical Evidence”, “Towards an ASEAN Economic Community: The Challenges Ahead”, “From Economic cooperation to Security: Thinking Beyond Functionalism in Asia”, “World Economy’s New Center: Asian Economic Area (AEA)”, “The Role of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region on China’s Economic Integration with Central Asia”, “Chinese initiative and Reform Policy in the Middle East”, “Arab Spring and the Reflection of Turkish Model”, “Regional Cooperation Opportunities in Central Asia”, “Cultural and Urban Transformation”, “Integration Global or Cultural? Foreign Funded Higher Educational Institutions in Kyrgyzstan and Their Influence”, “The Place and Importance of Translation Literature in Cultural Cooperation with Turkestan: Example of Uzbekistan”, “Asian Studies in Turkish Universities”, “Regional Cooperation Initiative: Experiences from South Asia”, “Beyond the Looking Glass Revisited: Reviewing 20 Years of Australia's Asian Engagement”, “SAARC: Problems and Prospects in South Asia”.

The main titles of sessions in the congress are: **“Political Integration in Asia”, “Security Cooperation/Integration in Asia”, “Economic Integration in Asia”, “Cultural Cooperation/Integration in Asia”, “Contribution of Think Tanks and NGOs to Integration in Asia”.**

### **Chairman Şensoy: “19th century was European, 20th century was American and 21st century will be Asian Age”**

Şensoy emphasized that 19th and 20th centuries were dominated by Europe and United States of America. 21st century will be the age of Asia.

He mentioned more than half of world’s population live in Asia. Besides 53 states Asia includes states that are not recognized by United Nations like Nagorno-Karabakh, Palestine, Northern Cyprus and Taiwan. There are also special administrative regions like Hong Kong and Macau. Şensoy said: “In today’s world where balance of power shifts rapidly, countries in Asia are trying to develop integration policies among themselves and they emphasize the importance to have a “say” in international relations. Although the regionalization and integration processes in Asia are growing rapidly; there has not been a union among Asian states. Unique conditions of Asia prevent the establishment of an economic and a political integration model like European Union. But this is not an obstacle for the countries of Asia to cooperate. 6th International Turkish Asian Congress aims to contribute to the development of cooperation between Asian countries, institutionalization of formal and civil relations, annihilation of poverty, strengthen the Turkish Foreign Policy with regards to socio-economic relation in the world and to offer sustainable strategic value”.

\*To be confirmed

**Please use this link for detailed information:**

[http://www.tasam.org/en/Etkinlik/234/6th\\_international\\_turkish\\_-\\_asian\\_congress](http://www.tasam.org/en/Etkinlik/234/6th_international_turkish_-_asian_congress)

**Merkez Head Office** T +90 212 635 6151 F +90 212 532 5882  
A Balaturka Binası, Akçin Sokak, Nu.3, Fener-Balat, 34087 İstanbul,TR

**Ankara Ofisi Office** T +90 312 447 3127 F +90 312 447 3106  
A Uğur Mumcu Sokak, Nu.49, Gaziosmanpaşa, 06700 Ankara,TR

E info@tasam.org