

# TURKEY - IRAN STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

**"Thinking Diplomacy:  
New World New Horizons"**



Islamic Republic of Iran  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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## VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

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## “Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons”

### ( Turkey - Iran )

When we look at the main trends in the world, global competition in the age of new economy based on "information and knowledge-based products" following "soil and machinery" is developing through "micro-nationalism", "integration" and "unpredictability". Challenges that determine the new nature of life and state; such as " crisis in resource and sharing ", unsustainability of production-consumption-growth formula, purge of the middle class with Chinese leverage, energy, water, and food insecurity, transition to the 4th dimension, liquidation of human resources in the workforce, transition from hard power to soft and smart power on the basis of the very changing state nature and anticipation management, can be formed as the basic references.

Within all these fundamental parameters, the transformations in technology are prone to change the whole human life and nature by developing with artificial intelligence, virtual/enhanced reality and mobility centered. It is obvious that the concepts of "Industry 4.0" and "Society 5.0" are important topics for managing the transformation of the world within the dimensions of industry and society. Another contributive factor is the turbulence that China creates as it begins to become intensively dominant on the world stage day to day. The New Silk Road project, "One Belt and One Road Initiative"; is shaped as a global integration project involving more than hundred countries, both on land and at sea, permanently changing the distribution of economic shares. In countries with no middle class, authoritarian regimes or chaos stands as two options in the fore-seeable future. How to make the division of labor in terms of regional and global security and how to share the costs is also a point of discussion in the coming period.

The development of new alliances on security can be read from the risks and the initiatives undertaken by dominant countries. The quality of the concepts of property and power, and the business model change historically. The future of the EU with the "Failure in Success" syndrome will be determined by the results of the polarization which revived in the West after the Brexit. Along with all these developments, "Ecosystem of safety" changes with the law. The "Security - Democracy" dilemma will be experienced much more after that. Because, for the democracy, it is difficult to survive in countries where the middle class is melting and security leans to a sophisticated ground. The question "Will security bring us authoritarian regimes" needs to be discussed further.

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.

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Iran is a country taking attention to the worlds with; has its state tradition with the world's deep rooted history, cultural accumulation, whose population is over 82 million people, Gross National Product more than 452 billion dolar, with its 1.648.000 km<sup>2</sup> square measure, initially petrol and natural gas energy resources, technological progress, with its strategical location in Indian Ocean, South Asia, Gulf, Central Asia, Caucasus, neighborship with Western Asia and especially membership to UN, CICA, D-8, ECO and lots of organizations.

Relationship between Turkey and Iran goes back to centuries. In 1835 modern diplomatical relations started with Esad Efendi's nomination as an Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. After a long and troubled past despite its problems, after Turkish Republic founded between two countries relations getting better. Because of the Cold War's fluctuation at bilateral relations, in general terms relations continued with positive developments. Within the framework of regional organizations such as CENTO and RCD, the areas such as security, politics, trade, transportation and communication which is being developed cooperation of the two countries has revealed the inevitability of their need for each other. Turkey-Iran political relations has followed a steady upward line since 1979. Shared history and cultural denominators of the two countries, common interests and neighborly good relations have played a role in this issue.

Turkey and Iran in bilateral relations, especially in recent years is observed that there is a progress in positive direction. Bilateral political, economic, trade and cultural relations as well as regional and international issues of bilateral relations and discussed issues that are constantly on the agenda.

The bilateral trade volume between Turkey and Iran stood at 5.6 billion dollars in 2019 and trade gap weigh against Turkey was 0.98 billion dollars. In 2019. The main products exported by Turkey to Iran are tobacco, diapers and hygienic goods, zinc ores, passenger cars, parts for land vehicles, fiberboard, paper, cardboard. The main products exported by Iran to Turkey are petroleum and petroleum products (before May 2019), natural gas, unprocessed zinc and aluminum, synthetic fiber yarn. 2.1 million Iranian tourists visited Turkey in 2019.

That is also rapidly developing cultural relations between the two countries. In this context, such as "Cultural Weeks", "Film Weeks", mutual activities carried out with the two nations people convergences are intended, universities, museums, libraries, and non-governmental organizations developed between the relationships in between the two communities more solid foundation to create the effort is shown.

Regionalization of activities are concentrated in the globalized world today, Iran and Turkey have become more needy in their respective regions to each other. Neither Turkey nor Iran can not have the chance to reach success on regional or global policies with ruling out the other. Turkey and Iran, are two who have sharing common interests in Central Asia, South Asia, The Middle East, The Caucasus basins such as interests, common history and shared values whose are two regional power candidates. Is defined as the strategic partnership between the two countries. Regional and global issues of the two countries to cooperate in finding a solution is being felt deeply the need to work in.

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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.

Now it is required that the two countries head towards a future structure, in order to uplift the Turkey - Iran 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 parameters. History offers both the two countries opportunities for deepening their interdependency. In this regard, the **Turkey - Iran 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**

**Economic Relations: Opportunities and Challenges**

**Energy Politics: Jeopolitic and Security Results**

**Iran - P5+1 Nuclear Aggrement and Multi - Dimensional Perspectives**

**Technology Sharing, Academic and Cultural Cooperation**

**Social, Economical and Political Developments**

**Mediterranean, Middle East (Syria, Iraq) Africa, Middle Asian Countries and Turkey - Iran**

**SCO, CICA, D8, EU and Relations with New Partners and Regional Strategies**

**Rising Powers in Multi-Polar World and Adaptation to Global Governing Structure**

## Primary Sectors

**Public Diplomacy, Education and Language**

**Culture and Tourism**

**Construction, Construction Business and Infrastructure**

**Health and Health Tourism**

**Energy, Petro-chemistry and Investments**

# **TURKEY - IRAN** **STRATEGIC DIALOGUE**



**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 - Iran 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**

**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