

# TURKEY - QATAR STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

**“Thinking Diplomacy:  
New World New Horizons”**

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## VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

# Turkey - Qatar Strategic Dialogue

## “Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons”

( Turkey - Qatar )

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.

# TURKEY - QATAR STRATEGIC DIALOGUE



Qatar is one of the prominent countries in Middle East, the most strategically important region in the world, with regards to its politics, economy, geographical location and natural resources. It is member to 40 international and regional organizations. Having the world's third largest natural gas reserves and being the world's largest exporter of LNG, Qatar has achieved a rapid economic growth trend thanks to the high oil and natural gas prices until 2015 and made it one of the richest countries in the world. The decline in oil and natural gas prices since 2015 has also affected the economic growth.

The blockade of Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt against Qatar since June 2017 posed an additional test for the economy of this country. Within the framework of the crisis, Qatar's only land border with Saudi Arabia and air and sea borders with other countries applying embargo were closed. Qatar responded to falling oil prices and embargo by strengthening its financial structure and diversifying its economy, and managed to overcome both crises. Existence of the Turkish Military Base established in Qatar with relevant agreements prior to the embargo and vital support of Turkey made strategic contributions to managing the embargo process. The deepening relations in security, defence and defence industry dimensions have been a driving force also for other sectors.

The 60% of Qatar's economy is based on oil and natural gas resources. Qatar is implementing new policies to diversify its economy by investing in sectors like finance, trade, tourism, transportation and manufacturing. With the momentum of "Qatar National Vision Document 2030" which was declared in 2008 and 2022 FIFA World Cup in Qatar; new international airports, railways and metro, settlements and roads were began to be built. In this respect; construction sector is currently the most prominent sector in the country. There are important developments with regards to Turkey-Qatar relations. Qatar gives great importance to Turkey's role in the region. The government and people of Qatar have positive attitude towards Turkey. Qatar is the most prominent Arab country that is trying to solve the conflicts in region. Turkey-Qatar cooperation in UN and OIC has increased in the recent years.

Annual meetings of the High Strategic Committee mechanism which has founded in 2014 and established the institutional structure of high-level dialogue and cooperation between the two countries, are carried out by co-chairing of the President of Turkey and the Emir of Qatar. The 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the mechanism was held in Doha. On the occasion of these meetings, a large number of agreements, protocols and memorandums to reinforce the cooperation in various fields between Turkey and Qatar, were signed.

The bilateral trade volume between Turkey and Qatar stood at 1.426 billion dollars in 2019 and trade gap weigh against Qatar was 0.898 billion dollars. The main products exported by Turkey to Qatar are electrical and electronic parts, furniture, construction parts, petroleum-mineral oils, milk and dairy products. The main products exported by Qatar to Turkey are untreated aluminum, mineral fuels (LNG), plastic products.

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The Turkish investment in Qatar is mainly in construction business and consulting services. Today, there are many Turkish companies in Qatar and it is estimated that they are in charge of projects worth more than 10 billion dollars. There are efforts from Turkish officials for Qatari businessmen to make investment in Turkey. Natural gas pipeline project between Qatar and Turkey has been evaluated positively by officials.

Both countries are conducting new and realistic policies with regards to their relations and rediscovering each other. Turkey tries to gain the support of Qatar in international affairs such as Cyprus. In the following term; the cooperation opportunities in the fields of politics, economy, culture and security within the bodies of UN, OIC and Arab League can be strengthened.

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.

It is being deeply felt that there is an urgent necessity for collaborative works of the two countries so that the solutions for the regional issues can be found. Now it is required that the two countries head towards a future structure, in order to uplift the Turkey - Qatar 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 - Qatar 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 in order to build the interdependence and depth which should be.

## Main Theme

**Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons**

## Sub Themes

**New Balances New Economy**

**Turkey-Qatar Economical Relations: Opportunities and Risks**

**Energy Policies: Geopolitics and Security**

**Share of Technology, Academic and Cultural Cooperation**

**Sectoral Cooperation Perspectives: Defense Industry and Transportation**

**Social, Economic and Political Developments**

# **TURKEY - QATAR STRATEGIC DIALOGUE**



**Middle Eastern, Asian, African Countries and Turkey-Qatar**

**Relations with USA, EU, China and New Partners and Regional Strategies**

**Rising Powers in Multi-polar World and Adaptation to the Global Management Structures**

## **Primary Sectors**

**Public Diplomacy, Education and Language**

**Culture and Tourism**

**Construction, Construction Business and Infrastructure**

**Health and Health Tourism**

**Energy, Petro-chemistry and Investments**

**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 - Qatar 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**

# **TURKEY - QATAR** **STRATEGIC DIALOGUE**



## **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