



GLOBAL CIVIL DIPLOMACY SUMMIT

Future Economy Ecosystem and Türkiye





VISION DOCUMENT

CIVIL GLOBAL 2023

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"Future Economy Ecosystem and Türkiye"

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It has been observed in the 21st century that the developments in the fields of economy, sociology and politics have accelerated at the global level, and that making forward estimations and developing appropriate strategies have become more difficult. The industrial, technological, informatic and scientific developments tried to be expressed with the terms, such as "Industry 4.0", "Society 5.0" and "Strategic Communication", cause the fact that it is getting more important for the actors to quickly review their future plans.

When the efforts of each country for overcoming its own survival problems are considered together in the face of the micro-nationalism trends, regional integration processes, and ever-increasing impact of the capital circles at the global level, it is understood that serious breakups have been experienced in the nature of the global international relations, and this situation will have a determinant impact on the middle and long-term developments. In that regard, it has become inevitable and compulsory for the global actors to adjust their current behavioral patterns according to the new developments, or develop new tools that are suitable to the new developments.

It is required to closely follow the developments in various fields, such as "Soft/Smart Power", "Diplomacy", "Economy and Finance", "Tourism and Culture", "Technology and Industry", "Education and Science", "Energy, Water and Food", "Nuclear Technology", "Security and Defense", "Human Resource and Health", "Transportation and Logistics", "Environment and City", "Diaspora", and review the applications used for the resolution of the problems in these fields, and develop suggestions, new methods and tools for clearing the blockages. Thereby, in today's world, the main hardship in the fields of **economy** and **finance** for many countries is the gradual increase of the rich - poor gap.

The problems, such as that state control is getting decreased to zero over the sources thanks to the digitalization of the financial sources, that states/countries are not able to create sufficient investment capital, that the intervention processes and instruments of states have changed, and even transformed into a passive tool, against the fact that the capital circles' capability to use the tools, such as the social media and NGOs, is getting increased, have come close to the level of determining not only the financial and economic developments, but also the sociological and political conjuncture.

Technological developments result in problems, such as **employment gap and the fact that societies become completely open to the global developments.**



The developments about the information, communication and smart production technologies require rapid reviewing of the policies on economic and social fabric to make sure that they will comply with the new employment and social security conditions, and making necessary adjustments for securing the survival of states/countries in the face of the global developments, and even canalizing these developments and pioneering new developments, when necessary.

Within this scope, it is necessary to closely follow-up the sectors, such as **security, education, science, technology, culture and tourism**, which are in interaction with the economic and social developments.

The difficulties about the use of **soft power** result from the problems, such as inability to make a contemporary and accurate definition of this power, trying to put traditional elements into effect with anachronic approach, inability to support the soft power with the hard power elements, or inability to produce a balanced and meaningful synthesis between these two power elements, in other words, not being able to transform the power elements into a **smart power**.

The main difficulties in the field of **diplomacy** necessitate to closely follow-up of the developments in the field of formal diplomacy and the innovations brought by the information age, and adapt rapid reporting and consultation mechanisms of traditional institutions to the requirements of the present time, and realize new tools in the field of public diplomacy, such as strategical communication, correct interpretation of the efforts shown on the social media for the sake of major actors, and follow-up the developments in the economic, sociological and intellectual sensitivity of the respondent societies.

Of course, the intense interaction among the societies, economies and cultures in the globalization age is not unidirectional- from West to East or North to South. However, the fact that the strong actors will, without a doubt, impact the developments more in the direction of their own interests.

Within this scope, in addition to the countries located on the East or South, the ability of the countries, such as Russia, Brazil, Türkiye and Iran, which face problems to be involved in the center of the global politics, for protecting their own interests, even their existence, depends on the efficiency of the cooperation and solidarity mechanisms they will develop among themselves.

In this sense, it is required to share the experiences in the fields, such as investment, finance, science, technology, security, culture and tourism, and utilize their populations in the Western countries as such that it serves the world peace, and search for cooperation possibilities among the diasporas.

CIVIL GLOBAL | Global Civil Diplomacy Summit was first held in **Istanbul** on **April 20-22, 2016**. The Civil Global Program/Summit consolidates its function for Türkiye and the World in deepening the relations on a reciprocal basis with **Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, Australia** on the basis of continents, and the **Middle East, Black Sea - Caucasus, Mediterranean** and **Balkans** at the regional level, and the **UN, SCO, OIC** and **NATO** in terms of international organizations, and the **Turkish and Islamic** world in the field of identity.



It is projected that the **CIVIL GLOBAL 2023 Summit** will open the global and regional future projections and new parameters to discussion.

Main Theme “Future Economy Ecosystem and Türkiye”

Sub-Themes

Soft/Smart Power	Education and Science	Transportation and Logistics
Diplomacy	Energy, Water and Food	Environment and City
Economy and Finance	Nuclear Technology	Diaspora
Tourism and Culture	Security and Defense	
Technology and Industry	Human Resource and Health	

Continental Activities

8th International Turkish - Asian Congress | "Asia Anew: Future Asia and its Economies"

11th International Turkish - African Congress | "Future of the African Economy and Türkiye"

6th Türkiye - Europe Forum | "Future of the European Economy and Türkiye"

4th Turkish - Latin American and Caribbean Congress | "Future of the Latin American Economy and Türkiye"

Regional Activities

5th International Middle East Congress | "Future of the Middle Eastern Economy and Integration"

9th International Balkan Forum | "Future of the Balkans Economy and Türkiye"

10th Balkan Communication Network Conference | “Balances in the Balkans; EU, Türkiye and Russia - 2”

2nd International Black Sea - Caucasian Congress | "Future of the Black Sea - Caucasian Economy and Türkiye"

2nd International Mediterranean Congress | "Future of the Mediterranean Economy and Türkiye"

Sectoral Activities

Sectoral Diplomacy Ecosystem Workshops | "Future of the Economy Ecosystem and Sectoral Diplomacy"

[Humanitarian Diplomacy, Defense Diplomacy, Health Diplomacy, Belief Diplomacy, Culture and Art Diplomacy, Education Diplomacy, Science Diplomacy, Business/Trade Diplomacy, Thinking Diplomacy, Water Diplomacy, Food Diplomacy, Energy Diplomacy, Tourism Diplomacy, Security Diplomacy, City Diplomacy, Finance Diplomacy, Media and Information Diplomacy, Infrastructure Diplomacy, Service Diplomacy]



CONTINENTAL ACTIVITIES

8TH INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - ASIAN CONGRESS (1 Day)

"Asia Anew: Future Asia and its Economies"

In today's world, the relations with Asia have gained a special importance for Türkiye due to the fact that the global production shifted to Asia to a large extent. The technological production, the sources of investment and finance, the existence of large masses that will meet the market need of the Turkish export products, the existence of relative and faith partner people require that the evaluations about this giant continent to be frequently updated. The fact that the relations with this geography could not be conveyed to a good point up to the present time stands as a significant vulnerability.

As Asia becomes the center of production and world politics, Türkiye will need to revise its policy about this continent. The activities and expansion towards the Asian continent have become more important in a period particularly when the problems, which Türkiye was experiencing in its relations with the Europe and USA, were deepening. The fact that Türkiye develops its relations with all the Asian countries, in particular the crowded and efficient countries, such as China, India, Russia, Iran, Pakistan and Indonesia, will strengthen its position in the global politics.

Türkiye's **Asia Anew** Initiative, announced in 2022, seeks to forge closer ties with Asia as it was in the past, which reappeared as the world's economic center of gravity with its emerging global powers, is a reflection of its entrepreneurial foreign policy concept that also requires to be innovative. Türkiye, with the Asia Anew Initiative and within a more coherent and comprehensive policy framework, by developing increasingly well-organized and more focused relations with the continent, will hold a position where it should be in the Asian Age. In this new global environment, international actors are broadly in competition to have a more effective position in the continent, as closer relations and more constructive cooperation with Asia are required to have effectiveness not only in terms of economic instruments, but also diplomatic tools in order to have a voice in the negotiations. Given its deep-seated historical and cultural roots in the world's most dynamic region, Türkiye has been in an exceptionally favorable position.

Projects development activities, as part of the Asia Anew Initiative, have been carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the auspices of the Turkish Presidency, in coordination with certain agencies or institutions, such as Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA), Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD), as well as relevant ministries.

Türkiye, which aims to move its Asian policy into the future by upgrading its components and in a way that not only respecting the differences in Asia, but also considering the continent in its integrity, provides a new opening policy or a blueprint through its Asia Anew Initiative. It is aimed to create new synergies with all of the Asian countries through common values, mutual respect, equality, harmony and the principles of the UN Charter. Certain instruments, which are essential for embracing the continent as a whole, have been developed by the engagements of both public and private sectors, as well as cooperation efforts between universities and societies.



These cooperation efforts or collaborations are expected to encompass a wide variety of perspectives in various sectors, including economy, civil society, health, tourism, technology, space, defense industry, education, culture and diplomacy. Collective capabilities or resources that will be mobilized in this context, especially the think-tanks, which have a critical role to play in terms of decision-making processes, will be decisive on Türkiye's future role in this domain.

It is expected, during this process of refocusing on Asia started with the Asia Anew Initiative, that Türkiye, which is the westernmost Asian, will close the gap with many countries from South Asia, to Southeast Asia, from Central Asia, to East Asia with which Türkiye has deep historical and cultural ties of thousands of years. There is a huge potential, especially in energy, high tech, industry 4.0 domains, to cooperate with the region's dominant actors, such as China, Japan, South Korea, through a well-considered technical know-how transfer, while providing effective interactions to encourage civil diplomacy mechanisms both in the arenas of the economy and civil society, as well as joint efforts in collaboration with the continent's underdeveloped countries in infrastructure and development projects. Considering the different characteristics of Asian countries that distinguishes them from other regions and underpinned by their deep-seated traditions and cultural diversity, the Asia Anew Initiative will contribute significantly to increasing economic and commercial cooperation with Asia, while approaching the continent in its integrity. In particular, the possible instruments for reducing the unsustainable and "non-extendable" trade deficit in trade balances is of critical importance.

Türkiye, with its Asia Anew initiative, as well as leveraging its strategic advantage, will take its place as a "balancing power" between Asia and Europe, in an environment that is reshaping the global economic balance of the new international order, following the pandemic. Leveraging its geostrategic position that plays a crucial role in international trade between the East and the West, Türkiye will certainly use this distinct advantage in the most effective way. Türkiye's first export train, which arrived in Xi'an on 19 December 2020 by crossing two continents, two seas and five countries, including Georgia, Azerbaijan, the Caspian Sea and Kazakhstan, and following considerable efforts for the infrastructure works of the Trans Caspian East-West Central Corridor, is also one of the important achievements of the Asia Anew Initiative of Türkiye, which is one of the countries that have been carefully observing China's Belt Road Initiative since its announcement in 2013.

Limitating terrorism, developing security measures, making projects, like the Silk Road, faster and more functional, sharing the experiences in the fields of energy and technology depend on the development of the relations with the Asian countries. The Congress aims at contributing to this field.

Main Theme

Asia Anew: Future Asia and its Economies

Sub-Themes

Rising Powers of the Present and the Future in the Asian Age

"Asia Anew Initiative" of Türkiye, the Most West Asian

Developing Inter-State Relations in Foreign Policy with Asia Anew Initiative



Increasing Trade Capacity of Private Sector in the Economy with Asia Anew Initiative
Improving Academic Cooperation in Science and Technology with Asia Anew Initiative
Broadening the Interaction among Societies in Civil Diplomacy with Asia Anew Initiative
New Diplomatic Conventional in the New Economic System after the Pandemic
Integration in Asia and Adaptation to Global Management Structures
Change of the Nature of State and Innovation in the Public Administration
Building Soft Power, and Expectation Management
Bilateral and Multilateral - Multidimensional and Complementary Cooperation Opportunities
Regional and Global Common Perspectives
Building Interdependence in New Ecosystem
Academic and Cultural Cooperation
Resources System; Correspondent Complementary Opportunities
Energy, Water and Nourishment Security
Regional Peacebuilding Efforts and Multidimensional Security Cooperation
Economic Relations: Sectoral and Financial Deepening
Relations with RCEP, SCO, CICA, D8, ASEAN, EU, USA and New Partners and Regional Strategies
China, Belt and Road Project, Asia and Türkiye
South Asian Economies
Southeast Asian Economies
Middle Eastern Economies
East Asian Economies
Russia



11TH INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - AFRICAN CONGRESS (1 Day)

“Future of the African Economy and Türkiye”

The first quarter of the 21st century is described with the tendency of finding answers to the problems inherited from the 19th and the 20th centuries with a great historical breakup and the critical questions accumulated by people in their institutional memory and historical conscience.

However, even though it is possible to define the current stage as a new "cold war" period due to various and simply observable facts throughout the world, particularly the armament race that does not differentiate the distinction of nuclear - conventional weapons, it is also possible to define this stage as an **atypical and asymmetrical**, multi-dimensional and wide-ranging "**hegemonic war**" not resulting from a **doctrinal or ideological difference** at the discourse and activity level, but a **political and economic competition** to a large extent.

In this framework, the new international power balance forming as multi-blocks takes place as a long-term supremacy struggle not because of the differences in terms of vision and mission, but the similarities to a large extent, and uses micro nationalism as a fragmentation and annexation tool but also is "**nation or commonwealth**" based, and is focused on economic and military domination, and includes "**cultural/identical survival**" in its codes.

The African continent, which is thought to be on the verge of a great transformation opportunity, is the principal location of the said hegemonic war. Even though regional differences are observed in the continent, those people excluded from the decision-making mechanisms to a large extent along with the cooperation of domestic and foreign elites by means of using sophisticated methods pay the heaviest price.

Therefore, the Africa's strategy towards this fact of "conflict", which carries the potential of evolving into a positive direction, particularly in the eye of civil society, has a critical importance for the future of both the Continent and the world. Because, as the spheres of political and economic influence of the global and regional powers narrow, the pressure on both the world and Africa will gradually increase in terms of either the opportunities or the risks.

Depending on the conjuncture effected from this situation, the number of those countries making significant economic progress in the last fifteen-year process, particularly some of the Sub-Saharan countries, is at a considerable level.

Even so, when the inequality of opportunity and income distribution, inadequacy of education and infrastructure, and the political and social crises throughout the continent are taken into consideration, there are many measures that are necessary to be taken against the impacts that may effect the periodical and long-term development strategies.



At the present time, the main problem of Africa, which is thought to have started presenting its willpower more strongly while determining its future, is to provide a macro economic balance throughout the Continent. Because, it is not possible to resolve the multi-dimensional infrastructure and institutionalization problems without ensuring a macro economic balance.

However, this target is for the long-term, extremely complicated, multi-dimensional development moves of Africa based on how Africa will carry out its multilateral diplomacy in a period when the economic thought is questioned from all perspectives. This is a realistic target as long as the original policies considering the nature of the African people within their differences as much as the Continent-specific needs and traditional structures are developed and implemented.

It cannot be said that the initiatives, such as **the Lagos Action Plan (1980)** and **NEPAD (2001)**, which aim at providing development and macro economic balance throughout the Continent within the cooperation with the other regional unions, such as **ECOWAS, SADC, EAC and COMESA**, in particular **the African Union (2002)**, and depend on the political stability, could completely reach the targets desired because of the lack of leadership as well as the coordination and source problems.

As the instant resolution of all the infrastructure problems is impossible, at least "maximum economic and social achievement by using the scarce infrastructure resources in the most efficient way" must be aimed in the short-term as emphasized in the projection of **the African Development Bank** for 2018. Moreover, while opening field for direct foreign investments, getting the dependency on the primary financial resources, such as the USA, EU and China, gradually under control, and reducing ever-increasing debts to a reasonable level will be required. In this context, increasing mutual investments among the countries of the Continent and improving the intra-continental trade gain importance.

The Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA), which was signed among 44 African countries in Kigali in March, 2018 and carries the potential of bringing 1.2 billion people to the same market, is considered as one of the important steps for ensuring the continental integration within the scope of the 2063 project of the African Union. The agreement is predicted to remove the customs and import barriers and give great acceleration to the intra-continental trade. However, the reservations of Nigeria and South Africa, which are amongst the 10 African countries that had not signed this agreement and are more developed compared to the other countries, must be carefully examined.

Along with the BRICS countries, such as India, Brazil and Russia, in particular China, the countries, like Türkiye, having gradually increasing their power in their regions slowly gain strength in the Continent as a balance and competitive equilibrium against the Western block countries, such as the USA, England and France, which are Africa's traditional cooperation partners. As this atmosphere includes various risks for Africa, the social legitimacy basis may be evaluated as an opportunity in care of solid leadership staff in the field of capacity building and diversification of diplomatic relations.



On the other hand, the African Union not being able to strengthen its military capacity due to some problems in industry at large - in defense industry specifically - give rise to some problems. In addition to the USA's **Africa Command (AFRICOM)** and China's "aggressive" but economy-weighted investment policies with global competition motivation and soft power outlook, their ever-increasing military contingents are allowed rooms for positioning in the Continent with implicit or explicit reasons as an extension of the international competition.

This situation prevents the local military units, such as **the Group of Five (G5)**, which was established under the leadership of France with the support of the EU, from acting independently in favor of the Region. It is also required to take into consideration those concerns that the international military strategies with the scope of Africa feed the regional security crisis in the Continent.

One of the parameters having the strongest potential in Africa for capacity building is the Continent's demographic structure. According to the data of the African Development Bank, approximately 200 million of the population is consisted of young people, and this number is predicted to double until 2045. Yet, this young population also poses a significant risk element, if they are not adequately and accurately educated. In this respect, it is required to make investments first on the educational infrastructure specifically in the Sub-Saharan Africa, and reconsider the education targets and methods - in other words, the education paradigm - with all dimensions and by means of a different approach due to their importance for the social development throughout the Continent.

Some ongoing discussions in the Continent that might be gathered under the title of "**Mental Decolonization**" indicate a need in this direction. Within this scope, the NGOs, think tanks, universities and especially the R&D agencies must be pioneered to open new areas of activity within the cooperation with the correspondent institutions.

The Continent-wide and high-level visits, which are being reciprocally made as a start of a new period in the Turkish - African relations in the last fifteen-year period, are important developments showing that the mutual initiatives qualified as multi-dimensional "**active diplomacy**" have been slowly increasing. The steps taken in this process have arisen a satisfaction in many social segments, particularly in the business world. Developing bilateral relations positively has the potential to go towards a new and stronger ground that will pave the way for developing official/civil multi-dimensional strategic dialog and cooperation with a common vision.

In general, there are many missions that Türkiye, whose multi-dimensional initiatives and efforts in Africa and specifically in the East African region are appreciated by the objective observers, can assume more responsibility in the upcoming period with all of its official/civil channels particularly in the Sub-Saharan, North and West African regions. It is important to develop multi-dimensional relations not only in the economy, but also many fields and sectors ranging from energy to security and education to tourism.



The efforts of Türkiye for being effective on growth and global scale require it to carry its relations with the African countries to a further level. Africa constitutes a virgin area for the global expansion policies of Türkiye, and still waits to be explored.

While particularly the policies for creating a sphere of influence towards the regions out of Africa was limited to a large extent in terms of economic international relations, it is seen that the Continent offers more favorable opportunities to Türkiye when considering the factors, such as the improvement and development level, the human resources and the natural resources of the African continent. And the needs, such as overcoming the political and diplomatic crises seen in the Middle East in the recent period more easily, preventing Türkiye from becoming isolated in the field of diplomacy, necessitate the development of relations with the African countries in every sector.

Expanding the market for the Turkish export goods, limiting terrorism, enhancing the security measures, and sharing the experiences in the fields of energy and technology depend on the development of relations with the African countries. Within this scope, it is aimed at contributing to the multi-dimensional strategical relations of Türkiye - Africa and the reciprocal capacity building thanks to the Congress in which the representatives of various sectors, institutions and organizations will come together within the framework of the Turkish - African relations.

Main Theme

Future of the African Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

Searches of a Macro-Economic Balance in Africa

Belt and Road Project, Africa and Türkiye

Domestic/Foreign Partnerships in the Shade of Global Politics

Regional Economic Perspectives (North, East, West etc.)

Modern Paradigm Questioning in the Education and Social Development

Towards the New World - Transformation Dynamics of the Turkish - African Relations



6TH TÜRKİYE - EUROPE FORUM (1 Day)

“Future of the European Economy and Türkiye”

In addition to the developments experienced on the global scale and the transformation that the European Union undergoes within itself, the sharp turns recently taken in the domestic politics of Türkiye have caused the emergence of some problems in its relations with the European countries.

However, the factors, such as the fact that Türkiye is a natural extension of the Continent, its modernization and westernization experiences in history, the importance of the European markets for the Turkish economy, require the revision and improvement of the relations with all the European countries.

On the other hand, the needs, such as controlling the migration movements directed from different crisis areas of the world, in particular the Middle East, to Europe, and stabilizing the European countries' energy security, and strengthening the European-Asian connections, also strengthen such a characteristic of Türkiye that it is an unignorable partner for the European countries.

Controlling the migration phenomenon, limiting terrorism, developing the security measures, developing the opportunities for an academic and technological cooperation, and sharing the experiences in the fields of energy and technology depend on the development of the relations with the European countries. **The 6th Turkish – European Forum**, which will be held with the main theme of **the “Future of the European Economy and Türkiye”** aims at contributing to this field.

Main Theme

Future of the European Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

China, Belt and Road Project, Europe and Türkiye

Future Outlook of the EU Economy After the Brexit

Future of the UK Economy Ecosystem after the Brexit

Economies of the Dominant Countries (Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Netherlands, Poland etc.)

Demographics and Economic Future in Europe

Regional Perspectives (Balkans, Western Balkans, East, North etc.)

Future of the Scandinavian Economies



4TH TURKISH - LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CONGRESS (1 Day)

“Future of the Latin American Economy and Türkiye”

It is required for Türkiye recently aiming at a multi-faceted foreign policy objective to develop its relations with the Latin America and the Caribbean, whose populations are 605 million, and GDPs are over 6 trillion dollars, and foreign trade volumes are 1.72 trillion dollars.

In this regard, it is required to share the technology, and increase the academic exchange and cultural interaction, and transform the natural resources into economic values, and develop the investments, and jointly manage the risks coming along with the globalization processes, and concentrate on the fields, such as the cooperation in the important foreign policy problems and the strategical cooperation.

The 4th Turkish - Latin American and Caribbean Congress, which will be held with the main theme of **the “Future of the Latin American Economy and Türkiye”** aims at contributing to the relations between Türkiye and the regional countries.

Main Theme

Future of the Latin American Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

New NAFTA Economy Ecosystem

Caribbean Economies

Latin American Economies

Economies of the Dominanat Countries (Brasil, Mexico, Argentina etc.)

Regional Perspectives



REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

5TH INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST CONGRESS (1 Day)

“Future of the Middle Eastern Economy and Integration”

Among the regions surrounding Türkiye, the Middle East has an exceptional place. It can be said that as it cannot be expected from Türkiye experiencing instability in its relations with the Middle East to be successful in the foreign policy, it is also not possible that it can easily manage its own political issues. As it is clearly seen in recent times, the developments in the Middle East are directly related to and deeply effect Türkiye. However, the regional policies of the global powers and the regional actors experiencing a legitimacy problem or an integration problem with the Region hinders Türkiye from developing such policies that it can get by itself single-handedly. For this reason, it is required to pay regard to the regional and global balances in the policies directed to the Region. All the issues, such as energy security, reaching export objectives, border security, resolution of the terror issue, depend on the stabilization of the relations of Türkiye with the Middle East.

Dizzying change and transformation which have seen in the Middle East and North Africa since the beginning of the 2011 has led all the attentions focused on the Region. Considerations about how the Middle Eastern economies will be affected from these changes have formed the basis of expectations and concerns in this respect. Changes have triggered the questions about evaluation of the global economic crises, fluctuations in the oil prices, pattern of interaction between the economies of the regional countries and Global economy, how the ongoing political change and transformation will affect the dynamics of the regional economy.

International statistical data show that economic performance of the Middle East in the last two centuries is quite low. Per capita income in the region is even below one third of the developed industrial countries. Life expectancy is 8-year lower than the Western countries. There are some differences in the regional countries but this difference is based on natural resources. Yet, in the not too distant periods, the region had been displaying quite a good performance according to the standards of the time. Therefore, Middle Eastern countries should define the causes of worsening economic conditions and take the necessary measures for economic growth, development and welfare as soon as possible.

Although the Middle Eastern countries have considerable differences when they are individually evaluated, they can still be delineated as developing economic structures that based on producing and exporting oil and natural gas whereas importing other goods and services; share of agriculture maintains its importance regarding the national income and employment and divergence of produced goods and services is limited. When it is evaluated together with the young and relatively qualified populations in the agricultural countries of the region, it can be observed that the Middle Eastern countries have complementarity attributions because they do sufficiently have all such components required for a developed economy as accumulated capital, relatively ‘qualified’ manpower, raw materials etc.



However, immaturity of technological expertise and deficiencies in macro and micro economic policies prevent the Middle Eastern countries to realize their present economic potentials. If the human resources of the countries which have relatively large and trained populations, like Egypt and Türkiye, could meaningfully be integrated by the resources of the capital and natural resource-rich countries and should expertise and know-how accumulations of the neighboring countries be utilized, regional economic potential can be activated.

Compared to the developed countries, the Middle Eastern countries have a much younger demographic structure. Although life expectation level, which is an important indicator of development, has increased from 58 to 69 years in the last three decades, it falls far short of 79 years of developed countries.

Still, one third of the population is under 15. Regarding the basic factors of the production, which are labor, capital, natural resources, entrepreneurship and human resources, such a young population represents important human resources potential for the regional countries. Despite the fact that the Middle Eastern countries spend substantial amount in education, they have not succeeded in activating their human potentials. The main reason for this is that they do not have necessary capital accumulation and expertise to activate potential human resources. An economic integration among the Middle Eastern countries will make it significantly easier to overcome this problem. Of course, realizing this potential depends on well educating the young population according to the needs of the economy. The level of high-tech exports of these countries, too, shows that their human capital has not sufficiently been developed. Therefore, steps of integration in the field of education bear great importance to activate human resources potential.

Impermeability of the borders of the regional countries is the most important cause preventing economic mobility. To activate the region's economic potential without delay, barriers to the flow of capital, human resources and goods must immediately be removed through improved transitivity among the regional countries. One of the most fundamental requirements for the regional countries to accelerate economic development is to clear the way to economic interaction. Even if just for transportation costs, the regional countries are in dire need of each other. Therefore, a set of measures must immediately be implemented, such as developing communication & transportation facilities, elimination of trade barriers with neighboring countries, making necessary legal arrangements and agreements internally and internationally. Otherwise, continuing fragmentation of the region will serve not of the interests of the regional countries but of foreign elements.

The foundation of the modern global economy has its basis on capital accumulation and transforming this accumulation into rational investment tools. Demographically crowded Middle Eastern countries, however, could not have managed sufficient capital accumulation for a fuller economic performance. The countries with a certain level of capital accumulation seem to lack the human resources and expertise. The capital accumulation based on the richness of natural resources is evaluated by Western countries rather than transformed into investment for the countries of the region.



Regional political instability and lack of legal regulations constitutes the most important obstacle before making investment in the countries of the region and evaluation of the regional accumulations. Differences in ideology and regimes are the most important obstacles before the economic interaction between countries. Cultural and historical factors, lack of human resources, above all, that sufficient capital accumulation is unobtainable, all make it impossible to bring economic institutions which allow using physical technologies to the full extent, into the Middle East. To achieve this goal, necessary legal reforms should be made. To support this new legal environment, various professions and schools which train workforce for these professions should be developed. Reaching to all these aims depends on the intensification of political dialogue and cooperation activities.

Measures taken for the survival of regimes have negative influences on political dialogue and interaction between the countries of the Middle East. However, as it can be seen through the recent winds of change and transformation in the Arab world, current policies drags the existing regimes to a gentle position rather than strengthen them.

Oil and natural gas are the basic energy resources and most of the oil and natural gas reserves are located in the Middle East. This led resource rich countries of the region have higher per capita income and be able to increase this income to a certain level. However, this does not mean that these countries are managing economic development procedures well. As we know, economic development is a procedure which not only includes economic growth but also brings with it qualitative transformations in the economic and social structures. On the other hand, that the wealth of some natural resource rich countries persists to go in the other countries of the region even as investments deepen jealousies between countries in the region and makes current unstable environment even more complicated. Using an important part of the region's natural resources and capital accumulation in support of the regional countries is of great importance for long-term stability in the region.

In an economy, such factors as the position of subsectors, foreign trade liberalization and composition of imported and exported goods, in other words, shares of natural resources, agriculture, industry and services determine the economic structure. Middle Eastern countries are typical not only in the geographical, social and political terms but also with their economic structures. An important part of the Middle Eastern countries has economic structures based on producing and exporting natural resources. Agriculture sector maintains its importance regarding its share in GDP's and employment. Industrial sectors of these countries have not the capacity to produce high added value. Because of the fact that the natural resources are finite and efficiency of agriculture sector is limited, regional countries must take radical precautions to transform and improve their economies.

Most of the explanations about the economic performance of the Middle Eastern Countries have focused on erroneous orientations of the state policies. Inappropriate priorities, visional defects, the regulations that restrict growth of the private sector are some examples that can be brought as evidences of these bad policies. In this context, however, one should consider effects of the recent advances in the international system and the regional policies of global powers in addition to the cultural and historical elements.



In the 20th century, political regimes in the Middle Eastern countries have been determined not only by the basic characteristics of the peoples in the region but also by the colonial heritage and the regional – especially security and energy- policies of the major powers. Therefore, peoples in the region have fallen behind the general global economic and social dynamism. In terms of global politics, on the other hand, geostrategic importance of the Middle East and its energy resources has led the region to remain as a continuous direct intervention area for the global powers. As to the global economic crises of 2008, it has led the region to become an expansion area with its new market and investment possibilities for the troubled western economies.

The symbolic importance of the region for, and its central position in, the Islamic world has led the geo-cultural and global strategic calculations become more complicated. Should the countries of the region be able to coordinate and integrate their economic policies, as it should be in all the other areas, they will be able to cover a considerable distance to cope with the political challenges in the regional and global arenas.

The 5th International Middle Eastern Congress, which will be held with the main theme of the “**Future of the Middle Eastern Economy and Integration**”, aims at contributing to the resolution of the regional issues and the development of the relations of Türkiye with the Region.

Main Theme

Future of the Middle Eastern Economy and Integration

Sub-Themes

Political and Cultural Integration Experiences Effecting the Region

OIC, Arab League, Gulf Cooperation Organization

Country Perspectives

Türkiye, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, Gulf Countries, Iran

Future of the Regional Economy Ecosystem

Diversification in the Economic Structure

Capital, Expertise Cooperation

Development of Quality of the Human Resources and Cooperation

Optimum Use of the Natural Resources, Strengthening of the Local Economies

Transportation, Logistics, Legal Infrastructure

Model Project(s)

Istanbul Financial Center



9TH INTERNATIONAL BALKAN FORUM (1 Day)

“Future of the Balkans Economy and Türkiye”

The strategic position of the Balkans on the “East – West” and “North – South” connections in terms of energy transmission lines, trade routes and human movements has brought forth the importance of the Balkans region to remain vital every time.

In addition to the eastward expansion of the European Union after the Cold War and the loss of influence of Russia in the region, the ineffectiveness of Türkiye, as before, has brought out an unbalanced situation and an untidy balance situation in the Balkans in terms of the global and regional parameters. This situation caused the countries of the Region to lose power, and resulted in that they were transformed into an EU hinterland to a large extent and a sphere of influence for the US to a certain degree.

The uncertainties about the future of the EU and the Russia’s possibility to strengthen indicate that the stability based on this untidy balance situation in the Region may come to an end in spite of the recent institutional and economic capacity built by the EU. Unless the countries in the Region take initiative in determining their own future, they become a playground for the big powers, and so become unstable. As to Türkiye, which is also in a position of being a Balkan country, it is inevitable to be effected from the developments in the Region.

The Balkans, even though its economic position which is among the most unstable economies, has turned into a competition arena, with the increasing influence of Gulf states such as Qatar, UAE and Saudi Arabia, as well as China and Russia in recent years, driven by the untapped natural resources of the region.

Although Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, and most recently Croatia joined the European Union, the expectation of the Balkan region, which is artificially broken down into the Eastern and Western parts, has yet to be reached, which will bring the region closer to the European Union standards in certain specific areas such as business and startup opportunities, a modern production system infrastructure, resilient health facilities and high-quality education. Balkan countries, after the adaptation of the free-market economy approach, following the collapse of Yugoslavia, experienced a set of serious economic downturns due to the global economic crisis.

There has been a momentum for economic growth in the Balkans region, which is most noticeable in the services sector, particularly by leveraging the encouragement and incentives provided by the European Union in recent years. The region also enjoys a positive turnaround in the balance of trade. It appears, therefore, that European Union membership process has not only a positive effect on the Balkan economies, but also the relations between the countries in the region by mitigating the negative effects of conflicts.



The increasing trade volume not only contributes to much more products offered by Balkan markets to have access to Türkiye's market, and Turkish brands to be available in the markets of the region, but also to the potential to develop strategic and economic relations between Türkiye and the Balkan countries. In other words, this situation will bring along with it a long-term friendship underpinned by mutual exchanges.

Türkiye, in terms of foreign trade, has increasingly become important both for the Balkan region and Europe, of which Türkiye is the fifth-largest exporter and the seventh-largest importer. Türkiye's foreign investment stock has increased from \$7 billion to almost \$40 billion. The percentage of the investments by Türkiye in the Balkan countries is around 5% of its overall foreign investments, while Romania is the largest in export and Greece is the largest in import. There has been an upward trend in Türkiye's investments in the region particularly Romania, Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Türkiye's volume of trade with the 12 Balkan countries has increased 23 billion dollars. The export volume of the Balkan countries is over 500 billion dollars.

Hence, the countries in the Region are required to keep the intellectual infrastructure regarding their future fit, and develop such policies that are appropriate to their interests. **The 9th International Balkan Forum**, which is organized under the main theme of the **“Future of the Balkans Economy and Türkiye”** aims at contributing to this field.

Main Theme

Future of the Balkans Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

Governance of the Economic Competition in the Balkans and Türkiye

EU and the Balkans New Economy Ecosystem after the Brexit

China, Belt and Road Project, the Balkans and Türkiye

New Economic Dynamics in the Balkans

Country Perspectives (Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye, Albania etc.)



10TH BALKAN COMMUNICATION NETWORK CONFERENCE (1 Day)

“Balances in the Balkans; EU, Türkiye and Russia - 2”

As a continuation of the annual conferences, having been held by **TASAM** since 2010, of the **Balkan Commucation Network** established in 2005 under the leadership of the Strategic Research Center (SAM), T.R. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with the participation of the Balkan think tanks, **the 10th Balkan Communication Network Conference** will be held as a scientific meeting within the scope of the Summit in order to discuss the current issues thanks to the participation of the managers and representatives of the Balkan research centers and think tanks, which are members of this Network.

The recent developments have shown that achieving stability and security in the Balkans is extremely important for the regional and global stability. Considering the fact that the center of the activities related to global security is shifting from Atlantic to Pacific, it is understood that the Balkans will have a critical importance in the new security conjuncture.

The current period, in which we are living, is a historical break point, and the new conditions developed require the Balkan countries to show utmost care in building their own common future in accordance with the spirit of the era.

The need for strong initiatives for justice, trust, stability, empathy and cooperation in the Balkan countries is felt more deeply day by day.

For those countries that have problems with their regions, it is not possible to be more effective in far away regions. What happened in the last hundred and fifty years indicates that the disintegrations and tensions that the countries and peoples of the region experienced among themselves have brought nothing but poverty and misery to the Region.

Dialogue and communication are the means of preventing or eliminating the disintegrations. The first step for the resolution and development is dialogue and communication. And this preemptively refers to the processes that require to be initiated within the region itself.

In order to improve communication, it is necessary not to have those approaches that consider the belief and cultural differences as reasons for disintegration, but to have the ones considering them as wealth. **The 10th Balkan Communication Network Conference** aims at contributing in terms of strengthening the regional communication by means of bringing the representatives of the think tanks in the Region together.



2ND INTERNATIONAL BLACK SEA - CAUCASIAN CONGRESS (1 Day)

“Future of the Black Sea - Caucasian Economy and Türkiye”

In today's world, where the world's geopolitical codes and equations are tried to be rewritten, the definitions of “friendship”, “competition” and “hostility” are being reviewed. The ground of alliance in the Cold War period has been shaken, and new areas of geopolitical struggle have emerged.

The efforts to establish an area of regional and global hegemony or to preserve the existing hegemony area make a conflict inevitable. Following the Cold War, Russia has started to make its presence feel deeply for the first time with the events called as the “Arab Spring”.

In other respects, Türkiye has been left alone by its Western allies in the problematic areas like Syria. This situation has brought about that Türkiye has been in search of placing its relations on a new ground with the regional powers, such as Iran and Russia.

Nowadays, where predictability and the possibilities of projection and prevention have been extremely limited, the necessity to review the current policies and develop new policies is felt more strongly.

The 2nd International Black Sea - Caucasian Congress, which will be held with the main theme of **the “Future of the Black Sea - Caucasian Economy and Türkiye”** aims at contributing to this field.

Main Theme

Future of the Black Sea - Caucasian Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

Governance of the Economic Competition in the Black Sea - Caucasia and Türkiye

EU and the Black Sea - Caucasian New Economy Ecosystem after the Brexit

China, Belt and Road Project, Black Sea - Caucasia and Türkiye

Black Sea - Caucasia; New Economic Dynamics



2ND INTERNATIONAL MEDITERRANEAN CONGRESS (1 Day)

“Future of the Mediterranean Economy and Türkiye”

The Mediterranean region surrounded by the North Africa, Middle East, Anatolia, Balkans and Western Europe is the basic geographical area, where the premodern world history was written. The civilizations, such as the Ancient Greece, Rome, Ancient Egypt and Ottoman Empire sprouted and lived thanks to the geopolitical opportunities provided by the Mediterranean. In modern times, the Mediterranean region has been dragged on a passive position against the North Atlantic-centered powers.

At the present time, the most important problem among the countries surrounding the Mediterranean is the development disparity and the inequality of income distribution among the countries. An important portion of the people living in the region is deprived of expressing themselves politically. And this situation causes numerous security problems, in particular terrorism, illegal immigration, human trafficking and drug trafficking. Furthermore, the economic activity in the Region is substantially performed among few rich countries and non-regional countries. However, even making use of the favorable transportation opportunities offered by the Mediterranean is a candidate to provide a very serious added value for the regional, economic and political relations. In the event that the communication opportunities among the countries surrounding the Mediterranean and the people living there are improved, there is no significant obstacle in front of the Region to become a completely new center of attraction.

The 2nd International Mediterranean Congress, which will be held with the main theme of the “Future of the Mediterranean Economy and Türkiye” aims at contributing to increase the communication among the countries in the Region and bring forward proposals for the resolution of the regional problems.

Main Theme

Future of the Mediterranean Economy and Türkiye

Sub-Themes

New Economy and Energy Geopolitics in the East Mediterranean

Türkiye and TRNC Mutli-Dimensional Economic Security

New Normals in the Cyprys Negotiations

EU and Mediterranean New Economy Ecosystem after the Brexit

China, Belt and Road Project, Mediterranean and Türkiye

New Economic Dynamics in the Mediterranean



Region's Eco-politics and Russia

SECTORAL ACTIVITIES

SECTORAL DIPLOMACY ECOSYSTEM WORKSHOPS (2 Days)

The **Sectoral Diplomacy Ecosystem Workshop(s)**, which will be organized with the main theme of **the "Future of the Economy Ecosystem and Sectoral Diplomacy"** within the scope of **the CIVIL GLOBAL 2023 Summit** and thanks to the participation of the representatives, researchers, experts and academicians from the relevant public authorities, NGOs and private sector from Türkiye and overseas, will be held as a scientific meeting in the Summit period.

The facts, such as that communication and transportation opportunities developed, and that social media has been more effective than the traditional media, and that cultural interaction has deepened at the global level so much so that it had not been witnessed before, and that education opportunities developed all over the world, and that some values, such as democracy and human rights, have been such values that are getting shared more by people, and that shocking developments have been seen in the civil and military technologies, and that smart technologies have prevailed in the industrial production, and that the need for redesigning the societal structures according to this situation has become appearant, and that the global production has relayed towards the East, have necessitated to develop innovative policies in the diplomatic field as well.

For this reason, all the institutional civil diplomacy tools should also be mobilized on a global scale and on the sub-regional or identity issues.

Countries often seek to strengthen the channels of civil diplomacy, which can also be described as "second lane diplomacy" in order to compensate the impact and productivity decrease of the traditional formal diplomacy arising from failing to go beyond the specified behavior patterns and legal limitations.

By means of the civil diplomacy formed by the elements, such as those activities that are carried out by the non-governmental organizations formed by business world, the academic circles and the think tanks, parties are able to exchange views in a larger framework without feeling themselves under the pressure of the stubborn rules of the formal diplomacy, and develop perspectives and cooperations, and propose decision options required for the politics.

On the other hand, the facts, such as that the powers, such as China and Russia, have risen in the global politics, and that middle-sized actors, such as Türkiye, Brasil, South Africa, have obtained an opportunity



to behave comparatively more autonomous, and that the US hegemony has become questionable, increase the risks in the global politics, and require the traditional diplomacy activities to be reviewed.

The Sectoral Diplomacy Ecosystem Workshops, which will be held with the main theme of the “**Future of the Economy Ecosystem and Sectoral Diplomacy**” aims at discussing the new developments in the field of diplomacy.

Main Theme

Future of the Economy Ecosystem and Sectoral Diplomacy

Sub-Themes

Humanitarian Diplomacy

Defence Diplomacy

Health Diplomacy

Belief Diplomacy

Culture and Art Diplomacy

Education Diplomacy

Science Diplomacy

Business/Trade Diplomacy

Thinking Diplomacy

Water Diplomacy

Food Diplomacy

Energy Diplomacy

Tourism Diplomacy

Security Diplomacy

City Diplomacy

Finance Diplomacy

Media and Information Diplomacy

Infrastructure Diplomacy

Service Diplomacy

Other Academic Studies

Academic Studies, such as Reports, Books, Articles, Dissertations etc., and TV Programs, and Media Conferences will be carried out. All the relevant outputs and publications revealed during the period will support the Project.

Preparation of CIVIL GLOBAL 2023 Meetings’ & Workshops’ Reports

Upon the completion of each of the **Continental Activities**, **Regional Activities** ve **Sectoral Activity(ies)** within the scope of the **CIVIL GLOBAL 2023**, the relevant reports will be prepared by the reporters to be specified among the participants.