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# 8<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL TURKISH - ASIAN CONGRESS

"Asia Anew:  
Future Asia and  
its Economies"



**VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)**

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**"Asia Anew: Future Asia and its Economies"**

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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 2019, 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**