

IMPACT ANALYSIS COMPARATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT and WORKSHOP | 1st PHASE TURKEY - CHINA

"Turkey - China | Post-Covid-19 New Paradigms;
Belt and Road, Trade, Tourism, Investment, Finance and Technology"



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**“Turkey - China | Post-COVID-19 New Paradigms; Belt and Road,
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Turkey's 80 million population, growing and developing economy, the Afro-Eurasian geostrategic position has the midst of mainland Europe, and historical, political and cultural ties with countries at the Black Sea, the Caucasus, Asia, the Middle East, and its increasing activity in the international field, especially at UN, being one of the important members of organizations such as NATO, OSCE and CICA, and within its active foreign policy, Turkey has become an increasingly important player in the international arena.

The People's Republic of China (PRC) is growing rapidly with its surface area, population of 1.4 billion, progress in industrialization and technology, growing and developing economy, natural resources, veto power in the United Nations, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Now it has become a force that the world has worked hard to establish partnership.

Turkish-Chinese Relations have a very deep-rooted historical background through the Silk Road. It dates back to B.C. 2000s. Bilateral contacts maintained their vitality until 1400s through Silk Road. However, diplomatic relations between the two countries were re-established only in 1971 due to the Cold War imperatives.

Following the launch of China's opening up policy in 1979, high level visits has started to happen between China and Turkey but steady process could not be followed after 1985. Turkey-PRC relations, political and economic gained momentum as 2003, and since 2009 has reached the optimum level in all areas. With the strategic cooperation document approved by the Prime Ministers of the two countries in 2010, the relations increased to a different dimension.



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Turkey and China, in Central Asia and the Middle East have common interests in the **geopolitical and security**. Considering **energy security and increasing terrorist activities**, ensuring peace and security in these regions is essential for the interests of both countries.

Turkey and China, both countries have achieved the growth rates in the last period **forces both countries to take account of each other in the economic sense**. Turkey to China; It is a gateway to the Balkans and Europe, a good economic partner in the Middle East and Central Asia. China is Turkey; sees it as a partner that needs to strengthen mutual relations in political, economic and security-related areas.

Turkey attaches particular importance to China's cooperation, to developing its relations with Asian countries. In this context, Turkey gives great importance to the SCO. Indeed, with support of the PRC, Russia and other member countries, Turkey has been accepted as a dialogue partner of the organization at the summit held in Beijing. In this way, Turkey thinks relationships can be moved to a better spot in many areas of international trade and security, and it is also intensifying relations with international organizations such as cooperation from ASEAN.

People's Republic of China has become **the largest trade partner of Turkey**, among Japan and South Korea and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region. In parallel with the increase in trade volume, the relations between the two countries have gained momentum.

The significant issue between China and Turkey is that the **gap at foreign trade is growing in China's favor**. This resulted in the economic and commercial relations being scrutinized at the level of Governments. As the gap in our foreign trade are increasingly opened up in favor of China, there are some reasons caused by Turkey as well as by China.

In addition to the unique advantages of China in foreign trade, Turkish business people's timidness to invest in this country has deepened the problem. However, at senior visits, Chinese statemen stated that they encourage Chinese companies to invest in Turkey. This expression is expected to change from verb to act. PRC has also begun to offer advantageous financing opportunities for energy and infrastructure projects in Turkey.





Turkey has tried to get the support from China as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, on international issues, especially on Cyprus. PRC compared to the past, takes sensitive attitudes on Turkey's sensitivities on issues including the Cyprus. Subsequent periods, in parallel Turkey's growing influence in the international arena, the collaboration between Turkey and China can be further strengthened on political, economic, cultural and security-related areas with frame of UN, the G-20, CICA, ASEAN and SCO organizations.

China's "Belt and Road" Initiative and COVID-19 pandemi that already have global impact, also contain important structural perspective for Turkey and the environment. At the point reached; due to trade imbalance and lack of communication, bilateral and multilateral analysis of economic targets that could not make the desired leap, and developing new radical parameters may reveal the real potential of interdependence.

Except for purely trade; With an approach that shall focus on the unlimited potential available in areas such as tourism, investment, finance, technology and security capacity, and empathize on the priorities of both parties; Following a comparative research with impact analysis, the workshop, which shall bring together all the actors, is the first step to share the results and opinions.

Main Theme

“Turkey - China | Post-COVID-19 New Paradigms; Belt and Road, Trade, Tourism, Investment, Finance and Technology”

Sub Themes

Trade Balance Impact Analysis

Priority Sectoral Cooperation and Investment Perspectives

Post-Coronavirus Relations between China and Turkey on Many Different Aspects

Financial Capacity Analysis and Opportunities

Possible Turkish Corridor with “Belt and Road” Initiative

Technology, Security and Defense Industry

Bilateral, Multilateral Partnerships; Infrastructure and Contracting



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