

TURKEY - UKRAINE STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

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

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VISION DOCUMENT (DRAFT)

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(Turkey - Ukraine)

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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Ukraine attracts the attention of the world with its population close to 45 million, important geographical position between the European Union and Russian Federation and significant economic potential. Ukraine, being a member of many regional and international organizations such as United Nations (UN), UN, Council of Europe, OSCE, CIS, WTO, GUAM, BSEC, AVET, BSEC, is one of the 21st century regional power candidates and it is foreseen that its importance will continue to increase in the near future.

Relations between Ukraine and Turkey are strengthened by history. First and foremost, their geographical junction point between Europe and Asia forces the two countries to develop similar geopolitical behaviors and leads them to cooperate in this context. Regional and international issues, as well as being two important countries neighboring the Black Sea and bilateral political, economic, commercial and cultural relations are the issues on the agenda of the two countries' relations.

Subsequently from the independence of Ukraine, the two countries continued to support each other in the roughest times, while developing friendly relations through frequent high-level visits. Relations between Turkey and Ukraine gained the status of "strategic partnership", with the establishment of High-Level Strategic Council (HLSC) in 2011. In the same year, it has been decided to start the negotiations of Visa Waiver Agreement and Free Trade Agreement between Turkey and Ukraine. In line with the goal of strengthening economic and human relations, the travel regime with identity card was implemented in 2017. On the other hand, multidimensional developments in the field of defence industry, are a modest part of the great potential.

The bilateral trade volume between Turkey and Ukraine stood at 4.881 billion dollars in 2019 and trade gap weigh against Ukraine was 569 million dollars. The main products exported by Turkey to Ukraine are boilers, machinery, mechanical equipment and tools, refrigerators, freezers and other cooling and freezing devices, iron and steel, electrical machinery and equipment, telephone equipment. The main products exported by Ukraine to Turkey are iron and steel, cereals, maize, oilseeds and fruits, miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruits, soybeans, residues and waste of the food industry. Following the signing of the Free Trade Agreement, which is being negotiated between the two countries, the bilateral trade volume is expected to increase significantly.

In Ukraine there are opportunities for Turkish entrepreneurs to invest in areas such as communication/telecommunications, infrastructure (ports, airports, railways, etc.), value-added textile and export-based industry, service sector (transportation, municipal services, business/trade centers, etc.), agriculture-based industries (agro-food) and hydroelectric/coal based power generation and partnerships in areas such as demounted wooden furniture, agricultural applications, vehicle spare parts, air conditioning, refrigerator, television, pvc pipe, textile machinery, software, shoes, tourism. In order to accelerate the economic interaction, problems arising from transportation, banking, quota applications and non-tariff barriers should be solved. The development of economic relations between the two countries will provide the basis for deepening relations in other fields.

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Investments by approximately 600 Turkish firms operating in Ukraine stands at near 3 billion dollars (including investments through third countries). The total value of 184 projects undertaken by Turkish construction firms in Ukraine is worth 6.28 billion dollars. Tourism also constitutes an important area of cooperation between Turkey and Ukraine. Turkey is the country most preferred by Ukrainian tourists, and the number of Ukrainian tourists visiting Turkey reached 1,547,996 in 2019.

The reflection of the good bilateral relations in all areas between the two countries on international platforms is extremely positive. Turkey and Ukraine in a position supportive of each other in the international arena. Military cooperation is ongoing both at the bilateral level and within the context of NATO-Ukraine Commission, BLACKSEAFOR and Operation Black Sea Harmony.

The relations with Ukraine, which had to deal with a major crisis following the de facto annexation of Crimea by Russia as a result of the political and sociological fluctuations of the last decade, hold great significance for Turkey. Turkey, which supports the territorial integrity of Ukraine and does not recognize the illegal annexation of Crimea, advocates a diplomatic solution to the crisis on the basis of international law. Enlarging and securing the rights and interests of the Crimean Tatar Turks and keeping their problems on the agenda of the international community are among Turkey's priorities.

The current strategic cooperation can be further deepened, both in the context of the current crisis and the sustainability of the critical long-term interests of the two countries. Both countries can develop effective strategic cooperation in terms of sustainability of critical long-term interests. Herein, there is a need to look at developments from a broader geopolitical perspective.

With the Strategic Dialogue; the aim is to develop a strategic approach, to ensure the proper coordination of relevant organizations and institutions, to increase the influence of civil society, to contribute to development, to make use of expertise accumulation in the development of resources and working areas, to contribute to promotional activities, to search for opportunities for academic cooperation and that all these studies are evaluated in integrity.

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 - Ukraine 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 parameter. History offers both the two countries opportunities for deepening their interdependency. In this regard, the **Turkey - Ukraine 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.

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Main Theme

Thinking Diplomacy: New World New Horizons

Sub Themes

New Balances New Economy

International Security Cooperation

Economic Relations: Opportunities and Obstacles

Energy Security, Energy Supply Policies and Opportunities

Security Cooperation, Multidimensional Security and Counterterrorism

Transportation, Logistics, Banking

Defence Industry: Bilateral and Multilateral Capacity Building

Innovation and Technology Sharing in Public Administration

Opportunities for Academic and Cultural Cooperation

Regional and Global Common Perspectives

Priority Sectors

Public Diplomacy, Education and Language

Culture and Tourism

Construction, Contracting and Infrastructure

Health and Health Tourism

Energy, Petrochemicals and Investments

Logistics, Transportation and Telecommunication

Banking and Finance (Strategic Investment Fund)

Economy and Trade

Media and Communication

Science and Technology

Brand Cities and Environment

Defense and Space Industry

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STUDIES AND ACTIVITIES (DRAFT)

Method

Inductive Reasoning, Participation and Economic Deepening

Turkey - Ukraine 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