

11 November 2013, Istanbul

TURKEY - PAKISTAN **ROUND TABLE MEETINGS**



New Term **Turkey - Pakistan Relations:** **Opportunities and Risks**

(DRAFT VISION DOCUMENT)



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"New Term Turkey - Pakistan Relations: Opportunities and Risks"

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Turkey with its population of 75 million, growing economy and its geostrategic position in the middle of Afro-Eurasian main continent has become a prominent country. Turkey has political, historical and cultural ties with Europe, Black Sea, Caucuses, Asia, Middle East and Africa. It is an important member of NATO, OSCE and CICA, and with its recent active foreign policy it has become an important player in global arena.

On the other hand, Pakistan with its population of 170 million and geographical strategic position which connects Central Asia to Indian Ocean attracts the attention of the world. Pakistan, as member of United Nations (UN), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), D-8, Commonwealth of Nations, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA); is one of the candidates to become a regional power of 21st century. In near future, it is predicted that the importance of Pakistan will grow.

There are strong historical connections between Turkey and Pakistan. Support of subcontinent Muslims to Turkish War of Independence is still on the hearts and minds of Turkish people. Apart from bilateral political, economical, commercial and cultural relations; international issues are on the agenda of both countries. After the establishment of Pakistan; both countries have developed their friendship and cooperation with high level formal visits and have supported each other in difficult times.

Reflection of good relations between Pakistan and Turkey at international platforms is extremely positive. Both countries have supported each other at international platforms. Turkey maintains active and constructive attitude in multilateral processes like "Friends of Democratic Pakistan". With Pakistan-Afghanistan-Turkey trilateral summit and Afghanistan oriented meetings; Turkey has been trying to contribute to the stability and peace in South Asia. Pakistan also supports Turkey in international issues.



Despite the good friendship between Pakistan and Turkey; trade volume between two countries is small and differs from year to year. By 2000s, the trade between two countries has growing disadvantageous to Turkey. Turkey imports almost only cotton (70%) from Pakistan.

Development of economic relations between two countries will create a base for other areas of cooperation. The investment opportunities in the fields of communication/ telecommunication, infrastructure (harbors, airports, and railways), textile, service industry (transportation, municipality services, and business centers), agro-food, coal and hydroelectric based energy production awaits Turkish investors in Pakistan. Also the opportunities of partnership awaits Turkish investors in the fields of furniture business, agricultural implementations, machinery spare parts, air conditioning , domestic appliances, textile machinery, shoes and tourism in Pakistan. In order to increase the economical interaction; the problems in transportation, banking system, quota applications and tariffs should be resolved.

Strengthening and developing the Pakistan-Turkey relations will create gravity for the other countries in the region, and also play an engine role to sustain the relations between Turkey and region countries relations and also the relations between them.

Both countries can develop strategic cooperation with regards to sustaining long term interests. At this point, a wider geographical point of view is needed to look at the events. In order for Turkey-Pakistan relations to be carried to an ideal point in today's multi-dimensional world order; every parameter should be taken into consideration.

The aims of the Turkey-Pakistan Round Table Meetings are to prepare a civil, institutional and intellectual strategic base to improve and strengthened the Turkey-Pakistan Relations. Depending on the results the possibility of transforming these round table meetings into a Forum should be evaluated.



The main theme and the sub titles of the Round Table Meeting which is planned to organize annually on a rotation base are as follow:

Main Theme

"New Term Turkey Pakistan Relations; Opportunities and Perspectives"

Sub Themes

Turkey - Pakistan Economic Relations: Opportunities and Obstacles

Middle East and Central Asia and Turkey - Pakistan

Energy Security, Energy Supply Policies and Opportunities

Economic Cooperation

Turkey - Pakistan Security Cooperation, Multidimensional Security and Struggle against Terrorism

Transportation, Logistics, Banking System

Bilateral and Multilateral Capacity Building among OIC Member Countries

Technology Sharing and Innovation in Public administration

Academic and Cultural Cooperation Opportunities

Regional and Global Common Perspectives