



EU ENLARGEMENT FACTSHEET

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CLOSE-UP ON ENLARGEMENT COUNTRIES: TURKEY

- **Full name:** Republic of Turkey
- **Capital:** Ankara
- **Largest city:** Istanbul
- **Official language:** Turkish
- **Currency:** Turkish lira
- **Main exports:** Clothing and textiles, fruit and vegetables, iron and steel, motor vehicles and machinery, fuels and oils
- **GDP per capita PPP:** EUR 11,000 (2012 est.)
- **Accession status:** Candidate country
- Founding member of **NATO, Council of Europe, OSCE** and **OECD**



CURRENT STATUS

So far **13** of the **33 negotiation chapters** have been opened, and one (Science and Research) has been closed.

17 chapters have been put on hold, **8** of which because of Turkey's refusal to allow Cypriot ships to use Turkish ports, and the remaining **9** by the governments of Cyprus and France.

Particularly the protection of basic freedoms, including press and religious freedoms, as well as the resolution of the Cyprus conflict are on the agenda.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

- In 1996 a customs union between Turkey and the EU was established, guaranteeing that goods can travel between the two regions without any customs restrictions
- There is a strong bilateral trade relationship between Turkey and the EU, totalling **EUR 120 billion** in 2011.
- Turkey is the **EU's 6th biggest trading partner**.
- The EU is Turkey's biggest trading partner. Almost **50% of Turkey's total trade is with the EU**.
- Almost **75% of foreign direct investment in Turkey comes from the EU**.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

In 2013 the EU will invest **EUR 935.5 million** under the EU's **Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA)** to support the country's social, economic and political development. It consists of **five components**:

No	Component	2013 (million EUR)
I	Transition Assistance and Institution Building	246,3
II	Cross-border Co-operation	2,2
III	Regional Development	378
IV	Human Resources Development	96
V	Agriculture and Rural Development	213

65% of Turkey's **2,949 km of land borders** are in mountainous regions. It is in both Turkey's and the

EU's interest to further develop the country's border security.

During the period 2011-2012, the EU provided a total sum of **EUR 440 million** in the area of justice, home affairs and fundamental rights (component I). A significant part goes to the establishment of an **integrated border management** which aims to:

- Prevent illegal migration
- Improve the quality of asylum in Turkey
- Support reception, screening and accommodation centres for asylum seekers and refugees
- Strengthen control function of the Turkish Customs Administration

Furthermore, Turkey receives financial assistance through the EU-funded **cross-border cooperation programme with Bulgaria** and the **Black Sea Basin programme**.

TIMELINE OF CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE EU

1963	The Ankara Agreement between Turkey and the then European Economic Community (EEC), aiming towards the accession of Turkey into the EEC, is signed and enters into force a year later. Turkey becomes an associate member of the European Community.
1987	Turkey applies for full membership
1995	Turkey and the EU form a customs union which takes effect on 1 January 1996.
1999	The Helsinki European Council grants Turkey the status of candidate country .
2004	The European Council decides to open membership talks with Turkey .
2005	Accession Negotiations open. One condition is Turkey's agreement towards the Ankara protocol, an additional protocol agreeing on the expansion of the customs union of 1996. Turkey's Prime Minister Erdoğan signs it, but the Turkish parliament does not ratify it. Therefore the EU announces that the protocol has no binding character.
2012	The Positive Agenda is launched, aiming to enhance the access negotiations and highlighting areas where co-operation could expand.

