

CHRONOLOGY OF TURKEY- EUROPEAN UNION RELATIONS (1959 - 2015)

1959	
July 31	Turkey has applied for association to the European Economic Community.
1963	
September 12	The Ankara Agreement (The Association Agreement) which would yield Turkey and European Economic Community to the Customs Union and provide full membership was signed.
1964	
December 1	The Ankara Agreement signed between Turkey and European Economic Community entered into force.
1970	
November 23	The Additional Protocol including the regulations on Customs Union was signed in Brussels.
1971	
September 1	The Additional Protocol's commercial adjudications entered into force with "Temporary Agreement". EU abolished customs duties and quantity restrictions which were applied to industry products imported from Turkey (apart from textile products).
1973	
January 1	Additional Protocol entered into force. Turkey actualized the First Reduction of Customs Duties and Harmonisation of Consolidated Liberation List (EU Customs Union Tariff).
May 21	Negotiations between Turkey and European Economic Community related to enlargement of European Economic Community concluded with an agreement.
June 30	The First Enlargement Agreement (Complementary Protocol) was signed in Ankara.
1974	
January 1	Temporary Agreement entered into force which related Complementary Protocol
1976	
January 1	Turkey actualized the Second Reduction of Customs Duties and Harmonisation of Consolidated Liberation List (EU Customs Union Tariff).
1980	
September 19	Decision No. 1/80 of the Association Council of 19 September 1980 on the development of the association; Association Council decided that Turkey shall eliminate the duties for nearly all agricultural products by 1987.
1982	
January 22	The relations between Turkey and the European Union were de facto suspended for reason of requirement of the European Parliament to suspend the agreement of Turkey - European Economic Community from the European Council and European Commission.

1986	
September 16	Turkey and EEC Association Council convened. Therefore; relations between Turkey and European Economic Community which were suspended since 12 September 1980 came to life.
1987	
April 14	Turkey applied for full membership of the European Community based on Article 237 of the Rome Treaty, Article 98 of the European Coal and Steel Community and Article 205 of the EURATOM
1989	
December 18	European Commission in its "Opinion" about Turkey's application of full membership process mentioned that it could not accept a new member before completing process of its own internal market (1992) and necessity provisions in terms of economic, social and political developments should be fulfilled before Turkey's pre-accession.
1990	
June 6	European Commission submitted a "Cooperation Package" concerning precautions which include initiation and acceleration of cooperation with Turkey in every field.
1994	
July 30	Commission of the European Communities ascertained the principles of Customs Union as stated in Ankara Treaty which was signed between Turkey and European Community in 1963.
1995	
December 13	Council Decision on Turkey- European Union Association No. 1/95 was approved by European Parliament. (343 Admissions, 149 Nays, 36 Non Committals).
1996	
January 1	In the integration of European Union, Turkey entered the Final Period in 31 December 1995 by completing "Transition Period" which lasted 22 years and by 01.01.1996 completed the process of Customs Union Period provided in industrial products and manufactured agricultural products.
1997	
December 12-13	At the end of the EU Summit of Heads of State and Government in Luxemburg, Turkey wasn't mentioned among the candidate countries, but it took place in the context of enlargement.
1998	
March 3	The document titled "European Strategy for Turkey" related to improve relations between Turkey and European Union was announced by European Commission.
November 4	The first "Progress Report" including the opinions of Commission for "Regular Progress Report for Turkey" which were recorded in the light of criteria prepared by European Commission for European Union membership was published. Afterwards, they have been published annually in regular periods.
1999	
December 11-12	The candidacy status was recognized for Turkey in European Council Summit Meeting in Helsinki.

October 13 "1999 Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, including the opinion of European Commission was published.

2000

July 4 Secretariat General for European Union Affairs was established in connection with Prime Ministry with Law 4587 published on Official Journal on 4 July 2000.

October 13 "Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, "Progress Report" which includes the opinion of European Commission entered into force.

2001

February 26 "The Framework Code" which constitutes the base of the procedures related to Accession Partnership and the base of the donation that Turkey will receive from the Accession Partnership was accepted in the meeting of Fragment Regulations General Affairs Council.

March 24 "Council Decision of 8 March 2001 on The Principles, Priorities, Intermediate Objectives and Conditions Contained in The Accession Partnership with The Republic of Turkey" No. 2001/235/EC was published in Official Journal of European Community No. L 85 in 24 March.

March 24 "Decision on National Program of Turkey for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire, application, coordination and monitoring of National Program of Turkey for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire" was published in Official Journal repeated No. 24352 on 24 March 2001.

November 13 "Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, including the opinion of European Commission entered into force.

2002

November 20 "2002 Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, including the opinion of European Commission entered into force.

December 12-13 It was stated in Copenhagen Summit of European Council that the negotiations will be opened if it is decided that Turkey meet the Copenhagen criteria.

2003

April 19 EU Harmonisation Commission for Turkey was established in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

July 12 Council Decision of 29 May 2003 on the Accession Partnership with the Republic of Turkey No. 2003/398/EC is published in the Official Journal of the European Union No. L51 on 26 February 2008.

June 24 Council Decision of 23 June 2003 on National Program of Turkey for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire, application, coordination and monitoring of National Program of Turkey for the adoption of the Acquis Communautaire No. 2003/5930" was published in Official Journal repeated No. 24352 on 24 July 2009.

November 5 "Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, including

European the opinion Commission entered into force.

2004

April 24 The referendum was conducted in Cyprus. The 69,4 % of Turkish Cypriots accepted but the 75,83 % of Greek Cypriots refused the Annan Plan.

October 6 "2004 Regular Progress Report for Turkey" prepared by the European Commission and noted in the light of criteria for membership to European Union, including the opinion of European Commission and the Recommendation Document according to the Progress Report entered into force. Within the framework of this document, Turkey was said to have fulfilled the political criteria and was recommended to begin to the negotiations.

December 17 In the summit meeting of EU Head of State or Government, it was stated that Turkey has sufficiently implemented the political criteria and it could open the negotiations for EU accession on 3 October 2004.

2005

June 3 Ali BABACAN, State Minister, is appointed as the Chief Negotiator of Turkey in EU accession negotiations.

June 29 Negotiation Framework Document and other related documents for Turkey were published.

July 30 Turkey signed the "Additional Protocol" which extended the Ankara Agreement, signed in 1963 and constitutes the base of the relations between EU and Turkey, concerning the new ten members on May 1, 2004.

October 3 European Union started full membership negotiations with Turkey upon the decision taken in Luxemburg.

October 20 Constituting first stage of EU accession negotiations, Screening Process started with Detailed Screening Meeting on Chapter 25: Science and Research and Screening meeting on all chapters were completed on 13 October 2006.

November 9 2005 Regular Progress Report for Turkey was published.

2006

January 20 Turkey presented its new plan to the Secretary-General of United Nations Kofi Annan for the solution to the Cyprus issue. In this plan, it was demanded that if Turkey opens its harbors to Greeks, the isolations on Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus must be removed.

January 26 Commission Decision of 23 January 2006 on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the Accession Partnership with Turkey with No. 2006/35/EC was published Official Journal of the European Union No. L 22 on 26 January 2006.

June 12 Chapter 25: Science and Research was opened to negotiations in Intergovernmental Conference held in Luxemburg. It was stated that Turkey met the requirements and this chapter was closed temporarily in the same meeting.

November 8 2005 Regular Progress Report for Turkey was published. It was confirmed that Turkey did not open it's harbors and airports to the Greek Cypriot Administration of Southern Cyprus despite the Additional Protocol and Turkey was given time until the 14-15th of December.

November 13	The Council of the European Union approved that Istanbul holds the European Capital of Culture in the year of 2010.
December 11	Admitting the Commission Recommendation of 9 December 2006 by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, which are the members of EU, meeting in EU General Affairs Council, 8 chapters shall not be opened and none of the chapters shall be closed temporarily until confirming the commitments related to Additional Protocol of Turkey.
December 15	Taking place in Priority Summit Accession with the Heads of Governments and States of the EU, proposal of General Affairs Council was exactly accepted in Brussels.
2007	
March 29	Chapter 20: Enterprise and Industrial Policy was opened to negotiations.
April 17	Harmonisation Package of Turkey to European Union Acquis was declared.
June 26	Chapter 32: Financial Control and Chapter 18: Statistics were opened to negotiations.
November 6	2007 Regular Progress Report for Turkey was published.
December 19	Chapters 28: Health and Consumer Protection and Chapter 21: Trans-European Transport were opened to negotiations.
2008	
February 26	Council Decision of 18 February 2008 on The Principles, Priorities and Conditions Contained in The Accession Partnership with Turkey and abolishing decision with No. 2006/ 35/EC with No. 2008/157/EC was published Official Journal of the European Union No L 51 on 26 February 2008.
June 12	Chapter 6: Company Law and Chapter 7: Intellectual Property Law were opened to negotiations.
November 5	2008 Regular Progress Report for Turkey was published.
December 18	Chapter 4: Free Movement of Capital and Chapter 10: Information Society and Media were opened to negotiations.
December 31	Decision of 10 November 2008 on National Programme of Turkey with regard to be accepted European Union Acquis and Monitoring, Coordination and Implementation National Programme of Turkey with regard to be accepted European Union Acquis" with No. 2008/14481 was published Official Journal of the European Union on 31 December 2008 with No. 27097 (5.repeating).
2009	
January 10	Egemen BAGIS, Minister of EU Affairs, was appointed as the Chief Negotiator of Turkey in full membership negotiations.
July 30	Chapter 16: Taxation was opened to negotiations.
October 14	2009 Regular Progress Report for Turkey was published.
December 21	Chapter 27: Environment was opened to negotiations.

2010	
June 30	Chapter 12: Food Safety, Veterinary and Phytosanitary Policy was opened to negotiations.
November 9	2010 Regular Progress Report on Turkey was published.
2011	
June 8	Ministry for EU Affairs was established.
July 12	National Agency affiliated with the Ministry for EU Affairs.
October 12	2011 Regular Progress Report on Turkey was published.
October 12	Positive Agenda, which aims to launch a new virtuous circle in the accession process and to enable a more constructive and positive relationship, was pronounced (Enlargement Strategy Paper 2011-2012)
2012	
April 12	120 th meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Committee was held in Brussels.
June 22	50 th meeting of the Turkey-EU Association Council was held in Brussels.
October 10	2012 Regular Progress Report on Turkey was published.
2013	
April 12	121 st meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Committee was held in Brussels.
May 27	51 st meeting of the Turkey-EU Association Council was held in Brussels.
October 16	2013 Regular Progress Report on Turkey was published.
November 5	Chapter 22: Regional Policy and Coordination of Structural instruments was opened to negotiations.
December 16	Turkey and the European Union have launched a dialogue on visa liberalisation and signed the Readmission Agreement
December 26	H.E Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu took over the office of Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator from H.E. Egemen Bağış
2014	
April 15	122 nd meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Committee was held in Brussels.
June 23	52 nd meeting of the Turkey-EU Association Council was held in Luxembourg.
August 29	Ambassador H.E. Volkan Bozkır took over the office of Minister for EU Affairs and Chief Negotiator from H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu.
September 18	Turkey's New European Union Strategy was announced.
October 8	2014 Regular Progress Report on Turkey was published.
October 16	Turkey's New EU Communication Strategy was announced.
October 30	Turkey's National Action Plan for the EU Accession- Phase-I (November 2014-

	June 2015) was announced.
December 1	Turkey's National Action Plan for the EU Accession- Phase-II (June 2015- June 2019) was announced.
December 21	Antalya Office of Ministry for EU Affairs was opened.
2015	
February 19	İzmir Office of Ministry for EU Affairs was opened.
April 30	123 rd meeting of the EU-Turkey Association Committee was held in Brussels.
May 18	53 rd meeting of the Turkey-EU Association Council was held in Brussels.