



Statement regarding Relations between Turkey and the United States

Turkey and the United States are important allies. Over many decades, a strong partnership has been built between government and military leaders. The U.S. and Turkey have the two largest armies in NATO and have served shoulder-to-shoulder numerous times, including in Korea, Afghanistan, Kosovo, and Bosnia. Our countries are working together in the global fight against terror, and Turkey has stood as a pillar of stability throughout years of upheaval in the Middle East.

The bond between our two nations serves us all. As such, it is critical that a solution be found to break the deadlock that has resulted from escalating diplomatic strain.

While the security and geopolitical implications of our transnational relationship have been well examined both before and during the recent heightening of tensions, an area receiving less focus is that of our longstanding, mutually beneficial economic and business ties.

The committed partnership between our two nations has meant that the U.S. is now the second largest investor in Turkey and, in turn, the level of exports from American businesses to Turkish consumers has increased from \$3 billion to \$12 billion in the past decade, helping to create American jobs. There are also now 1,400 American corporations doing business in Turkey, many using Turkey as their regional headquarters for operations in Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Central Asia, the Middle East, and Africa.

Continuing to foster this relationship supports the economic stability and future prosperity of both countries.

It is time for greater cooperation and understanding, not conflict and rash diplomatic action. As representatives of the top Turkish corporations, heads of industry, and those leading investment flow between the U.S. and Turkey, we call on the governments of Turkey and America to enter into discussions to reach a meaningful resolution to the existing differences – so that neither of our peoples or economies suffer.

We strongly believe in a collaborative, harmonious relationship between Turkey and the U.S.

Turkey-U.S. Business Council (TAİK)

