 REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

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The Republic of TÜRKİYE

Türkiye is the bridge between Europe and Asia, home to more than 85 million people and the heir to civilizations from the Hittites and Byzantium to the Ottoman Empire, which ruled three continents for six centuries. Founded in 1923 by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the modern Republic built a secular, democratic state from the ruins of the empire. Türkiye has been a NATO member since 1952 and fields the Alliance's second-largest army; in July 2026 Ankara proudly hosted the NATO Summit. Our sovereignty over the Bosphorus and Dardanelles makes us the Black Sea's gatekeeper, and our defense sector, driven by world-class Bayraktar drones, now exports to dozens of countries. We are a G20 economy and a global leader in humanitarian relief, and we have hosted the world's largest refugee population. From Istanbul's Hagia Sophia to Turkish coffee, a UNESCO-listed tradition, our hospitality culture is well-known around the world.

Critical Foreign Policy Issues

- A stable Syria and an end to terrorism
  - Türkiye insists on Syria's territorial integrity and the full integration of the SDF/YPG into the Syrian national army, as agreed upon in March 2025. Following the PKK's agreement to disband, our 2026 law established a committee to check disarmament, and we will see it through. We will fund reconstruction, ensure the safe return of Syrian refugees, and push partners to end all support and financing for armed organizations.
- Peace and reconstruction in Gaza
  - Türkiye demands that the October 2025 ceasefire be fully respected and that a two-state solution be established on 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as Palestine's capital. As a ceasefire guarantor, we stand ready to contribute troops to an International Stabilization Force and to lead reconstruction. We urge the international community to guarantee unrestricted humanitarian access.
- A just peace in Ukraine and a secure Black Sea
  - Türkiye supports Ukraine's sovereignty and will keep its doors open for negotiations, as we did by hosting the 2025 Istanbul talks. We will enforce the Montreux Convention strictly to keep the Black Sea from becoming a wider battlefield, and we offer our navy to help secure grain and commercial shipping.
- A stronger NATO with Türkiye at its core
  - Türkiye is committed to NATO's goal of 5% of GDP on defense by 2035 and will host a new NATO multinational corps near Adana. We will contribute air and missile defense, drones, and space surveillance. We call on the United States to lift CAATSA sanctions and readmit Türkiye to the F-35 program, and on the EU to include Türkiye in European defense plans.
- EU membership, Cyprus, and the Eastern Mediterranean
  - Türkiye remains committed to EU membership and seeks a modernized Customs Union and visa liberalization. On Cyprus, a fair settlement must recognize the realities on the island, including two equal states, and the rights of Turkish Cypriots to the island's offshore resources. We propose a regional energy conference to settle Eastern Mediterranean disputes through dialogue, not unilateral action.