

TISK *information*

SEPTEMBER 2016 / VOL. 36 / NO: 3

Viewpoint



We are determined to live in a democratic society

The Turkish people's reaction to the failed July 15, 2016 coup attempt has clearly proven that democracy is an indispensable way of life for our country. Our citizens played a significant role that night, showing heroic resistance to the pro-coup soldiers at the occupied buildings of media organizations, on blocked bridges, and at critical junctures in major cities. Thanks to the heroic stance of Turkish citizens from different ideological backgrounds, the efficient response of police and military forces, and the unity of political parties, numerous NGOs, and business industries, the coup attempt was successfully suppressed within hours of its beginning.

In the following days, our citizens reinforced their belief in democracy by gathering nightly in symbolic squares in all 81 Turkish provinces. These clear affirmations of democracy and unity culminated with a historic anti-coup rally on August 7, 2016 at Yenikapı, İstanbul, highlighted by millions of Turkish citizens carrying Turkish flags. Our Confederation participated these events with all of our domestic and international resources.

After successfully passing what can be considered a harsh democracy exam, it is time to look forward and prepare our country for a number of subsequent economic exams which we will also need to pass in order to become a highly-developed country in terms of output, employment, technology, and all the other characteristics indicative of such a title. As Turkish employers we are convinced that with our vast natural, geographical, and human potential, we can create not only a democratic society, but an affluent one.

xxx

The failed coup attempt of July 15 has increased our hope and optimism for the future of our country and economy. However, the loss of our Honorary President, Refik Baydur, on September 17, 2016 in İstanbul reminds us again that in this world, sadness and joy always go hand in hand.

After serving our Confederation as a Governing Body Member and as Vice President from 1964 - 1989, Refik Baydur became our President and held that title for 15 years, from 1989 until 2001. During his years in office and afterwards, he played a pioneering role in developing peaceful industrial relations as well as social dialogue and cooperation within Turkey. We will never forget his contributions to our Confederation and the working life of our country.

**President
Yağız EYÜBOĞLU**

DEMOCRACY WINS

The coup attempt on the night of July 15th, 2016 which involved the illegal structure within public institutions was successfully stopped by the public's and state's common will and effort within 24 hours. It is pleasing to see that Turkish economy was not affected by this attempt. Public peace was established rapidly. Public institutions and private sector continued their routine activities without any serious interruption.

TISK published a press release on the night of 15 July 2016 and condemned the attempt, by emphasizing the essentiality of democracy for Turkey.

TISK President Yağız Eyüboğlu and TISK Representatives payed visits to President of Republic Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Turkish Grand National Assembly İsmail Kahraman and Chief of General Staff General Hulusi Akar.

TISK was one of the 538 NGO's which published a Joint Declaration to condemn the attempt.

A full page advertisement was published with the heading of "Democracy is Essential" in Hürriyet Newspaper on behalf of TISK and 21 member associations on July 22nd, 2016.

TISK Secretary General Bülent Pirlir delivered a speech in High Level Economy Dialogue Meeting with international investors who also presented a common message to President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

TISK sent a letter (placed in the following page) to 189 employer confederations from all over the world in order to inform them on recent developments in Turkey.

TISK was also represented by our Vice-President Erol Kiresepi in "The Democracy and Martyrs' Rally" which was held in İstanbul on 7 August 2016 with the participation of about 5 million people. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım, Opposition Party Leaders Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu and Devlet Bahçeli and Chief of General Staff General Hulusi Akar delivered speeches in the Rally.



7 August 2016 - The Democracy and Martyrs Rally, Yenikapı - İstanbul

TİSK Letter to International Counterparts and Employer Organisations

Tisk sent the following letter on 3rd August 2016 to international counterparts and 189 employer confederations from all over the world in order to inform them on recent developments in Turkey:

Turkey gained a great victory for Democracy on the night of the July 15th, 2016 with the common will and effort of all segments of the society and political parties. Unlike any other coup which Turkey faced during the fifty years of the Republic, the attempt involved only part of the armed forces acting outside the regular chain of command while orchestrators of the attempt as a religious sect were highly under cover within public administration, Turkish army, civil society and even in universities and various NGOs. Our Country is taking all the necessary legal measures allowed by the Turkish legislation to bring the perpetrators before the justice and now it is time to look ahead.

The coup attempt which deeply saddened and surprised us failed, thanks to the mobilisation of all Turkish society with our people, political leaders and institutions. But it has at the same time strengthened the reform process as well as the will on increasing democratic standards and the rule of law.

As TİSK we have always expressed our allegiance to democracy which is the most fundamental principle of the Turkish Republic. In this respect, today we reiterate our commitment towards creating a country which has all the attributes of modern societies in terms of democracy, rule of law, human rights and economic welfare.

Turkey is a country aiming at EU standards as well as undertaking accession negotiations with the EU. Also, Turkey is amongst the key actors of the Transatlantic area, G20, OECD and NATO. Having the 18th largest economy in the world, Turkey has demonstrated a strong resilience and growth performance despite the global crisis of the recent period. Diversity of the economy and industry, business model that is integrated with the world, stability of public finances, strong banking system, dynamic entrepreneurs and successful business world, young and educated population have been the fundamental components of our economic assets and will continue to be so.

Turkey is currently housing more than three million refugees as well as managing the social and economic consequences of the Syrian immigration. In the period ahead, with the contributions of incentives and reforms towards a stronger economy, Turkish economy's place within the world will be further consolidated.

The history of the Republic of Turkey rises upon centuries and strongest civilisations of the world. Turkey and its people have always managed to go through difficult times with peacefulness, pluralism and the ability to embrace different cultures.

Turkey has a strategic importance in political, geopolitical and economic spheres of the world and in that regard, stability and success of Turkey has an indispensable importance for the global stability.

We, as Members of TİSK with our faith in our Country's future will continue to produce and firmly embrace our investments. We are sure that together with the confidence of our friends, Turkey will overcome this process even stronger.

Ankara, 01.08.2016

Obituary

TİSK Honorary President Refik Baydur (1929-2016)

We are in deep sorrow of losing our Honorary President Refik Baydur who passed away on 18 September 2016 in İstanbul.



After serving our Confederation as a Governing Body Member and the Vice President during the 1964-1989 period, he became our President and held this title for 15 years from 1989 until 2001. He was also the President of TİSK member Chemicals, Petroleum, Rubber and Plastics Industry Employers' Association (KİPLAS) from 1977 until the end of his life.

Both during his office years and in the following period, he played a pioneering role to develop peaceful industrial relations and social dialogue and cooperation Turkey.

We will never forget his contributions to our Confederation and the working life of our country.

We present our heart-felt condolences to his family, close friends and colleagues, Employers' community and the stakeholders of industrial relations.

Arthur Betz Laffer: “Turkish economy is in a very good condition”



Famous American economist Arthur Betz Laffer who is known as the “father of supply-side economy” delivered a speech at the ‘Fiscal Policy: Basic Force of Turkey’s Macroeconomic Success Story’ seminar which was arranged by the Turkey US Business Council (TAİK), operating under the umbrella of the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey (DEİK).

By praising the Turkish economy’s extraordinarily good condition, Laffer said “if you want to see a bad economy, come to US and see how we ruined our economy. Your income and corporation taxes, monetary and privization policies are important. I applaud you and if you continue to act like this, I hope you will enhance your welfare. If the US had Turkish corporation income tax system, it would hit the top on welfare”. In his speech, Laffer also drew attention to the importance of relations between the US and Turkey.

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Head Office : Hoşdere Cad. Reşat Nuri Sok.
No: 108 06540 Çankaya / Ankara - TURKEY
Tel : (+90.312) 439 77 17 (pbx)
Fax : (+90.312) 439 75 92-94
URL : <http://www.tisk.org.tr>
E-Mail : tisk@tisk.org.tr
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Secretary-General of TİSK Bülent PİRLER

Editor-in Chief of the Periodical
“İŞVEREN” Bülent PİRLER

Editor-in Chief of “TİSK
INFORMATION” A. Ferhat İLTER

Design by MEDYATIME
Head Office : Çetin Emeç Bulvarı 1322 Caddesi
64/6 A.Öveçler / ANKARA
Tel : (+90.312) 472 86 12 - 23
Fax : (+90.312) 472 86 23

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Tel : (+90.312) 278 82 00
Fax : (+90.312) 278 82 30

Turkey's New Agenda: Structural Economic Reforms

The Turkish Government is carrying out a rapid structural reform programme. In August legislative regulations were adopted that aim at improving the investment climate. New rules will ease the establishing and closing down companies are part of the structural reform programme. Two important instruments that provide saving increment and cheap financing to long term investments step in. One of them is "Automatic Participation Individual Retirement System" which is the second part of public social security system and the other one is "Wealth Fund of Turkey" which creates resource to large infrastructural investments. Besides them, new regulations for R&D (research and development) reform were adopted. Patent Law draft will also be presented to the Parliament.

Generous Incentives for Foreign Investors

Incentive system is being renovated by the Government to enhance Turkish economy's production and export capacity and industrial production, especially boost the technologic structure.

Incentive system will be flexible. %100 of the corporation income tax exception to the investor according to economy's need on different levels, stoppage support for the income tax, exemption of custom tariffs, undertaking employees' insurance charges by the Government, subsidizing certain qualified employees' salary, giving residence permit and "Turquoise Card" to the qualified foreign investment and foreign personnel, providing free terrain, meeting %50 of energy costs by the Government, capital partnership subsidiary up to the %49 are among the measures in the new package.

New Investment Programme for Turkey's Eastern and Southeastern regions

The Turkish Government has outlined a massive investment package to terror-hit eastern and southeastern regions by creating zones in 23 cities



in the hopes of addressing the socio-economic root causes of militancy and reducing the economic disparity level between the eastern and western parts of the country.

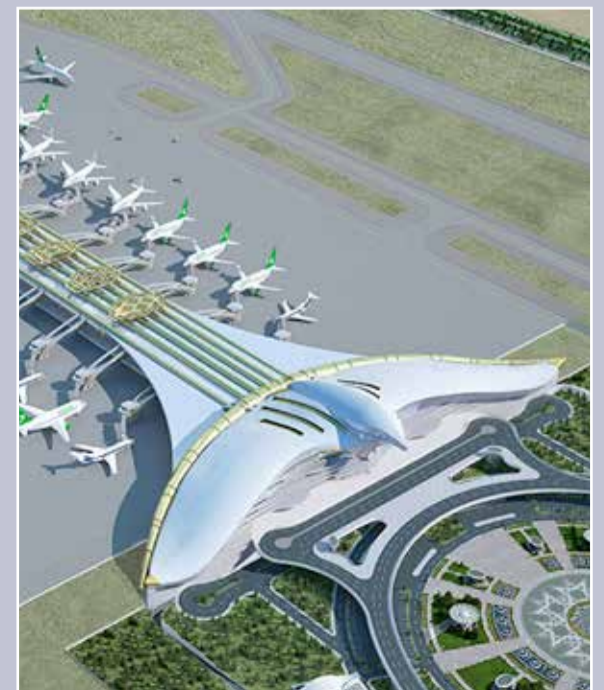
"We are here to fairly share the resources of the country as equal citizens. We are here to reduce the regional development disparity to a minimum level. We are here for investment, production and jobs. We are here for justice, peace, welfare, comfort, democracy and the rule of law" Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım said as he revealed his government's investment package for the region in Diyarbakır on September 4.

"We are here to fairly share the resources of the country as equal citizens. We are here to reduce the regional development disparity to a minimum level. We are here for investment, production and jobs. We are here for justice, peace, welfare, comfort, democracy and the rule of law" Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım said as he revealed his government's investment package for the region in Diyarbakır on September 4.

Turkish contractors keep their 2nd rank in the World

Turkey again took the second place after China in terms of the number of contracting companies building the largest volume of projects across the world outside their home countries for the ninth year in a row, according to the latest list of the world's "top 250 contractors" by Engineering News Record (ENR) magazine, with 40 companies on the list.

Turkey came just after China, which topped the list with 65 companies. The United States followed Turkey with 39 companies on the list, which ranks the 250 largest world construction contractors, both publicly- and privately-held, based on general construction contracting export revenue generated from projects outside each firm's respective home country.



Ashgabat International Airport that was built by a Turkish firm

Government determined to attract more FDI, improve investment climate

Prime Minister Binali Yıldırım announced the details of a planned economic package to lure more foreign capital and improve Turkey's investment climate in a speech on July 5th.

"We are talking about a comprehensive economic package which touches each part of society and eases life for investors," he said, noting that the package being prepared includes radical reforms in a bid to lure more investments.

"There will be regulations that will decrease the stamp tax and other costs for investors. In contracts, the stamp tax and the notary fee will be charged for only one copy. This is of great importance for potential investors as we will be ceasing to execute a 52-year-old practice which raises costs for investors," he said.

Yıldırım noted that any foreign company would be exempted from corporate taxes if it sets up its regional management hub in Turkey, adding that the regional hub staff's wages would also be exempted from taxes if transferred from abroad.

"We also want to encourage Turkish citizens living abroad to bring their assets back to the country under the sole condition that this cash will not be illicit money," said Yıldırım.

Yıldırım noted that the establishment or the closing of businesses would also be facilitated.

"We will also renew the economic incentive system by making some incentives permanent. In addition to region-based incentives, we will also launch new incentives based on projects," he noted.

CSRforALL Awareness Raising Seminar for Companies



The “Awareness Raising Seminar for Companies” event which was one of the planned activities within the second period covering the 2015-2016 period of the your-year long Corporate Social Responsibility for ALL Project which began with the EU-IPA Civil Society Facility 2011-2012: Multi Stakeholder Partnership for Civil Society Organizations and run by the Leadership of TİSK together with partnership of national employer organizations of South Eastern European Countries (Macedonia, Croatia, Romania, Montenegro, Serbia, Bulgaria) along with associate partners the Azerbaijan Employers Confederation (ASK) and the International Organization of Employers (IOE), was held on September 2nd in

İstanbul with the hospitality of the TİSK Member, Cement Industry Employers Association.

In the Seminar which started with the opening remarks of Ferhat İlder, Deputy Secretary General of TİSK, staff from TİSK and TİSK’s member employer associations who attended the National Task Force and Formator trainings have delivered presentations regarding sustainability training as the main topic which the Project focused within its second period. During the first panel of the Seminar, Ali Gizer also presented the Sustainability Reporting Country Research which was prepared with the support of the SUCSR Company.

Following the first panel covering issues such as sustainability reporting, regulations on reporting, national, international and sectoral approaches in addition to benefits of reporting for companies, during the second panel, Çimsa Corporate Relations Manager Burcu Türkay, Borusan Lean 6 Sigma Project Manager Ayşe Yeşer Balmumcu, Garanti Bankası Sustainability Manager Ceren Solak Yılmaz, as best practice examples on sustainability reporting have provided insights on reporting, challenges they faced and shared their recommendations for companies planning to start reporting activities.

Turkey grows %3,1 in the second quarter

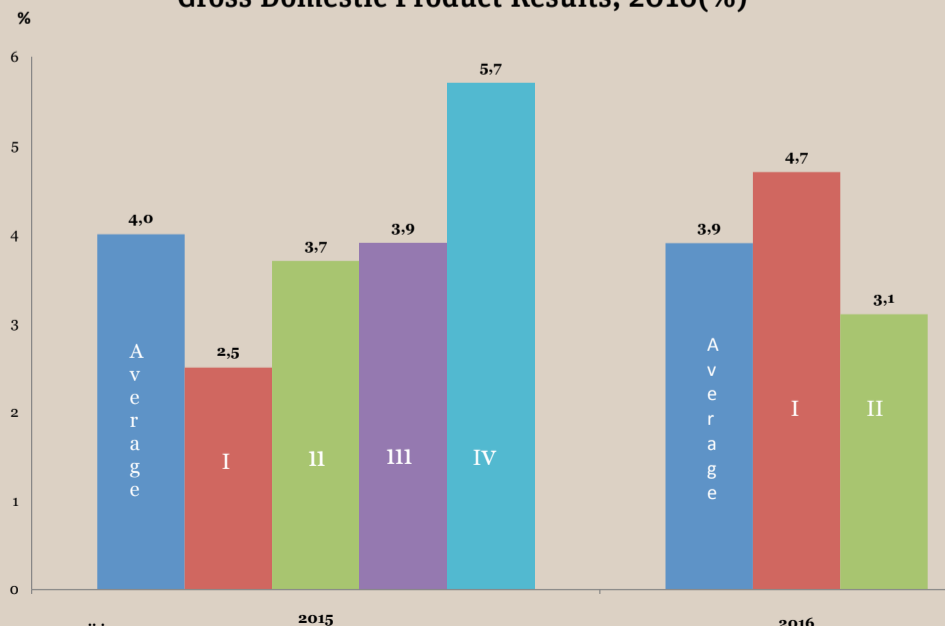
According to TÜİK Turkish economy grew by %3,1 in the second quarter of 2016.

Growth rate was declared as %3,9 for industrial sector and %3,6 for tertiary sector for the same period.

Household consumption expenditures show a strong increase at the rate of %5,2 in the second quarter which covers April, May and June.

In 2015, Turkish economy grew by %4, and a similar growth rate is expected for 2016. When compared with other developed countries and emerging market economies, Turkey shows a relatively better growth performance in recent years.

Gross Domestic Product Results, 2016(%)



Source: TÜİK, 2016

Turkey in pursuit of \$24 billion foreign investment



More than 150 new investment projects, with a total value of \$24 billion, are testament to investors’ commitment in Turkey in the aftermath of the July 15 failed coup attempt, the president of the Investment Support and Promotion Agency (ISPAT) said on Aug. 11.

“The response we got from all the investors was that they will continue. We are closely following 158 projects now with a value of \$24 billion. But, regardless of their outcome, which is not determined yet, they all will proceed, he said.

Ermut also said he was surprised by the positive feedback from international investors following the failed coup plot.

National Programme to Fight with Child Labour

Preliminary meeting that aims to prepare the “National Campaign Programme Against Child Labour” for 2016-2023 period by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and General Directorate of Labour was held on 17-18 August 2016 in Ankara.

The Programme in question is prepared on the basis of the ILO Convention no.182 and the “National Policy and Programme Framework to Present Child Labour over Time” document which was prepared and applied the Ministry of Labour

and Social Security with the collaboration of all related organisations it was pointed out that this time such a collaboration is also important.

During the meeting, the draft of the action plan prepared by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security was examined and the proposals of related organisations were also planned for the October, November and December 2016 period during which the Programme will be further examined and finally adapted by the end of the year.

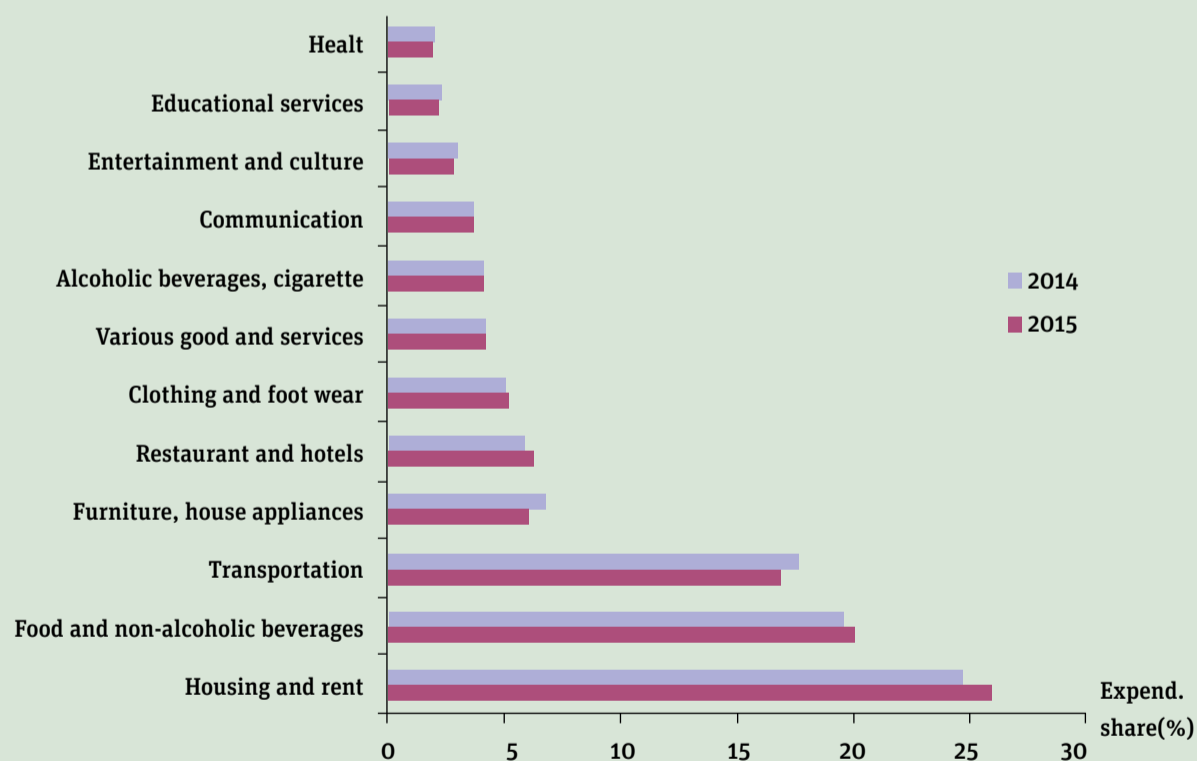
Household Consumption Expenditures

In Turkey, households allocated the highest share of their income to housing and rent expenditures in 2015, official data from the Turkish Statistics Institute (TUIK) showed on 1 August.

According to the survey results; while the expenditures on housing and rent had the highest share in total consumption expenditures with a rate of 26%, the share of expenditures on food and non-alcoholic beverages was 20.2% in overall Turkey.

The monthly average consumption expenditure per household for Turkey was estimated as 2 thousand 848 TL in 2014. It was estimated as 3 thousand 43 TL in 2015.

Distribution of consumption expenditures of households by expenditure types, 2014-2015



Source: TurkStat, Household Consumption Expenditures, 2015

The results show that the share of food expenditures of households with lower income was twice more than that of households with higher income. Also the share of educational services expenditures was 0.4% for households in the first quintile while it was 3.9% for households in the fifth quintile.

8.7% of total consumption expenditure made by households in the first income quintile and 38.5% of total expenditure made by households in the last income quintile. While food expenditures of households in the first income quintile was 13% of total food expenditures. The same ratio was 27.8% for the fifth quintile.

Educational services expenditures of households in the first income quintile was 1.6% of total educational services expenditures. Same percentage for households in the fifth quintile is 68.9%. The share of transportation expenditures of households in the first quintile was 4.2% of total transportation expenditures and it was 47.5% for the fifth quintile.

The New Individual Retirement System



The Individual Retirement Saving and Investment System came into force in Turkey in 2001. The system was planned as a special individual retirement system that provides opportunities to increase on individuals' welfare level with a second retirement income, generate new employment opportunities by creating additional resource, enhance long term funds in the financial sector and creates market deepening. Continuous improvements like government grant had been made during system's 15 years of existence.

Lastly, Law No: 6740 which contains provisions about which give public and private sector employees under 45 years of age to the right to automatically join the system through the agency of their employers was adopted by Grand National Assembly of Turkey in August 2016. Individual retirement system which had been based on voluntariness will be based on automatic participation from 2017 onwards. With this new system that will allow the creation of individual retirement plans at workplace levels, it is aimed to enlarge the individual retirement system, to increase national savings in Turkey and provide a higher welfare level for employees.

According to the new provisions of the new Law; employees will be automatically included into the retirement plans which are organized by employers in compliance with its provisions of law, employee contribution will be %3 of the base income declared to the social security institution, contributions will be transferred to the pension company by employers, employees will be able to exit within 2 months, employees will get state subsidy at the rate of %25 of their contributions and they will also get a 1000 TL state subsidy for once if they prefer to stay in the system.

Angela Merkel: “There is a special connection between Germany and Turkey”



“There is a special connection between Germany and Turkey. This will remain so. Turkey is an important partner as a NATO member. It is important for the solution of conflicts,” German Chancellor Angela Merkel told a network of German media outlets on Aug. 18, particularly referring to the ongoing Syrian crisis.

“I am thinking especially of the drama that is going on in Syria. Turkey took in 3 million Syrian refugees. This is a great achievement. This makes it the country that has made the greatest contribution to the solution of the humanitarian catastrophe in Syria,” she added.

“What makes the German-Turkish relationship special is that more than 3 million people of Turkish origin live in Germany,” Merkel added.

Chancellor Merkel also said during the Italian-German-French summit which took place on an Italian aircraft carrier off the island of Ventotene on Aug. 21 that a cooperation with Turkey within the scope of the European Union’s migrant deal was right and without that deal the bloc would not be able to fight human smugglers.

“The coast guard alone cannot control maritime borders; we have to still do more. The cooperation with Turkey on migrants is right, otherwise we cannot win the fight against smugglers”, she added.

More recently, Merkel said in a televised interview broadcast on August 28 that “I believe it is right and important to condemn the coup. The Turkish government also rightfully expects this. Imagine if we were here in the area of the German Federal Parliament and our own army bombards us”

She also stressed the importance of regularly coming together with Turkish officials.

Michael Roth: “EU- Turkey talks won’t stop”

On the other hand, Michael Roth, Germany’s State Minister for EU Affairs, said during a visit to Ankara on August 25 that “Negotiations between Turkey and the European Union will continue and difficulties over the visa waiver for Turkish nationals will be resolved. Conditions to be fulfilled for the visa exemption have been definite for a long time. The last remaining issues must be resolved. I am of the opinion that both parties will continue to work for granting a visa exemption to Turkish nationals.”

New Phase in Turkey-Russia Relations

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin who met in St.Petersburg on August 9, 2016 for the first time since the downing of a Russian jet in Turkey last year, have decided to start restoring seriously strained relations since then.

A number of key decisions were taken in this meeting, but the implementations of these decisions will take some time. New committees have been formed between the related ministries from both countries to run this process.

The relations were planned to get even better than they were before last November when the crisis erupted between the two countries. In this connection, Turkey and Russia are expected to reach \$100 bn trade target by 2019 or 2020 if the normalisation trend could be kept on track.

The creation of a Turkish-Russian Fund is also expected to fuel economic relations between the two countries.

Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev signed a decree on 28 August 2016 that lifts the ban on charter air transportation between Russia and Turkey.

Russia’s move has been highly praised by Turkish tourism representatives, as they believed that they can recover some 15 percent of their losses in the Russian market after the flights begin.

The number of Russian tourists visiting Turkey, which hit 4.5 million in 2014, saw a dramatic drop in the last two years due to the economic problems in Russia and then the diplomatic crisis between the two countries.



The normalization of relations with Russia, would also help to improve investment levels. Investments from Russia fell following the downing of a Russian fighter last November. Normally, Turkey has attracted around \$700 million to \$900 million worth of foreign direct investment per year from Russia over the last five years. “However, the jet crisis impacted investments from Russia. Now, with the normalization process, the foreign direct investment volume is not only expected to return to old levels but to be boosted to over \$1 billion per year.” Normalizing relations with Russia will also contribute to Turkey’s foreign investment attraction because our relations with one more country got better and investors see this as an advantage.

On the other hand, the Economy Minister Nihat Zeybekçi said on 31 August 2016 that Turkey and Russia are exploring the option of using each other’s local currencies in their respective countries. Speaking at the Turkish-Russian Media Forum, Zeybekci said technical negotiations over the utilization of local currencies in trade between the two countries were progressing between the central banks of both countries, adding that the use of local currencies in tourism was one of the goals they were trying to achieve. “Our goal is to have Russian citizens visiting Turkey, Antalya, pay in rubles and also let Turkish tourists visiting Russia pay in Turkish liras,” he added.

The following day, Russia announced that it is lifting restrictions on study abroad in Turkey.

During the G20 summit in China, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Russian President Putin discussed the Syrian crisis and the issue of restoring the suspended Turkish Stream gas pipeline project in a meeting on 3rd September 2016. “They talked for quite a long time, both in the format of the delegations meeting and one-on-one plus the foreign ministers. They exchanged views on the Syrian issue. The conversation was quite frank and thorough,” Russian presidential spokesperson said.

Concerts & Exhibitions

Belcanto The Luciano Pavarotti Heritage

December 17-18, 2016 17:00
Volkswagen Arena, İstanbul



Belcanto The Luciano Pavarotti Heritage Show will take place on 17-18 December 2016 at Volkswagen Arena in İstanbul.

The show uses six different thematic areas to trace the key stages that marked the history of the Italian bel canto:

1. The origins of bel canto, from Renaissance to Baroque
2. The Opera Buffa in the Italian and European eighteenth century
3. Giuseppe Verdi
4. Giacomo Puccini
5. The Neapolitan Song
6. The bel canto in the world

The theater audience will be conducted on an imaginary journey that starts from the Florence of Lorenzo De'Medici and the Venice of Claudio Monteverdi, to arrive in London with Freddie Mercury and Queen, passing through the great composers of the opera repertoire, the Austrian and French operettas, the Anglo-American musical, up to pop and rock.

Fire of Anatolia

October 18, 2016 21:15
Aspendos Arena, Antalya

A synthesis of hundreds of folk dances and music from different regions, Fire of Anatolia is a unique project whose source is Anatolia's ancient mythological and cultural history. Produced by Mustafa Erdoğan, the group hopes to introduce the World to the fire that arises from the ancient Anatolian mosaic of love, cultural history and peace. Fire of Anatolia, which is regarded as one of the world's best dance groups, thanks to countless international tours, has taken great steps in realizing this goal.



Fazıl Say Concert

October 09, 2016 19:00
Congresium Ankara, Ankara



With his extraordinary pianistic talents, Fazıl Say has been touching audiences and critics alike for more than twenty-five years, in a way that

has become rare in the increasingly materialistic and elaborately organised classical music world. Concerts with this artist are something different. They are more direct, more open, more exciting; in short, they go straight to the heart. Which is exactly what the composer Aribert Reimann thought in 1986 when, during a visit to Ankara, he had the opportunity, more or less by chance, to appreciate the playing of the sixteen-year-old pianist. He immediately asked the American pianist David Levine, who was accompanying him on the trip, to come to the city's conservatory, using the now much-quoted words: 'You absolutely must hear him, this boy plays like a devil.' Fazıl Say will meet his audiences with "Sait Faik" at Congresium Ankara on October 9, 2016.

26th Akbank Jazz Festival

October 12-23, 2016

One of the oldest festivals in Turkey, Akbank Jazz Festival, celebrates its 26th anniversary this year. Dating back to 1991, the Festival has remained a meeting point of good and new music, opening a space for various musical styles from jazz to blues, from electronic to world music for many years.

Through years, highly reputable jazz artists, such as Cecil Taylor, Archie Shepp, McCoy Tyner, Pharoah Sanders, Jimmy Smith, Enrico Rava, John Scofield & Joe Lovano, Manu Katche and David Sanborn have entertained the Turkish audience, all thanks to this festival, which is now preparing its 26th Show with very special performances. The 26th Akbank Jazz Festival's lineup includes big stars, such as Ron Carter "Golden Striker Trio" and Imany. The festival will offer a wide palette of music colors for İstanbul-based music enthusiasts between October 12 and 23, 2016 while Jazz on Campus concerts will be held in a wide range of Anatolian cities between October 24 and November 4, 2016 as part of the festival. With film screenings featuring jazz,

workshops, panels, Jazz in Campus concerts and many more, the Festival has been a school for many people for everything about jazz.



Bilkent Symphony Orchestra Season Opening Concert

October 8, 2016 20:00
Bilkent Concert Hall, Ankara

Bilkent Symphony Orchestra 2016-2017 Season Opening Concert will be held on October 8, 2016. The Opening Concert will feature conductor Avi Ostrowsky and soprano Mojca Erdmann.

Conductor Avi Ostrowsky has conducted the most prestigious orchestras, such as London Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra of London, BBC Philharmonic Orchestra, Amsterdam Philharmonia Orchestra and Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra amongst many others.

Concert program includes;

- W.A. Mozart Idomeneo, KV.366 "Quando avran fine omai"
- W.A. Mozart Cosi Fan Tutte, KV.588 "Come scoglio"
- W.A. Mozart Cosi Fan Tutte Uvertürü, KV.588
- R. Strauss "Ich wollt ein Strausslein binden", Op. 68
- R. Strauss "Allerseelen", Op.10
- R. Strauss "Standchen", Op.17
- D. Shostakovich Senfoni No.10, Mi minör, Op.93

Phaselis Archaeological Site

Phaselis is an ancient Greek and Roman city on the coast of Lycia. Its ruins are located north of the modern town Tekirova in the Kemer district of Antalya Province in Turkey. It lies between the Bey Mountains and the forests of Olympos National Park.

The city was settled by the Rhodians in the 7th century B.C. and for many years was claimed to be the most important port city of the eastern Lycian seaboard.

In BC 333 to welcome Alexander the Great with golden crown is one of the most colorful pages in the history of the city. Phaselis, after changing hands several times after Alexander, in BC 167, became a member of the Lycian Union and printed union coins. After exposure to plundering of pirates with the neighboring city of Olympos for a period of time, in BC 43 it came under the domination of Roma, it was said that in this period reconstruction in the ancient city of Phaselis was made by Rhodesian colonists on a small peninsula extending into the Mediterranean in BC 7th century. Its geographic location indicates that it was an important port city. It has three ports, one is in the north of the peninsula, other is in northeast and other in in the southwest coast. Ports, the agora and the description of the ships on the coins emphasize the commercial port city identity of Phaselis. Phaselis is sometimes presented as a city of Lycia, sometimes of Pamphylia. It is actually located between the borders of both regions. City was under the domination of Persians in BC 4th century, Satrap of Caria Mausoleum and finally neighboring city Limyra King Pericles respectively.

The city was visited by Emperor Hadrian in 129. Single arc monumental arch at the entrance to the main street starting from the southern port was erected in the memory of this visit. 5th and 6th centuries are centuries of Byzantine, Phaselis was

among the cities participating in the Kadikoy Consul in 451. After the Arab invasions in 7th century, in 8th century a new period of prosperity began. Phaselis, after the Seljuk siege in 1158 and earthquakes and of both the harbor, lost its importance and functionality and completely abandoned from the beginning of 13th century. Today a majority of Roman and Byzantine ruins were reached. They are located on the main street constituting the main axis of the city and connecting the North and South ports on both sides. Street creates a small square between the theater and the agora by expanding

Steps in the southeast corner of the square provides access to the theater and the acropolis. Theatre is a small typical Hellenistic period theatre. During the Roman period, it is understood that a stage building was added, in late Byzantium, stage building partly to protect the city of in the late the wall was the residual part of the new walls. In the right of the curve at entrance of the archeological site the foundation ruins of the ancient city walls (BC 3rd century), remains to be monumental temple or tomb were found. The hillside behind the northern port is the cemetery of the city. The most monumental buildings surviving are aqueducts. The water which the city needs was brought from the source at the northern hill. There are 3 agoras, one is opposite to the theater, the other two in the right of the main street leading to the southern port. In the agora located opposite the theater, the remains of a small basilica from the Byzantine period are found today. The other two important ruins of the city are two hamams at the largest city square one of them is large, the other is small. Especially small hamam provides information about the heating system of the Roman baths. Historians wrote that the city's patron goddess was Athena is the goddess of wisdom and war. The temple of Athena and other important structures have not yet been found and are thought to take place in acropolis covered by forest today.



How to reach Phaselis?

Phaselis ancient city is located north of Tekirova in the Kemer district of Antalya Province in Turkey.

It is located 16 kilometres south of the tourist town of Kemer and on the 57th km. of the Antalya Kumluca highway.

One can reach Phaselis easily by car, bus, plane or yacht. Phaselis is 540 km away from Ankara and 730km away from İstanbul. Turkish Airlines and Pegasus have daily flights to Antalya. The ancient city is 70km away from the airport.

