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Turkey Contact Point

Year: 4 Issue: 5 Feb.25-Mar.8, 2013

NEWS

Turkey and Greece Set To Boost Trade, Investments



With a bilateral trade volume that has jumped by more than 100 percent over the past decade, the two nations on the opposite sides of the Aegean Sea are now looking at taking trade and investments to a higher level. "Turkey and Greece have set the goal to reach USD 10 billion of trade by 2015..",

remarked Turkey's Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan at the Turkey-Greece Business Forum held in Istanbul during Greek Prime Minister Antonis Samaras' day-long visit to the country. Noting that the trade volume between Turkey and Greece has reached USD 5 billion even amidst the financial crisis, Erdogan drew attention to the 25 separate cooperation deals in various sectors signed between the two countries.

Source: The news section of [ISPAT website](#)

[Read the rest of this entry »](#)

Turkey Signs Cooperation Protocol with Islamic Bank

Turkey signed a memorandum of understanding with the Islamic Development Bank (IDB). The MoU was signed by Turkish Economy Minister Zafer Caglayan and Ahmed Mohammed Ali Al-Madani, IDB's president in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The deal seeks to boost trade and investment between Turkey and the members of the Islamic Development Bank.

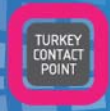
To view the news report, please visit [Ministry of Economy website](#).

Caglayan Meets Saudi Officials

Economy Minister Zafer Caglayan met with Saudi Arabia's Minister of Transport Jubarah bin Eid al-Suraysiri and Minister of Housing Shawaysh bin Saud al-Dhuwayhi. Caglayan was in Riyadh to hold a series of talks and participate in a Turkish-Saudi Arabian Business Forum. Caglayan briefed the Saudi ministers about Turkey's newly introduced incentive system, calling for the investment of Saudi funds which he said had withdrawn from the United States and Europe. Caglayan said Saudi investors were willing to do more business with their Turkish counterparts, adding that a Turkish construction company had recently won a tender to build housing units worth of \$450 million.

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Turkey's Exports to OPEC Members up 74% Year-On-Year

The share of Turkish-made goods and services shipped to the members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in 2012 increased by 72 percent year-on-year, reaching one quarter of the country's overall exports. According to data derived from the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat), 12 OPEC members bought USD 38 billion worth of merchandise from Turkey, making up 25 percent of the country's record-breaking USD 152 billion export total. The same countries received USD 21.8 billion worth of Turkish exports in 2011.

Source: The news section of [ISPAT website](#)

[Read the rest of this entry »](#)

Turkey Leader Again In Regional M&A Activity

The continuing momentum in Turkey's mergers and acquisitions (M&A) market has secured the country the top spot for the second consecutive year in Ernst & Young's M&A Barometer report covering Central and South Eastern Europe. Turkey topped the 11-country region with 297 transactions which created a combined volume of USD 17.9 billion, ranking first both in terms of transaction numbers and total volume. The Czech Republic came a distant second with USD 8.3 billion in the transaction volume category while Poland was second in transaction numbers. With a decline of 18 percent, the whole region's M&A volume total stood at USD 41.8 billion, the financial advisory firm's study revealed.

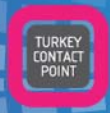
Source: The news section of [ISPAT website](#).

Business Confidence on the Rise in February

Business confidence is on the rise in Turkey's service, retail and construction sectors, a report by the state statistics agency said, fanning hopes that the Turkish economy can regain momentum after a slowdown late last year. The report on February business confidence by the Turkish Statistics Institute (TurkStat) said that confidence in the service sector grew by 5 percent over January, while retail sector confidence grew 9.5 percent and construction sector confidence by 6.1 percent over the previous month. The index is tabulated from a survey of business owners' plans for investment, future staff size and general outlook. The index rose for the second consecutive month after declining each month between August and December of 2012.

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SECTORS

Turkey's Automotive Exports Up In February



Turkey's automotive exports were up by 9.2 percent in February over the same month a year earlier to \$1,787 million, data showed. Exports were up also in the first two months of 2013 by 1.9 percent to \$3,278 million despite a 5.7 percent drop in January due to shrinking European demand. Automotive sector, often praised as "the locomotive" of the Turkish economy, claimed a 15.3 percent share in the country's overall exports for the month of February which totaled \$11.7 billion.

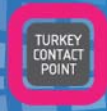
To view the news report, please visit [Ministry of Economy website](#).

Turkey Seeks To Boost Healthcare with New Investment Rules

Turkey has passed new regulations aimed at making private investment in its healthcare sector easier, a move which officials hope could unlock billions of dollars of investment over the next few years. Turkey's private healthcare sector is growing rapidly, with more people taking out private health insurance and long waiting times at state hospitals, but the lack of a clear regulatory framework has been a barrier to foreign investment. Private equity investors favor Turkey's fast growing services industries, including healthcare and education, drawn by a near tripling in nominal per capita GDP over the past decade and its young population of 75 million. Under the new law on public-private partnerships (PPP), the state will rent city hospitals built and run by the private sector for 25 years. The new rules aim to cut red tape and pave the way for government guarantees for international project financing investments of 500 million lira (\$279 million) and above. "The regulation will have a positive impact on the sector as it will remove delays caused by the previous rules and reduce the number of permissions needed," said Tunc Duygun, PPP coordinator for the YDA Insaat construction firm. "Most importantly, the foreign investor will feel more secure," said Duygun, whose company won four tenders to build city hospitals with its Italian partner, privately-held Inso Sistemi Per Le Infrastrutture. Three Turkish hospitals are currently under construction under a PPP framework, while six are in the contract stage, seven in final bids stage and two still awaiting pre-qualification applications. The projects are expected to add 28,000 beds to Turkey's existing 200,000-bed capacity.

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EVENTS

TEXBRIDGE ISTANBUL 2013, March 13-15



TEXBRIDGE ISTANBUL 2013 will be organized in Istanbul, Turkey on March 13-15, 2013. Starting its journey with the aim of connecting the key players of textile industry, TEXBRIDGE ISTANBUL has now become one of the most influential trade fairs in the fields of fabrics, yarn, trimmings and accessories. TEXBRIDGE ISTANBUL will be bringing the leading textile companies with buyers from emerging markets such as the Arabian Gulf, Middle East, Russia, Eastern Europe, Turkic Republics and North Africa.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

WIN Automation Fair, Istanbul, March 21-24



WIN Automation 21-24 March / WIN Metal Working 6-9 June / 2013
Tüyap Fair, Convention and Congress Center, Istanbul

WIN – World of Industry WIN Automation is one of the leading trade fairs for the high-growth Automation, Electrotech, Hydraulic & Pneumatic and Materials Handling sectors. The Fair will be held as between 21 and 24 March 2013 in Istanbul. In 2012, 1744 participant companies from 42

countries had the opportunity to present their products to 75.699 sector professionals coming from 83 different countries over an area of 30.754 m2 at WIN Automation.

For more information about the fair, please visit [its website](#).

Turkish Companies To Participate In Propak, Proplas And Print Expo Africa 2013



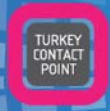
PACKAGING • PROCESSING • PRINTING • PLASTICS

Propak Africa, Proplas Africa and Print Expo Africa 2013 will be organized concurrently in Johannesburg, South Africa on March 12-15, 2013. Turkish National Participation at the events will be organized with the support of Republic of Turkey Ministry of Economy.

Turkish companies operating in the packaging, processing, plastics and printing sectors will be present at the fair.

For more information about the fairs, please visit [Propak Africa](#), [Proplas Africa](#) and [Print Expo Africa](#).





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Find Your Turkish Business Partner

Trade Opportunities

The [Trade Opportunities](#) section of TCP website allows you to view demands, offers and joint venture opportunities from Turkish companies and insert your own demands/offers.

"Trade Opportunities" service aims to help companies find trade partners by allowing registered foreign and Turkish companies insert their own trade offers. The demands/offers from foreign companies are displayed on the Turkish version of TCP website to the attention of Turkish companies, while the demands/offers from Turkish companies are listed on TCP website. Activating the e-mail subscription also enables companies receive all business opportunities related with their demand/offer by the trade alert system.

For your trade inquiries please fill out the web-based "[Trade Information Inquiry Form](#)".

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Trade Opportunities

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