



# TURKEY

on its European path

#EUenlargement

Last updated: 05/2021

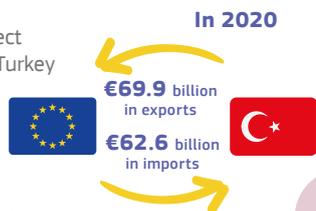
## Key milestones

- 1995**  
Customs Union enters into force
- DECEMBER 1999**  
EU candidate country status granted
- DECEMBER 2004**  
EU decides to open accession negotiations
- DECEMBER 2013**  
Visa liberalisation dialogue launched
- NOVEMBER 2015**  
First EU-Turkey Summit held
- MARCH 2016**  
EU-Turkey Statement
- JUNE 2018**  
The Council noted that Turkey's accession negotiations have effectively come to a standstill and no further chapters can be considered for opening or closing
- MARCH 2019**  
54<sup>th</sup> EU-Turkey Association Council held
- MARCH 2020**  
EU-Turkey Leaders' meeting takes place in Brussels



## Trade & investment

- Turkey is the EU's sixth largest trading partner
- Approximately 42% of Turkish exports go to the EU, while the EU share in Turkish imports stands at 33%
- The EU's Foreign Direct Investment stock in Turkey reached €58.2 billion in 2018



## EU funding

- The EU Facility for Refugees in Turkey provides €6 billion in support of refugees (mostly from Syria) and host communities. An additional €485 million humanitarian funding will extend two flagship programmes launched under the Facility until end 2021.
- Under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance, EU assistance to Turkey amounts to €3.2 billion over seven years (2014-2020) after cuts due to lack of progress on key reforms.
- Another €479.9 million were mobilised over 2014-20 through other instruments (EIDHR, IcSP, HUMA, MADAD, CBC)
- Priority areas of funding are civil society, Union Programmes (e.g. Erasmus+), migration and the rule of law

- Democracy and rule of law
- Environment and climate action, energy, competitiveness and innovation
- Education and employment
- Transport
- Agriculture and rural development



## Mobility & empowerment

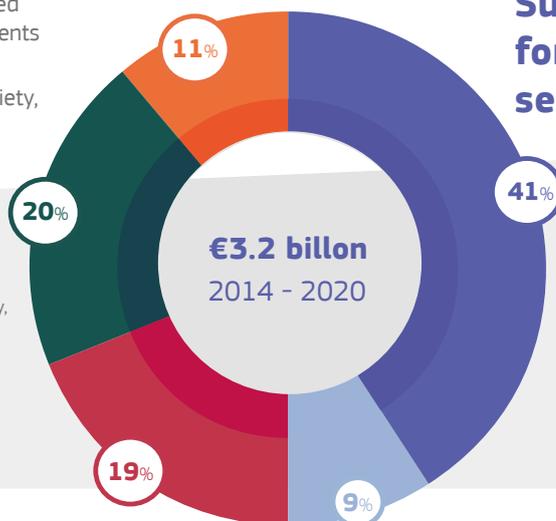
- 11% of EU funding for transport sector from 2014-2020
- In 2004 - 2020: 98,800 higher education students were hosted in countries participating in the ERASMUS+ programme
- In 2004 - 2020: 32,750 higher education students were hosted in Turkey



## Supporting transformation

- Strengthening the rule of law, the judiciary and democracy
- Reforming public administration
- Supporting governance and active citizenship
- Improving transport and energy connections
- Working towards a cleaner environment and safer food supply

## Support for key sectors



## COVID-19 response

€105 million of existing EU funds have been mobilised to assist Turkey in its COVID-19 response under existing financial commitments, for the prevention and treatment of COVID-19 cases and support to the most vulnerable. Other measures include the extension of implementing periods for some projects under IPA and the Facility for Refugees in Turkey, as well as the shipment of two tubes of testing material (sufficient material for 40,000 tests) to two laboratories in Turkey. Furthermore, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism was activated in May 2020 to support Turkey in the repatriation of Turkish citizens stranded in Peru and Colombia.