Quo Vadis, Türkiye?

Ankara's 50 year old 'candidacy' to the EU

Symposium jointly organized by CEPS, ACELG and IKV

12 September 2013

Venue:
CEPS
Place du Congrès 1
1000, Brussels

On 12 September this year, it will be exactly 50 years ago that the official signatures were set to the Treaty of Ankara establishing the Association between Turkey, the European Economic Community and its six Member States. This symposium intends to take stock of and expand on the debates relating to the legal developments under the EU-Turkey Association regime.

The thematic questions in the course of this symposium will be the qualification and proper understanding of the Association regime. Can signs be discerned that show that it starts to lose its 'features' of a transitory regime? Does the legal framework of the Association regime indeed prove to be flexible enough for such a transmutation? What has been the influence of the time factor on rules and principles that, after 50 years, can hardly be said to perform the same function, both legally and politically, that they were intended to have when they were first adopted? To what extent can the Association regime still be regarded as a Treaty with a 'purely economic nature' as was recently suggested by Advocate General Bot in his opinion to the *Ziebell* case before the European Court of Justice? Finally, what future lessons or perspectives might be drawn from the Association regime, in particular when it comes to the current accession process?

By organizing this symposium, the *Amsterdam Centre for European Law and Governance (ACELG)*, the *Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)* and the *Economic Development Foundation/İktisadi Kalkınma Vakfı* (*IKV*) hope to bring together legal scholars, practitioners and policy-makers who are interested in the developments of the EU-Turkey Association regime and their wider implications.

Program

12.00 – 13.00	Arrival and Registration; Lunch
13.00 – 13.10	Introduction and Official Welcome *Prof. Dr. Steven Blockmans – The Centre for European Policy Studies / University of Amsterdam*
13.10 – 13.30	Turkey-EU Customs Union: From a transitional to a definitive framework? *Dr. Ceren Zeynep Pirim – Bahcesehir University of Istanbul* Discussant: *Prof. Dr. Nannette Neuwahl - College of Europe (Natolin)/ University of Montreal*
13.30 – 13.50	Implications of Demirkan for Free Movement of Persons under the EU-Turkey Association Law: Just a beginning or the end? *Narin F. Idriz LLM – Leiden University* Discussant: *Dr. Thomas Vandamme - Amsterdam Centre for European Law and Governance*
13.50 – 14.30	Discussion
14.30 – 15.00	**Coffee break**
15.00 – 15.20	The Objectives of the Association Agreement as interpreted by the European Court of Justice *Prof. Dr. Marc Maresceau – Ghent University*
15.20 - 15.40	The Association and the Accession Process *Dr. Andrea Ott – Maastricht University*
15:40 - 16:00	Discussion
16:00 – 16:20	Future Prospects of the EU-Turkey Relations *His Excellency Mr. Selim Yenel, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey to the EU Institutions*
16:20 - 17:00	Discussion and Closing Remarks by the chair
17:00 – 18:00	Reception

Attendance and Registration

If you wish to attend, please register by using the registration form on the webpage of CEPS.

Participation – including the lunch, coffee break and reception - is free of charge but participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs.