

## FORUM **ISTANBUL**



#forumistanbul2023



# Discover the potential

orum Istanbul Celebrating its 21st anniversary...

It has been 20 years since we as Forum Istanbul, set off with the motto, "Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023", with the aim of making Turkey a leading, powerful country not only in its own region, but also in the global arena by 2023 - a target which marks the 100th anniversary of the Republic's founding. We have now started the final countdown on the 2023 journey which seemed to be a long path once.

As Turkey's longest-running international visionary meeting for 20 years, Forum Istanbul 2023 Conferences, which have addressed the world and Turkey's agenda and evaluated future perspectives, have had the opportunity to share the views of 1298 national and international speakers with the public audience so far. Today, when the world is in a growth trend again, questions about how the future will be shaped by the changes created by the digital world in our lives are at the forefront. Therefore, we believe that it is important to address Turkey's position on the eastwest axis, ways to compete in the digitalizing world, artificial intelligence, sustainable urbanization, and all systems ranging from production to finance, in the light of macroeconomic developments, one until 2023. To discuss all these issues...

#### Let's meet at the Forum Istanbul 2023 Conferences...

**20** 

Years has been past since its establishment

22

Conferences in 20 years

29.999

More than 29 thousand attendees within the years 2002-2021

892

Different speakers

FORUM ISTANBUL BY NUMBERS

2

Presidents honored Forum İstanbul

28

Ministers attended

1.298

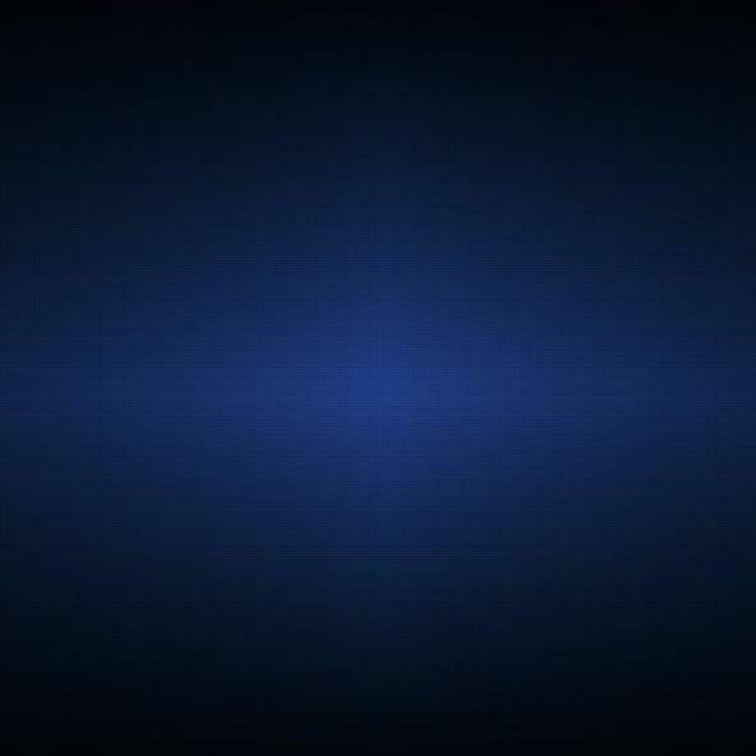
Speakers & Speeches

3

Prime Ministers have been hosted

343

Speakers from abroad



A journey of 20 years on the road to 2023...



#### **Understanding the Future!**

Forum Istanbul 2023 Conferences were broadcast live online once again from Dünya Newspaper's social media platforms which was held on 24-28 May 2021 with the main theme of 'Understanding The Future'.

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Birpinar the Deputy Minister of Environment and Urbanization of the Republic of Turkey, Dr. Omer Fatih Sayan the Deputy Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of the Republic of Turkey, Mehmet Fatih Kaçır the Deputy Minister of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey and İsmail Gülle the President of the Turkish Exporters Assembly, honored Forum İstanbul with their participation.

At the summit; under the titles of 'Our Vital Priority: Climate Crisis and Circular Economy', 'Future Scenarios and Predictions', 'Industry 4.0 Now – Industry 5.0 Tomorrow', 'The Door Opening Turkish Brands to the World: E-Export', 'Digital Transformation: Change with Geometric Speed!', Under the titles of 'Global Trend: Fintech', 'The Future of Smart Cities in the New World Order', 'How Will Digitalized Health Change Our Future?', 'Entrepreneurship: Lifeline to Economy', 'Digitalization of Entertainment: Game', 57 local and foreign opinion leaders tried to paint the picture of the future while describing today's world and Turkey.

"In order to achieve some positive outcomes, it is necessary to go beyond traditional approaches. Since we no longer have unlimited resources, we should care about regenerative development. That's why we have to talk about circularity. After a crisis like Covid-19, we now have to rethink. We need to get out of the pandemic and at the same time adapt to the new world and new economic circular formations."

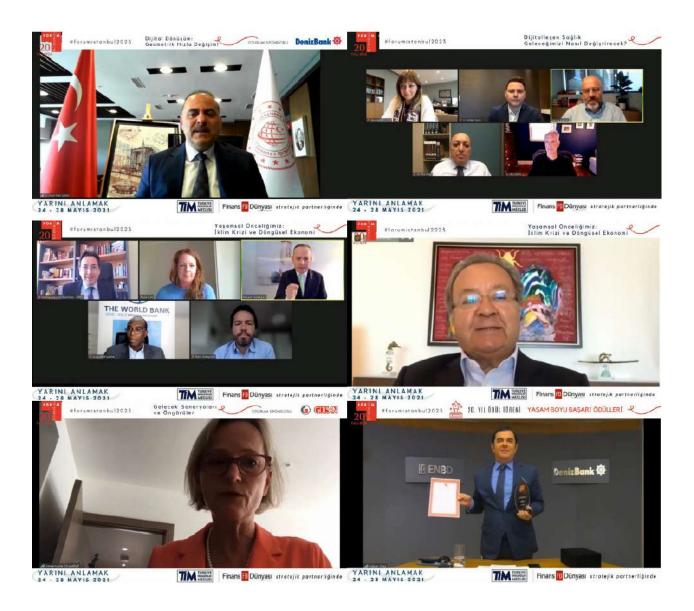
Paula Kirk, ARUP Director of Carbon and Climate Change

"The COVID-19 crisis has been one of the biggest shocks the world has faced. We also saw this crisis in the EBRD region economies where the growth slowed sharply to -7.5 in 2019. Another -1 was added in 2020. Almost all countries experienced a shrinkage in their gross national product. Turkey became the only G20 country outside of China to set a positive record in 2020."

Annemarie Straathof, EBRD Vice President of Risk and Compliance & CRO

"Synthetic biology becomes even more important when it comes to Covid-19. It is of great importance for the development of vaccines, especially in cell-free environments. As you know, vaccines developed by Pfizer derive their origin from synthetic biology. We are proud to be one of the teams involved in the development of this vaccine."

Prof. James J. Collins, MIT Termeer Professor of Medical Engineering and Science





#### Understand Change, Design the Future!

19th Forum Istanbul 2023 Conferences were broadcast live on Dünya Newspaper's social media platforms for the first time in cooperation with Dünya Newspaper, due to the Covid-19 virus outbreak in the world and in our country. The main theme of the conference, which took place on June 1 to 5, 2020, was 'Understand Change, Design the Future'.

Opening the conference, Forum Istanbul President Aclan Acar said, "We are facing a rapid transformation. Change is inevitable. We see real-life reflections of this year's motto and slogan, 'Understand change, design the future' "

At this year's conference, which was attended by prominent speakers from Turkey and around the world, we sought answers to the following questions: 'How to unlock a world under lockdown?; How will our global fight against Covid-19 help our fight against climate change for our common future and our planet?; What are the measures to be taken for SMEs, the group most affected by the pandemic in the new global financial order?; What will be the new balance of sectors in the shadow of the pandemic?; The new paradigm; The Digital World Order. How will the introduction of 5G change the industry, banking, automotive, energy and health sectors, and the cities?'

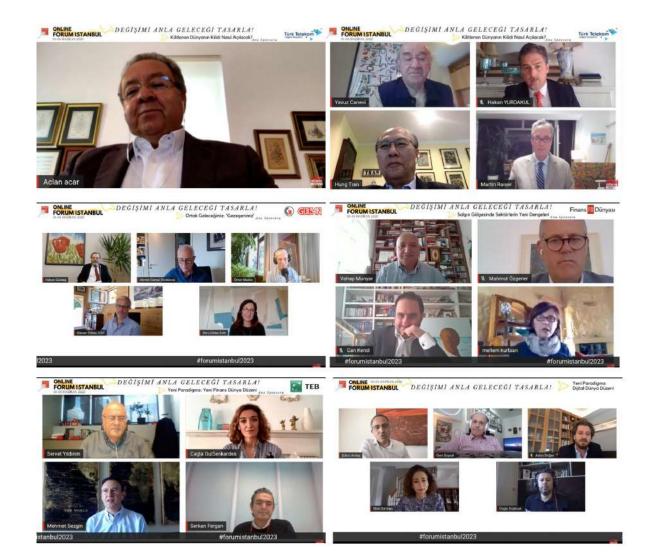
"I would like to list my key predictions as follows: a. After the Covid-19 pandemic, the global system will become more flexible; b. The growth rate of the global economy will be much lower than our estimates; c. We will face many problems that we need to solve in the future." Hung Tran, Atlantic Council Member and former IIF President

"This is the most major recession since World War II. 90 percent of the world's economies will not grow in 2020. We will see big decreases in GDP as well. We will see great pressures as countries and companies suffer from financial difficulties."

Martin Raiser, Director, World Bank, China, Mongolia and Korea

"When we ask companies about the risks of environmental destruction and how to manage it, we don't get an answer. However, we want them to think and change their business models based on these answers. Covid-19 is a wake-up call for society. It is not difficult to say that companies that develop new approaches can grow. We should not direct investments to companies that do not invest in the future of the world. For example, one of the biggest coal producers in the past wants to go carbon-neutral. So they're going to change their portfolio of how they create energy. This is a new working model."

Steven Tebbe, Director of DP Europe





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ACADEMIC PARTNER



#### Story of the Future Tomorrow's Story Will Be Written Today

The 18th Forum Istanbul 2023 Conferences were held on April 29-30 at Swissotel the Bosphorus with the slogan of "Tomorrow's Story Will Be Written Today' and the main theme of "Story of the Future". This year, the conference was dedicated to Prof. Dr. Güngör Uras who died during the last year and was one of the founders of the Forum Istanbul.

In the light of global developments, the impact of technological and digital trends have considered in terms of the industry, finance, trade and retail sectors. In addition, "Belt and Road Initiative" which is admitted the most important project of the world, was among the subjects of this year.

"Human Resource" is the most important thing for structuring the future. Therefore, it was discussed at the "The Future Education System" session that how the human resource should follow the education system in the world where is changing rapidly by the technology.

"We can not eliminate the political and social situation in Turkey. If we can create a balance, then the future will be ours. However, I'm underlining that we have to try. You know, if you try, you may fail, but if you don't try, you'll accept failure from the beginning. I can talk about many stories such as economic growth, trade and politics according to today's world economic axis. However, it is fact that the world has changed fundamentally."

Dr. Jacob Frenkel, Chairman of the Board, JP Morgan Chase International

"In the past, China had a great power in the industry. I believe that the digital silkroad can be complemented by incentives to revive the silkroad. Cross-border e-commerce offers a great opportunity for SMEs. This opportunity does not only give them the growing in global markets, it also helps to reduce investment costs. The Silkroad will not only develop China, it will develop all the countries in the region. We think that, companies in the world and Turkey should come together with cross-border e-commerce with global sell/buy approach and digital silkroad through the sales process and it will help to SMEs to improve themselves."

Diane Wang, CEO, DHgate.com

"If an alien came and thought about what kind of education system s/he would design; we could see nothing wrong with starting formal education at the age of 6. Because children start learning when they are born. The fastest change and transformation in the brain is the first 36 months."

Prof. Dr. Selçuk Şirin, New York University, Department of Applied Psychology

















the potential

#### Turkey and the World Within an Inch of 2023

While a general economic growth was observed in the world in 2017, the prospects for growth continue for 2018. Predictions for 2018 are made difficult by circumstances such as the leaders of the US, France and Britain, who can be considered to have newly taken office, a new president having been appointed to the FED, and the changes occurring in other developing economies. On the other hand, there is also a migration wave across the world. What kind of a trend does energy and global trade demonstrate? While these uncertainties are prominent on a global scale, Turkey has become the second fastest-growing economy among OECD countries with the 7.4 growth rate it achieved in 2017. What is in store for Turkey, which is situated exactly in the middle between east and west, with only 5 years to go until 2023?

The Forum Istanbul series of conferences, which have been running for 17 years, took place at Swissotel The Bosphorus on May 03 - 04 this year, with the main theme "Turkey and the World Within an Inch of 2023."

"You must establish contact with a continent that has resources. I am of the opinion that establishing contact with Africa is a necessity for Turkey's next step. Africa is a very large market. For a breakthrough, you must first have good relations."

Idries Suleiman, Minister of International Cooperation of Sudan

"After 2010, Turkey began joint development or domestic development projects for various products and platforms. Today, in our globalising world, various examples remind us that the terminology "100% domestic produce" does not carry much meaning. However, being self-sufficient in critical subjects in a field such as the defence industry is one of the most important factors."

Prof. Dr. İsmail Demir, Undersecretary of the Defense Industry















#### Turkey Redesigns Her Future

Forum Istanbul, which set out with the slogan "Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023" and which aims at contributing to Turkey's vision of becoming a powerful state not only in its own region, but also in the world, by 2023 which marks the 100th anniversary of the Republic's founding, took place in Istanbul between May 04 - 05, 2017 under the main theme, "Turkey Redesigns Her Future."

Creating programmes based on current issues, such as from growth to reforms, and from education to individual industries, Forum Istanbul, after setting out 16 years ago, became the pioneer of many formations that targeted 2023, the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Republic's founding.

Each year Forum Istanbul created programmes based on current issues, from growth to reforms, and from education to individual industries.

"The current account deficit has indeed demonstrated a serious improvement in the recent years. This is partly due to global energy prices, but we have also made some efforts. However, this year the current account deficit may increase slightly. That is, it may rise slightly above 4 percent."

Mehmet Şimşek, Deputy Prime Minister

"As Turkey, we have continued our exports to the EU with an increasing pace. One of the most important reasons of this increase was our production capability, while the second was the advantage presented to us by our geography. The EU's consumption habits have changed." Nihat Zeybekci, Minister of Economy

"If we cannot ensure efficiency in production through the transformation to be brought about by Industry 4.0, our hand will greatly weaken on a global scale."

Faruk Özlü, Minister of Science, Industry and Technology













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### **Transformation Strategies** for a Stronger Turkey

Forum Istanbul's 15th large-scale meeting was organized on May 05 - 06, 2016 at Swissotel, with the main theme "World in Transition for Rebalancing, Turkey in Transition for Repositioning.

The answer to the question, "what must be done to ensure global cooperation, coordination and burden-sharing?" was sought at Forum Istanbul, organized by the strategic partnership of the Doğuş Group, Şekerbank, and the Turkish Exporters Assembly.

In the conference, the departing point of which was the emergence of a balance of powers rather than of leaders in today's world, where multipolarity is increasing, the subjects of economy, finance, export, geopolitical developments, energy, logistics, and technology were discussed.

"Turkey deserves to be part of the EU. Looking at the weak European policy regarding Turkey, it appears that the Europeans have in fact said, "We abandoned you, we let you down." We cannot speak of a strong Europe that does not include Turkey."

Günter Verheugen, Former Vice President of the European Commission

"Looking at the world economy as of January, one cannot even dream of a growth of 3 percent. There are fundamental problems for both Turkey, and the world. We are going through a temporary spring, by which we must not be deceived. What is essential is to produce solutions for structural problems."

Mehmet Şimşek, Deputy Prime Minister

"Turkey must take its place in this new economic order. Until now, our position was passive. But we must now have an active position. We must position ourselves on the side that calls the shots."

Mehmet Büyükekşi, President of Turkish Exporters Assembly













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#### Time to Re-think Time to Act

The world still carries the heavy burden of the global recession of seven years ago. Just like all developed and developing countries, Turkey is also feeling the impact of this challenging economic legacy. It is not possible to say that a great step has been taken towards the targets for 2023. As global competition becomes harder and harder Turkey has become ensnared in the middle income trap in the past 3 years.

We have only eight years left to realise our targets for 2023. The targets are difficult, but still not unattainable. However, Turkey must have new success stories. What will Turkey's new story be in the window of opportunity opened by the presidency of the G20? For Turkey, which has to grow by 7 percent on average every year in order to secure its place among the first 10 economies of the world, what must its strategy be in its new breakthrough for growth?

"We are transforming G20 into a structure that is open to and mindful of the entire world rather than a self-contained mechanism. We present G20 with an important work that reinforces its base for international legitimacy."

Ali Babacan, Deputy Prime Minister

"If our consumption habits continue in this manner, we will be needing 2.8 more worlds to live in by 2050. At the point in which we are today, we need no smart buildings, but smart cities."

Haluk Sur, GYODER, Member of the Executive Board

"Given the rate of increase of young people joining the labour force, over 600 million further jobs will have to be created in the world by the end of the next 10 years in order to sustain today's employment levels. 90 percent of these are created by the private sector. G20 must work hand in hand with B20, while the politicians of Turkey must work with all segments of the business world without any differentiation whatsoever. This is where 90 percent of the employment will come." Cansen Başaran Symes, President of TÜSİAD











Forum İstanbul Strategic Partners







## New Growth Strategies and Resources "Our Hidden Energy - Women"

One of the conditions for Turkey to secure a place among the 10 largest economies of the world is the greater participation of women in the economy, through both employment and entrepreneurship.

Compared to Turkey, women's employment ratio is 2.3 times greater in developed economies. In other words, while women's employment ratio is 26.3 in Turkey, this ratio is 62 percent in developed countries and European Union countries.

Being aware of the importance of women in economic and social life, Forum Istanbul organised its conference for 2014 under the main title, "New Growth Strategies and Resources: Our Hidden Energy - Women"

"Unless we solve our problems regarding law and the judiciary, Turkey's achieving its targets for 2023 is nothing but a dream, and it is very difficult for it to become an advanced democracy. A well-functioning judiciary system and being a state of law are essential in order to become an advanced democracy." Ali Babacan, Deputy Prime Minister

"We conducted a modelling study at the World Bank regarding the participation of women in labour, and saw that, if Turkey's woman labour force contribution does not increase any more until 2030, that is, if women's ratio of participation in labour remains in its current 30 percent level, Turkey achieves a growth of 4 percent, all other factors notwithstanding."

Martin Raiser, World Bank Turkey Country Director

"The woman issue in Turkey must be examined in the light of the targets of increasing employment opportunities, offering women quality education opportunities, and providing woman entrepreneurs with financial support." Hüsnü Akhan, CEO of Doğuş Group











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## Globalization & Re-Balancing: The Moving Stones in the Global System

Applied Economist at the Johns Hopkins University, Cato Institute Senior Consultant Prof. Steve Hanke and Fordham University, Head of the Economy Department Prof. Dominick Salvatore attended Forum İstanbul 2013 as guest speakers.

At the session entitled, 'Sharing responsibilities in a leaderless world', Former Prime Minister of Poland and President of the Polish Economic Council Jan Krzystof Bielecki and Dr. Sanjaya Baru of the International Institute for Strategic Studies addressed the attendees. Fraser Howie, author of the acclaimed book, Red Capitalism, was also among the speakers at the conference.

"In 2001 they were laughing at us when we talked about our targets for 2023. Now everyone, including the Prime Minister Erdoğan, is talking about these targets. I wish everyone would talk about these targets."

Ethem Sancak, Chairman of the Board, Hedef Alliance Holding

"On behalf of the Doğuş Group, I must extend my sincere thanks to the management of the Forum Istanbul 2013 - Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023 Conference as well as all who have worked towards its organisation; the Conference encourages us to think about the position that will be secured by the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of its Republic by our country, which is progressively becoming a more active global actor in the recent years due to both its economic stability and the strategic role it plays in the region."

Hüsnü Akhan, CEO of Doğuş Group

"As Yandex Turkey, we are glad to take part, as strategic partner, in an important organisation such as Forum Istanbul, which has a vision of the future, and which will carry national consciousness to higher levels, allowing Turkey to have a greater say in the international arena."

Mehmet Ali Yalçındağ, Chairman of the Board, Yandex Turkey











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## Living in Crisis or Overcoming the Crisis?

It has been 11 years since the inception of the Forum Istanbul, which was the first to spell out the '2023 targets' within the framework of the redesigning of Turkey's sustainable growth strategy. Becoming a brand in their own field during that time, the Forum Istanbul series of conferences discussed the topic "living in crisis or overcoming the crisis?" this year.

- Being the 10<sup>th</sup> greatest economy of the world
- Achieving a GNP of 2 trillion US Dollars
- Achieving a per capita income of 20 thousand US Dollars
- Pulling the unemployment rate back to 5 percent
- Lowering subterranean economy to below 20 percent.
- Reaching export figures of 500 billion US Dollars
- Achieving a foreign trade volume of 1.2 trillion US Dollars
- Raising the ratio of savings to the GNP above 20 percent
- Reaching 46 million tourists and 50 billion US Dollars income in tourism
- Building 6 new airports with a capacity of 165 million
- Completing the 3<sup>rd</sup> bridge in Istanbul
- Producing 5 million vehicles
- Building high-speed railway network of 6.792 kilometres
- Building at least three nuclear power plants

"Our country will achieve its target of becoming a regional finance centre within the next five years also with the contributions of the sector workers and other concerned persons and corporations who dedicated their efforts to the capital markets, and under the leadership of our developing capital markets." Prof. Dr. Vedat Akgiray, Chairman of SPK (Capital Markets Board of Turkey)

"Turkey's exports reached 134.6 billion US Dollars in 2011. This successful figure, which is a source of joy and pride for our entire nation, also instilled hope in us with regard to our 2023 targets."

Mehmet Büyükekşi, President of Turkish Exporters Assembly

"With its national income of 772 billion US Dollars, Turkey has become the world's 17<sup>th</sup>, and Europe's 8<sup>th</sup> largest economy. Turkey's gross national product has tripled in less than ten years, and the prosperity of the middle class is increasing."

Hakan Binbaşgil, General Manager, Akbank













# FORUM ISTANBUL 2011

TOWARDS 2023 WITH NEW GLOBAL REALITIES

NEW DYNAMICS IN PRODUCTION, EXPORT, GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

STRATEGIC PARTNERS









## Towards 2023 with **New Global Realities**

The new dynamics of Turkey and the world in terms of production, export, growth and development were discussed at Forum Istanbul 2011 organised in Istanbul on April 21-22 under the title "Towards 2023 with New Global Realities." In this scope, topics such as the impacts of the global financial crisis and the current situation, the post-crisis markets and financial stability, new dynamics in foreign trade and investment relations, the search for economic and political balance, the cities of the future, environment-friendly and sustainable growth were discussed by a large number of experts from various fields.

"One of the most important areas of reform for Turkey is the labour force market and work life. According to TÜİK's (Turkish Statistical Institute) data, the average weekly working hours in Turkey is 49 hours. If we manage to reduce this to 45 hours, this may have a 3-4-5 points effect on unemployment. We are also carrying out studies on flexible work, in which we see a great potential."

Ali Babacan, Deputy Prime Minister

"Wealth was not sufficiently shared in the world until the year of the major recession. Now we are face to face with hardship, and large alliances and large economies are discussing who to blame."

Hakan Ateş, DenizBank General Manager

"Democracy and freedom are not substitutes for each other. This is a very sensitive issue. Freedom shall find itself a path in all forms of the world!" Prof. Dr. Steve Hanke, Johns Hopkins University











Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023

FORUM ISTABBUL 2010
MAY 20-21, 2010 SWISSOTEL ISTANBUL

GLOBAL CRISIS, REPOSITIONING, NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

## Global Crisis, Repositioning, National Transformation

Forum Istanbul 2010 set the roadmap for Turkey, which aspires to position itself among the 10 largest economies in the world by 2023. It was emphasised that Forum Istanbul's objective is to generate thoughts on a platform covering all economy, democratisation, rule of law and medium-term policy makers including public, private and non-governmental organisations.

Emphasis was made on the belief that those chosen from among these thoughts that are harmonious and instructive will help create a shield against crises and create a vision for the future.

And a further step was taken towards the target of a "completely renovated Turkey" in 2023.

"...the fate of the people living in this geography is our concern. Even if we do not concern ourselves, they put us in a position in which we are obliged to do so. From now on, we will stay informed of all developments taking place in this geography. Whatever type of an order is to be established in all of these regions, we will be among its founders..."

Prof. Ahmet Davutoğlu, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

"...the present crisis does not involve the bankruptcy of companies, but that of thought ..."

Tony Buzan, Thinkbuzan

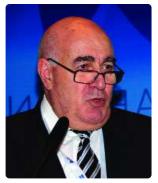
"The economy grew really well during the last 8-10 years, but our stock exchange remained relatively below the world average. If we can create a stock exchange with a total worth of 600-700 billion US Dollars through a growth of at least 3 times, we can catch up with the world average. And this is not an exciting figure either; we must exceed it."

Vedat Akgiray, Chairman of SPK (Capital Markets Board of Turkey)











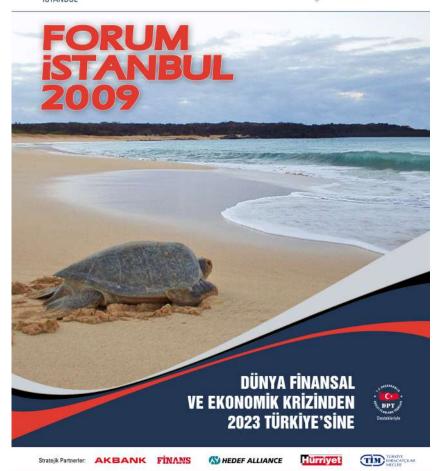






SWISSOTEL THE BOSPHORUS ISTANBUL





## From the Global Financial and Economic Crisis to Turkey 2023...

Forum Istanbul, which set out as a think tank under the slogan "Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023" after the 2001 crisis, which was one of the worst economic crises ever experienced by Turkey, examined the 2009 global crisis from various aspects, while addressing its causes and the facts it revealed in detail.

An assessment of the current situation was also conducted from Turkey's point of view within the scope of the forum. The dilemma, "for a sustainable stable growth: an increase in domestic savings, or further expenditure?" was a topic that frequently came up during the sessions.

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"...Turkey's salvation lies in an increase in savings. Public savings must be increased, while private savings must be encouraged..."

Prof. Dani Rodrik, Harvard University

"Today has already changed. The future, on the other hand, is always uncertain. When learning a lesson from the future, we must understand what the future looks like. In this case, identify your own position. We must attempt the hardest and do this."

Wolfgang Grulke, Futureworld Founding President

"...Urgently focus on reforms, not on the IMF ..."

Prof. Steve Hanke, Johns Hopkins University

















## A New Era - New Initiatives: Turkey's Stability and Growth Drive

In the light of global economic changes and various geopolitical risks, Forum Istanbul focused on the topic, "How Turkey can continue its economic/political stability through sustainable growth."

At the seventh large-scale meeting of Forum Istanbul, "Turkey's stability and growth drive" was discussed. Sustainability in terms of global fluctuations and geopolitical risks brought prominent names from Turkey and the world together at Forum Istanbul.

Another important topic was the agriculture industry, which is a priority also in the government's agenda, and for which bold steps are expected to be taken.

"...achieving your democratic constitution, which is necessary, must not be imposed upon you externally. Creating a modern, secular and democratic Turkish state is for Turkish people to do; it is you that will decide on and realize this. My greatest wish for you is that you are guided by an enlightened, mature public opinion and that you present the necessary reasoning and work in a secular and democratic manner..."

Pat Cox, Former President of the European Parliament

"During the last few years, Turkey has covered some distance in realizing its targets for 2023. Turkey took very important steps in putting its in-house situation in order. In 2007, the Turkish banking sector reached a good point as a whole." *Mehmet Şimşek, Minister of State in Charge of the Treasury* 















#### **MARCHING TOWARDS-2023**

# FORUM ISTANBUL Half-Term Conference

November 12-13, 2007

#### "Urban Regeneration and Real Estate Investments"

Kadir Topbaş (Mayor of Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality), Erdoğan Bayraktar (Head of the Housing Development Administration), Zaha Hadid (Architect), Ken Yeang (Architect), Prof. Michael Sorkin (Architect/City Planner)

















# Turkey's Future Roadmap in a Rapidly Changing World

Being an international platform focused on setting "Turkey's future roadmap in the light of the global changes", Forum Istanbul came up with three themes for discussion in 2007, namely "Turkey's development strategy", "the condition of energy in the world, and Turkey", and "the new regional balance of powers and Turkey: policy options".

The "development strategy report" prepared in the light of the changes in the global order were shared with the attendees. Energy matter was discussed in detail by focusing on the individual issues of alternative energy sources, the financing of investments, energy safety and energy saving, as well as the condition of energy in the world.

The Turkey's to-do list for new opportunities in the world's agriculture and food markets was another important topic discussed at the Forum.

"...Turkey has a key geopolitical position. With the settlement of the east-west and north-south energy corridor, the heart of world peace will beat in Turkey. A contribution shall be made to the stability of the region and the world through the development of cooperation between the countries. We are at the verge of reaching a significant stepping stone. Here, there is one thing that we must pay attention to: which is to succeed in settling on common feelings and targets. ..."

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

"Turkey will definitely become a European Union member if it does not give up. The EU will have no chance of saying "no" to Turkey if the necessary requirements are met."

Robert Pearson, US Ambassador to Turkey















#### **MARCHING TOWARDS-2023**

# FORUM ISTANBUL Half-Term Conference

October 31, 2006

#### "Finance Conference"

Durmuş Yılmaz (Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey), Prof. Dr. Dani Rodrik (Harvard University), Prof. Dr. Vefa Tarhan (Chicago Loyola University)















## A Quest for "A New Living Formula": Co-Habitance

While "co-habitance" formula were sought at the Forum Istanbul summit meetings held in 2006, where formulae for coexistence were discussed, the focus was on the energy, agriculture, tourism, information and communication technologies, and telecom sectors, which are believed to be playing a key role in building Turkey's future.

The meetings of the fifth year were conducted under the title "co-habitance" as a response to Huntington, whose article "clash of civilizations?" gathered much global attention. Setting off from the maxim, "there will be no world with any of its parts missing," Forum Istanbul was shaped with the approach of co-habitance under all conditions.

"...security is a must indeed. Combating violence and terrorism is important, but there is no guarantee that success will be achieved in this fight by resorting to measures that are not in harmony with democracy. Some say, 'the barbarians are at our doorstep to destroy civilisation", while the others say, 'the infidels are among us to use everything we have, material and moral, for their own benefits." As a result, the harm is done to civilisation..."

Prof. Dr. Mehmet Aydın, Minister of State

"Today there is no clash of civilisations, but a clash of ideas. People want to live together with those who are like themselves. There are those who started to shun cosmopolitanism after September 11. There is a wish for a homogenous atmosphere. You may be German, Turk, but at the end you are a citizen of the world. What we need is to create a cosmopolitan culture."

Elif Şafak, Author





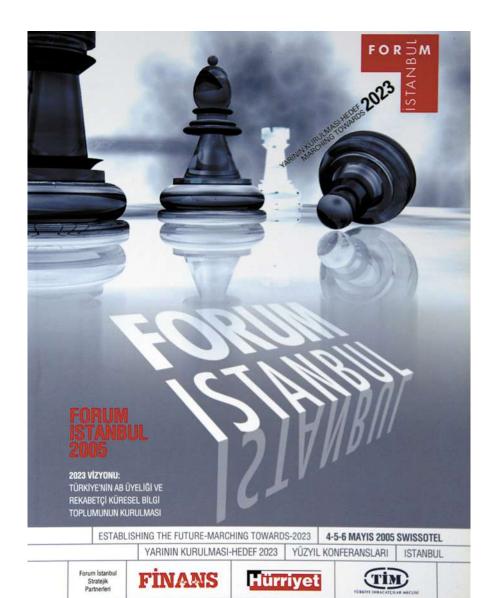












## Turkey's Accession to the EU and Construction of a Globally Competitive Knowledge Society

The rapid implementation of transformation and development strategies is of vital importance in Turkey, which aims at position itself in the global first league as an EU member by the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its Republic. Being the first largest event setting out to create the targeted Turkey, Forum Istanbul has been proceeding towards its goal with firm steps.

The subjects that were brought to attention in 2005 were to create the foundations for new perspectives to be created in the fields of information society, informatics, communication and technology, and for new scientific strategies to be formed in the light of these fields.

The final declaration of the Forum emphasised that the Forum Istanbul provided a multilateral dialogue atmosphere to offer policy and action options to the public, private and non-governmental organizations in line with the aim of building an effective information economy.

"... I support the membership of a country such as Turkey, which is so rich in cultural and geographical terms. If, as a country, you have a target, the first precondition is that you have a vision; the second precondition involves a well-prepared strategy, while the third precondition is to convince yourself that these are the correct vision and strategy..."

Vaclav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic

"For the following years, we feel the need for a different vision, a consistent strategy, and, accordingly, an intense effort. We must continue on our path tirelessly and without being disheartened."

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

"...your path is open, but do not wait for 2023..."

Olli Rehn, European Union Commissioner on Enlargement





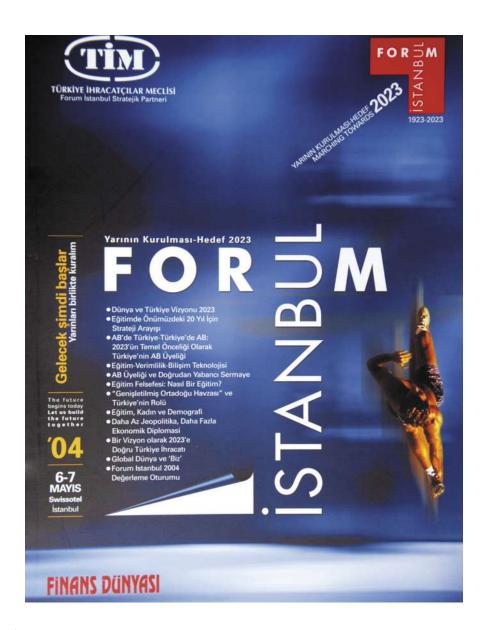












## Education and the European Union

Education was the first item on the agenda of the third meeting of Forum Istanbul's event Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023, which is focused on the target of creating the transformed and long-desired Turkey by 2023. Another prominent topic of Forum Istanbul 2004, supported by the Turkish Exporters Assembly as strategic partner, was the European Union. Again, in 2004, the "Forum Istanbul List of Honour for Those Devoting their Life to Education" started to be created upon a decision taken by the Forum Istanbul Executive Board.

One of the topics of discussion was the "United Nations Millennium Development Goals," for which the leaders of all countries around the world came together in September 2000 at the United Nations Millennium Summit and identified common goals against the most fundamental problems of the world. While the "World's and Turkey's Vision 2023" was assessed in general terms at the 2004 conference, a presentation for the "Forum Istanbul 2023" vision was also made.

"...Having regained our energy, our target for 2023 is to become one of the 10 largest economies in the world..."

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

"Our goal for the 100th anniversary of the Republic is a stable Turkey where inflation has become an issue of the past, and which sets an example as the fastest-growing economy in the world."

Ali Babacan, Minister of State in Charge of Economy

















# The Search for a Future Vision: Economy, Strategy, and the European Union

Change... Learning from past mistakes, realising change, which would enable all segments of the society to have hope in a bright future... A Turkey which is facing challenges in the implementation of the reforms, for which work has been underway for a long time, and which, according to some, were imposed by the IMF, and for others, are indispensable...

The second of the series of Forum Istanbul Centennial Conferences, which is considered as Turkey's Davos, and offers brainstorming opportunity by bringing together many national and foreign experts, set the scene for sensational discussions with attendees such as Richard Perle and Anne Krueger. At Forum Istanbul, the efforts of which are directed to transforming Turkey into a strong state not only in its own region, but also in the global arena, the honorary speaker in 2003 was President Ahmet Necdet Sezer.

"...The Forum İstanbul Conference is an initiative that will shed light on Turkey's future..."

Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey

"...I am optimistic for Turkey. In my opinion, Turkey will once more achieve fast growth rates as was the case at the beginning of this decade. If this comes true, 2023 will be a very good year, and is not too far..."

Anne Krueger, First Deputy Managing Director, IMF

"For sustainable growth, we must insist on lower inflation rates. In countries where a price stability is achieved, and inflation has dropped below 10 percent, it is perhaps possible to achieve a bit more growth by relaxing the monetary policies." Süreyya Serdengeçti, Governor of the Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey





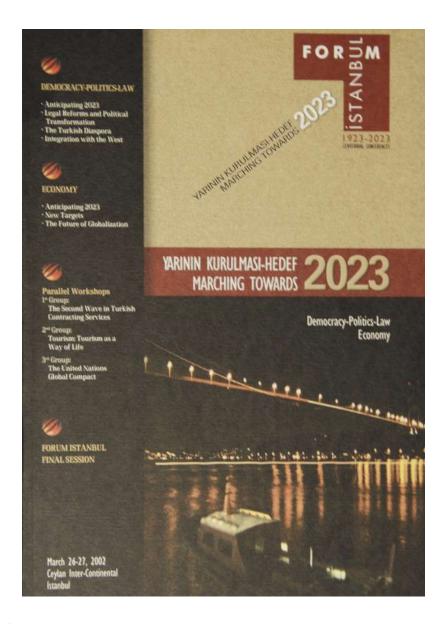












## Democracy, Politics, Law, Economy

The first conference organised by Forum Istanbul, the goal of which is to transform Turkey into a strong state not only in its own region, but also in the global arena by 2023, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Republic's founding, was held on March 26 and 27 2002, under the slogan, "Establishing the Future-Marching Towards 2023."

The first of the Forum Istanbul centennial conferences which set out with the mission of encouraging the society in general, and the business world and the academic and bureaucratic segments in particular, to think long-term on the roadmap for Turkey's future, took place with a high attendance.

The main theme of the Forum in 2002 was focused on Turkey and a habitable world. On this first journey, our esteemed friends were again by our side. Prominent politicians and academics of Turkey and the world continuously raised the bar of the Forum Istanbul perspective.

"...During the last 20 years Turkey saw natural disasters, crises, coups. Any other country would have not survived these. For this reason, I am very hopeful about Turkey's future..."

Mark Parris, Former US Ambassador to Ankara

"...In 2023, in the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Republic, Turkey will be among the most prominent countries of the world, as a member of the EU. I have no doubt of that." *Prof. Dani Rodrik, Harvard University* 

"Turkey is like sunshine in darkness. It is demonstrative of how a Muslim country must be in a modern world."

Deborah Mathis, Author















## FORUM ISTANBUL Awards

















# Contributors to Education Centennial Honorary List

Sitki Kocman (2006)

Rüştü Akın (2004) İzzet Baysal (2004) Mehmet Beyazıt (2004) Mehmet Çelikel (2004) Nuri Demirağ (2004) Nejat f. Eczacıbaşı (2004) Vehbi Koç (2004) Sakıp Sabancı (2004) Ayhan Şahenk (2004) Semiha Şakir (2004) İhsan Doğramacı (2005) Halil Gedik (2005) Kadir Has (2005)

Asım Kocabıyık (2005)

Sarık Tara (2005)

İbrahim Betil (2006)

Aydın Doğan (2006)

Abdülkadir Konukoğlu (2006) Selçuk Yaşar (2006) Ali Ağaoğlu (2007) Feyyaz Berker (2007) Yılmaz Büyükerşen (2007) Ekrem Elginkan (2007) Nimet – Ömer Kahraman (2008) Necati Kurmel (2008) Halit Narin (2008) Erkut Soyak (2008) İsmail Tarman (2008) Musa Coşkun (2009) Ezel Gülen Kıray (2009) Akbank (2009) Türkiye İş Bankası (2009) Sebahattin Eryurt (2010)

Hüseyin Hüsnü Tekısık (2010) Bahriye Yağcı (2010) Mustafa Kemal Güneşdoğdu (2011) Hüseyin İbrahim İzmirli (2011) Vahap Küçük (2011) Orhan Çetin (2012) Zeynel Abidin Erdem (2012) Engin Yeşil (2012) Bilim Kahramanları Derneği (2012) Dumankaya İnsaat (2012) Ahmet Eren (2013) Diyarbakır Gürünlü Köyü (2013) Hüsnü Özyeğin (2017) Limak Vakfı (2019) Young Guru Academy (2019) Darüssafaka Cemiyeti (2021)

Anne Çocuk Eğitim Vakfı(AÇEV) (2021)

#### **Awards on Education**

İSTANBUL MENKUL KIYMETLER BORSASI (İMKB)

DARÜŞŞAFAKA DERNEĞİ

TÜRK EĞİTİM GÖNÜLLÜLERİ VAKFI

TÜRK EĞİTİM VAKFI

ANNE ÇOCUK EĞİTİM VAKFI (AÇEV)

TÜRK EĞİTİM DERNEĞİ

BAHÇEŞEHİR UĞUR EĞİTİM VAKFI

İSTANBUL EĞİTİM Ve KÜLTÜR (İSTEK) VAKFI

TÜRKİYE İNSAN KAYNAKLARI VAKFI (TİKAV)

GELECEĞİMİZİN ÇOCUKLARI VAKFI

ENKA SPOR, EĞİTİM VE SOSYAL YARDIM VAKFI

21. YÜZYIL EĞİTİM VE KÜLTÜR VAKFI

Siirt Governor Nuri OKUTAN
MELAHAT & HÜDAİ GÜRBÜZ
Teacher who sacrificed herself for education
AYSUN KARALAR
Teacher who sacrificed herself for education
BURÇİN ÜNSAL,
REFET ANGIN, MEVLÜT ASLANOĞLU,
AYHAN BERMEK, ABBAS GÜÇLÜ,
EREĞLİ (KONYA) SOSYAL DAYANIŞMA VE
YARDIMLAŞMA DERNEĞİ
TOPLU KONUT İDARESİ, UNICEF
Elazığ Governor Muammer MUSMAL

#### FORUM İSTANBUL

2005 Awards: Honorary Award: Vaclav Klaus / Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof. Dr. Erdoğan Alkin, Prof. Dr. Haydar Kazgan Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Kemal Derviş

2006 Awards: Honorary Award: Prof. Dr. Metin Sözen, Prof. Dr. Memduh Yaşa

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Muhtar Kent

2007 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Osman Saffet Arolat, Prof. Dr. Besim Üstünel

2008 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof. Dr. Gülten Kazgan, Prof. Dr. T. Güngör Uras Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Hakan Gürsu

2009 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof. Dr. Zeyyat Hatiboğlu, Prof. Dr. Nevzat Yalçıntaş

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Tugay Kerimoğlu, Mehmet Okur

2010 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Cafer Tayyar Sadıklar, İsmet Alver

2011 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Cahit Kocaömer, Yılmaz Karakoyunlu

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Durmuş Yılmaz

2012 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Haldun Dormen, Betûl Mardin

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Türk Hava Yolları

2013 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof.Dr. Mustafa Aysan, Altan Öymen

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Dr. Ahmet Lokurlu

Forum İstanbul Special Thanks: Yüzyıllık Markalar Derneği

2014 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof.Dr. Necati Mumcu, Prof.Dr. Ali Özgüven, Necdet Sakaoğlu, Sabiha Tansuğ Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Fenerbahçe Women's Volleyball Team Galatasaray Odeabank Women's Basketball Team, Vakıfbank SK Women's Volleyball Team

Special Award (Due his contributions to Art & Culture): Nevzat Metin

2015 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof.Dr. İlter Turan, Nihat Gökyiğit

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Eczacibaşı Vitra Women's Volleyball Team

Bursa Büyüksehir Belediye Spor Kulübü Women's Volleyball Team

2016 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Prof. Dr. Nazım Ekren, Prof. Dr. Üstün Ergüder

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Prof. Dr. Mete Atatüre, Ergin Ataman,

EUROCUP Champion Galatasaray Basketball Men's Basketball Team

2017 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Jak Kamhi, Sami Kohen

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Abdullah Kavukcu, Yüksel Yıldırım, Alara Güler

2018 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Mehmet Barlas, Yavuz Canevi, Ali Saydam

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Galatasaray Womens Basketball Team, Darüşşafaka Men's Basketball Team, Vakıfbank Women's Volleyball Team, Fenerbahçe Men's Basketball Team, Turkey National Amputee Football Team

2019 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: M. Doğan Hızlan, Prof. Dr. F. Çiçek Derman, İonna Kuçuradi

Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: Sümeyye Boyacı, Prof. Dr. Selçuk Şirin, Integra (Bahçeşehir Koleji)

2021 Awards: Lifetime Achievement Award: Hakan Ateş, Enver Yücel / 'Cumhuriyetin Çınarları'Award: Merhum Cahit Kaya, Merhum İlhan Başgöz Award for Individuals who Carried Our National Pride to the International Arena: İbrahim Çolak, Gözde Durmuş

## FORUM ISTANBUL **Publications**



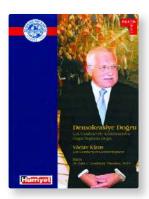
Türkiye'nin Global Konumlanması 2023 Araştırması Dr. Can Fuat Gürlesel



Türkiye'nin Eğitim Raporu Necdet Sakaoğlu



2023 Küresel Senaryolar ve Türkiye için Gelecek Haritası Mehmet Öğütçü



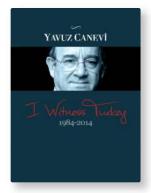
"Demokrasiye Doğru" Vaclav Klaus (President of Czech Republic)



Bir 2023 Türkiye Rüyası Mehmet Öğütçü



Cumhuriyet, Eğitim Reformu ve Dewey Prof. Dr. John P. Anton & Prof. Dr. F. Pınar Canevi



I Witness Turkey (1984-2014) Yavuz Canevi

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