



# ULUSLARARASI SİVİL DİPLOMASİ GAZETESİ

April / 2025 | Issue / 37

APİM PP NO: 120

16 Page / 11 TL



## "Stop Disturbing the Peace of Our Citizens with Provocations"

Following the Presidential Cabinet Meeting, President Erdoğan addressed the recent incidents following the arrest of the Mayor of Istanbul, stating:

"I have made this call several times before, and I am repeating it today: Stop disturbing the peace of our citizens with provocations. If you have the courage, be accountable for corruption, theft, bribes received, and irregularities committed. If you stand by those who have been arrested and the allegations under investigation, then say it openly and straightforwardly."

Page 2

### Foreign Minister Fidan: We Support the Ongoing Ceasefire Negotiations Led by the U.S.

Page 6



### Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Ankara Hosts Traditional Iftar Program for Kyrgyz Citizens

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Ankara organized a traditional "Iftar" event for Kyrgyz citizens residing and studying in Ankara in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

Page 4



### The President of Kazakhstan Signed a Decree on the Establishment of the Atomic Energy Agency

Page 9



### Four Years of President Sadyr Japarov's Leadership in Kyrgyzstan

During the four years of President Sadyr Japarov's tenure, Kyrgyzstan has made significant strides in various areas, from the economy to foreign policy.

Page 5



### OTS Secretary General Meets with Sweden's Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

Page 10



### Hungarian Foreign Minister Szijjarto: Turkey is an Important Partner in Achieving Peace

Page 11



### UN Decides to Reduce Presence in Gaza Following Israel's Resumption of Attacks

Page 13



### The Dark Side of Tourism in Uzbekistan: "It Could Be the Venice of the Desert"

Page 14



### The Voice of the New Generation: Generation Z Meets the State

Page 15



### Anatolia's Fragrant Treasure: Thyme

Page 15



### The Enthusiasm of Nevruz Celebrations Across the Turkic World

From Turkistan to the Balkans, March 21 is celebrated annually as Nevruz Bayramı, incorporating local traditions and beliefs.

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT

Page 8



### İlham Aliyev Spoke to Euronews: Global Stability Will Not Be Achieved Anytime Soon



Azerbaijani President İlham Aliyev stated in an interview that achieving global stability in the coming years is unlikely and emphasized the need for realistic expectations regarding the resolution of major conflicts.

Page 9

### The Brotherhood Between Türkiye and Azerbaijan Also Stands Out in the Cultural Sphere

The deep-rooted bond between Türkiye and Azerbaijan is prominently reflected in culture and literature.

Page 12







# "Stop Disturbing the Peace of Our Citizens with Provocations"

Following the Presidential Cabinet Meeting, President Erdoğan addressed the recent incidents following the arrest of the Mayor of Istanbul, stating:  
"I have made this call several times before, and I am repeating it today: Stop disturbing the peace of our citizens with provocations. If you have the courage, be accountable for corruption, theft, bribes received, and irregularities committed. If you stand by those who have been arrested and the allegations under investigation, then say it openly and straightforwardly."

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan made a press statement after the Presidential Cabinet Meeting held at the Presidential Complex. Providing details on the topics discussed during the meeting, President Erdoğan said:  
"I extend my greetings for the blessed month of Ramadan, which is now nearing its end, and for Laylat al-Qadr, which we are advised to seek during these days. I sincerely pray to Almighty Allah to encompass our nation, the Muslim world, and all of humanity with His mercy, forgiveness, blessings, and grace in honor of these holy days. On one hand, we feel the sadness of bidding farewell to Ramadan, and on the other, the excitement of welcoming the holiday. I pray that our Lord grants us health, well-being, and peace so that we may reach Eid al-Fitr.  
I wish for an immediate end to the deaths, suffering, oppression, victimization, and injustices occurring in different corners of our heartland, particularly in Gaza, Palestine, and Yemen.  
Since our last meeting, we have had a busy schedule, including iftar programs, meetings with foreign officials, phone conversations, and various events. From the oppressed Gazans we brought to our country when Israeli attacks began to our healthcare workers, children under state protection, cadets, farmers, and members of parliament from the previous and 28th terms— we have gathered around the table of affection with people from various walks of life, embraced them, conversed, and relieved our longing.  
Today, we will host the members of our education and teaching community at our Complex. Tomorrow, we will be with students from the Credit and Dormitories Institution. The following day, we will welcome our worker and laborer brothers and sisters to the nation's home. In short, we will strive to observe Ramadan in accordance with its meaning as a month of solidarity, sharing, and brotherhood until the very last day. Additionally, during this period, especially before the holiday, we will continue to reach out to the oppressed and needy who have turned their faces toward our country.

“EUROPE'S NEED FOR OUR COUNTRY HAS BEGUN TO BE OPENLY ACKNOWLEDGED”

Through both our voluntary organizations and official institutions, we have increased our aid efforts to regions around the world where people are subjected to oppression. Within our country, municipalities, party organizations, and social assistance foundations are knocking on the doors of those in need, checking on their well-being. Just as we have done for the past 23 years, today as well, we are rushing to the aid of the poor, orphans, and those who have no one else but Allah and the state. We continue to stand by them with determination, and for this, we are grateful.  
In terms of foreign policy, the visit of Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk to our country was highly significant. During our discussions, we exchanged views on the latest developments in the Ukraine-Russia war and the increasing dialogue with European countries in recent days. The heated debates of recent weeks have demonstrated that a secure Europe is not possible without Turkey. Beyond just security concerns, it has now begun to be openly acknowledged that Europe needs our country in various fields, including the economy, diplomacy, trade, and social life. As our European friends formulate policies based on rationality, they increasingly recognize the importance of relations with Turkey. We view these developments as promising for the future of Turkey-EU relations.  
The rapid and sudden changes occurring on a global scale highlight the need for greater dialogue and institutional cooperation. Turkey is ready to advance its relations with European countries and the EU based on mutual interests and respect. However, this is not a commitment that Turkey can uphold alone. It is essential that our counterparts also share this willingness. We believe that Turkey's longstanding strategic approach will also guide the policies of our European counterparts. We are closely monitoring the latest developments in the war in Ukraine. From the very beginning, Turkey has positioned itself correctly in this matter. Despite various pressures, particularly from the opposition in our country, who remain oblivious to world affairs, we have not allowed ourselves to be swayed. We have maintained a balanced, fair, and trustworthy stance between the two neighboring countries. We have consistently emphasized on all platforms

that peace has no losers, and we continue to uphold this principle today. As the war enters its fourth year, we hope it will end with a just peace before more blood is shed and more destruction occurs.  
We see Russia's partial positive response to the United States' 30-day ceasefire proposal as a modest yet valuable step toward peace. We have mobilized all our diplomatic resources to ensure that our region emerges from the vortex of instability and conflict as soon as possible.  
I shared our thoughts on this matter during a phone call with U.S. President Donald Trump. In our sincere conversation, we discussed many significant issues, including the removal of all obstacles to achieving our \$100 billion trade target, which we had set with President Trump. We also thoroughly assessed critical current developments in our region, particularly in Syria.  
It is entirely possible for Turkish-American relations to gain new momentum during President Trump's second term. Despite all the challenges in our region and the lobbies working to undermine the cooperation between our two allied nations, we believe— and must ensure— that we will succeed for the well-being of our entire region.  
As we do every year, on March 18th, we proudly celebrated the anniversary of the Gallipoli Naval Victory. On the 110th anniversary of Gallipoli's victory, we once again remembered our immortal heroes who made Gallipoli impassable at the cost of their lives, with mercy, gratitude, and the highest respect. Our martyrs from all over our heartland, from Syria to Gaza, from Aleppo to Tabriz, from Mosul to Jerusalem, rest side by side in Gallipoli. The spirit of Gallipoli embodies this solidarity and shared fate. The Gallipoli spirit is a profound consciousness that connects us both as a nation and with our brothers and sisters. God willing, we will continue to preserve and exalt this spirit.  
Last week, we also joyfully celebrated Nevruz, the herald of spring, and a festival of abundance and prosperity. On March 21st and the following days, despite a few negative incidents, there were no unpleasant events that upset, disturbed, or humiliated our nation. Overall, we had a much more peaceful Nevruz compared to previous years. We

also joined the excitement of Nevruz with our nation, our region, and the Turkish world at the program organized by our party in Istanbul. We desire to have Nevruz officially recognized as a public holiday, symbolizing the brotherhood of our nation.  
We will also propose at the upcoming summit that Nevruz be recognized as a common memorial and celebration day for the Turkish world.  
However, I must also say this: While we certainly do not approve of some of the images reflected from the Nevruz events, despite that, we find it very meaningful that this year's celebrations were carried out without incident, without tension, and without violence, in the name of our nation's unity and cohesion.

“AS WE GET CLOSER TO A TERROR-FREE TURKEY, WE WILL WITNESS MORE OF THE DELIRIUMS OF THOSE WHO HAVE LOST THE TOOLS OF EXPLOITATION.”



However, you look and see that the act of one of our police officers, who paid from his own pocket to buy cotton candy for a disabled citizen and gave it to children, becomes a subject of criticism by the main opposition actors. Those who embrace street terrorists attacking our police officers with axes, fireworks, flammable acid, Molotov cocktails, stones, and clubs now take issue with the police officer giving cotton candy to children. They now shamelessly engage in patriotic rhetoric over cotton candy as if they weren't the ones begging for votes in city after city just a while ago. They have such a twisted mindset that they have no problem with throwing stones at the police, throwing Molotov cocktails, throwing acid, or attacking with axes. They have no issue with shop owners' windows being broken or their goods being looted. They are also not concerned with historical mosques being



turned into taverns, I'm sorry to say. But the fact that our police distributed cotton candy to children during the Nevruz celebrations bothers them. I believe that this inconsistency, this great contradiction, has been noted by our nation, especially by our Kurdish brothers and sisters.

Let it be known that this fascist language has lost against the nation, and it will continue to lose. As we approach the goal of a terror-free Turkey, we will witness more of the deliriums of those who have lost the tools of exploitation. Whatever they do, we are determined to save our nation from the terror scourge that has been draining its blood and resources for 40 years. We, with our Turks, Kurds, Arabs, Sunnis, Alevis, Circassians, Lazs, and all 85 million, carry the trust of this nation. We govern one of the largest, strongest, and brightest countries in the world, Turkey. What suits us, as it has been for 23 years, is to embrace, not polarize; to cooperate, not fight; and to advocate for love politics instead of hate politics. No matter the cost, we will never cease to elevate the universal language of love, peace, and brotherhood. Without being swayed by those who sow discord and hate, we will continue to transform Nevruz, which symbolizes the arrival of spring with its abundance and prosperity, into an opportunity for all 85 million of us to embrace each other with new hope.

I once again congratulate the Nevruz Festival of our brothers and sisters, especially those in our heart and culture geography, and sincerely wish that it strengthens the bonds of love and brotherhood between us.

Following a corruption operation centered in Istanbul, and after the main opposition party leader's call to the streets, we closely followed the events that quickly turned into violent actions. Due to the attacks of marginal organizations and city vandals, 123 of our security personnel were injured in five days. I once again wish them a speedy recovery. Despite all kinds of provocation, we sincerely congratulate our security forces for carrying out their duties with patience and cool-headedness.

Unfortunately, the leader and administrators of the main opposition party have displayed a great example of thoughtlessness. Instead of addressing allegations of corruption, theft, bribery, favoritism, and extortion, they have signed off on the most irresponsible, low-level, immoral, and lawless statements in the past five days. The ones responsible for the vandalism attacks on our injured police officers, shop owners whose windows were broken, and the billions of liras in public property damage are the leader and the followers of the main opposition party who called for the streets. Of course, their political responsibility will be asked in the Parliament, and their legal responsibility will be addressed in court. My dear nation, what we have witnessed over the past five days has once again shown us this truth: Turkey has a main



opposition party that is very small, primitive, and limited in terms of foresight, vision, and quality. These people, forget about governing the state or local governments, are not even capable of being entrusted with a municipal kiosk.

**"DO NOT STIR UP THE PEOPLE, DO NOT PLAY WITH THE NATION'S NERVES ANYMORE. "**

I must also express the following: After 32 years from the İSKİ scandal, and after 80 years since the one-party fascism era, they once again made this nation experience déjà vu. We saw firsthand what the elections actually served in the one-party period, which was falsely referred to as elections, a theater that lasted for years. The understanding of democracy of the The Republican People's Party (CHP) has once again been proven to be nothing more than an open-vote, secret-count farce. Despite 80 years having passed, the CHP has reminded 85 million people that they have not changed a bit, and we will continue to smile as we watch them play their own game.

"I have called for this several times before, and I repeat it today: stop disturbing the peace of our citizens with provocations. If you have the courage, account for the corruption, theft, bribes, and irregularities that have been committed. If you stand by the allegations in the ongoing investigation and the individuals who have been arrested, then come forward and openly say so with integrity. If you have no such intention, do not provoke the people unnecessarily, and do not toy with their nerves any further. Do not unleash the marginal left-wing organizations, who are nothing but bank robbers in terms of both their slogans and mentality, on our police officers. As you can see over the past five days, they are shouting so loudly that their body language reveals they do not believe in what they are doing, saying, or the stance they are showing. Whether right or wrong, there is not the slightest sign of the consistency seen in people who believe in their words and actions. We are familiar with this hypocrisy, especially from organizations like FETÖ and international actors who have lied to us for years. Like every game played

without belief, their show will end once the curtain falls. At that moment, when they look back, if they have any respect left, I believe they will feel shame for the harm they have caused to the country and the people. Although we have never witnessed such honorable behavior from them until now, we do not want to lose hope for the future and well-being of the country. I say it every time: Turkey does not have a single minute to lose. We do not have time to be distracted by these political merchants' fights, tricks, greed, and ambitions. The opposition party cadres can continue to devour one another, as their former leader wisely put it. We are simply focusing on our work and dedicating ourselves to serving our people. We are focused on building a strong Turkey, with a robust economy, security, defense, democracy, and justice. God willing, we will work even harder, produce more, and not only solve today's issues but also prepare Turkey for tomorrow's world in a very powerful way.

**"WE WILL NEVER ALLOW THE GAININGS WE ACHIEVED WITH OUR NEW ECONOMIC PROGRAM TO BE UNDERMINED"**

The response from the CHP to the corruption operation, which disregards the rule of law, has caused an artificial and unfounded fluctuation in the economy, along with other areas. When the illusion created disappears in a short time, the meaninglessness of what has happened will be more clearly understood. Thanks to the new economic program we have been implementing for two years, we will never allow our achievements to be undermined. As you know, with this program, we reached historically low levels of current account deficit and unemployment, strengthened fiscal discipline, and controlled inflation. We have strengthened the reserves of our Central Bank and significantly increased the resilience of our economy against shocks.

Furthermore, we have swiftly started to heal the wounds of the February 6 earthquakes. All of these successes have been achieved with great effort, patience, and determination. We will continue to implement our economic program with the same determination and perseverance. During such periods,

our primary priority is to preserve macro-financial stability. Our Ministry of Treasury and Finance, the Central Bank, and all related institutions, with a strong team spirit and our full support, are working tirelessly in full coordination, and we have taken every necessary step without delay so far, and we will continue to do so. Going forward, all measures will be taken with a proactive and flexible approach as needed. Our institutions have both the authority and the will to ensure the healthy functioning of the markets. Using our available tools effectively, we have successfully managed the recent market fluctuations and limited their effects to a temporary nature. In the coming period, we will continue with our economic program without slowing down or compromising.

**"WE HAVE OVERCOME MANY DIFFICULTIES, DEFEATED MANY ATTACKS, AND FOILED MANY BETRAYALS IN THE LAST 23 YEARS"**

Let me reiterate: Turkey has come through these times through trials and tribulations. Over the last 23 years, we have overcome many hardships, repelled many attacks, weathered many betrayals, prevented many manipulations, and emerged from many ambushes unscathed. We have never taken a step back in protecting the rights, law, and dignity of our people. The games of those who try to crown every chaos they create with attempts to undermine our economy have been foiled once again. Both at home and abroad, everyone can now see that Turkey is no longer a country that can be shaken by a few screamers or a few vandals disturbing the peace. The Turkish people are still confident in us, and we expect this trust to continue. Never forget, all of this is the result and expression of Turkey's century-long vision: a Turkey preparing for tomorrow's world, overcoming the 40-year-old issue of terrorism, becoming one of the global production hubs with strong infrastructure, and turning into the hope of its region with a solid security paradigm. We have completed 23 years in power, each filled with work, service, investment, and struggle. It is our honor to have the privilege of preparing Turkey for the new century of the Republic, with its democracy and infrastructure.

If you pay attention, today too, we are the only group who truly cares about the real agenda of our country, the real problems of our people, and the sincere expectations of our citizens. The support our people have given us over the years is not due to our personal looks, but because of the works and services we have brought to our country. As the only government and alliance working to solve Turkey's problems in every field, we will continue to be at the service of our people, seeking solutions, developing projects, and taking action. May God be our helper, and I hope that our meeting and the decisions we have taken bring blessings."



# Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Ankara Hosts Traditional Iftar Program for Kyrgyz Citizens

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Ankara organized a traditional "Iftarı" event for Kyrgyz citizens residing and studying in Ankara in celebration of the holy month of Ramadan.

The event was attended by the Ambassador of the Kyrgyz Republic to Turkey, Ruslan Kazakbaev, the Honorary Consul of Kyrgyzstan in Bolu, Atillahan Kurt, renowned actor Necati Şaşmaz—best known for his role as Polat Alemdar in Kurtlar Vadisi—as well as embassy staff and more than 200 Kyrgyz citizens from Ankara and surrounding provinces.

In his speech, Ambassador Kazakbaev extended his best wishes for Ramadan, a month of special significance for all Muslims, and emphasized the importance of unity, solidarity, mutual understanding, and cooperation among Kyrgyz citizens in Turkey.



The Ambassador also highlighted the Kyrgyz Republic's strategic development goals, set under the slogan "National Inspiration – Global Excellence," drawing attention to the nation's cultural heritage, spiritual values, and economic aspirations. He stressed the significance of preserving the independence of Kyrgyz statehood, achieved through centuries of struggle, and paid tribute to the founding leaders of modern Kyrgyzstan, including Abdykerim Sydykov, Imanaly Aidarbekov, Jusup Abdrakhmanov, Abdykadyr Orozbekov, and Ishenaly Arabaev. He also noted that a presidential decree had recently been signed in their honor.

The evening featured performances of traditional Kyrgyz folk songs and instrumental pieces, while participants joined in singing patriotic songs expressing their love for their homeland.



At the conclusion of the event, Ambassador Kazakbaev personally met with attendees and extended his greetings for the upcoming Nowruz celebrations. He also provided insights into ongoing reforms aimed at improving the well-being and

economic prosperity of the Kyrgyz people, the Embassy's efforts to safeguard the rights and interests of Kyrgyz citizens, and the current state and future prospects of Kyrgyz-Turkish relations.





# Four Years of President Sadyr Japarov's Leadership in Kyrgyzstan

During the four years of President Sadyr Japarov's tenure, Kyrgyzstan has made significant strides in various areas, from the economy to foreign policy.



Sadyr Japarov was elected president in the early 2021 Kyrgyz presidential elections. In the past four years, important steps have been taken, particularly in the fields of the economy, social welfare, and foreign policy. President Japarov has placed special emphasis on infrastructure development, encouraging foreign investments, increasing employment, and supporting entrepreneurship. One of the most significant steps for Kyrgyzstan's economy in recent years was the state acquisition of the Kumtor gold mine. The mine, which had been operated by a foreign company for nearly 24 years, generated over \$1.2 billion in net profits after coming under state control, with total revenue surpassing \$3.4 billion.

In recent years, over 100 new factories have been established in Kyrgyzstan, including automobile plants. The construction of the “Kambar-Ata-1” hydroelectric power plant and the initiation of the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan railway project have strengthened Kyrgyzstan's economic position. These measures have accelerated economic growth and increased production volumes. Furthermore, billions of som have been returned to the state treasury as a result of anti-corruption measures. The fight against corruption continues at full pace. Kyrgyzstan possesses significant potential in tourism. To tap into this potential, the construction of tourism facilities and recreational areas in line with international standards is ongoing. In the past four years, important developments have also been made in the transportation sector. New airports have been built, and

existing airports have been renovated. As a result, domestic flights have resumed in the country. President Sadyr Japarov aimed to strengthen Kyrgyzstan's position on the international stage. In this regard, Japarov took steps to strengthen diplomatic relations, attract foreign capital, and address global issues. As a result, border disputes with Tajikistan have been resolved, and the border demarcation process with Uzbekistan has been completed.

Under Japarov's leadership, Kyrgyzstan has also accelerated investments in its citizens' welfare, fulfilling its social state responsibilities. The social facilities built in Kyrgyzstan in the past four years are as follows:  
2021: 59 schools, 12 kindergartens, 11 hospitals, 4 cultural centers, 2 sports facilities, 13 water treatment plants, and 8 other facilities, totaling 109 facilities.  
2022: 37 schools, 12 kindergartens, 2 hospitals, 2 industrial facilities, 1 sports facility, 38 water treatment plants, and 1 other facility, totaling 93 facilities.  
2023: 124 schools, 11 kindergartens, 5 hospitals, 2 socio-cultural facilities, 7 sports facilities, 46 water treatment plants, and 15 other facilities, totaling 210 facilities.  
2024: 100 schools, 31 kindergartens, 11 health facilities, 7 socio-cultural facilities, 13 sports facilities, 12 residential buildings, 19 water treatment plants, and 7 other facilities, totaling 200 facilities.  
During President Sadyr Japarov's leadership over the past four years, Kyrgyzstan has undergone significant transformation. Japarov's goal is to position his country among the world's top 30 most developed nations.

# OTS Welcomes Border Agreement Signed Between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Secretary General of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, announced that the border demarcation agreement signed between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan has been welcomed with satisfaction.



In a written statement, Secretary General Omuraliev emphasized that this milestone, achieved through diplomacy and dialogue, paves the way for lasting peace, stability, and prosperity in Central Asia and beyond.

Omuraliev reiterated that the OTS stands ready to support all efforts aimed at strengthening fraternal ties and regional harmony. He expressed satisfaction with the border demarcation agreement signed between the two countries yesterday in Bishkek. Border Agreement Signed Between the Two Countries Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov and Tajik President Emomali Rahmon met in Bishkek and signed the border agreement between their respective countries.

The agreement resolved a long-standing border dispute that had persisted since 1991.

As part of this process, control points on the Kyzyl-Bel and Kairagach highways were inaugurated via video conference.

Turkey also welcomed the border demarcation agreement signed between the two countries. In a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it was noted:

"We welcome the border demarcation agreement signed between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. We hope that this agreement, reached through close dialogue at the highest level between the two countries, will contribute to peace, stability, and cooperation in the region."





# Foreign Minister Fidan: We Support the Ongoing Ceasefire Negotiations Led by the U.S.

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, regarding the Russia-Ukraine peace talks, stated, "As Turkey, we will support both the ceasefire and comprehensive peace negotiations. We support the ongoing ceasefire negotiations led by the U.S."



Minister Fidan spoke at a joint press conference following his meeting with Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Péter Szijjártó, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Stating, "We have supported the peace and ceasefire negotiations led by the U.S. from the beginning," regarding the Russia-Ukraine peace talks, Fidan reminded that Turkey has been in the peace camp since day one.

Fidan pointed out that there have been many deaths and destruction in the Russia-Ukraine war and emphasized that their position in international platforms, particularly within NATO, along with Hungary, is to put an end to this situation.

"At the point we have reached today, it is, of course, a pleasing development for our region and for humanity to see the new American administration advancing this agenda. Hopefully, they will achieve a permanent ceasefire as soon as possible," said Fidan, noting that there are currently a few agreements in place that could lead to a ceasefire.

Fidan further stated:

"I hope that Russia will soon make an announcement confirming its acceptance of a temporary ceasefire, even if only for 30 days. We must move on to further negotiations as soon as possible.

On the other hand, how will peace be established, what will the security guarantees be? The discussions, studies, and efforts regarding the oversight force for peace and the structure to be created with security guarantees are ongoing. There are also regular meetings in which our President participates. Many of these meetings are held online. Today, there will be another online meeting with European leaders, in which our President will also take part. This search for a solution continues.

As Turkey, we will continue to provide all kinds of support for both a ceasefire and comprehensive peace negotiations.

In this regard, our President's views and policies are very clear."

Fidan stated that Hungary was among the first countries he visited after assuming the role of Foreign Minister and noted that he has always exchanged views with his counterpart on challenging international issues.

Pointing out that relations between Turkey and Hungary have a multidimensional nature, Fidan said that they strive to deepen bilateral relations in all areas.

Fidan emphasized that the close friendship and trust between the leaders of the two countries serve as a guide for them, stating, "We are determined to take steps to further strengthen our enhanced strategic partnership in the upcoming period.

We will hold the 7th meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council in our country. As you know, 2024 was declared the Turkey-Hungary Culture Year. We have designated 2025 as the Turkey-Hungary Science and Innovation Year.

Our goal for this special year is to pave the way for new collaborations in various fields, from trade to energy, defense industry to scientific research."

Indicating that last year was extremely productive in terms of trade relations, Fidan stated that the trade volume between the two countries reached 4.5 billion dollars and that they have taken another step closer to the 6 billion-dollar target set by their leaders.

Fidan mentioned that more than 500 Turkish companies operate in various sectors in Hungary and expressed great satisfaction with the employment and added value generated by these firms.

"Our cooperation in the defense industry is also developing and deepening. Our companies have now begun joint production. We believe that we will soon see our jointly produced defense products in third countries.

Our cooperation in the energy sector also has a special and strategic

significance," said Fidan, emphasizing that they are pleased with the expansion of activities in this area across a broad spectrum.

Fidan highlighted that cooperation within the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), of which Hungary is an observer member, continues at a very high level and noted that the informal summit of the OTS will be held in Budapest this year, to which they attach great importance.

"Hungary assumed the presidency of the EU Council in the second half of last year. Throughout this period, they made serious efforts to revitalize Turkey-European Union (EU) relations. We are grateful to them for these efforts," Fidan said, expressing his appreciation to his counterpart for their contributions.

Minister Fidan continued his remarks:

"In the meetings we attend, we have always emphasized that Turkey, with its capabilities and resources, can make significant contributions to Europe's security, stability, and prosperity. At this point, we expect the EU to recalibrate its strategic compass. We believe that Turkey-EU relations should not be confined to the narrow interests of certain members. When it comes to Europe's security, the importance of Turkey-EU relations becomes evident. We firmly believe that all steps related to European security must be planned in coordination with Turkey for our shared interests."

Fidan highlighted that both Turkey and Hungary are directly affected by the war in Ukraine. He emphasized that both countries support dialogue and diplomacy for conflict resolution, welcome steps toward a ceasefire, and believe that this process should be supported.

"Our hope is to establish a full and comprehensive ceasefire and initiate a process leading to lasting peace. We will continue our efforts and maintain our

contacts with the relevant parties in this regard," Fidan stated.

**"We Must Be Vigilant Against Provocations Undermining Peace and Stability in Syria"**

Minister Fidan stressed the importance of remaining cautious against provocations aimed at disrupting peace and stability in Syria. He mentioned that following the National Dialogue Conference in Syria, a constitutional declaration was issued, emphasizing Syria's territorial integrity and unity while rejecting separatist movements. Fidan noted that this declaration also guarantees equal citizenship rights for all and stated:

"We expect the political transition process to continue with steps toward forming a government and a people's assembly. The new administration in Damascus must reach a capacity to ensure peace and stability in the country. For this, international support and engagement are crucial. In this context, I hope that all sanctions will be completely lifted."

**"Israel Has Resumed Genocide"**

Emphasizing the need to make the ceasefire in Gaza permanent and to implement subsequent phases, Fidan said:

"Israel violated the ceasefire agreement by obstructing humanitarian aid to Gaza. In recent days, it has resumed genocide by martyring hundreds of Palestinians. Peace, stability, international law, or humanitarian values are not on Netanyahu's agenda. Israel's goal is to intimidate the Palestinian people and depopulate Palestine. The Palestinian issue carries the risk of leading to larger regional and global problems. As Turkey, we will continue to stand by the Palestinian people. On Sunday, I will attend the meeting of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Arab League Gaza Contact Group in Cairo. Our priority



right now is to return to a ceasefire and meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the people in Gaza. At the same time, we will continue to hold Israel accountable for its crimes.”

**Fidan’s Engagements in Syria**  
Recalling his visit to Syria last week, where he held meetings with high-level officials, Fidan said that he had a “very comprehensive meeting” with Syrian President Ahmed Shara and his team. Highlighting that they discussed critical issues for both countries and the region, Fidan stated:  
“At the forefront was, of course, reviewing the agreement reached between Syria’s new administration and the YPG.”  
He noted that Turkey shared its concerns, identified risks, and discussed how they were being addressed. “Our

Minister Fidan stated that Turkey’s recommendation to Syria was to ensure a governance structure that promotes social peace, facilitates administration, and conveys a message of equality to all citizens.  
Emphasizing the importance of Syria’s political stability, economic development, and the restoration of institutions, Fidan referred to the necessity of rebuilding these institutions. Fidan stated that Turkey’s potential contributions in this regard were also discussed, emphasizing that President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is particularly sensitive about this issue.  
The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fidan, noted that steps to ensure the provision of basic services to the Syrian people and to eliminate challenges such as energy and food shortages were discussed. Fidan also added that the damages



Highlighting that Hungary’s security interests completely align with Turkey’s, Szijjarto stated, “This applies both in terms of physical and energy security. Over the past three years, Hungary and Turkey have been the loudest supporters of the peace camp. For the past three years, we have consistently and openly advocated for the necessity of peace. We have insisted on ceasefire negotiations until the end.”  
Szijjarto remarked, “Today, Europeans speaking about a ceasefire have exhibited an astonishing stance in international organizations and politics for three years. Those who now speak of a ceasefire had essentially banned the word ‘ceasefire’ for three years. I want to remind everyone of this.”  
Underlining that the solution to the Russia-Ukraine war does not lie on the battlefield, Szijjarto said, “We find Brussels’ decisions to send new weapons and billions of euros in support extremely dangerous and unacceptable.” He stated that these measures prolong the war and, as the war drags on, more people die. For this reason, he expressed hope that the upcoming ceasefire talks between the U.S. and Russia next week would be successful.

**"Hungary’s energy security is impossible without Turkey"**  
Touching on energy cooperation, Szijjarto stated, “Hungary’s energy security is impossible without Turkey. We are grateful to Turkey for being a reliable partner in Hungary’s energy security. A total of 7.6 billion cubic meters of gas has been delivered to Hungary via TurkStream. This year, we have exceeded 20 million cubic meters daily.”  
Szijjarto also recalled that before leaving office, the Biden administration imposed sanctions on Gazprombank, saying, “These actions were taken deliberately. They aimed to put regional countries in a difficult situation regarding natural gas. This was a hostile approach by the Biden administration.”  
Stating that the Trump administration acted in a rational and sensible manner, Szijjarto said, “According to the information we received from Washington yesterday, our request for Gazprombank’s exemption from sanctions has been extended. Thus,

Hungary’s natural gas supply is secure. Our natural gas supply has not fallen victim to the Biden administration’s hostile ideology.”

**"We are in talks with BOTAŞ to buy natural gas directly from Turkey this year as well"**  
The Hungarian minister recalled that last year they purchased natural gas directly from Turkey, adding, “This year, we have started negotiations with BOTAŞ (Boru Hatları ile Petrol Taşıma AŞ) to buy natural gas directly from Turkey again.” Szijjarto stated that the strategic partnership between Hungary’s international oil and gas company MOL Group and the Turkish Petroleum Corporation (TPAO) continues, adding, “(MOL and TPAO) will work together for the drilling of wells in Hungary, and a joint company will be established. More than 15 million worth of investment will be made in Hungary.” He emphasized that last year, Turkey and Hungary reached a record in bilateral trade volume and projected a 10% increase this year.

**"We want to talk about peace"**  
During the Q&A session, Szijjarto responded to a question about why Hungary did not participate in meetings held by European countries regarding potential security guarantees for Ukraine. He said, “Because we are in favor of peace. Our European colleagues who support war do not want us to be part of their war-related discussions. We want to talk about peace.”  
In response to a question about Hungary’s policy regarding security guarantees and troop deployment in Ukraine, Szijjarto stated that the order of priority should be a ceasefire, followed by peace talks, and then a peace agreement.  
Expressing hope that an agreement would be reached between the U.S. and Russia, Szijjarto said, “If there is a U.S.-Russia agreement and these two countries maintain normal and civilized relations, history tells us that this will be beneficial not only for us but also for global peace. I hope the pro-war supporters in Brussels will not be able to prevent this.”



aim is for the agreement to be implemented to the letter, in both spirit and practice. We also pointed out potential areas of concern,” he added. Fidan mentioned that they also discussed how to manage the agreement to prevent the resurgence of the terrorist organization Daesh in the region. He referred to the five-party meeting in Jordan and stated that Syria’s views on implementing the outcomes of this meeting in practice were considered. He also noted that Ankara shared its military, intelligence, and operational perspectives.  
Emphasizing that these views would be presented to the five-country delegation, Fidan conveyed the message that concrete progress would be made based on the agreement reached.  
Referring to recent incidents in Latakia, Fidan stated that they reviewed these events and listened to Syrian officials regarding the nature of the provocation and possible measures to be taken.  
Expressing satisfaction that the Syrian government is following this issue with great seriousness, Fidan emphasized that there is a strong commitment to preventing civilian massacres and holding those responsible accountable, with concrete steps already being taken. He also highlighted that discussions in Syria covered ongoing work on a new constitution, as well as temporary constitutional arrangements until a new constitution is established. Views on a potential inclusive government were also discussed.

caused by Israeli expansionism in the region and the measures that could be taken against it were also on the agenda.  
Szijjarto: It is unrealistic to talk about Europe’s security architecture without including Turkey and Russia  
Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Szijjarto, congratulated Fidan for his efforts in ending the Russia-Ukraine war and achieving peace, stating, “Before (former U.S. President) Donald Trump, only Turkey was able to succeed between the two sides.”  
Szijjarto pointed out that there is now hope for peace in Ukraine, saying, “We wish and support the success of the Russia-U.S. negotiations by all possible means. We expect Brussels not to obstruct peace talks with its pro-war policies.”  
Emphasizing that a sustainable European security architecture can only be discussed with the inclusion of Russia and Turkey, Szijjarto noted that there are some ideological fanatics in Europe who express opposing views, but these views stand on weak foundations.  
The Hungarian Minister stated, “It is unrealistic to talk about Europe’s security architecture without including Turkey and Russia.”  
Comparing his two-hour meeting with Minister Fidan to the overtime of the Turkey-Hungary UEFA Nations League play-off match played the previous day, Szijjarto said that this duration demonstrated the strategic partnership, alliance, and friendship between the two countries.



# The Enthusiasm of Nevruz Celebrations Across the Turkic World

From Turkistan to the Balkans, March 21 is celebrated annually as Nevruz Bayramı, incorporating local traditions and beliefs.

Celebrated every year on March 21, Nevruz Bayramı stands out as a day that symbolizes the arrival of spring, with each nation embedding it within its own cultural values.

Prof. Dr. Serdar Uğurlu, Head of the Turkish Folk Literature Department at Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal University (BAİBÜ) Faculty of Science and Letters, described Nevruz as a sacred beginning, stating, "March 21 marks the end of harsh winter, misfortunes, illnesses, troubles, and difficulties, and the start of a new year filled with health, well-being, abundance, and prosperity."

Uğurlu emphasized that Nevruz, celebrated across a vast region, represents the awakening of the earth, the arrival of spring, and a symbol of brotherhood, friendship, and solidarity.

Highlighting its importance for communities engaged in animal husbandry, Uğurlu explained, "The new year and spring have been considered sacred and celebrated because it is the time when fresh grass begins to grow, allowing animals to graze on green pastures once again. Nevruz is a sacred beginning because it signifies the end of winter's hardships and the start of a prosperous new year on March 21." He further noted that for Turks, all sacred beginnings are equated with Nevruz, adding, "For instance, March 21 is the day of emergence from Ergenekon and is even considered the day of Adam's creation. That is also a sacred beginning. March 21 is also regarded as the day Hacı Bektaş Veli arrived in Anatolia."

## "The Tradition of Celebrating Nevruz Has Persisted for Centuries in the Turkic World"

Uğurlu pointed out that while the tradition of celebrating Nevruz has been upheld for centuries in the Turkic world, its observance in Anatolia is not as strong and vibrant as before. He suggested that civil society organizations and relevant institutions should take steps to revive and promote its widespread celebration.

"With the contributions of these institutions and organizations, national festivals like this should continue to be observed through traditional village plays, fire-lighting ceremonies, and fire-jumping rituals," he stated.

Sharing details of local celebrations, Uğurlu mentioned that in the Seben district of Bolu,

the Nevruz fire is lit annually on Nevruz Hill, located at an altitude of 1,400 meters.

"On March 21, a fire is lit on this hill to announce Nevruz. Since it appears to ignite by itself from a distance, it is called the 'Sacred Fire' in the region. There are similar fire-lit hills in Bolu, Mudurnu, Göynük, and various parts of Anatolia," he explained. Emphasizing that Nevruz encompasses the entire Turkic world, Uğurlu highlighted that its rituals are practiced in similar ways across different regions, with the Nevruz fire symbolizing the continuation of an ancient tradition.

## Nevruz Celebrations in Kyrgyzstan In Kyrgyzstan, Nevruz Bayramı, symbolizing the arrival of spring, was celebrated with great enthusiasm.

The Bishkek City Municipality organized a celebration event at Turdakun Usubaliyev Square, attended by Cabinet of Ministers Chairman Adilbek Kasımalıyev, Bishkek Mayor Aybek Cunuşaliyev, municipal officials, association representatives, and citizens.

The event began with a theatrical performance depicting the arrival of Nevruz and nature's awakening, followed by a staged representation of inviting people to plant crops.

## "Nevruz is a Part of Our Spiritual Culture" Congratulating the public on Nevruz Bayramı, Kasımalıyev remarked, "Nevruz is a part of our spiritual culture and a traditional festival of Eastern civilization."

Expressing his wish for lasting harmony and prosperity in Kyrgyzstan, Kasımalıyev stated, "May the fire of unity and well-being always burn in the hearts of our multinational people, and may the tables of abundance never be empty."

Recalling that this year Nevruz coincided with the holy month of Ramadan, he extended his wishes for accepted prayers and fasting.

Kasımalıyev also emphasized that the peaceful resolution of the border issue between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan is a significant "festival" for the people of both countries.

During the celebrations, traditional Kyrgyz customs were showcased in specially set-up yurts, while outdoor spaces hosted traditional games. The event concluded with



performances by children's and adult folklore groups and a concert by local artists.

Chairman of the Aksakals (Elders) Council, Ömürbek Ümetaliyev, extended his greetings for both Nevruz Bayramı and the month of Ramadan to all Muslims.

## President Caparov Welcomed Nevruz in Osh

Meanwhile, Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov participated in the festivities organized by the Osh municipality.

Speaking at the event, Caparov stated, "We have set a path to build a new Kyrgyzstan, and we are striving to establish order in every sector to achieve this goal."

He also highlighted the recent resolution of border issues with neighboring countries, emphasizing the progress made in this regard.

## Nevruz Celebrations in Turkmenistan

Recognized on UNESCO's List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, Nevruz Bayramı is being celebrated with joy and enthusiasm across the Turkic region, including Turkmenistan.

The main festivities are being held in the Nevruz Plateau of Anev city, where a traditional Turkmen village has been set up.

The celebrations, attended by government officials, representatives of public institutions, and diplomats, featured the preparation of the traditional dessert "semeni" as a wish for a prosperous year, along with performances by Ahalteke horses.

A two-day public holiday has been declared in the country, and concerts are being held as part of the celebrations.

Ongoing Nevruz Festivities in Kazakhstan In Kazakhstan, Nevruz Bayramı, a harbinger of spring, is being celebrated with various events.

To mark the occasion, a five-day public holiday has been declared, and traditional Kazakh village-style setups have been established in the capital, Astana.

White yurts have been erected in designated areas, hosting concerts, folk dance performances, and traditional sports competitions.

An exhibition showcasing traditional handicrafts is also available, where visitors are treated to "Nevruz Köje," a staple of Kazakhstan's Nevruz feast.

Children eagerly line up to take photos with eagles and tazy hunting dogs.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev attended the Nevruz celebration at the Expo Fair Center in Astana, extending his greetings to the public.

"Since ancient times, our ancestors have celebrated this festival as the moment when night and day become equal and life is revived," Tokayev stated.

He emphasized the symbolic significance of Nevruz coinciding with Ramadan, saying, "Our traditions are deeply connected to our faith."

Tokayev also noted that Nevruz Bayramı has a unique atmosphere in Kazakhstan, attracting foreign visitors interested in

exploring the country's rich cultural heritage.

Nevruz Festivities in Azerbaijan In Baku, the historic İçərişəhər (Old City) was the focal point of Nevruz celebrations, drawing large crowds.

The festivities featured performances by various music groups, while stalls showcased traditional food, clothing, and handicrafts. Among the highlights were lively performances by "Kosa and Keçel" and "Bahar Kız," folk dance groups, and thrilling acrobatic shows.

A grand Nevruz fire was lit in İçərişəhər Square, where attendees gathered around to witness the performances.

With both Nevruz and Ramadan Bayramı approaching, Azerbaijan has declared a public holiday until March 31, extending the celebrations.

## Azerbaijan's Nevruz Traditions

Azerbaijanis begin preparing for Nevruz a month in advance, celebrating it through four special Tuesdays: Water, Fire, Wind, and Earth Tuesdays.

On Water Tuesday, water is sprinkled around the house; on Fire Tuesday, bonfires are lit in neighborhoods, and candles are lit for each family member.

Wind Tuesday follows similar customs, leading up to the main celebration on Earth Tuesday, which involves lighting large fires in neighborhoods and preparing festive meals.

Jumping over fire while saying, "May my burdens and troubles stay in the fire," fortune-telling with rings, egg painting, and rooster fights are among the traditional Nevruz customs in Azerbaijan.

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT





# İlham Aliyev Spoke to Euronews: Global Stability Will Not Be Achieved Anytime Soon

Azerbaijani President İlham Aliyev stated in an interview that achieving global stability in the coming years is unlikely and emphasized the need for realistic expectations regarding the resolution of major conflicts.



Azerbaijani President İlham Aliyev pointed out in his statement that in today's rapidly changing world, global stability cannot be ensured in the coming months or even years. Speaking at the Global Baku Forum held in the capital of Azerbaijan, Aliyev said that the world has entered a phase where "new rules and regulations are being outlined."

"The old world order no longer seems to be here. Therefore, no one knows what the new adjustment of international interaction will be. There are different opinions," he said. The Azerbaijani leader added, "However, what is absolutely clear is that every country should focus more on its own capacity, not rely on any assistance, and not even count on international law." Aliyev also stated that, particularly in the case of Russia's war in Ukraine, key global actors prefer to be "realistic rather than optimistic" about their ability to resolve major conflicts.

The Azerbaijani leader said, "Even if the war stops, there is no guarantee that it will not break out again." "For nearly 30 years, we have experienced a period in which there was a ceasefire agreement between Azerbaijan and Armenia. This agreement was reached in the spring of 1994, but that did not mean the war had ended. It only transformed, and a war

only ends when there is a peace agreement," he said. He pointed out that the South Caucasus region has experienced "conflict and hostility" for decades. Aliyev added, "It is important to protect the region from the crises surrounding us."

"Now we have relatively calm periods. Therefore, we need to focus on establishing inclusive security mechanisms, eliminating the threat of another military conflict, and trying to live in neighborly relations as it was during the Soviet Union era."

When Azerbaijan declared independence in October 1991, it was one of the 15 socialist republics of the Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), along with other countries in the region. While Aliyev acknowledged that "not being independent" meant that no regional country could plan its future, he also emphasized that the republics continued their "active interaction." Speaking about the current state of relations with Baku's neighbor Armenia, the Azerbaijani president said that "the great advantage of today's situation" can be seen in the quiet period of the past five years.

However, he stressed that stability can only be achieved through an agreement. Aliyev concluded his speech by saying, "Until a peace agreement is signed, stability is not here."

# The President of Kazakhstan Signed a Decree on the Establishment of the Atomic Energy Agency

The President of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, has signed a decree on the establishment of an atomic energy agency in the country.



As Kazakhstan plans to build its first nuclear power plant following last year's referendum, President Tokayev has signed a decree for the establishment of an atomic energy agency. According to the decree published on the website of Akorda, the Presidential Press Service of Kazakhstan, the agency will be established as a state institution directly subordinate to and accountable to the President of the country.

**THE COUNTRY'S ENERGY MINISTER APPOINTED AS AGENCY HEAD**  
The statement further noted that the agency will assume the responsibilities and authorities of the Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan in the fields of uranium mining, the use of atomic energy, ensuring public protection from radiation, and the establishment and operation of the Semipalatinsk nuclear safety zone. In another presidential decree, it was announced that Almassadam Satkaliyev, who had been serving as the Minister of Energy, was appointed as the head of the agency.

**"THREE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS NEED TO BE BUILT"**  
Tokayev first announced the establishment of the agency during a speech at the National Kurultai on March 14, stating: "The issue is not just about meeting

the country's current energy needs. It is strategically important for us to create a new energy industry that will provide a solid foundation for dynamic economic development over the coming decades. For this reason, I believe that not one, but three nuclear power plants need to be built, ultimately leading to the creation of a fully-fledged nuclear cluster."

**"A CRITICAL DECISION FOR KAZAKHSTAN'S FUTURE"**  
The establishment of the agency follows the national referendum held in October 2024, in which approximately 71% of Kazakh citizens voted in favor of constructing the country's first nuclear power plant. Tokayev, who first proposed the referendum in 2023, described it as a critical decision for Kazakhstan's future. However, criticisms regarding the construction of the plant have also been raised.





# OTS Secretary General Meets with Sweden's Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan



**Secretary General of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, received Sweden's Ambassador to Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, Tomas Danestad, at the OTS Secretariat headquarters in Istanbul.**

During the meeting, the parties held in-depth discussions on the structure, current agenda, and future activities of the Organization. They also explored opportunities for cooperation between the OTS and Sweden, including strengthening ties with the EU and the Nordic Council.

Additionally, both sides exchanged views on regional and global developments high on the international agenda.

## Zelensky: We Expect the U.S. to Ensure an Unconditional Ceasefire in the Black Sea

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky stated that the United States should pressure Russia to secure a ceasefire in the Black Sea.



Speaking at a joint press conference with French President Emmanuel Macron at the Élysée Palace in Paris, Zelensky addressed efforts to end the Russia-Ukraine war, including discussions held in Saudi Arabia. He noted that despite the ceasefire decisions made during these talks, Russia has continued its attacks on Ukraine. Arguing that Russia is intent on prolonging the war, Zelensky emphasized the need for stronger, coordinated steps from Ukraine's partners to truly bring the conflict to an end. He stressed the importance of a ceasefire in the Black Sea but stated that Russia has begun introducing additional conditions for it. "This is why we expect the American side to ensure unconditional silence (a ceasefire) at sea," he said.

Responding to a question about Russia's demand for the lifting of sanctions in exchange for ensuring a

ceasefire in the Black Sea, Zelensky clarified that the issue of sanctions was not discussed between the Ukrainian and U.S. delegations during the meetings in Saudi Arabia. Zelensky also stated that his bilateral meeting with Macron included discussions on the possible provision of additional French Mirage 2000 fighter jets to Ukraine.

Regarding security guarantees and the potential deployment of foreign troops in Ukraine, Zelensky suggested that such a measure could be significant in deterring Russian aggression. If peacekeeping forces were stationed in Ukraine, their primary role would be to monitor and control the situation on the ground, he explained. "No one wants to drag any country into war. The quota for monitoring is very important," Zelensky added. He also announced that further discussions on this issue would take place at an upcoming Ukraine summit in Paris.

### ULUSLARARASI SİVİL DİPLOMASİ GAZETESİ

İMTİYAZ SAHİBİ  
USTSEM TELEVİZYON GAZETECİLİK  
BASIN YAYIN SANAYİ TİCARET LTD. ŞTİ.  
ADINA  
Çağrı Mert GAYIR

YAYIN TÜRÜ : YAYGIN SÜRELİ YAYIN  
SÜRESİ: 15 GÜNLÜK  
YAYIN DİLİ: İNGİLİZCE

SORUMLU YAZI İŞLERİ MÜDÜRÜ  
Mustafa UYSAL

GENEL YAYIN YÖNETMENİ  
Can BAŞKAN

HABER MÜDÜRÜ  
M.Ali HOZAN

BAŞ YAZAR  
Razi SAFAROV

İSTİHBARAT VE HABER ŞEFİ  
Berke ŞAHİN

HABER EDITÖRÜ  
Beyza KURT

HABER MUHABİRİ  
Vedat KURT

FOTO MUHABİRİ  
Ramazan ÜNLÜ

GÖRSEL YÖNETMEN  
Ayfer KURT

YAZAR  
Lütfiye İlksen ÇİRİTOĞLU KURT  
Hasan YİĞİT

İSTANBUL İL ABONE TEMSİLCİSİ  
Suat ŞİMŞEK

TÜRKMENİSTAN ABONE TEMSİLCİSİ  
Burak ÖZATA

AZERBAIJAN ABONE TEMSİLCİSİ  
Razi SAFAROV

UKRAYNA ABONE TEMSİLCİSİ  
Sofia BARNAS

DAĞITIM / AMADE AJANS  
WEB TASARIM / Can BAŞKAN

HUKUK DANIŞMANI  
Av. Neslihan DURAN KOCAKAYA  
Av. Doğan KOZAN  
Av. Faruk EVİRGİN  
Av. Kerim ÖZTÜRK  
Av. Naile ŞEKER  
Av. Halil PAŞAYİĞİT

SAYFA TASARIM  
Esra CAN APAYDIN

ÇEVİRİ  
Asel TAGAİ KYZY

BASKI  
Klasmat Matbaacılık Ltd. Şti.  
İvedik OSB Matbaacılar San. Sit.  
1515. Sok. No: 12 Yenimahalle/  
ANKARA Tel : (0312) 395 14 92

ADRES  
Ayvalı Mahallesi 159. Cadde  
Kayra Apt. No: 9/6  
AYVALI - KEÇİÖREN-  
ANKARA/TÜRKİYE  
Tel: +(90 312) 446 37 34  
e-mail: sivildiplomasigazetesi@gmail.com

usigazetesi@hotmail.com

www.sivildiplomasi.com

www.baskentplatformu.com

Uluslararası Sivil Diplomasi Gazetesi yaygın süreli ve 15 günde bir yayın yapan bir gazetedir. Uluslararası Sivil Diplomasi Gazetesi yayımlanan haber, yazı, resim ve fotoğrafın FSEK ve Basın Kanunu'ndan kaynaklanan her türlü hakları USTSEM TELEVİZYON GAZETECİLİK BASIN YAYIN SANAYİ TİCARET LTD. ŞTİ.'ne aittir. İzin alınmaksızın, kaynak gösterilerek dahi iktibas edilemez.



# Hungarian Foreign Minister Szijjarto: Turkey is an Important Partner in Achieving Peace

During his visit to Turkey, Szijjarto discussed various topics, including Turkey-Hungary relations, the reshaping of Europe's security architecture, and global issues.

Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Peter Szijjarto, speaking about Europe's security architecture, said: "If you are talking about a sustainable and long-term peaceful and secure life for the people of Europe, then you cannot exclude either Russia or Turkey from these discussions."



arsenals, you will not be able to build a sustainable security architecture for the continent." Szijjarto stressed that for Hungary, it is clear that Turkey and Russia must be included in the preparation of this new European security architecture. "Turkey is a Very Important Partner for Us"

Speaking about Turkey's potential role in Europe's security architecture, Szijjarto stated: "When it comes to the fight for peace, Turkey is a very important partner for us." He pointed out that Turkey and Hungary have represented this stance very well on the international stage over the past three years, stating: "On international platforms such as Europe and NATO, the countries that have most often spoken in favor of peace were Hungary and Turkey. That is why including a country that advocates peace in the new security architecture is crucial." "Before U.S. President Donald Trump took office, the only person who successfully undertook a mediation role in the Russia-Ukraine war was President Erdoğan. Everyone remembers the Black Sea Grain Agreement, which was undoubtedly a success of the Turkish government and its president," said Szijjarto, emphasizing the importance of Turkey's mediation role. He also stated: "When it comes to rebuilding Europe's defense capacity, how can it be possible to exclude a country with NATO's second-largest army?" Szijjarto emphasized that Turkey is a key country in maintaining peace and stability and that this role should be acknowledged.

**"We Are Always Ready to Do Whatever is Necessary to Restore Peace to the Region"**  
Addressing a question about Israel's

violation of the ceasefire, Szijjarto expressed deep sorrow over the events that have been unfolding in the region since October 7, 2023. Minister Szijjarto said: "We are deeply saddened by the failure to uphold the original agreement to continue the ceasefire," adding that he hopes for a swift return to peace in the region, particularly considering the suffering of families and children who have no connection to the conflict. Emphasizing that the events in Gaza pose a risk of escalating tensions in the region, Szijjarto urged attention to what is happening in Lebanon, Syria, and neighboring areas, stating: "As Hungarians, we are always ready to do whatever is necessary to restore peace to that region. We are concerned that the conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East could merge, creating serious risks for global security." Netanyahu's Possible Visit to Hungary Despite the ICC Arrest Warrant

Responding to a question about Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's planned visit to Hungary in April despite the International Criminal Court (ICC) arrest warrant and possible international reactions, Szijjarto said: "Whatever we do in foreign policy, we usually receive strong reactions from all sides. This is nothing new and is not surprising."

Szijjarto noted that Hungary hosts a large Jewish population and has good relations with Israel. Regarding the ICC decision, Szijjarto stated: "Like many other international institutions, the ICC faces challenges such as bias, lack of balance, and politicization. That is why we Hungarians have not reconsidered our relationship with the ICC or our participation in its activities. Our government will soon make a decision on this matter."

Szijjarto stated that his country considers Turkey an ally, a friend, and a strategic partner, emphasizing that the two countries have managed to establish a strategic relationship in the most critical moments. He added that without Turkey, it would be impossible to discuss Hungary's energy security. Expressing gratitude for Turkey's highly reliable role in ensuring energy supply security, Szijjarto noted that in 2024, trade volume between the two countries broke a record, bringing them even closer to achieving the annual trade target of \$6 billion. Highlighting the efforts of Turkey and Hungary in supporting peace amid the Russia-Ukraine war, Szijjarto said: "For the past three years, we have advocated for a ceasefire and called for peace talks. Those who now support a ceasefire were the same ones who criticized us for it and treated ceasefire discussions as a taboo subject." Szijjarto stated that both countries could take pride in maintaining this stance and emphasized that they pursued a realistic and common-sense foreign policy strategy based on mutual respect. Emphasizing the importance of achieving their annual goals, Szijjarto recalled that 2024 is the Turkish-Hungarian Cultural Year, which is significant in recognizing the similarities and cultural heritage shared between the two nations. The minister also noted a major development in energy cooperation in 2024, with the first shipment of Turkish gas reaching Hungary. Referring to the "Turkey-Hungary Science and Innovation Year" celebrated this year, Szijjarto said that cooperation between the two countries would

expand into modern industries and energy, expressing satisfaction with this collaboration.

**"If an Agreement is Reached Between the U.S. and Russia, This War Can End"**  
Speaking about the Russia-Ukraine war, Szijjarto stated: "We are currently hopeful that the war will end. This hope is based on ongoing negotiations between the U.S. and Russia over the past few years. Our position is very clear: if an agreement is reached between the U.S. and Russia, this war can end." Szijjarto expressed his hope for successful negotiations aimed at reaching an agreement and added: "Moreover, we expect Europe to adopt a stance that does not obstruct this peace process." Recalling that Hungary is a Central European country, Szijjarto shared his perspective on Europe's security architecture: "We know what it means to feel the world divided, to live in a world split into blocs. We know what it means to be invaded from the East and neglected by the West. We also know what it means to lose 40 years of our lives by being artificially included in a bloc we did not want. We do not want those times to return. We have no more decades to lose, which is why we advocate for a unified European security architecture. If you are talking about a sustainable and long-term peaceful and secure life for the people of Europe, then you cannot exclude either Russia or Turkey from these discussions. Because if you exclude a country with NATO's second-largest army and a country possessing one of the world's largest nuclear



# The Brotherhood Between Türkiye and Azerbaijan Also Stands Out in the Cultural Sphere

The deep-rooted bond between Türkiye and Azerbaijan is prominently reflected in culture and literature.



The 10th International Istanbul Publishing Fellowship was inaugurated at Rami Library. Organized by the Turkish Printing and Publishing Professional Association (TBYM) with support from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Press and Publishing Association, the event brought together numerous national and international publishers. This year, publishers from 75 countries participated, aiming to make significant contributions to international copyright exchanges.

Esad Aslanoğlu, representing Mimta Publishing from Azerbaijan, expressed his thoughts on the program, stating that this was their fifth time attending. He noted that compared to previous years, the event had drawn even more publishers and had been executed in a more structured manner.

Over time, publishers have had the opportunity to connect with one another, Aslanoğlu explained. He emphasized that the Istanbul Publishing Fellowship has become a key meeting point for publishers worldwide. He also expressed a desire to bring a similar experience to Azerbaijan, sharing knowledge and best practices in the publishing industry. "This program serves as an excellent example," he added.

Highlighting the strong cultural and literary ties between Türkiye and Azerbaijan, Aslanoğlu remarked:

"There is no other example like this between two nations. We are brothers, and this bond is evident in our cultural and literary spheres. If you ask Azerbaijani readers about Turkish authors, they will answer as if they were their own. Many have read works by Turkish writers. Since Azerbaijan's publishing industry is still in a developmental phase following the Soviet era, a new generation of writers and

readers has emerged, and they need an example to follow. Türkiye provides that example, both nationally, culturally, and ideologically. I believe this progress will continue at an even faster pace in the future."

## "Every Publisher Now Utilizes AI Tools"

Aslanoğlu also touched on the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the publishing industry, comparing it to other major historical advancements that have positively influenced humanity. He acknowledged concerns regarding copyright and design issues but emphasized that publishing still heavily relies on human creativity. Therefore, he believes AI will ultimately have a positive impact on the industry.

Noting that AI tools are already being used in book cover designs, Aslanoğlu explained:

"Of course, every publisher now benefits from AI tools. We also use them for cover designs, but the key is to add an idea, a vision, and a creative thought to them. These tools can be used positively, but in the end, it is still us who do the actual work."

During panel discussions at the Istanbul Publishing Fellowship, publishers from the United States, the United Kingdom, and other countries shared their experiences. Many voiced concerns about AI models and the unrestricted use of copyrighted content online.

"There is no concrete solution yet," Aslanoğlu said. "Legal regulations are being developed, and some examples are emerging. I believe a resolution will be found in the near future."

Concluding his remarks, Aslanoğlu expressed his aspiration to establish a publishing program in Azerbaijan in collaboration with Türkiye in the coming years.

# President of the TRNC Tatar: The patience of the Turkish Cypriot people has run out

Ahead of the Cyprus talks to be held in Geneva on March 17-18, the President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), Ersin Tatar, stated that the patience of the Turkish Cypriot people has run out due to the embargoes.



President Tatar arrived in Turkey to hold meetings ahead of the talks scheduled in Geneva on March 17-18. Before his meeting with Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz, Tatar made a statement. Regarding the informal meeting to be held in Geneva, Tatar said, "We will sincerely express there that we can provide much more prosperous futures for both the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot people together, and that all of these positive and constructive approaches should be accepted by the international community without further delay." Tatar emphasized the importance of maintaining peace, tranquility, and security in Cyprus and stated that an agreement could be reached in Cyprus based on equal sovereignty and equal international status, through cooperation between the two states. He also mentioned that he would have the opportunity to convey this message to the interlocutors in Geneva.

## "THE PATIENCE OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PEOPLE HAS RUN OUT"

Tatar continued by stating that the patience of the Turkish Cypriot people was running out due to the embargoes and isolation that the TRNC has been subjected to for years. He said: "Because in Cyprus, there are two main components: the Turkish Cypriot people, who are a sovereign people, and the Greek Cypriot people, who are also a sovereign people, but on the other hand, there is a recognized state. After the Annan Plan, the Republic of Cyprus (Greek Cypriot Administration) became an EU member state. However, on this side, the Turkish Cypriot people are still subjected to embargoes and various hardships. Their patience on these issues has run out, and we will express there that international isolation must be lifted."

Tatar emphasized that the TRNC's greatest advantage is the strengthening of its motherland and guarantor country, Turkey. He pointed out Turkey's success in the defense industry and its position to have a say in regional and global balances.





# UN Decides to Reduce Presence in Gaza Following Israel's Resumption of Attacks

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has decided to reduce the organization's presence in Gaza following Israel's resumption of attacks in the region.



UN Secretary-General Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric made a statement on the matter during the daily press briefing. Highlighting Israel's horrific attacks last week that resulted in the deaths of hundreds of civilians, Dujarric noted that UN personnel were also among the casualties.

Dujarric recalled that Israel has not allowed humanitarian aid access since the beginning of March, stating, "For this reason, the UN Secretary-General has been forced to make the difficult decision to reduce the organization's presence in Gaza. This decision comes at a time when civilian humanitarian aid and protection needs are increasing. We are not abandoning Gaza. We will continue to provide aid to ensure the survival and protection of civilians." In this context, Dujarric stated that the number of international personnel in Gaza would be reduced. He noted that currently, approximately 100 international UN staff members are in Gaza, and 30 of them will be withdrawn.

Dujarric also mentioned that Israeli authorities intend to continue their "military activities" in Gaza and confirmed that the attack on March 19, which resulted in the deaths of UN personnel, was carried out by Israel.

He emphasized that Guterres strongly condemns Israel's attack and has called for a comprehensive and independent investigation into the incident. Numerous UN Agencies to Be Affected Responding to a question about why UN operations have been affected, Dujarric explained that Israel's attacks have once again displaced people and prevented the entry of humanitarian aid, significantly impacting relief efforts.

He also noted that local personnel have taken on the majority of the work. Regarding which UN agencies will be affected by the reduction in presence, Dujarric stated that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) will be among those impacted.



# President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Tatar Comments on Informal Cyprus Meeting

President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Ersin Tatar commented on the United Nations' expanded-format Cyprus meeting, stating, "If they invited us here knowing that there is no common ground, it means that our two-state policy is making progress."



Tatar made his remarks regarding the expanded-format Cyprus meeting held in Geneva under the auspices of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. He noted that they had been in Geneva with a constructive approach, expressing gratitude to Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan and his team for their full support.

Tatar stated, "It was very important for us that Turkey was by our side here." He recalled that for a long time, instead of bilateral meetings, he had been advocating for an environment where the Turkish Cypriots could be stronger and have their rights and interests protected, with the participation of both motherlands. He emphasized that the meeting had taken place in such an environment.

**"In 2021, It Became Clear There Was No Common Ground"**  
Tatar recalled that they had attended another informal meeting in Geneva four years ago and said that after he became president, there had been significant reactions when the politics of sovereign equality and international status were first raised.

"However, in the end, we realized that we should not enter a process based on a federation, as they have always been unsuccessful, and we know very well what happened during the Annan Plan," the TRNC President remarked. He also reminded that during Crans-Montana, the Greek Cypriots rejected all proposals, and all opportunities had been exhausted. Tatar stated that with Turkey's full support, they had opened a new

chapter and reached the point where they are today, but emphasized that in 2021, it became clear that there was no common ground. "If they invited us here knowing that there is no common ground, it means that our two-state policy is making progress. In Cyprus, there are two sides, two peoples, and two states, and if there is to be a solution in Cyprus, cooperation between the two must come first. The culture of cooperation must be developed beforehand." Tatar noted that the seeds of cooperation culture were being planted at the meeting and that the UN Secretary-General's personal representative had been appointed as part of this process.

**Plans for Cooperation and New Border Crossings**  
Tatar mentioned that work would continue for cooperation in areas such as solar energy in the buffer zone, cemetery arrangements, and other matters. He also recalled that the proposal he made for opening two new border crossings had not been accepted previously. However, Tatar stated that new border crossings could be opened for the benefit of both sides, to increase trade and tourism, and to ease movement. "The Secretary-General said that four gates could be opened. These are important steps and developments," he said.

The meeting in Geneva, intended to determine a future path for the Cyprus issue, brought together representatives from both the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot sides, as well as the guarantor countries Turkey, Greece, and the UK. The meeting was attended by TRNC President Tatar, Foreign Minister Fidan, South Cyprus President Nikos Christodoulides, Greek Foreign Minister Giorgos Gerapetritis, and the UK's Minister of State for Europe and North America Stephen Doughty, along with their respective delegations.



# The Dark Side of Tourism in Uzbekistan: "It Could Be the Venice of the Desert"



**Uzbekistan's ambitious tourism initiative has the potential to transform the country's historic cities into a "Venice of the Desert" in the long term. Initial plans reported in the local press suggest the recreation of traditional Uzbek buildings like tea houses, but the reality on the ground is very different. The 3D drawings plastered on high walls surrounding construction areas depict modern shopping malls and sparkling fountains adorned with abstract art.**

**T**he government of Uzbekistan is pursuing an ambitious tourism expansion. However, historians in the country believe that this could lead to negative outcomes in the long run. According to the British broadcaster BBC, new hotels are being built all around the streets of Bukhara.

**"THE ONLY MARKETING LEVER IS THE SILK ROAD"**  
In many regions, from the capital Tashkent to the historic city of Khiva, heritage sites are now intertwined with hotels. Svetlana Gorshenina from AlerteHeritage, an organization aiming to preserve the country's historic sites, said, "The Silk Road concept is being applied everywhere. Restaurants, shops, tours, travel agencies... This has become our only marketing lever. It's a kind of self-orientalism." Over the last five years, Uzbekistan has climbed 16 spots, reaching 78th place out of 119 countries in terms of tourist visits.

**THEY WANT TO PROMOTE UZBEK CULTURE**  
Efforts are being made in restaurants and cafes to showcase the national cuisine, and in museums to promote Uzbek culture. On the outskirts of the old city, an entertainment complex called "Eternal Bukhara" will be built. Initial plans reported in the local

press described it as an "ethnographic park" that would recreate traditional Uzbek buildings like tea houses.

**HOTELS, SHOPPING, AND ABSTRACT ART**  
However, the 3D drawings plastered on the high walls surrounding the construction site show instead modern shopping malls and sparkling fountains adorned with abstract art.

Tourism companies also plan to build a series of five-star hotels with up to 700 rooms within the facility.

**"IT RISKS BECOMING THE VENICE OF THE DESERT"**  
An Uzbek architect raised concerns about the negative consequences that the tourism boom could bring, stating, "Every year more tourists come. I've always thought of Bukhara as a living organism. This organism is becoming weaker and more fragile. It shouldn't be just a place for tourists, the people living there should be considered too. It risks becoming the Venice of the Desert."

Additionally, medical facilities will also be constructed to cater to a new type of tourist. Uzbekistan is trying to attract visitors coming for affordable healthcare, ranging from dentistry to plastic surgery.

## Anatolia's Fragrant Treasure: Thyme



**G**rowing in the mountains, plains, and rugged cliffs of Turkey, thyme is not only an indispensable ingredient in our kitchens but also a source of healing. Although commonly known as a single plant, Turkey is a true paradise in terms of thyme varieties. There are over 50 species of thyme growing in our country, many of which are endemic, meaning they exist only in Anatolia.

The impressive power of thyme comes from its active medicinal compounds. The most well-known among them are thymol and carvacrol. These two substances stand out for their strong antiseptic and antimicrobial properties. Thymol supports the immune system, protecting the body against infections, while carvacrol has a soothing effect, particularly on the respiratory system. Additionally, rosmarinic acid and flavonoids enhance the antioxidant capacity of thyme species, protecting cells and slowing down aging.

- The healing effects of thyme are countless:**
- **Respiratory Health and Immunity:** Thyme tea is a natural remedy for sore throat, cough, and bronchitis. When inhaled as steam, it helps clear the sinuses.
  - **Digestion and Stomach Health:** It soothes the stomach, stimulates the intestines, and relieves indigestion. It is also highly effective against gas pains.
  - **Heart and Vascular Health:** Thyme supports blood circulation and helps prevent arteriosclerosis. Thanks to its polyphenol content, it also protects the heart.
  - **Natural Pain Reliever:** Thyme oil alleviates muscle pain and provides relief for rheumatic conditions.
  - **Skin and Hair Care:** Due to its antiseptic properties, it is used in the treatment of skin diseases, strengthens hair follicles, and prevents dandruff.

For thousands of years, thyme has been used in both traditional medicine and cuisine in Anatolia. Today, it has a wide range of applications, from pharmaceutical medicines to the cosmetics industry. However, it is essential to consume this unique gift of nature with awareness. Some highly aromatic species with high thymol content may cause stomach sensitivity if consumed excessively.

As this miraculous plant continues to grow across Turkey, deeply rooted in our soil, it also opens the doors to a healthier life for us. Thyme is not just a plant of Anatolia; it is also an ancient heritage.





# Russia: We Are Pleased with the Development of a Constructive, Pragmatic, and Effective Dialogue with the U.S.

**Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov stated that intense contacts between Russia and the United States are ongoing, emphasizing, "We are pleased with the development of a constructive, pragmatic, and effective dialogue with the U.S."**



**P**eskov answered journalists' questions on current issues.

Referring to the agreement reached between the U.S. and Russia to halt attacks on oil refineries and energy pipelines in Ukraine, Peskov noted that it is valid for 30 days starting from March 18.

He pointed out that Ukraine has not complied with this agreement and has recently attempted attacks on Russian energy infrastructure facilities, stating, "Of course, this must be adhered to."

Regarding the Black Sea Initiative, which aims to ensure the safety of navigation and prevent commercial ships from being used for military purposes, Peskov said:

"This initiative can be reactivated once certain conditions are met. These conditions are almost identical to those outlined in the initiative guaranteed by United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. In the previous agreement, all conditions were fulfilled except those concerning Russia. This time, justice must be ensured. We will continue our work on this issue with the Americans."

Peskov emphasized that contacts with the U.S. are ongoing, stating,

"These contacts are continuing intensively. Thanks to these discussions, a list of energy facilities in Russia and Ukraine where attacks will be halted was quickly agreed upon. We are pleased with the development of a constructive, pragmatic, and effective dialogue with the U.S."

Highlighting the significant potential for cooperation in the Arctic, Peskov expressed Russia's willingness to engage in collaboration in this region.

## "Chişinău Must Ensure Freedom of Movement for All Political Forces"

Commenting on the arrest of Yevgeniya Gutsul, the head of the Gagauz Autonomous Region of the Republic of Moldova, Peskov condemned the action, stating: "The Moldovan government is exerting pressure on politicians who are rivals to (President Maia) Sandu. The methods being used are outside the norms of democracy. Chişinău has chosen a tactic of disregarding the rule of law, democratic principles, and political pluralism while openly suppressing all political opponents. Chişinău must abandon such practices and ensure the freedom of movement for all political forces in the country."

# The Voice of the New Generation: Generation Z Meets the State

**E**ach generation experiences its own era, asks its own questions, and seeks its own answers. Today, Turkey is encountering one of the most remarkable generations of the digital age: Generation Z. A generation born into technology, with instant access to information and a strong reflex for questioning. Sometimes difficult to understand, sometimes bold and straightforward. But in any case, significant enough to have a say in the future of this country.

The state is aware of this transformation. It moves with a perspective that sees young people not just as statistics but as active participants in decision-making processes. President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, among many other officials, highlights the potential of Generation Z. Political parties, institutions, and NGOs increasingly emphasize the importance of direct engagement with young people, listening to them, and including them in the process. Because the issue is not just about conveying messages to young people but also about understanding them.

Generation Z is freedom-oriented, individual-focused, and open to alternative ideas. While this may seem challenging for traditional political approaches, it actually presents an enriching opportunity. State institutions are reading this dynamic correctly, encouraging young people to take on more active, productive, and responsible roles in politics. Youth councils, public surveys conducted on digital platforms, and policy workshops held at universities are just a few examples of this process.

One of the most discussed topics regarding Generation Z is the issue of "belonging." It is clear that this generation does not align with traditional ideological frameworks but rather adopts a value-centered approach. Justice, transparency, environmental awareness, and equal opportunities are among their fundamental expectations. The state's steps toward meeting these expectations are reflected in tangible policies such as digitalization, open data initiatives, youth funds,



**Hasan YİĞİT**

and eco-friendly urban projects. It should not be forgotten that young people's interest in politics is not limited to voting alone. Generation Z wants to be involved in governance. They want to have a voice—not just to be heard but to actively participate in decision-making processes. At this point, the state's recognition of young people not merely as voters but as partners is a clear indicator of its trust in youth. Today, many public institutions have young advisors, volunteer networks, and youth commissions. The state does not just address the youth; it thinks and builds with them.

Of course, this process comes with challenges. At times, generational gaps may lead to communication breakdowns or misaligned expectations. However, what truly matters here is intent and determination. Every step the state takes with the commitment to providing space for young people strengthens the sense of trust. Because young people recognize sincerity. They can distinguish transparency, fairness, and vision. That is why the bond established between the state and Generation Z will not be one that merely addresses the present but one that builds the future.

The role of Generation Z in politics is no longer a topic of debate; it is a reality. And this reality shapes not only the future but also the present. When the dynamism of youth merges with the experience of the state, the resulting synergy will propel Turkey to a stronger, more participatory, and more self-confident position in its new century. Understanding Generation Z means shaping Turkey's future today. And today, this journey has already begun.







# ULUSLARARASI SİVİL DİPLOMASİ GAZETESİ

April / 2025  
CIVIL DIPLOMACY

**ki**ta Bilisim  
Yazılım  
Siber Savunma

[www.kitabilisim.com.tr](http://www.kitabilisim.com.tr)

+90 (312) 446 3734

info@kitabilisim.com.tr

ANKARA ÜNİVERSİTESİ TEKNOKENT EK BİNA

Kalaba Mah. Kütükçü Alibey Cad. No:2 A Blok 106 Keçiören ANKARA