



EU-Turkey Relations in the 2008 CHP Party Programme

The CHP supports Turkey's membership to the Union from the very start. In the 2008 Party Programme of the CHP, it is stated that the CHP:

- ◆ regards Turkey's membership to the EU as a project of social transformation, naturally rooted in the vision for modernization of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of the Republic of Turkey.
- ◆ is in favor of the full membership within the framework of the fundamental values of the Turkish Republic, which are democracy, respect for human rights, secularism, the rule of law and social welfare for all the citizens.
- ◆ strongly opposes to the efforts to grant Turkey with a special status other than full membership.
- ◆ commits fully to the alignment with EU acquis including Maastricht and Copenhagen criteria, and asks that Turkey is treated equally as all other candidate states.
- ◆ calls on the EU to lift unilateral restrictions on free movement of people, agricultural subsidies and regional development, as laid down in the Negotiation Framework, and to ensure that the free trade agreements concluded between the EU and the third countries concurrently become parallel agreements between Turkey and the third countries concerned.
- ◆ supports accelerating reform process, while calling on the EU to provide Turkey with an exact date for membership.

EU 2020 AND TURKEY

The European Commission's paper "*EU 2020 strategy: A European Strategy for smart, green and inclusive growth*" was presented by President Barroso on March 3, 2010. Following the debates in the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers, the report will be approved by the EU Council in the meeting to be held in June 2010.

The priorities, targets and flagship initiatives determined by the EU Commission in order to set up a social market economy are as follows:

PRIORITIES

- ◆ Smart growth: developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation.
- ◆ Sustainable growth: promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy.
- ◆ Inclusive growth: fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion.



TARGETS

- ◆ 75 % of the population aged 20-64 should be employed.
- ◆ 3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D.
- ◆ The "20/20/20" climate/energy targets should be met (including an increase to 30% of emissions reduction if the conditions are right).
- ◆ The share of early school leavers should be under 10% and at least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree.
- ◆ 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty.

INSTRUMENTS

- ◆ For smart growth: Innovation Union, youth on the move, a digital agenda for Europe
- ◆ For Sustainable growth: Resource efficient Europe and an Industrial policy for globalization era
- ◆ For Inclusive growth: An agenda for new skills and jobs, European Platform against poverty.

CHP's new programme defines as main target a fair economic order based on European standards and a globally competitive economy. Our objectives in Turkey converge with the EU's "2020 strategy for a smart, inclusive and sustainable growth". The European socialists' concerns that this EU 2020 Strategy should better emphasize the measures for youth employment, education, vocational training and support to SMEs are also at the core of CHP's new programme for Turkey.

'Tackling youth unemployment must become EU priority'. PES criticizes European Commission and conservative governments for ignoring this challenge.

Contrary to the European Commission and their proposal for a Europe 2020 Strategy, the PES believes that increasing the employment of young people must become a key priority for the EU. In a press conference held on March 17, 2010, PES made its initial comments on the report "Promoting youth access to the labor market, strengthening trainee, internship and apprenticeship status" prepared by the Parliament's Employment and Social Affairs Committee (EMPL). PES President Poul Nyrup Rasmussen criticizes conservative Finance Ministers and Prime Ministers for their continuous effort to cut public investments in the labor market. In order to tackle youth unemployment, PES and ECOSY are asking for a job guarantee for young people to be subsidized from the European Social Fund, a fiscal incentive for SMEs to offer paid internships and traineeships, a directive to establish minimum criteria for internships, more investment in education and a special project for young people under the EU microfinance facility.

We firmly believe that both Turkey and the European Union have a lot to gain from better integrating major challenges of the EU 2020 Strategy into the agenda of the accession partnership.

The EU and Turkey have work more for our common concerns for a better Europe.

A successful Turkey in the EU membership process will bring Europe more geo-strategic role, economic dynamism, youthful force, natural, cultural and historical richness, security and energy.