



July 2014

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Foreign Policy

TÜSİAD boss Dincer backs PM Erdogan Criticism of UN

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Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD) Chairman Haluk Dinçer has submitted a letter to the prime minister, expressing support for Erdogan's criticism of the United Nations for its "inaction" in preventing atrocities committed across the world.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 23 July 2014, [TÜSİAD boss Dinçer backs PM Erdogan Criticism of UN](#)

#### **PM Erdoğan's outbursts 'hurt Turkey's standing in the world,' Washington says**

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Washington has repeated its criticism of Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's recent remarks that compared Israel's military operation in Gaza Strip to the acts of Nazi leader Adolf Hitler, saying that such comments "hurt Turkey's standing in the world."

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Hurriyet Daily News, 22 July 2014, PM Erdoğan's outbursts 'hurt Turkey's standing in the world,' Washington says

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/pm-erdogans-outbursts-hurt-turkeys-standing-in-the-world-washington-says.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69445&NewsCatID=510>

Erdoğan confesses communication strained with Obama

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A cold wind blowing between Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and U.S. President Barack Obama has been hindering direct communication between the two leaders for some time, Erdoğan has said.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 22 July 2014, Erdoğan confesses communication strained with Obama

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogan-confesses-communication-strained-with-obama.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69444&NewsCatID=510>



### **It's time for solution in Cyprus, President Gül says**

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Turkish President Abdullah Gül has urged for a solution to be found on the divided island of Cyprus, speaking at a ceremony in Nicosia to mark the 40th anniversary of Turkey's military intervention on July 20, 1974.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 20 July 2014, It's time for solution in Cyprus, President Gül says

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/its-time-for-solution-in-cyprus-president-gul-says.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69371&NewsCatID=510>

Turkish President Gül calls on international community to mobilize over Gaza

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President Abdullah Gül has repeated his call for the international community to mobilize in order to bring about lasting peace and security in Palestine, amid the daily rise of casualties in Gaza.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 22 July 2014, Turkish President Gül calls on international community to mobilize over Gaza

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-president-gul-calls-on-international-community-to-mobilize-over-gaza.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69448&NewsCatID=510>

### **Senate hearing for new US ambassador to Ankara sparks 'authoritarianism' debate**

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John Bass, who has been nominated by the Obama administration as new U.S. ambassador to Ankara, has said Turkey is "drifting in the direction" of authoritarianism, following persistent questions at a Senate hearing.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 15 July 2014, Senate hearing for new US ambassador to Ankara sparks 'authoritarianism' debate

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/senate-hearing-for-new-us-ambassador-to-ankara-sparks-authoritarianism-debate.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69183&NewsCatID=358>



Barzani talks politics, oil revenue in Ankara

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As threats mount to the security of both sides, the leaders of Turkey and Iraq's Kurdistan region gathered in Ankara on July 14, with the agenda dominated by the search for a solution to the Iraqi Kurdistan Regional Government's (KRG) financial crisis due to escalating political and security threats.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 14 July 2014, Barzani talks politics, oil revenue in Ankara

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/barzani-talks-politics-oil-revenue-in-ankara.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69123&NewsCatID=510>

### **Israel-Turkey ties will not normalize unless Gaza assault stops, says PM Erdoğan**

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Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said July 10 ties with Israel would not return to normal unless the Netanyahu government ceased its deadly offensive on the Gaza Strip.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 11 July 2014, Israel-Turkey ties will not normalize unless Gaza assault stops, says PM Erdoğan

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/israel-turkey-ties-will-not-normalize-unless-gaza-assault-stops-says-pm-erdogan.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68980&NewsCatID=510>

Ankara 'will not block Kurdish state in Iraq'

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Iraqi Kurdish leader Barzani says Turkey is unlikely to oppose the declaration of an independent Kurdish state, while praising the bilateral ties that Arbil and Ankara have forged over the past decade.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 7 July 2014, Ankara 'will not block Kurdish state in Iraq'

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/ankara-will-not-block-kurdish-state-in-iraq.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68809&NewsCatID=352>

### **US Senator McCain meets Syrian rebels in Turkey, calls for greater support against ISIL**

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U.S. Senator John McCain met with members of the Syrian opposition in Gaziantep on July 1 amid a warning from fragmented rebels that they will lay down their arms in a week if they do not receive aid in the fight against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).



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Hurriyet Daily News, 2 July 2014, US Senator McCain meets Syrian rebels in Turkey, calls for greater support against ISIL

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/us-senator-mccain-meets-syrian-rebels-in-turkey-calls-for-greater-support-against-isil.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68566&NewsCatID=510>

Ankara ignores ISIL's declaration of 'Islamic caliphate'

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The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is a terrorist organization and Ankara does not pay attention to how "a terrorist organization describes itself," a Turkish Foreign Ministry official has said, following the group's announcement that it has established an "Islamic caliphate."

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Hurriyet Daily News, 30 June 2014, Ankara ignores ISIL's declaration of 'Islamic caliphate'

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/ankara-ignores-isils-declaration-of-islamic-caliphate.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68495&NewsCatID=510>

### **Domestic Politics**

#### **TUSIAD President Meets President Gul, Prime Minister Erdogan, Cabinet Members and opposition leadership**

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The President of the Board of Directors of TUSIAD Haluk Dincer met Turkish President Abdullah Gul, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan, several members of the Cabinet and opposition leadership including presidential candidate Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu in Ankara and Istanbul last week.

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TUSIAD, July 2014, TUSIAD meets with President Gul

<http://www.tusiad.org/blog/cumhurbaskani-gul--tusiad-heyetini-tarabya-koskunda-kabul-etti/>

TUSIAD, July 2014, TUSIAD meets with Cabinet Members

<http://www.tusiad.org/blog/basbakan-tusiad-baskani-dinceri-kabul-etti/>

TUSIAD, July 2014, TUSIAD meets with Cabinet Members

<http://www.tusiad.org/blog/tusiad-yonetim-kurulu-ankara-temaslarini-tamamladi/>

TUSIAD, July 2014, TUSIAD meets with Prime Minister Erdogan <http://www.tusiad.org/blog/tusiad-yonetim-kurulu-ankarada-temaslarda-bulundu/>



TUSIAD, July 2014, TUSIAD meets with opposition leadership

<http://www.tusiad.org/blog/cumhurbaskani-adayi-ihsanoglu--tusiadi-ziyaret-etti/>

Turkish PM Erdoğan bids emotional farewell at 'last' party group meeting

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Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan bid an emotional farewell to his fellow colleagues in Parliament yesterday, yet signaled that he would meet them again next month, only with a different title and at a different rostrum if he is elected president in August.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 22 July 2014, Turkish PM Erdoğan bids emotional farewell at 'last' party group meeting

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-pm-erdogan-bids-emotional-farewell-at-last-party-group-meeting.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69451&NewsCatID=338>

### **Turkish Premier Runs for President, an Office He Plans to Strengthen**

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Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced Tuesday that he would run for Turkey's presidency in elections next month, a move that is likely to position him as the country's dominant political figure for years to come.

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New York Times, 1 July 2014, Turkish Premier Runs for President, an Office He Plans to Strengthen

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/02/world/europe/erdogan-survivor-of-protests-and-inquiries-to-see-turkeys-presidency.html>

Erdoğan unveils 'strong' presidency vision, promises new Constitution

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Turkish Prime Minister and presidential hopeful Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has promised a new Constitution and strong presidency, as he vowed for the continuation of the Kurdish peace bid if elected in the upcoming elections.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 11 July 2014, Erdoğan unveils 'strong' presidency vision, promises new Constitution

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogan-unveils-strong-presidency-vision-promises-new-constitution.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69010&NewsCatID=338>



### **Presidential candidate İhsanoğlu: 'We aim to win with 55 percent'**

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Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, the joint candidate of five opposition political parties, says he aims to win 55 percent of the vote in the upcoming presidential elections. He adds that people are looking for peace and change, saying 'there is a fatigue of the repeated discourse'

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Hurriyet Daily News, 7 July 2014, Presidential candidate İhsanoğlu: 'We aim to win with 55 percent'

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/presidential-candidate-ihsanoglu-we-aim-to-win-with-55-percent.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68745&NewsCatID=338>

67 police officers detained in 'parallel state' probe in Turkey

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Dozens of high-ranking police officials were detained in simultaneous operations conducted in 22 provinces of Turkey early July 22, as part of an investigation into accusations against the "parallel state."

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Hurriyet Daily News, 22 July 2014, 67 police officers detained in 'parallel state' probe in Turkey

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/67-police-officers-detained-in-parallel-state-probe-in-turkey.aspx?PageID=238&NID=69443&NewsCatID=341>

### **Turkey's Culture Wars**

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Elif Shafak reflects on a clash of culture in Turkey:

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Residents walking through the conservative Fatih neighborhood here were used to seeing a billboard with the Brazilian actress and model Adriana Lima advertising a hair-removal product — until, one recent day, she appeared in a full burqa. Someone had covered Lima head to toe in black spray. Next to the image, a mysterious hand had scrawled: "Do not commit indecency!"

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New York Times, 22 July 2014, Turkey's Culture Wars

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/23/opinion/turkeys-culture-wars.html>



Turkish Parliament adopts Kurdish reform bill

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Parliament on July 10 adopted a bill of six articles on reforms to help find a peaceful solution to the Kurdish issue. The bill will allow the government to take all measures it deems necessary to move the talks forward, including steps to grant amnesty to Kurdish militants who lay down arms.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 10 July 2014, Turkish Parliament adopts Kurdish reform bill

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-parliament-adopts-kurdish-reform-bill.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68973&NewsCatID=338>

### **Dreams of Kurdistan**

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Buoyed by the recent success of their Iraqi brethren, the Kurds in Turkey look hopefully to the government of Recep Tayyip Erdogan for a new peace deal

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The Economist, 5 July 2014, Ankara ignores ISIL's declaration of 'Islamic caliphate'

<http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21606297-buoyed-recent-success-their-iraqi-brethren-kurds-turkey-look-hopefully>

Economy & Energy

Turkish stock exchange at 14-month high in defiance of geopolitical tensions

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The Turkish stocks have started off the week strongly at a 14-month-high despite rising geopolitical tension from Israel's blistering assault on Gaza, as well as a plane crash rift in Ukraine and ongoing turmoil in Iraq.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 21 July 2014, Turkish stock exchange at 14-month high in defiance of geopolitical tensions

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-stock-exchange-at-14-month-high-in-defiance-of-geopolitical-tensions.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69400&NewsCatID=344>





### **Turkey cuts interest rates, resists pressure for bigger reduction**

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Turkey's central bank trimmed its main interest rate for a third consecutive month on Thursday but resisted the deep cuts sought by Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan weeks ahead of a presidential election.

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Reuters, 17 July 2014, Turkey cuts interest rates, resists pressure for bigger reduction

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/17/turkey-cenbank-idUSL6N0PS3LN20140717>

Loss in Turkish exports to Iraq reaches 30 percent

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Turkey's exports to Iraq declined by 30 percent in July, following a 21 percent decline in June, Turkish Exporters' Assembly (TİM) Chairman Mehmet Büyükekşi has said, as tension and violence in Turkey's southeastern neighbor pressures security and business ties.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 15 July 2014, Loss in Turkish exports to Iraq reaches 30 percent

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/loss-in-turkish-exports-to-iraq-reaches-30-percent.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69158&NewsCatID=344>

### **Turkish budget on track, spending to remain tight: Finance Minister Şimşek**

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Turkey will maintain tight fiscal discipline in the coming months after data for the first half showed it was comfortably on track to meet its budget deficit targets this year, Finance Minister Mehmet Şimşek said on July 15.

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Hurriyet Daily News, 15 July 2014, Turkish budget on track, spending to remain tight

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-budget-on-track-spending-to-remain-tight-finance-minister-simsek.aspx?pageID=238&nID=69141&NewsCatID=344>

Constitutional Court halts legislation exempting companies from environmental obligations

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Turkey's Constitutional Court halted July 5 a legal amendment that exempted companies from preparing an environmental impact assessment report (ÇED) on dozens of gigantic projects that have drawn controversy for their potential damage to nature.

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## TUSIAD

Hurriyet Daily News, 7 July 2014, Constitutional Court halts legislation exempting companies from environmental obligations

<http://www.hurriyetaailynews.com/constitutional-court-halts-legislation-exempting-companies-from-environmental-obligations-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=68768&NewsCatID=340>