



The German Marshall Fund  
of the United States

STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

**Turkey: Culture of Change Initiative (TCCI) – The German Marshall Fund of  
the United States (GMF)**

**JOINT PANEL**

***"After Two Decades:***

***Deepening Turkey's Customs Union with TTIP Perspectives"***

**Monday, October 27, 2014**

**1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

**ESMT (Auditorium Maximum)**

**Schloßplatz 1, 10178 Berlin**

One of the major issues in bilateral relations between Turkey and the EU concerns the functioning of the Customs Union. The exclusion of Turkey from the relevant decision-making processes affects the country's trade policy. Turkey has been excluded from the Free Trade Agreements concluded by the EU with third parties, despite being in the Customs Union for about two decades.

Both TCCI and GMF are in favor of strong transatlantic political and economic ties. As a fast-growing entrepreneurial economy, Turkey's association to the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) might be of added value for the business communities of all sides. Turkey's potential participation could also be viewed as a corollary to its presence in the political and strategic dimension of the Transatlantic Alliance.

In this joint panel, experts in their fields will share their views, experiences and know-how on this essential issue and aim to contribute to a lively, open and solution-oriented dialogue on the potential and challenges concerning Turkey's prospects within the transatlantic economy.

**13:30 – 13:45      Opening note**

Heike MacKerron, *GMF Berlin Director*

Arzuhan Doğan Yalçındağ, *Chairwoman of DoğanTV Holding and TCCI Advisory Board Co-President*

**13:45 – 14:30      Panel Discussion: “After Two Decades: Deepening Turkey’s Customs Union with TTIP Perspectives”**

Cemalettin Damlacı, *Ministry of Economy of Turkey, Former Deputy Undersecretary*

Dr. Stefan Mair, *BDI, Board Member*

Dr. Martin Raiser, *World Bank Country Director for Turkey*

Bruce Stokes, *Director, Global Economic Attitudes, Pew Research Center, non-resident fellow, GMF*

Günter Verheugen, *European Commission Former Vice President and TCCI Advisory Board Member*

Dr. Erdal Yalçın, *IFO Center for International Economics, Deputy Director*

Moderated by Dr. Bahadır Kaleağası, *TÜSIAD International Coordinator & TCCI Founders’ Board Member*

**14:30 – 15:30      Discussion**

*Due to the limited space, advance registration by email is required.*

*RSVP to [berlinoffice@tusiad.org](mailto:berlinoffice@tusiad.org)*

*For further questions, please contact Ms. Ayşe Yürekli T: 0(30) 288786300*