



January 2015

This month:

### Foreign Policy

- Turkey, U.S. to finalize Syrian rebel training this month: official
- Turkish PM urges trade envoys to be prepared for setbacks with EU countries
- Turkish PM Davutoğlu decides to attend Davos six years after Erdoğan's dramatic exit
- Turkey determined on EU accession despite Europeans' mistaken approach, minister says
- TTIP's Enlargement and the Case of Turkey
- Turkish president condemns Charlie Hebdo attack, urges 'firm stance against intolerance'
- NATO Patriot air defense missiles arrive in Turkey
- Turkey provides 1.5 million ID cards for Syrian refugees
- US shelve transfer of frigates to Turkey
- Turkey approves motion to join new NATO mission in Afghanistan
- Turkey calls for a 'new beginning' with Armenia
- NATO foreign ministers' meeting to take place in Antalya
- Turkey complains of French reluctance in anti-terror cooperation
- Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on the U.S., Syria and the Islamic State
- Russia Presses Ahead With Plan for Gas Pipeline to Turkey
- Anti-ISIL coalition talks focus on jihadist threat
- Turkish Cypriot negotiator urges suspension of gas drilling
- Gazprom eyes first gas via new route to Turkey by 2017

### Domestic Politics

- Parliamentary panel refuses to send former ministers to court over graft claims
- Erdoğan sets 2015 goals as Kurdish bid, Gülenists
- Twelve new desks to be founded at presidency: Report
- Business group head does not step back in clash with Turkish President Erdoğan
- All my family, my party wiretapped: Turkey's main opposition CHP leader
- Russian citizen revealed to be suicide bomber who attacked Istanbul police
- Erdogan Holds First Cabinet Meeting as Turkey's President
- Parliament acquits four ex-ministers on corruption, but vote stirs ruling AKP
- Turkey Threatens to Block Social Media Over Released Documents



- Turkish daily probed over publication of Charlie cartoons
- Top body initiates yet another mass purge of Turkey's judiciary
- Turkey's outgoing top boss highlights need for secularism
- Main opposition to meet with Turkey's religious minority communities' heads
- New bill gives Turkish PM power to shut down websites
- Facebook complies with Turkey page block order
- Presidential system tops AKP's election campaign
- Erdoğan's presidential system model equals dictatorship: Turkish main opposition
- Turkish gov't wants PKK to disarm for bolder steps before elections

### **Economy & Energy**

- Turkish exports reach all-time high in 2014
- Turkey 2014 inflation ticks up to 8.17%
- Expectations not met, confidence decreasing in Turkey's economy
- Turkey's 2014 growth to be around 3 pct, says Finance Minister
- Turkey's Tüpraş faces \$69 mln hit from tax demand, fines
- Turkey's olive oil exports come to a halt
- Turkey cuts key rate as inflation slows, political pressure mounts
- EBRD slashes growth estimate for Turkey
- Turkey agrees deal with London Stock Exchange
- Pressure on Turkish Central Bank head rises
- Alarming unemployment figures among university graduates in Turkey
- Turkey's foreign trade deficit drops by 15.4 pct upon fall in oil imports, rise in exports to EU



### **Foreign Policy**

#### **Turkey, U.S. to finalize Syrian rebel training this month: official**

Turkey and the United States aim to finalize an agreement on equipping and training moderate Syrian rebels this month, a senior foreign ministry official said on Monday, part of the U.S.-led campaign to battle Islamic State militants.

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Reuters, January 5, 2015, Turkey, U.S. to finalize Syrian rebel training this month: official,

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/01/05/us-mideast-crisis-rebels-turkey-idUSKBN0KE15A20150105>

#### **Turkish PM urges trade envoys to be prepared for setbacks with EU countries**

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu has urged the country's trade envoys to closely watch potential consequences of Turkey's review of its Customs Union agreement with the European Union, which has been put under scrutiny amid EU-U.S. free trade talks.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Turkish PM urges trade envoys to be prepared for setbacks with EU countries, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-pm-urges-trade-envoys-to-be-prepared-for-setbacks-with-eu-countries.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76519&NewsCatID=345>

#### **Turkish PM Davutoğlu decides to attend Davos six years after Erdoğan's dramatic exit**

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu has decided to attend the World Economic Forum (WEF) summit in Davos, six years after President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who was prime minister at the time, stormed out of a panel on the Gaza war.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Turkish PM Davutoğlu decides to attend Davos six years after

Erdoğan's dramatic exit, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-pm-davutoglu-decides-to-attend-davos-six-years-after-erdogans-dramatic-exit.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76505&NewsCatID=510>

#### **Turkey determined on EU accession despite Europeans' mistaken approach, minister says**

The European Union "mistakenly approaches Turkey based on prejudices" but Ankara is continuing its integration with European institutions with determination, Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu has said.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Turkey determined on EU accession despite Europeans' mistaken approach, minister says, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-determined-on-eu-accession-despite-europeans-mistaken-approach-minister-says.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76506&NewsCatID=510>

### **TTIP's Enlargement and the Case of Turkey**

TÜSİAD Senior Fellow and Director of the Turkey Project at Brookings Kemal Kirişçi discusses "TTIP's Enlargement and the Case of Turkey" in the inaugural publication of the IPC-Wilson Center Turkey Papers. Kirişçi argues that Turkey's inclusion in the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership would be economically and geo-strategically advantageous for all parties involved.

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Wilson Center, January 09, 2015, Turkey Papers: TTIP's Enlargement and the Case of Turkey, [http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/FINAL\\_IPC-WWICSTurkeyPaper\\_TTIP.pdf](http://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/FINAL_IPC-WWICSTurkeyPaper_TTIP.pdf)

### **Turkish president condemns Charlie Hebdo attack, urges 'firm stance against intolerance'**

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has added his voice to the chorus of reactions after the massacre perpetrated against French satiric weekly magazine Charlie Hebdo that killed 12 people on Jan 7, condemning what he described as a "heinous terrorist attack."

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 8, 2015, Turkish president condemns Charlie Hebdo attack, urges 'firm stance against intolerance', <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-president-condemns-charlie-hebdo-attack-urges-firm-stance-against-intolerance.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76646&NewsCatID=510>

### **NATO Patriot air defense missiles arrive in Turkey**

Defense missiles from Spain have arrived in the southern Turkish province of Hatay's İskenderun port, state-run Anadolu Agency has reported.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 12, 2015, NATO Patriot air defense missiles arrive in Turkey, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/nato-patriot-air-defense-missiles-arrive-in-turkey-----.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76825&NewsCatID=359>

### **Turkey provides 1.5 million ID cards for Syrian refugees**

Turkey has provided some 1.5 million Syrian refugees with biometric IDs, according to data provided by the Interior Ministry and the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD).

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 12, 2015, Turkey provides 1.5 million ID cards for Syrian refugees, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-provides-15-million-id-cards-for-syrian-refugees-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76788&NewsCatID=341>

### **US shelves transfer of frigates to Turkey**

The United States has shelved the handover of two leftover frigates to Turkey, as Congress excluded Turkey from a bill seeking permission to transfer vessels to foreign countries, citing Mediterranean tensions.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 6, 2015, US shelves transfer of frigates to Turkey, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/us-shelves-transfer-of-frigates-to-turkey.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76548&NewsCatID=359>

### **Turkey approves motion to join new NATO mission in Afghanistan**

Turkey's Parliament has approved a motion authorizing the government to send Turkish Armed Forces (TSK) troops to Afghanistan as part of NATO's new Resolute Support mission.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 7, 2015, Turkey approves motion to join new NATO mission in Afghanistan, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-approves-motion-to-join-new-nato-mission-in-afghanistan-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76591&NewsCatID=359>

### **Turkey calls for a 'new beginning' with Armenia**

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu has called on all Armenians to jointly seek ways to resolve their historical differences with Turkey, stressing that it is a must for Turks and Armenians to "engage in humane relations and to recognize each other in light of 800 years of common history."

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 20, 2015, Turkey calls for a 'new beginning' with Armenia, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-calls-for-a-new-beginning-with-armenia.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77195&NewsCatID=510>

### **NATO foreign ministers' meeting to take place in Antalya**

Turkey will host a NATO foreign ministers' meeting in the southern province of Antalya between May 13 and 14. The fact that this meeting will be held in Antalya demonstrates the importance that Turkey, as an ally of 63 years, attaches to NATO's undertakings.



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Hurriyet Daily News, January 15, 2015, NATO foreign ministers' meeting to take place in Antalya, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/nato-foreign-ministers-meeting-to-take-place-in-antalya.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77011&NewsCatID=359>

### **Turkey complains of French reluctance in anti-terror cooperation**

Paris has been reluctant in anti-terrorism cooperation following last week's deadly attacks in France by militants with international links, according to the Turkish authorities.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 13, 2015, Turkey complains of French reluctance in anti-terror cooperation, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-complains-of-french-reluctance-in-anti-terror-cooperation.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76865&NewsCatID=510>

### **Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on the U.S., Syria and the Islamic State**

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu talked about the differences between his country and the United States over how to handle Syria and the Islamic State. Both nations agree that the two crises demand urgent action, but they part ways on priorities and tactics.

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Washington Post, January 23, 2015, Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu on the U.S., Syria and the Islamic State, [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/turkish-prime-minister-ahmet-davutoglu-on-the-us-syria-and-the-islamic-state/2015/01/23/bf7685e0-a258-11e4-b146-577832eafcb4\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/turkish-prime-minister-ahmet-davutoglu-on-the-us-syria-and-the-islamic-state/2015/01/23/bf7685e0-a258-11e4-b146-577832eafcb4_story.html)

### **Russia Presses Ahead With Plan for Gas Pipeline to Turkey**

President Vladimir V. Putin surprised the world in December when he aborted long-laid plans for a natural gas pipeline under the Black Sea to Europe, saying Russia would run pipes to Turkey instead.

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New York Times, January 21, 2015, Russia Presses Ahead With Plan for Gas Pipeline to Turkey, <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/22/business/international/russia-presses-ahead-with-plan-for-gas-pipeline-to-turkey.html?ref=todayspaper>

### **Anti-ISIL coalition talks focus on jihadist threat**

Top officials from 21 countries kicked off talks in London on Jan. 22 on pushing back Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) militants in Iraq and Syria and tackling the growing threat of homegrown jihadists in Europe.



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Hurriyet Daily News, January 22, 2015, Anti-ISIL coalition talks focus on jihadist threat,  
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/anti-isil-coalition-talks-focus-on-jihadist-threat-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77271&NewsCatID=359>

### **Turkish Cypriot negotiator urges suspension of gas drilling**

Greek and Turkish Cypriots should both agree to suspend the search for offshore natural gas until they have reached a settlement to reunify their divided island, the chief Turkish Cypriot negotiator has said, as Turkey's foreign minister expressed hopes of finding a solution to the issue with the new Greek government.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 28, 2015, Turkish Cypriot negotiator urges suspension of gas drilling,  
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-cypriot-negotiator-urges-suspension-of-gas-drilling.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77557&NewsCatID=359>

### **Gazprom eyes first gas via new route to Turkey by 2017**

Russia's Gazprom plans to supply the first gas via a new route to Turkey in December 2016, Chief Executive Alexei Miller said in a statement on Jan. 27. Gazprom said last year that it would build a new pipeline to Turkey with a capacity of 63 billion cubic meters (bcm) per year in order to bypass Ukraine.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 27, 2015, Gazprom eyes first gas via new route to Turkey by 2017,  
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/gazprom-eyes-first-gas-via-new-route-to-turkey-by-2017.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77512&NewsCatID=348>

## **Domestic Politics**

### **Parliamentary panel refuses to send former ministers to court over graft claims**

A parliamentary inquiry commission has voted not to send four former ministers engulfed in the massive corruption and graft operation launched on Dec. 17, 2013, to the Supreme Council for trial, while controversially deciding to destroy the primary evidence of the case.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Parliamentary panel refuses to send former ministers to court over graft claims, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/parliamentary-panel-refuses-to-send-former-ministers-to-court-over-graft-claims.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76526&NewsCatID=338>

### **Erdoğan sets 2015 goals as Kurdish bid, Gülenists**

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's New Year's address has mirrored his priorities for 2015, as he highlighted the importance in fighting the movement of Islamic scholar Fethullah Gülen, referred to by government officials as the "parallel state," along with pursuing the peace process with the country's Kurds.

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Hurriyet Daily News, December 31, 2014, Erdoğan sets 2015 goals as Kurdish bid, Gülenists, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogan-sets-2015-goals-as-kurdish-bid-gulenists.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76333&NewsCatID=338>

### **Twelve new desks to be founded at presidency: Report**

As discussion heats up over President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's upcoming chairmanship of the Turkish Cabinet later this month, a pro-government newspaper has reported that 12 new desks will be founded at the presidency, adding to former rumors that a "shadow cabinet" would begin to take charge.

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Hurriyet Daily News, December 31, 2014, Twelve new desks to be founded at presidency: Report, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/twelve-new-desks-to-be-founded-at-presidency-report.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76325&NewsCatID=338>

### **Business group head does not step back in clash with Turkish President Erdoğan**

Haluk Dinçer, the outgoing head of the Turkish Industry and Business Association (TÜSİAD), has stressed that the leading business organization generates around 85 percent of the taxes in the country, saying its words should be taken seriously amid a recent verbal rift with the government.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 11, 2015, Business group head does not step back in clash with Turkish President Erdoğan, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/business-group-head-does-not-step-back-in-clash-with-turkish-president-erdogan-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76795&NewsCatID=344>

### **All my family, my party wiretapped: Turkey's main opposition CHP leader**



The leader of Turkey's main opposition party has claimed that all his family members and party officials are being eavesdropped on, without specifying who is responsible.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 12, 2015, All my family, my party wiretapped: Turkey's main opposition CHP leader, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/all-my-family-my-party-wiretapped-turkeys-main-opposition-chp-leader.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76835&NewsCatID=338>

### **Russian citizen revealed to be suicide bomber who attacked Istanbul police**

A female suicide bomber who detonated herself at an Istanbul police station in the touristic area of Sultanahmet has been identified as a Russian citizen named Diana Ramazova.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 8, 2015, Russian citizen revealed to be suicide bomber who attacked Istanbul police, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/russian-citizen-revealed-to-be-suicide-bomber-who-attacked-istanbul-police.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76653&NewsCatID=509>

### **Erdogan Holds First Cabinet Meeting as Turkey's President**

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan became Turkey's first head of state in more than a decade to head a cabinet meeting, marking his latest attempt to expand the powers of his office and transform the country's political system.

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Wall Street Journal, January 19, 2015, Erdogan Holds First Cabinet Meeting as Turkey's President, <http://www.wsj.com/articles/erdogan-holds-first-cabinet-meeting-as-turkeys-president-1421675195?autologin=y>

### **Parliament acquits four ex-ministers on corruption, but vote stirs ruling AKP**

Turkey's parliament has acquitted four ex-ministers who faced graft charges, thanks to the votes of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) deputies. A number of AKP deputies, however, broke party lines, infuriating the leadership while surprising most observers.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 20, 2015, Parliament acquits four ex-ministers on corruption, but vote stirs ruling AKP, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/parliament-acquits-four-ex-ministers-on-corruption-but-vote-stirs-ruling-akp.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77188&NewsCatID=338>

### **Turkey Threatens to Block Social Media Over Released Documents**



Turkish officials threatened to shut down Twitter in the country unless the social-media company blocked the account of a left-wing newspaper that had circulated documents about a military police raid on Turkish Intelligence Agency trucks that were traveling to Syria last January.

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New York Times, January 16, 2015, Turkey Threatens to Block Social Media Over Released Documents, <http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/17/world/europe/turkey-threatens-to-block-social-media-over-released-documents.html?ref=todayspaper>

### **Turkish daily probed over publication of Charlie cartoons**

Turkish prosecutors launched an investigation into daily Cumhuriyet on Jan. 15, a day after the newspaper published a selection of four pages of the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo's first issue since last week's attack that claimed 12 lives.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 15, 2015, Turkish daily probed over publication of Charlie cartoons, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/prosecutors-launch-probe-into-newspaper-over-publication-of-charlie-hebdo-cartoons.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77010&NewsCatID=339>

### **Top body initiates yet another mass purge of Turkey's judiciary**

Turkey has witnessed yet another huge wave of mass purges in the judiciary, with the government replacing almost 1,000 judges and prosecutors, raising more and more question marks over the ruling Justice and Development Party's (AKP) motives in the latest restructuring of the country's top judicial body.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 16, 2015, Top body initiates yet another mass purge of Turkey's judiciary, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/top-body-initiates-yet-another-mass-purge-of-turkeys-judiciary.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77048&NewsCatID=338>

### **Turkey's outgoing top boss highlights need for secularism**

Turkey must embrace the republic's principle of secularism in order to progress economically as well as socially and politically, Haluk Dinçer, the outgoing head of the country's top business organization TÜSİAD, has said, speaking at a meeting where his presidential term ends.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 22, 2015, Turkey's outgoing top boss highlights need for secularism, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-outgoing-top-boss-highlights-need-for-secularism.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77287&NewsCatID=345>

### **Main opposition to meet with Turkey's religious minority communities' heads**

Main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu will come together with the leaders of Turkey's religious minority communities in Istanbul on Jan. 26.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 25, 2015, Main opposition to meet with Turkey's religious minority communities' heads, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/main-opposition-to-meet-with-turkeys-religious-minority-communities-heads-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77405&NewsCatID=338>

### **New bill gives Turkish PM power to shut down websites**

Last minute amendments to an omnibus bill presented to the parliament on Jan. 23 stipulate that the Prime Minister and his ministers will be able to shut down websites for reasons including "national security" without a court order.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 24, 2015, New bill gives Turkish PM power to shut down websites, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/new-bill-gives-turkish-pm-power-to-shut-down-websites.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77378&NewsCatID=339>

### **Facebook complies with Turkey page block order**

The BBC has learned that Facebook has complied with a Turkish court order demanding the blocking of a page it said offended the Prophet Muhammad. If the social media platform had refused, the court had threatened to block access to the entire site.

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BBC, January 26, 2015, Facebook complies with Turkey page block order, <http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-30982556>

### **Presidential system tops AKP's election campaign**

A new constitution and the adoption of a presidential system are the two major goals of the ruling party in its pre-election campaign, a senior Justice and Development Party (AKP) has said, suggesting that France's semi-presidential system was the most appropriate for Turkey.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 30, 2015, Presidential system tops AKP's election campaign, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/presidential-system-tops-akps-election-campaign.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77644&NewsCatID=338>

### **Erdoğan's presidential system model equals dictatorship: Turkish main opposition**

The presidential system model proposed by the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) will make Turkey into a "dictatorship" under President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) Deputy Parliamentary Group Chair Akif Hamzaçebi has claimed.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 29, 2015, Erdoğan's presidential system model equals dictatorship: Turkish main opposition, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/erdogans-presidential-system-model-equals-dictatorship-turkish-main-opposition-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77624&NewsCatID=338>

### **Turkish gov't wants PKK to disarm for bolder steps before elections**

The government has recently been holding talks on planned moves in the administrative and legal fields and is demanding that the PKK lay down arms in Turkish territory prior to the Nevruz festival, which is marked on March 21.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 27, 2015, Turkish gov't wants PKK to disarm for bolder steps before elections, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-govt-wants-pkk-to-disarm-for-bolder-steps-before-elections.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77480&NewsCatID=338>

## **Economy and Energy**

### **Turkish exports reach all-time high in 2014**

The 2014 exports of Turkey increased some 4 percent last year, reaching \$157.6 billion, a record in the history of the modern republic, according to figures released by Turkish Exporters' Assembly (TİM) on the first day of the new year.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 2, 2015, Turkish exports reach all-time high in 2014, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkish-exports-reach-all-time-high-in-2014.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76383&NewsCatID=345>



### **Turkey 2014 inflation ticks up to 8.17%**

Annual inflation in Turkey ticked up to 8.17 percent in 2014, slightly higher than 2013 and well over the Turkish Central Bank's medium-term target, the state statistics office said Jan. 5.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Turkey 2014 inflation ticks up to 8.17%,

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-2014-inflation-ticks-up-to-817.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76490&NewsCatID=344>

### **Expectations not met, confidence decreasing in Turkey's economy**

The December 2014 survey results have shown that confidence is decreasing in the economy policies and their results as implemented by the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP). Especially since mid-2013, when the U.S. announced that it would start a new monetary climate.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 5, 2015, Expectations not met, confidence decreasing in Turkey's economy,

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/expectations-not-met-confidence-decreasing-in-turkeys-economy.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76468&NewsCatID=344>

### **Turkey's 2014 growth to be around 3 pct, says Finance Minister**

Turkey's economic growth in 2014 is expected to be around 3 percent, Finance Minister Mehmet Şimşek has predicted, below an official target of 3.3 percent in the country's medium-term program.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 12, 2015, Turkey's 2014 growth to be around 3 pct, says Finance Minister,

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-2014-growth-to-be-around-3-pct-says-finance-minister.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76832&NewsCatID=344>

### **Turkey's Tüpraş faces \$69 mln hit from tax demand, fines**

Turkey's sole oil refiner Tüpraş has said it faces a tax demand and related fines totaling 160 million liras (\$69 million) following an 18-month investigation by authorities.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 9, 2015, Turkey's Tüpraş faces \$69 mln hit from tax demand, fines,

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-tupras-faces-69-mln-hit-from-tax-demand-fines.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76716&NewsCatID=345>



### **Turkey's olive oil exports come to a halt**

Turkey's olive oil exports have decreased by almost 50 percent in the last two months from the same period of the previous year as producers kept their products in stock with the expectation of a rise in prices, according to sector representatives.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 7, 2015, Turkey's olive oil exports come to a halt, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-olive-oil-exports-come-to-a-halt-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76609&NewsCatID=345>

### **Turkey cuts key rate as inflation slows, political pressure mounts**

Turkey's Central Bank lowered its main interest rate by 50 basis points yesterday in response to slowing inflation and in the face of increased political pressure for softer monetary policy before a June parliamentary election.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 20, 2015, Turkey cuts key rate as inflation slows, political pressure mounts, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-cuts-key-rate-as-inflation-slows-political-pressure-mounts.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77185&NewsCatID=344>

### **EBRD slashes growth estimate for Turkey**

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) has cut its 2015 growth estimate for Turkey from 3.2 percent to 3 percent, citing weaknesses in external demand and lower spending by Russian tourists as potential negative factors.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 20, 2015, EBRD slashes growth estimate for Turkey, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/ebrd-slashes-growth-estimate-for-turkey.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77154&NewsCatID=344>

### **Turkey agrees deal with London Stock Exchange**

Borsa Istanbul (BIST) has announced the signing of a partnership agreement with London Stock Exchange Group (LSEG) covering derivatives and index products. Under the terms of the partnership agreement, the London Stock Exchange Derivatives Market (LSEDM) will offer trading in futures and options on the BIST 30 Index and on leading Turkish stocks.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 13, 2015, Turkey agrees deal with London Stock Exchange, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-agrees-deal-with-london-stock-exchange.aspx?pageID=238&nID=76898&NewsCatID=346>

### **Pressure on Turkish Central Bank head rises**

The Central Bank should have made a rate cut of at least 1 percent earlier this week, the president's chief economy adviser, Yiğit Bulut, said late on Jan. 21, criticizing the state lender's decision to only reduce the rate by 0.5 percent.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 22, 2015, Pressure on Turkish Central Bank head rises, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/pressure-on-turkish-central-bank-head-rises-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77303&NewsCatID=344>

### **Alarming unemployment figures among university graduates in Turkey**

Economic growth, which is estimated to have dropped to 2.5 percent in 2014, has also made unemployment climb. The Turkish Statistical Institute (TÜİK) recently revealed unemployment data for October of last year; official unemployment, seasonally adjusted, came in at 10.6 percent.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 26, 2015, Alarming unemployment figures among university graduates in Turkey, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/alarming-unemployment-figures-among-university-graduates-in-turkey.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77410&NewsCatID=347>

### **Turkey's foreign trade deficit drops by 15.4 pct upon fall in oil imports, rise in exports to EU**

Turkey's foreign trade deficit has fallen 15.4 percent to \$84.5 billion in 2014, due to a rise in exports to the EU, dramatic decrease in gold imports and plunging oil prices, according to data released by Turkish Statistics Institute (TÜİK) on Jan. 30.

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Hurriyet Daily News, January 30, 2015, Turkey's foreign trade deficit drops by 15.4 pct upon fall in oil imports, rise in exports to EU, <http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkeys-foreign-trade-deficit-drops-by-154-pct-upon-fall-in-oil-imports-rise-in-exports-to-eu-.aspx?pageID=238&nID=77666&NewsCatID=344>