



PRESS RELEASE

January 23, 2006
TS/BAS-BÜL/06-03

The British Foreign Minister Straw to receive the 2005 “TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding”

TÜSİAD (Turkish Industrialists’ and Businessmen’s Association) has decided to award the “TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding” for 2005 to Jack John Whitaker Straw, UK Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs. Straw will be presented the award by Abdullah Gül the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. The ceremony will take place on Wednesday, January 25, 2006 at the Rahmi M. Koç Museum in Istanbul.

TÜSİAD selected Secretary Straw for the 2005 “TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding” in recognition of his remarkable diplomatic skills in overcoming obstacles in the process of the opening of membership negotiations with Turkey at the EU (European Union) Council in Luxembourg on October 3, 2005 after the December 17, 2004 EU Council in Brussels where the decision to start membership negotiations with Turkey was taken.

“TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding” is given every year to a European Union citizen or an EU institution, public or private, considered to have contributed to the membership bid of Turkey to the European Union and to the development of mutual understanding, common values and cooperation between Turkey and the EU. Special attention is paid to the perspective of eliminating the political and cultural barriers encountered by Turkey vis-à-vis her integration process to the European Union and the barriers before Turkey’s economic integration process to the EU.

“TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding” was given to Dr. Dietrich von Kyaw, the former German Ambassador to Ankara for the year 2003 and Thierry de Montbrial, the President of IFRI (French Institute of Foreign Relations) for the year 2004.

Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2006

Location: Istanbul Rahmi M. Koç Museum

Time: 19.30 – 22.30

APPX: Programme

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TURKISH INDUSTRIALISTS' AND BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

2005

**“TÜSİAD BOSPHORUS PRIZE FOR EUROPEAN UNDERSTANDING”
AWARD CEREMONY**

**Wednesday, January 25, 2006
Rahmi M. Koç Museum, Istanbul**

Dinner

19:30 – 20:00 Welcome cocktail

20:00 – 22:30 Dinner

Ceremony

20:20 – 20:25 Welcoming Remarks by Mustafa V. Koç, Chairman of the High Advisory Council

20:25 – 20:30 Opening Speech by Ömer Sabancı, Chairman of the Board of TÜSİAD

20:30 – 20:40 Speech by Abdullah Gül, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkey

20:40 – 20:50 Presentation of 2005 “TÜSİAD Bosphorus Prize for European Understanding” by Abdullah Gül to Jack John Whitaker Straw

20:50 – 21:00 Speech by Jack John Whitaker Straw, UK Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs

MEMBER OF THE UNION OF INDUSTRIAL AND EMPLOYERS' CONFEDERATIONS OF EUROPE (UNICE)

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