

TURKEY

Legal Provisions

Compiled by:

Swiss Business Hub Turkey

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GENERAL REMARKS

Turkey, officially the **Republic of Turkey** is a parliamentary republic in Eurasia, largely located in Western Asia, with the smaller portion of Eastern Thrace in Southeast Europe. Turkey is bordered by eight countries: Syria and Iraq to the south; Iran, Armenia, and the Azerbaijani exclave of Nakhichevan to the east; Georgia to the northeast; Bulgaria to the northwest; and Greece to the west. The Black Sea is to the north, the Mediterranean Sea to the south, and the Aegean Sea to the west. The Bosphorus, the Sea of Marmara, and the Dardanelles (which together form the Turkish Straits) demarcate the boundary between Thrace and Anatolia; they also separate Europe and Asia. Turkey's location at the crossroads of Europe and Asia makes it a country of significant geostrategic importance.

Turkey is a member of various international political, economic and military organisations including the Council of Europe, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), International Monetary Fund (IMF), Black Sea Economic Co-operation Zone (BSEC), Economic Co-operation Organisation (ECO), Southern-European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), Organisation of Islamic Conference, the Islamic Development Bank, the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Co-operation (COMCEC), the Islamic Centre for Development of Trade (ICDT) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Turkey was granted candidate status to the EU in December 1999. The Accession Partnership was approved by the EU Council in February 2001. On October 6, 2004, the EU Commission recommended to start negotiations with Turkey for full membership. As a result, in December 17, 2004, the European Council decided to start accession talks with Turkey on October 3, 2005. The official negotiations have been started and the process covers 35 chapters in different fields.

CUSTOMS

A Customs Union came into force on 31 December 1995. The Customs Union covers all industrial goods but does not address agriculture (except processed agricultural products), services or public procurement. Bilateral trade concessions apply to agricultural products.

http://www.avrupa.info.tr/fileadmin/Content/Downloads/PDF/Custom_Union_des_ENG.pdf

In addition to providing for a common external tariff for the products covered, the Customs Union foresees that Turkey is to align to the *acquis communautaire* in several essential internal market areas, notably with regard to industrial standards.

Following the Commission's proposal on "extending and deepening" the Customs Union, in November 1996 the Council agreed to negotiating guidelines on the liberalisation of services and public procurement between the EU and Turkey. Negotiations were, however, suspended in 2002.

Turkey and the EU have recently agreed to revise the Turkey-EU Customs Union. The increase of complaints over the past few years regarding its functioning was a clear indication that the revision of the Customs Union was long overdue. Turkey is a candidate country, and accession negotiations to the EU are ongoing. The enhancement of bilateral trade relations is not an alternative to the accession negotiations of Turkey, but complementary to it.

Turkey is also a very important trading partner for the EU: Turkey is the EU's sixth biggest trading partner, whereas the EU is Turkey's biggest trading partner. There is huge potential, however, to further develop these trade relations and this is precisely what the new commercial framework will make possible.

Please refer to

- <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/press/index.cfm?id=1307>

In addition to the Custom Union with the EU, Turkey has signed Free Trade Agreements with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) countries in 1991. Moreover, Turkey finalised free trade agreements with many European, North African and Middle East countries¹.

The legal framework of the economic relations between Switzerland and Turkey are the following arrangements:

- Trade Agreement (entered into force on 13.10.1930)
- Agreement on the Organisation of Commercial Exchange and Payments (entered into force on 28.03.1942)
- Agreement on the Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment (entered into force on 03.03.1988)

¹ Please visit <http://www.dtm.gov.tr> to see the final status of the free trade agreements.

- Free Trade Agreement EFTA-TURKEY (entered into force on 10.12.1991).
- Memorandum of Understanding of Joint Economic Commission (KEK) (signed on 06.02.2001)
- Memorandum of Understanding on High Level Commercial and Economical Consultation between the Government of Republic of Turkey and the Government of Swiss Confederation (signed on 28.01.2002).
- Agreement on the Avoidance of Double Taxation with Respect to Taxes on Income and Property. The agreement has been signed on May 20 in Bern. It is going to be in force after its ratification by both countries' competent authorities by 2009.

Please refer to

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs www.mfa.gov.tr for more information on the Turkish foreign policy
- The Secretariat General for EU Affairs (www.abgs.gov.tr) and the Delegation of the European Commission to Turkey (www.avrupa.info.tr) for the Turkey-EU relations.

IMPORT AND EXPORT REGULATIONS

Import Regulation

Goods imported into Turkey may be subject to various charges: customs taxes and levies (customs tariffs, and the mass housing fund levy); and internal taxes (excise duties also known as the Special Consumption Tax, the VAT, and the stamp duty). As a result of its participation in the customs union with the EC, Turkey has, since 1996, based its tariff on all industrial products and the industrial components of processed agricultural products (imported from third countries), on the EC common external tariff.

Aside from the EC, Turkey provides tariff preferences to EFTA member states, and under nine bilateral trade agreements; negotiations are continuing with several other countries. It is also part of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership aimed at establishing a free-trade area in the region by 2010.

Turkey revised its tariff regime substantially after signing the Customs Union agreement with the EU.

Turkey now applies common external tariff (CCT) of the EU for imports from third countries and imposes no duty and fund on industrial products imported from the EU and the EFTA countries. Agricultural products are not included in the Customs Union Agreement; however, processed agricultural goods are covered. Turkey also harmonised its legislation in the textile and clothing sector in order to comply with the EU policies.

Turkey is a member of the GAAT/WTO and regulates its customs in line with the GATT requirements. Consistent with WTO commitments, Turkey maintains high border protection on many agricultural goods and food products. The existing import regime has been in force since 2012. The Import Regime of 2012, reflecting both Turkey's international rights and obligations and the country's economic needs, has been prepared by taking into account the agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Customs Union Agreement between Turkey and the European Union, the free trade agreements signed with various countries, the preferential

treatments granted by Turkey to the least developed countries and some developing countries within the framework of generalized system of preferences and also the specific needs and requirements of the agricultural and industrial sectors.

The Import Regime is published in the Turkish Official Gazette on the 31st of December and enters into force on the 1st of the subsequent year.

The Import Regime for the year 2012 is published in the Official Gazette No. 28159 (bis) dated 31 December 2011 and entered into force on 1 January 2012:

- (<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/main.aspx?home=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2011/12/20111231m1.htm&main=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2011/12/20111231m1.htm>)

The consolidated version of the Turkish Import Regime with all the amendments made since 1995, on the other hand, can be reached [here](#).

The Import Regime for 2012 consists of a Council of Ministers Decree and 6 Lists, 6 Annexes, and 19 Communiqués attached to this Decree.

The 6 Lists attached to the Import Regime Decree indicate the rates of customs duties applied to the agricultural and industrial products on the basis of the country or country groups where the imports come from. These lists and products covered by them are as follows.

- List I: Agricultural products
- List II: Industrial products
- List III: Processed agricultural products
- List IV: Fish and fishery products
- List V: Industrial products whose customs duties are suspended in line with Council Regulation (EU) No 1344/2011 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs duties on certain industrial and agricultural products and Regulations amending this Basic Legislation
- List VI Goods used in civil aircraft eligible to relief from customs duties

The changes made by the Ministry of Customs and Trade on the tariff nomenclature and/or descriptions of the items have been reflected into all these Lists and Communiqués annexed to the Import Regime.

Along with the Lists of products and Annexes associated with those Lists, the Import Communications are also important components of the Import Regime.

The Ministry of Economy regulates and monitors the imports of certain goods on grounds of public morality, public policy or public security; protection of health and life of humans, animals or plants or protection of industrial and commercial property; protection of environment; consumer rights as well as import policies in force. These grounds also include a number of international agreements and conventions to which Turkey is a Party

To this end, within the context of the Turkish Import Regime, the Ministry introduces Import Communications in which the procedures and documentation required during the imports of certain goods are laid down.

- 2012 Import Regime includes 19 Import Communications, namely
- 2012/ 1 Communication on international fairs in Turkey
- 2012/ 2 Communication on imports of war weapons and parts thereof
- 2012/ 3 Communication on imports of radioactive substances and apparatus using such substances
- 2012/ 4 Communication on imports of high intensity sweeteners
- 2012/ 5 Communication on imports of maps and similar documents
- 2012/ 6 Communication on products which can only be imported with a guarantee certificate
- 2012/ 7 Communication on imports of motor vehicles
- 2012/ 8 Communication on imports of products used in civil air crafts
- 2012/ 9 Communication on imports of used or renovated goods
- 2012/10 Communication on imports of bank notes and similar commercial papers
- 2012/11 Communication on imports of some explosive substances, fire guns, knives and similar articles
- 2012/12 Communication on the registration of end-use certificates for dual-use goods and technologies
- 2012/13 Communication on imports of some products which affect workers' health and work security
- 2012/14 Communication on imports of ozone depleting substances
- 2012/15 Communication on the surveillance of certain textile and apparel products
- 2012/16 Communication on imports of fertilizers
- 2012/17 Communication on imports of substances listed in the annexes to the Convention on the Control of Chemical Weapons
- 2012/18 Communication on products of which the customs duties will be suspended
- 2012/19 Communication on the generalized system of preferences

Export Regulations

Turkey has been implementing an export-oriented strategy since 1980. The basic objective of this strategy is to constitute an outward oriented economic structure in the framework of free market economy and to be integrated with world markets.

The Export Regime regulates general rules and principle of merchandise export, inward and outward processing activities, strategies for the export supports, export development and promotion activities, transit trade.

The Export Regime Decree is prepared by taking into account of Turkey's rights and obligations stemming from WTO as well as the Turkey's commitments in the frame work of Customs Union between EU and Turkey.

More information about Turkey's import & export regime can be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Economy (<http://www.economy.gov.tr>). The import & export regime of Turkey is managed by this government body in coordination with the Ministry of Customs and Trade (<http://www.gtb.gov.tr/>).

CURRENCY REGULATIONS

The Turkish Lira (Currency sign: ₺ ;Turkish: Türk lirası) is the currency of Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (recognised only by Turkey).

Turkey's monetary unit the Turkish Lira (TL) was replaced by the New Turkish Lira (YTL) as of 01.01.2005 and six zeros were dropped from TL (1 YTL = 1'000'000). At the same time, the Government introduced two new banknotes called TRY100 and TRY50 Old TL banknotes were withdrawn from circulation as of 01.01.2006. The Central Bank converts them to new banknotes for a period of 10 years.

In the transition period between January 2005 and December 2008, the second Turkish lira was officially called *Yeni Türk Lirası* (New Turkish lira). It was officially abbreviated "YTL" and subdivided into 100 new *kuruş* (*yeni kuruş*). Starting in January 2009, the "new" marking was removed from the second Turkish lira, its official name becoming just "Turkish lira" again, abbreviated "TL".

All obverse sides of current banknotes and reverse sides of current coins have portraits of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

The exchange rates are freely determined in the market, while the Central Bank (www.tcmb.gov.tr) might intervene in the market through buying and selling large amounts in case of high volatility in the market. Banks authorised to deal in foreign currencies may buy and sell at rates that are freely defined according to market conditions. Foreign investors are free to convert and repatriate their Turkish Lira profits.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE FOR PRODUCTS

Generally imports are unrestricted. Import licences are required, however, for some agricultural commodities and chemicals. The government also requires certification that quality standards are met for importation of human and veterinary drugs and certain foodstuff. Import certificates are necessary for most products requiring after-sales support, such as telecommunications, electronic equipment and vehicles.

The import permission certificates for agricultural goods, animals and animal goods are issued by the General Directorate of Protection and Control under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (www.kkgm.gov.tr). The certificates for pharmaceuticals and chemicals used to produce medicines and medical products are given by the Ministry of Health (www.saglik.gov.tr). Import permits for products that requires after sales service are obtained from the Ministry of Industry and Trade (www.sanayi.gov.tr). Precious metals (gold, silver, etc.) can only be imported by the members of the Istanbul Gold Exchange (www.iab.gov.tr).

The documentation procedures follow the EU system. All commercial shipments must be accompanied by a customs declaration form, a commercial invoice, a certificate of origin and a bill of lading or airway bill, depending

on the shipment method. Two types of movement certificates are used; A.TR for the imports from the EU countries and EUR.1 for the imports from the EFTA countries.

All packages, cases and bales must bear shipping marks, numbers, dimensions and the gross weight of the merchandise. Packages and the bills of lading that are to be shipped through Turkey should be marked "in transit".

Inward Processing: A material can be temporarily imported to Turkey without duties and taxes if it is to be used in the production of a product that is to be exported. The aim of the inward processing application is to enable the exporters to supply materials for the production of their exports, without being subject to customs taxes (including VAT). The maximum time for inward processing is 12 months. The permission is given by the UFT.

Temporary Importation Regime (TIR): The main principle of this regime is to allow the goods for use in Turkey for a certain time period (3 to 24 months depending on the product type) and then re-export them. The goods will not be subjected to any change except for the normal depreciation. The permission for TIR is assigned by the Ministry of Customs and Trade (<http://www.gtb.gov.tr/>).

ATA carnet is also used for goods temporarily imported into Turkey. With the carnet, goods like commercial samples, goods intended for use at trade shows and exhibitions, professional equipment, etc. may be imported without paying any duties and taxes. Carnets are valid for one year and may be used for multiple exits and entries to countries that accept the Carnet.

Outward Processing: The main principle of the system is to allow goods that are in free-circulation to be exported out of Turkey for a processing operation. The goods when they come back to Turkey are released for free circulation with total or partial relief from import duties. If the goods are processed when they are temporarily exported, then customs duties are charged for the processed portion.

According to the Turkish Customs Regulations, imports of certain goods such as; narcotics, some dyes, gambling machines and equipment, etc. are prohibited. Also, imports in the context of Vienna Convention on Protection of Ozone Layer and its protocols are prohibited. A list of prohibited or restricted products can be viewed at <http://www.gtb.gov.tr/>.

Regarding the pharmaceuticals, in general, the Ministry of Health provides protection for confidential test data submitted in support of applications to market pharmaceutical products in Turkey. However, several bureaucratic procedures undermine protection for confidential test data. Data exclusivity is limited to original products licensed in a European Customs Union country after January 1, 2001, for which no generic manufacturers had applied for licenses in Turkey as of January 1, 2005. In addition, the term of exclusivity is limited to the duration of the drug patent.

Overall Turkey has aligned its legislations with the EU regulation to a large extent. Although the administrative capacity improved, it is still poor and effective enforcement of the legislation is overall insufficient. The legal system in Turkey protects and facilitates acquisition and disposal of property rights. However, the fight against infringement of laws is insufficient and functioning of the judicial system is slow. The counterfeiting and piracy are still major concerns of trademark holders.

The responsible body in Turkey for the registration of patents, trade marks and copyrights is the Turkish Patent Institute (TPI) (www.turkpatent.gov.tr). The TPI is 20th member of the European Patent Convention (EPC).

Patents can be registered by applying to the TPI directly or the Patent Co-operation Treaty (PCT). A patent granted without full examination is valid for 7 years from the date of application. If a full examination is conducted the patent is protected for 20 years. An invention that is protected by a patent must be used within 3 years from the date patent right has been announced.

A registered trade mark is protected for 10 years upon filling the application and is renewable for further ten-year period. If a trade mark or a well-known brand is not used in Turkey for 5 consecutive years and the owners gives no good reason for the lack of use, it loses its protection.

STANDARDS, TECHNICAL RULES, LABELLING REGULATIONS

Generally the CE registration is required.

To enable the free movement of goods and services within the EU, there are a number of EU directives which contain basic requirements in respect of safety, health and environmental protection. CE marking indicates that the marked product meets the basic requirements laid out in these directives and has undergone the mandatory process that ensures it is worthy of the mark.

Turkey is working to establish a market surveillance mechanism for imported goods that are covered by the EU directives. However, the incomplete infrastructure of the ministries (the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs and the Ministry of Industry and Trade) responsible for conducting market surveillance does not allow an immediate implementation by those authorities. Therefore, the Unified Functional Testing (UFT) and Turkish Standards Institute (TSE) are the official bodies conducting inspection procedures at the import stage on behalf of the relevant ministries.

The TSE, Turkish Cement Manufacturers' Association (TCMA; <http://www.tcma.org.tr/ENG/>) and Türk Loydu (<http://www.turkloydu.org/tr-tr/anasayfa.aspx>) have been recognised as notified bodies in Turkey responsible for carrying out the conformity assessment procedures referred to in the applicable New Approach directives.

TAXES

Turkey has one of the most competitive corporate tax rates in the OECD region. The Corporate Tax Law No. 5520 that was enacted on June 21, 2006 made some important amendments to the current applications and also included new concepts in the tax legislation. With the new Corporate Tax Law in place, Turkish corporate tax legislation now has noticeably clearer, more objective and better harmonized provisions which are in line with international standards.

Turkish tax regime can be classified under three main headings:

- Income Taxes
- Taxes on Expenditure
- Taxes on Wealth

Income Taxes

Turkish tax system includes two main income taxes; namely individual income tax and corporate income tax. Although individual income tax and corporate income tax are governed by different laws, many rules and provisions pursuant to individual income tax also apply to corporations, particularly in terms of income elements and determination of net income.

1. Individual Income Tax

Real persons' income is subject to individual income tax. The income is defined as the net amount of all earnings and revenues derived by an individual within a single calendar year. As per the Income Tax Law, income may consist of the elements listed below:

- Business profits
- Agricultural profits
- Salaries and wages
- Income from independent personal services
- Income from immovable property and rights (rental income)
- Income from movable property (income from capital investment)
- Other income and earnings

According to the Turkish Tax Legislation, there are two main types of tax statuses regulated on the basis of residence: resident taxpayers, and non-resident taxpayers. Resident taxpayers (those who reside in Turkey, and those who spend more than a continuous period of six months in Turkey within a calendar year) are taxed on their earnings and incomes derived in and outside Turkey, whereas non-residents (those who do not reside in Turkey and those who do not spend more than a continuous period of six months in Turkey within a calendar year) are taxed only on their earnings and incomes derived in Turkey.

The individual income tax rate varies from 15% to 35%.

2. Corporate Income Taxes

In case income elements specified in the Income Tax Law are derived by corporations, taxation is applicable for the legal entities of these corporations. Corporate taxpayers defined in the law are as follows:

- Capital companies
- Cooperatives
- Public economic enterprises
- Economic enterprises owned by associations and foundations
- Joint ventures

Corporations with legal or business centers located in Turkey, are qualified as residents and subject to tax on their income derived in Turkey and other countries. If both the legal and business centers are not located in Turkey, then these corporations are qualified as non-residents and subject to tax only on their income derived in Turkey. The legal center is the place stipulated in the Articles of Association or incorporation law of corporations that are subject to tax, while the business center is defined as the place where business activities are concentrated and managed.

In Turkey, the corporate income tax rate levied on business profits is 20%.

Resident corporations are subject to a 15% withholding tax when dividends are paid out to shareholders; however, dividends paid by resident corporations to resident corporations are not subject to withholding tax. As a share capital increase by the corporation using the retained earnings is not considered to be a dividend distribution, no withholding tax for dividends applies. Similarly, non-resident corporations are subject to a 15% withholding tax during remittance of such profits to the headquarters. The withholding tax is applied on the amount after the deduction of corporate income tax from taxable branch profits.

The standard VAT rate is 18% but reduced rates are applied to different product categories (8% to textile goods, basic foods, books and publications, hotel accommodation, 1% to financial leasing, used cars, agricultural commodities and newspapers). The VAT can be deductible or refunded in some cases. In the case of imports, the VAT that is paid can be offset against output VAT if the import transaction is directly related to the business activity. The importer is responsible for paying the VAT. The VAT is calculated on a CIF basis plus duty rate and any other applicable charges levied before the goods clear customs.

Taxpayers who delivered goods and/or services that fall within the scope of VAT-exempt categories (specifically exports, mining explorations, transport services and diplomatic exemptions) are allowed to deduct VAT paid in the generation of such goods and services. Where such deduction is not possible, the subject tax can be refunded later to the taxpayer.

Special consumption tax (ÖTV) is also levied for certain goods on the delivery, first acquisition or imports of different kinds of goods determined in different kinds of lists.

Capital goods, some raw materials, imports by government agencies and state owned enterprises and products for investments with incentive certificates are exempt from import fees.

In addition, a number of relieves and concessions are available to local companies importing goods to be used in their exports under the inward processing certificate.

More information about Turkish tax system and recent news about applications as well as import fees can be obtained by visiting <http://www.vergiportali.com>, <http://www.maliye.gov.tr> (Ministry of Finance) and <http://www.gtb.gov.tr/> (Ministry of Customs and Trade).

COMMERCIAL LAW

The business activities are subject to a number of laws and regulations managed by different authorities. Some of the laws and responsible bodies from their applications that are important for commercial and business life in Turkey are as follows:

- In 2003, Turkey passed legislation to ensure equal treatment between domestic and foreign investors and to protect the rights of foreign investors (Foreign Direct Investment Law, No.4875)
- The new Turkish Commercial Code (TCC) came into effect as of 1st July 2012. Together with amendments to that Code - which became effective on the same day – and regulations to complete the new law many changes were done
- The purpose was to bring Turkish Commercial Law to international standards and align with EU-LAW

SETTING UP COMPANIES

Individuals or legal entities can set up companies in the form of joint stock (AŞ), limited (Ltd.), branch or partnership. There are no permission and/or approval and minimum capital requirements for foreign investors. However, according to the local regulations, there is a minimum capital requirement for different type of companies irrespective of investor's nationality. The establishment of a liaison office is possible by a foreign investor, provided that it does not involve in any kind of commercial activity.

In addition to these, Swiss companies wishing to trade in Turkey could also consider:

- Agents
- Distributors etc.

All companies must be registered with the Trade Registry Office and announcement at the Trade Registry Gazette (to have more information about general steps to be followed to set up a company, please visit www.treasury.gov.tr).

JOINT VENTURE OPPORTUNITIES

In line with continuous commercial growth in Turkey, it seems joint ventures will never lose their popularity. Under Turkish law, joint ventures may be formed in two different ways: as a commercial company pursuant to the Turkish Commercial Law or as an ordinary (simple) partnership under the Turkish Code of Obligations.

It is possible to establish joint ventures between legal entities and/or individuals to complete a certain project in a specified time according to a contract. One of the partners to a joint venture must be a company that is subject to corporation tax. Joint ventures are separately subject to corporation tax (if preferred), VAT and withholding tax, but they do not have legal personalities and therefore do not have ownership rights.

According to the new Foreign Investment Law, joint ventures, consortiums and other partnerships that do not fall within the scope of any form of legal entity defined under Turkish Commercial Code can be established by foreign investors but will be deemed as ordinary partnerships formed under the Code of Obligations.

PROMOTION OF INVESTMENT

The Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency (ISPAT) is the official organization for promoting Turkey's investment opportunities to the global business community and providing assistance to investors before, during and after their entry into Turkey.

ISPAT serves as a reference point for international investors and as a point of contact for all institutions engaged in promoting and attracting investments at national, regional and local levels.

The new investment incentives scheme is specifically designed to encourage investments with the potential to reduce dependency on the importation of intermediate goods vital to the country's strategic sectors.

Amongst the primary objectives of the new investment incentives scheme are: reduce the current account deficit; boost investment support for lesser developed regions; increase the level of support instruments; promote clustering activities; and to support investments that will create the transfer of technology.

Effective as of January 1, 2012, the new investment incentives system (local and foreign investors have equal access to) has been comprised of [four different schemes](#).

ENTRY CONDITIONS, WORK PERMITS, RESIDENCE PERMITS, LABOUR LAW

A valid passport is required to enter the country. Visa requirement and validity period would differ for various countries. Swiss citizens holding ordinary passport are exempt from visa for the first three months of their stay. More information on visa can be obtained from the web page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (www.mfa.gov.tr).

Foreign nationals to be employed in Turkey need work permit to work and reside in Turkey. Work permits are granted by the Ministry of Labour (www.calisma.gov.tr). A foreign individual should have qualifications that are not available in the local labour market in order to secure a work permit.

After obtaining a work permit, the individual should apply to the Turkish Embassy in the home country in order to have a working visa. After receiving working visa, the residence permit application is submitted to the Ministry of Internal Affairs (www.icisleri.gov.tr) together with the work permit and working visa. The annoying bureaucratic procedures, however, make all the process difficult.

There are no special restrictions on freedom of movement within Turkey for foreigners, but they must carry their residence permits at all times.

Turkey has signed many international Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions protecting workers' rights. The new labour law (No: 4857) has made important alterations to the previous law in order to be in conformity with international regulations of the ILO and the EU.

PROCEDURES FOR COLLECTING PAYMENT

There are factoring companies operating in the financial market for collecting payments (<http://www.fkb.org.tr/home-page/>)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND LINKS

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Undersecretariat of Treasury	T.C. Başbakanlık Hazine Müsteşarlığı İnönü Bulvarı No:36 06510 Emek/ANKARA Phone: +90 312 204 60 00 Fax: Website: https://www.hazine.gov.tr http://www.treasury.gov.tr
Republic of Turkey Prime Ministry Investment Support and Promotion Agency (ISPAT)	T.C. Başbakanlık Türkiye Yatırım Destek ve Tanıtım Ajansı Headquarter: Kavaklıdere Mahallesi Akay Caddesi No:5 06640 Çankaya/ANKARA Phone: +90 312 413 89 00 Fax: +90 312 413 89 01 Website: http://www.invest.gov.tr Office: Dünya Ticaret Merkezi A1 Blok Kat:8 No:296 34149 Yeşilköy/İSTANBUL Phone: +90 212 468 69 00 Fax: +90 212 465 72 72
Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey (TCMB)	Türkiye Cumhuriyet Merkez Bankası İdare Merkezi İstiklal Cad. 10 Ulus 06100 ANKARA Phone: +90 312 507 50 00 Fax: +90 312 507 56 40 Website: http://www.tcmb.gov.tr
Export Development Center (IGEME)	İhracatı Geliştirme Merkezi Barbaros Bulvarı No: 63 K:2 D: 10 Beşiktaş

	<p>/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 216 22 36 Fax : +90 212 216 34 65 Website: http://www.igeme.org.tr</p>
COMCEC Coordination Office (ISEDAK)	<p>İslam İşbirliği Teşkilatı Ekonomik ve Ticari İşbirliği Daimi Komitesi Necatibey Cad. No:110/A 06580 Cankaya/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 294 57 10 – 294 57 30 Fax: +90 312 294 57 77 Website: http://www.comcec.org</p>
Capital Markets Board of Turkey (SPK)	<p>T.C. Basbakanlik Sermaye Piyasasu Kurulu Headquarter: Eskisehir Yolu 8.Km No: 156 06530 ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 292 90 90 Fax: +90 312 292 90 00 Website: http://www.spk.gov.tr</p> <p>ISTANBUL Office: Harbiye Mah. Asker Ocağı Cad. No:15 Süzer Plaza 34367 Şişli /ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 334 55 00 Fax: +90 212 334 56 00 Website: http://www.spk.gov.tr</p>
	<p>Borsa ISTANBUL (BIST) Reşitpaşa Mahallesi, Tuncay Artun Caddesi, 34467 Emirgan, Sarıyer/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 298 21 00 Fax: +90 212 298 25 00 Website: http://www.borsaISTANBUL.com/</p>

<p>Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK)</p>	<p>Türkiye İstatistik Kurumu Devlet Mah.Necatibey Cad. No:114 06650 Çankaya/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 410 0 410 Fax: Website: http://www.tuik.gov.tr</p>
<p>Turkish Competition Authority</p>	<p>Rekabet Kurumu</p> <p>Üniversiteler Mahallesi 1597.Cadde No:9 06800 Çankaya/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 291 44 44 Fax: +90 312 266 79 20 Website: http://www.rekabet.gov.tr</p>
<p>Turkish Institute of Standards (TSE)</p>	<p>Türk Standardları Enstitüsü Necatibey Cad. No. 112 06100 Bakanlıklar/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 416 62 00 Fax: +90 312 416 6611 Website: http://www.tse.org.tr</p>
<p>Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organisation (KOSGEB)</p>	<p>Küçük ve Orta Ölçekli İşletmeleri Geliştirme ve Desteğe İdaresi Başkanlığı Harman District Abdülhak Hamit Avenue No:66 Altmışevler / Mamak/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 595 28 00 Fax: +90 312 368 07 15 Website: http://www.kosgeb.gov.tr</p>
<p>GAP (South-eastern Anatolia Project) Regional Development Administration</p>	<p>T.C. Kalkınma Bakanlığı Güneydoğu Anadolu Projesi Bölge Kalkınma İdaresi Başkanlığı</p> <p>Doğukent Mah. 104.Cad.No: 1155/2 Karaköprü / ŞANLIURFA</p>

	<p>Phone: +90 414 347 08 20 Fax: +90 414 347 08 35 E-Mail: gap@gap.gov.tr Website: http://www.gap.gov.tr</p> <p>Bölge Müdürlüğü P.K. 155 Urfa Tünel Ağızı. 63000 ŞANLIURFA</p> <p>Phone: +90 414 347 93 85 Fax: +90 414 347 94 55</p> <p>İrtibat Bürosu Mesnevi Sok.No: 27 06690 Çankaya / ANKARA Phone: +90 312 440 52 10 - 442 23 24 Fax: +90 312 440 13 84</p>
<p>Turk Eximbank</p>	<p>Turk Eximbank</p> <p>Saray Mah. Ahmet Tevfik İleri Cad. No:19 34768 Ümraniye / İSTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 216 666 55 00 Fax: +90 216 666 55 99 Website: http://www.eximbank.gov.tr/</p> <p>Ankara District Office Oğuzlar Mah. Doktor Sadık Ahmet Cad. 1377 Sok. No:11 06520 Balgat, Çankaya / ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 417 13 00 Fax: +90 312 425 78 96 Website: http://www.eximbank.gov.tr/</p>
<p>Turkish Patent Institute (TPE)</p>	<p>Türk Patent Enstitüsü</p> <p>Hipodrom Caddesi No: 115 06330 Yenimahalle / ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 303 10 00 Fax: +90 312 303 11 73</p>

	Website: http://www.tpe.gov.tr
Development Bank of Turkey (TKB)	<p>Türkiye Kalkınma Bankası Necatibey Caddesi No:98 06100 Yenışehir/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 231 84 00 Fax: +90 312 231 31 25 Website: http://www.kalkinma.com.tr/</p>
Republic Of Turkey Prime Ministry Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA)	<p>T.C. Başbakanlık Türk İşbirliği ve Koordinasyon Ajansı Başkanlığı G.M.K Bulvarı No:164 Tandoğan/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 939 70 00 Fax: +90 312 939 75 15-16 Website: http://www.tika.gov.tr/tr</p>
Foreign Economic Relations Board (DEIK)	<p>Dış Ekonomik İlişkiler Kurulu RIVER PLAZA Büyükdere Cad. Bahar Sok. No: 13/9-10 34394 Levent/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 339 50 00 Fax: +90 212 270 30 92 Website: http://en.deik.org.tr/</p>
Foreign Trade Association of Turkey (TURKTRADE)	<p>Turktrade Yzb. Kaya Aldoğan Sokak, Genç Apt., No:11, Daire 8 34394 Zincirlikuyu/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 272 69 81-91 Fax: +90 212 275 51 36 Website: http://www.turktrade.org.tr/</p>
The Banks Association of Turkey (TBB)	<p>Türkiye Bankalar Derneği Nispetiye Cad. Akmerkez B3 Blok Kat:13-14 34340 Etiler/ISTANBUL</p>

	<p>Phone: +90 212 282 09 73 Fax: +90 212 282 09 46 Website: https://www.tbb.org.tr</p>
<p>Republic of Turkey Energy Market Regulatory Authority (EPDK)</p>	<p>T.C. Enerji Piyasasi D�zenleme Kurumu İŖçi Blokları Mahallesi Muhsin Yazıcıođlu Caddesi (Eski 1483 Cd.) No:51/C 06530 Y�z�nc�yıl/�ankaya/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 201 40 00 Fax: +90 312 201 40 50 Website: http://www.epdk.org.tr</p>
<p>Banking Regulation and Supervision Agency (BDDK)</p>	<p>Bankacılık D�zenleme ve Denetleme Kurumu Atat�rk Bulvarı 191/B Kavaklıdere 06680 ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 455 65 00 Fax: +90 312 424 08 79 Website: http://www.bddk.org.tr</p>
<p><u>Turkish Industry & Business Association</u> (TUSIAD)</p>	<p>T�rk Sanayicileri ve İŖadamları Derneđi Mesrutiyet Caddesi No. 74 TepebaŖı, İSTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 249 19 29 Fax: +90 212 249 13 50 Website: http://www.tusiad.org.tr</p>
<p>Association for Foreign Capital Coordination (YASED)</p>	<p>Uluslararası Yatırımcılar Derneđi Barbaros Bulvarı Morbasan sok. Koza İŖ Merk. B Blok Kat 3 34349 Balmumcu BeŖiktaŖ/İSTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 272 50 94 Fax: +90 212 274 66 64 Website: http://www.yased.org.tr</p>
<p>Foundation of Economic Development</p>	<p>İKTİSADİ KALKINMA VAKFI</p>

(IKV)	<p>Esentepe Mah. Harman Sok. TOBB Plaza No: 10 K: 7-8 Şişli/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 270 93 00 Fax: +90 212 270 30 22 Website: http://www.ikv.org.tr/</p>
World Trade Center Istanbul (IDTM)	<p>Istanbul Dünya Ticaret Merkezi Yeşilköy Mah. Atatürk Cad. İDTM İş Blokları A3 Blok, No: 10/2, Kat: 9, Ofis No: 307-314, 34149 Bakırköy/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 468 52 00 Fax: +90 212 465 55 59 Website: http://www.idtm.com.tr/</p>

ISTANBUL Exporters's Association (IIB)	<p>Istanbul İhracatçı Birlikleri Dis Ticaret Kampüsü, Cobancesme Mevkii C Blok Yenibosna/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 454 05 00 Fax: +90 212 454 05 01 Website: http://www.iib.org.tr/</p>
Association of Turkish Travel Agencies	<p>Türkiye Seyahat Acentaları Birliği Esentepe Mah. Villa Cad. No: 7 Sisli/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 259 84 04 Fax: +90 259 06 56 / 236 39 78 Website: http://www.tursab.org.tr/</p>
Swiss International Airlines	<p>Swiss International Airlines Ltd Büyükdere Cad. No:122 Özsezen İş Merkezi C Blok Kat:5 34394 Zincirlikuyu/ISTANBUL</p> <p>Phone: +90 212 354 99 00 Fax: +90 212 354 99 02 Website: http://www.swiss.com</p>

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<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of Tourism</p>	<p><u>T.C. Kültür ve Turizm Bakanlığı</u> Atatürk Bulvarı No: 29 06050 Opera / ANKARA İsmet İnönü Bulvarı No:5 06100 Emek/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 309 08 50 Fax: Website: http://www.kulturturizm.gov.tr http://www.kultur.gov.tr http://www.turizm.gov.tr</p>
<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs</p>	<p>T.C. Gıda Tarım ve Hayvancılık Bakanlığı Eskişehir Yolu 9. Km Lodumlu/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 287 33 60 Fax: +90 312 287 72 66 Website: http://www.tarim.gov.tr/</p>
<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of Environment and Forestry</p>	<p>T.C. Orman ve Su İşleri Bakanlığı Beştepe Mahallesi Alparslan Türkeş Caddesi No: 71 06510 Yenimahalle/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 207 50 00 Fax: Website: http://www.ormansu.gov.tr</p>
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<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of Interior</p>	<p>T.C. İçisleri Bakanligi</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 425 72 14 Fax: +90 312 425 37 69 Website: http://www.icisleri.gov.tr</p>
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<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education</p>	<p>T.C. Milli Egitim Bakanligi Atatürk Bulvarı No: 98 Bakanlıklar/ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 413 26 80 Fax: Website: http://www.meb.gov.tr</p>
<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning</p>	<p>T.C Çevre Ve Şehircilik Bakanligi Vekaletler Cad. No: 1 Bakanlıklar / ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 410 10 00 Fax: Website: http://www.csb.gov.tr/turkce/index.php</p>
<p>Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Defence</p>	<p>T.C. Milli Savunma Bakanligi 06100 Bakanlıklar / ANKARA</p> <p>Phone: +90 312 402 61 00 Fax: Website: http://www.msb.gov.tr</p>
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