



DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO TURKEY

AVRUPA BİRLİĞİ TÜRKİYE DELEGASYONU

Press Release / Basın Duyurusu

EU OPENS NEW INFORMATION CENTRE IN ISTANBUL

The European Union will open a new EU Information Centre in Istanbul on 14 January to provide people with information about the EU and Turkey's accession process. The office will be run in cooperation with the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce and will be part of an information network with 16 centres across Turkey to inform the public. The inauguration will be hosted by Mr. Murat Yalçıntaş, President of the Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, and Ambassador Marc Pierini, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey. The event will also be attended by the Minister for EU Affairs and EU Chief Negotiator H.E. Mr. Egemen Bağış.

Ambassador Pierini said: *"The addition of the Istanbul EU Information Centre is a milestone in the improvement of the flow of information available to the citizens and businesses of Turkey. This network has now reached 16 major cities in Turkey and will expand further to reach 20 very soon. We are very grateful to ITO and TOBB for their support in these efforts, which go hand-in-hand with what the Government and civil society organisations are doing."*

The new EU Information Centre will organise events for groups like students, media, youth, women, businesses and civil society organisations to inform them about the EU and its policies. It will also undertake various cultural activities and events, like exhibitions, drawing and story competitions and a national quiz for high school students. Other services include the supply of publications, replying to general EU-related queries, internet access to EU websites and providing speakers on EU issues. The centre will be located at Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, Reşadiye Cad. 34112 Eminönü, Tel:(0 212) 455 64 14 and open to the public from Monday to Friday, between 09:00-17:00 hrs.

The EU Delegation to Turkey opened its first Information Centre in 1996 in Gaziantep. Since then, offices have been set up in Adana, Antalya, Bursa, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Edirne, Istanbul, Izmir, Kayseri, Konya, Mersin, Samsun, Şanlıurfa, Trabzon and Van. The information centres are operated in cooperation with local partners like chambers of commerce and industry, universities and municipalities. The EU Delegation to Turkey continues to provide co-financing and technical support to the activities of EU Information Centres in cooperation with its local partners in the context of the "Support to the EU Information Centres in Turkey Project". The network will expand further in 2010.

Date/ Time: Thursday, 14 January, 12:00 hrs.

Venue: Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, Reşadiye Cad 34112 Eminönü

For further information, please contact:

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