



EU-TURKEY JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

79th meeting

17 March 2022

Brussels

STATEMENT BY THE CO-CHAIRS

The EU - Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) held its 79th meeting in Brussels on 17 March 2022 under the joint chairmanship of Mr Sergey LAGODINSKY (Greens/EFA, Germany) and Mr İsmail Emrah KARAYEL (AK Party, Turkey).

The Co-Chairs reiterate the importance of the JPC as an important platform for political debate regarding the EU-Turkey relations. They welcome the resumption of JPC meetings following a three years interruption.

At this meeting, the Committee held an exchange of views with H.E. Faruk KAYMAKCI, Ambassador, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Director for EU Affairs on behalf of the Government of Turkey, Ms Henrike TRAUTMANN, Acting Director - Southern Neighbourhood and Turkey, DG NEAR on behalf of the European Commission, Ms Caroline FERRARI, Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the French Presidency-in-Office of the Council of the European Union, Mr Marco MAKOVEC, Deputy Managing Director for Western Europe, Western Balkans and Turkey, on behalf of the European External Action Service, Mr Yusuf BEYAZIT, Chairman of the Committee on Constitution of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey, H.E. Ambassador Mehmet Kemal BOZAY, Permanent Delegate of Turkey to the EU as well as other distinguished representatives of the Turkish Government and of the EU institutions.

The Joint Parliamentary Committee exchanged views on the following subjects:

- EU-Turkey relations and state of play of the accession negotiations,
- Foreign and Regional Policies,
- Democracy in Turkey and in the EU,
- EU-Turkey Economic and Trade issues and the Green Deal.

The Co-Chairs voice their unequivocal commitment to good bilateral relations as an important pillar of regional stability. This includes strengthening principles of rule of law and democracy, as well as economic and trade cooperation, also with regard to the Green Deal. EU-Turkey relations are especially essential against the background of the ongoing international crises triggered by the Russian Federation's military aggression against Ukraine, Ukrainian people and the international peace order.

Both Co-Chairs reiterate that more efforts are required to strengthen relations between the candidate country Turkey and the EU. They pledge that the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) will contribute to this through constructive dialogue, open debate and better understanding between the two partners.

The Co-Chairs therefore engage to do their utmost to organize the next JPC meeting in Turkey before the end of the year.

The Co-Chairs agree that elected representatives of their people, Members of Parliament, should pursue dialogue both on topics of shared position and on differences of opinion, and keep looking for common ground and better understanding.