

# **Turkey-EU Relations: The Security Perspective and The CDSP**



## TURKEY AND EUROPE

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### TURKEY-EU RELATIONS: THE SECURITY PERSPECTIVE AND THE CDSP

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Security has always been one of the most significant determinants of Turkey's relations with the European Union. A member of NATO for six decades, a

candidate country to the EU, and one of the main actors in the shared neighborhood, i.e., the Black Sea, Southeast Europe and the Mediterranean, Turkey is/should be a 'natural' security partner for Europe. Nevertheless, Turkey's security cooperation with the EU, and to some extent NATO's relations with the EU, have been hamstrung because of the unresolved Cyprus issue, especially since the latter's accession to the Union in 2004. Moreover, Turkey's policies in recent years toward Syria, in Libya, and its security cooperation with Russia, have led to tensions and have become impediments to the progress of Turkey-EU partnership in the security and defense realms.

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### **Sinem Akgül Açıkmeşe, Prof. Dr., Kadir Has University**

Sinem Akgül Açıkmeşe is a Professor of International Relations and Jean Monnet Chair holder on Hybrid Threats in the EU at Kadir Has University (KHAS). She holds a BA in International Relations as well as an MA in European Union-International Relations from Ankara University. She studied at the European Institute of London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) for her MSc degree in European Studies. She has completed her PhD in European Studies-International Relations at Ankara University (2008). She was a Jean Monnet fellow at LSE, Turkish Academy of Sciences fellow and visiting PhD student at London School of Economics, Sasakawa Young Leaders fellow, visiting scholar to

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