

PREFACE

It is my pleasure to introduce this Report on the Relations between Turkey and the European Community prepared under the auspices of the European Community Institute of Marmara University.

It was considered necessary to attempt a complete and comprehensive exposition of the vital issues since this has not been done to date. However, comments had to be brief and rudimentary to make the Report easily accessible to a wide readership. It follows that the Report ought to become a starting point of a sensible debate with more detailed studies in depth and with an updated form.

Europe is on the move vertically and horizontally in front of our very eyes. Among these, future enlargements of the European Community will reinforce and revitalize the rights Turkey is entitled to enjoy under the Ankara Agreement and its supplements (The Additional Protocol, Financial Protocols, etc.). The establishment of a customs union will undoubtedly open a new phase in the relations between Turkey and the EC. But it can be considered by no means a final target for Turkey which aims at an eventual membership. The commitment that Turkey made in abolishing the customs duties must also be accompanied by the fulfilment of obligations devolving upon the EC; These are the financial assistance blocked for political reasons for over 12 years and freedom of movement for persons which was stipulated in the provisions of the Agreement but has not been realized since 1986. It is also noteworthy that while expecting Turkey to phase out the barriers in trade, it is an obligation for the Community to dismantle non-tariff measures replacing the customs duties contrary to the wording of the Ankara Agreement and the Additional Protocol. It is also incumbent upon the parties to look for ways in approximating the legislation. This would foster the relations.

This Report is addressed to the researchers dealing with EC matters and the European Institutions, all parties of the Turkish political spectrum, all sectors of the Turkish industry and commerce, scholars and the public at large in the hope that it may contribute to a better understanding of the achievements made by Turkey in successfully approximating her legislation in a whole range of fields covered by the Agreement.

The Report was written by Professor D.Lasok, Distinguished Professor of European Law at the University of Marmara since 1987, who took responsibility for the Introductory Chapters and Notes on the European aspects and by Turkish scholars who filled the Turkish part of the narrative. I wish to extend my thanks to Professor Lasok and all the Contributors to this study, to Sait Akman who co-ordinated the contributions and Rectorate of Marmara University starting from Prof. Ömer F.Batirel, the President, who financed and supported this publication.

Prof. Dr. Halûk KABAALIOĞLU

Director of EC Institute