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TÜRKSOY to Hold the Opening Ceremony of the "2025 Turkic World Capital of Culture" in Aktau on April 5



The International Organization of Turkic Culture (TÜRKSOY) is preparing to host the opening ceremony of the "2025 Turkic World Capital of Culture" in Aktau, Kazakhstan, on April 5, bringing together over 500 artists from different regions of the Turkic World.

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Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Saidov Spoke at the Joint Press Conference with Fidan and Bayramov



Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov emphasized his country's commitment to strengthening good-neighborly relations in Central Asia and deepening mutually beneficial cooperation with strategic partners both near and far.

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Kyrgyzstan wants to follow Turkey's example in utilizing renewable energy resources

Altunay Abdikerimova, the Founder of the Women's Energy Sector Association of Kyrgyzstan, said, "We know that significant progress has been made in renewable energy activities in Turkey. We want to see these advancements firsthand, learn from them, and establish business partnerships."

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OTS Delegation Attends the 87th Session of the Inland Transport Committee in Geneva

Upon the invitation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the delegation of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), led by Secretary General Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, participated in the 87th session of the Inland Transport Committee held in Geneva.

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Palestinians in Gaza oppose Trump's Gaza plan "at any cost."

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have emphasized that they will live on their land "at any cost" and will not abandon their homeland, rejecting U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to displace Gazans.

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"Divanulugati't-Türk" Exhibition on the 950th Anniversary of its Writing in Kazakhstan

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Flaxseed: Nature's Miraculous Treasure

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Foreign Minister Fidan: Attempts to Change the Identity of Jerusalem Are Unacceptable

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A New Era in Azerbaijan-Somalia Relations

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The Akçahisar Ethnography Museum in Albania is among the attraction centers of the Balkans

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SOURCE: VEDAT KURT



Ersin Tatar: We informed that we will participate in the meeting in Geneva.

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"Until Gaza finds peace, it is impossible for other countries in the region to achieve stability,"

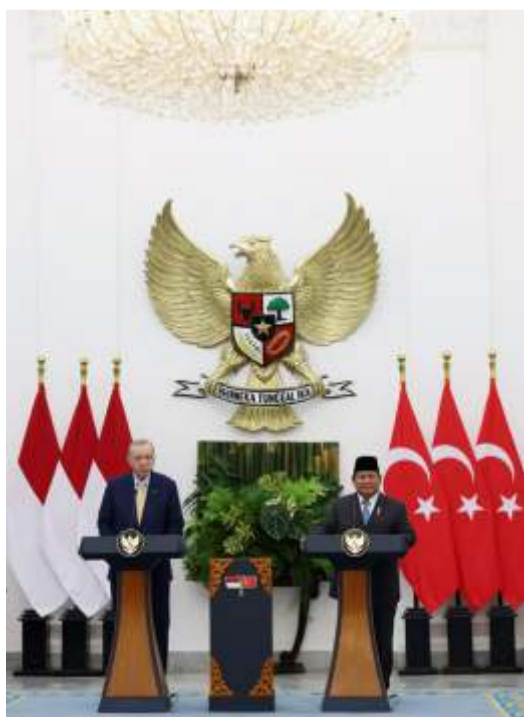
President Erdoğan stated in a joint press conference with Indonesian President Subianto, saying, "Until Gaza finds peace, and the Palestinians find peace, it is impossible for the other countries in the region to achieve stability."

President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, who was in Bogor, Indonesia for official talks, held a joint press conference following his one-on-one and inter-delegation meetings and the signing ceremony of agreements with Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto. Recalling that he visited Indonesia in 2022 for the G20 Leaders' Summit, President Erdoğan noted that he was in the country today for the first meeting of the High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council.

"OUR HISTORICAL AND HUMANITARIAN TIES WITH INDONESIA DATE BACK 400 YEARS"

Expressing his gratitude to President Subianto and Indonesian authorities for their warm hospitality, President Erdoğan said, "This year, we are marking the 75th anniversary of the establishment of our diplomatic relations. However, our historical and humanitarian ties with Indonesia go back 400 years. Inspired by this strong closeness, we crowned our relations with the Strategic Partnership we declared in 2011. With today's council meeting, we have institutionalized our relations even further."

In his talks with President Subianto and during the inter-delegation consultations, President Erdoğan stated that they comprehensively addressed the bilateral relations between the two countries, adding, "We also exchanged views on current regional and global issues, especially Palestine and Syria." In this context, President Erdoğan noted



that 13 memorandums of understanding were signed in various areas such as energy, agriculture, trade, defense industry, communication, and education.

"WE PLACE IMPORTANCE ON DIVERSIFYING OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONS"

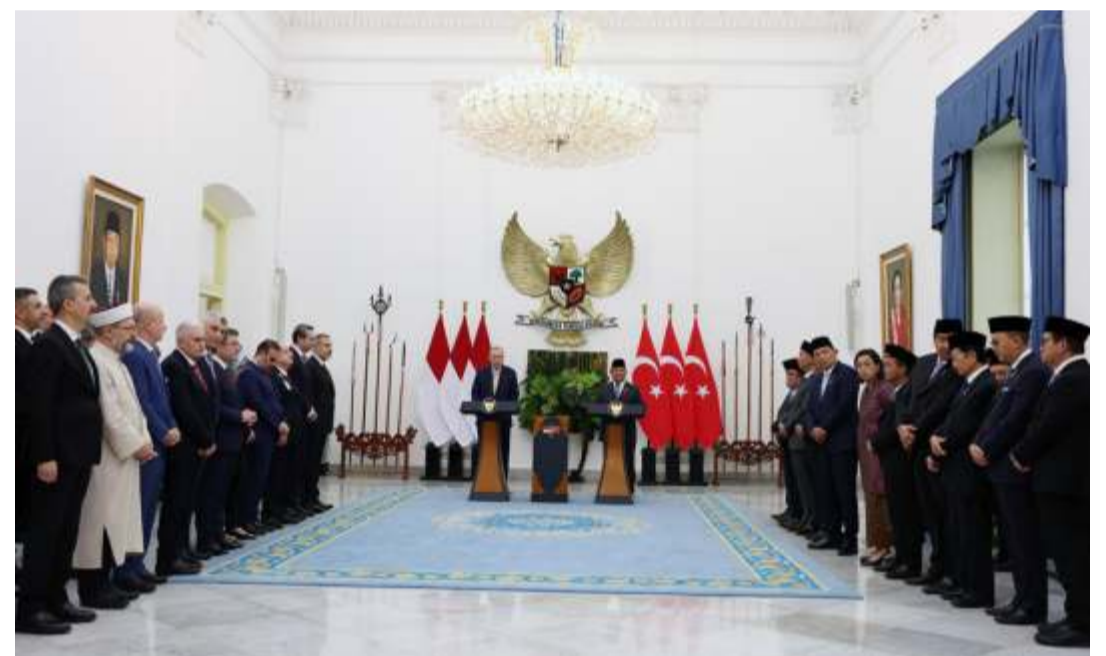
President Erdoğan announced that they adopted a comprehensive joint statement that will guide the future of bilateral relations with Indonesian President Subianto. He said, "We reviewed the existing projects in the defense industry and additional cooperation opportunities. In our discussions, we explored the steps we can take to raise our trade volume to 10 billion dollars and make it more balanced. We place importance on diversifying our economic relations in the fields of health, construction, energy, food, and halal products. Specifically, we want to see our construction companies, which have signed successful global projects, involved in the construction of Indonesia's new capital, Nusantara." President Erdoğan, emphasizing the importance of strengthening human ties between Turkey and Indonesia, two tourism countries, said, "We highlighted the need to increase the number of flights by our flagship airlines. Last year, 203,000 tourists visited our country from Indonesia, and about 50,000 tourists visited Indonesia from our country. While these figures are encouraging, they are below our potential."

President Erdoğan expressed his pleasure at the growing interest of Indonesian youth in Turkish scholarships, stating, "We see each of the approximately 5,000 Indonesian brothers who have studied in our country as cultural ambassadors. The Yunus Emre Institute, Maarif Foundation, and TİKA will continue to contribute to our cooperation in these areas."

Stating that they are determined to develop relations with ASEAN and its members, President Erdoğan expressed confidence in Indonesia's support for strengthening Turkey's cooperation with ASEAN, as Indonesia hosts the ASEAN Secretariat.

"PRAISING INDONESIA'S STANCE ON THE PALESTINE ISSUE"

President Erdoğan informed that they had agreed to increase relations in multilateral platforms such as the United Nations, G20, MIKTA, D-8, and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.



He said, "We appreciate Indonesia's stance on the Palestine issue. In the upcoming period, we will continue to work with Indonesia in the reconstruction of Gaza and the defense of the Palestinian cause. I want to emphasize once again, the establishment of an independent, sovereign Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital, based on the 1967 borders, cannot be delayed any longer. Any step, proposal, or project that undermines this is, in our view, illegitimate, and it means more conflict, more bloodshed, and more instability. Until Gaza finds peace, and the Palestinians find peace, it is impossible for other countries in the region to achieve stability. The total damage caused by Israel's 15-month-long attacks is approaching 100 billion dollars. Let us not forget, in law, the principle is that damage must be collected from the party responsible." President Erdoğan concluded with his hope that the consultations and decisions made would lead to positive outcomes.

INDONESIAN PRESIDENT SUBIANTO: "WE ARE DETERMINED TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDONESIA AND TURKEY"

In his speech, Indonesian President

Subianto said, "Indonesia and Turkey have had relations for centuries, and our ties have been strong since the Ottoman era," recalling the organization of the Turkey-Indonesia High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council Meeting. "We are determined to strengthen the partnership between Indonesia and

Turkey," said President Subianto, noting that many issues were discussed to ensure the welfare and order of both nations.

Indonesian President Subianto, stating that both countries are determined to reach the set target in the trade and economy sectors, mentioned that Turkey and Indonesia have a balanced relationship. He added, "We want to provide more support to the defense industry cooperation efforts between Indonesia and Turkey."

President Subianto also emphasized that cooperation on Palestine will continue, and the two-state solution is supported.

AGREEMENTS SIGNED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

In the presence of President Erdoğan and Indonesian President Subianto, several agreements were signed between the two countries.

In this context, the "Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Health and Medical Sciences between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia" was signed by Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan and Indonesian Foreign Minister Sugiono.

The "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Field of Energy and Natural Resources between the

Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia" was signed by Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Alparslan Bayraktar and Indonesian Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Bahlil Lahadalia.

The "Letter of Intent on Investment Promotion and Facilitation between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia" was signed by Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacir and Indonesian Minister of Investment and Mineral Processing Rosan Perkasa Roeslani.

Minister Kacir and Indonesian Minister of Industry Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita signed the "Memorandum of Understanding on the Establishment of an Industry Cooperation Joint Committee between the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Industry of the Republic of Indonesia."

The "Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the



Republic of Indonesia" was signed by Minister of Agriculture and Forestry İbrahim Yumaklı and Indonesian Minister of Agriculture Andi Amran Sulaiman.

Minister of Trade Ömer Bolat and Indonesian Minister of Trade Budi Santoso signed the "Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Cooperation in Trade between the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia."

The "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Higher Education between the Higher Education Council of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia" was signed by Higher Education Council President Prof. Dr. Erol Özvar and Indonesian Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Technology Satryo Soemantri Brodjonegoro.

President of Religious Affairs Ali Erbaş and Indonesian Minister of Religious Affairs Nasaruddin Umar signed the "Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Religious Services and Religious Education between the Presidency of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia."

A "Defense Industry Cooperation Agreement between the Presidency of Defense Industries of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of Defense of Indonesia" was signed by Haluk Görgün, President of the Presidency of Defense Industries, and Sjafrie Shamsuddin, Minister of Defense of Indonesia.

A "Joint Production Agreement for the Export of Bayraktar TB3 and Bayraktar AKINCI" was signed between Haluk Bayraktar, CEO of BAYKAR, and Norman Joesoef, founder of Republikorp.

Furthermore, the "Cooperation Agreement between Anadolu Agency (AA) and the Indonesian News Agency (ANTARA)" was signed by Serdar Karagöz, Chairman and General Manager of AA, and Akhmad Munir, President of ANTARA.

The "Memorandum of Understanding in the Field of Radio between TRT (Turkish Radio and Television Corporation) and LPP RRI (Public Broadcasting Radio of the Republic of Indonesia)" was signed by Mehmet Zahid Sobacı, General Manager of TRT, and I Hendrasmo, Chairman of the Board of LPP RRI.

TRT General Manager Sobacı and Iman Brotoseno, Chairman of the Board of Indonesia's Public Television Network (TVRI), signed the "Cooperation Protocol between TRT (Turkish Radio and Television Corporation) and TVRI (Indonesia's Public Television Network)."

PRESIDENT ERDOĞAN PRESENTED TOGG TO INDONESIAN PRESIDENT SUBIANTO

President Erdoğan presented Turkey's domestic electric car, Togg, to Indonesian President Subianto. President Erdoğan gifted a "Pamukkale white" colored Togg to President Subianto. The two leaders took a photo in front of the Togg.

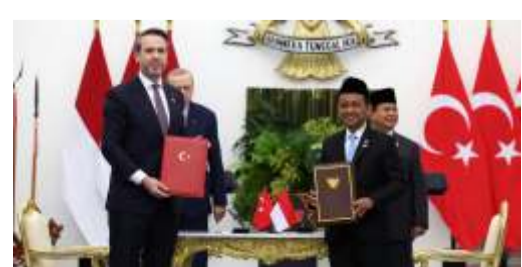
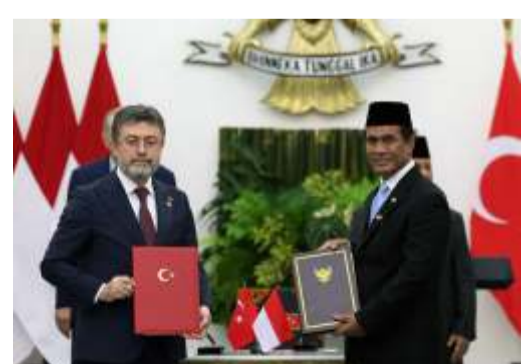
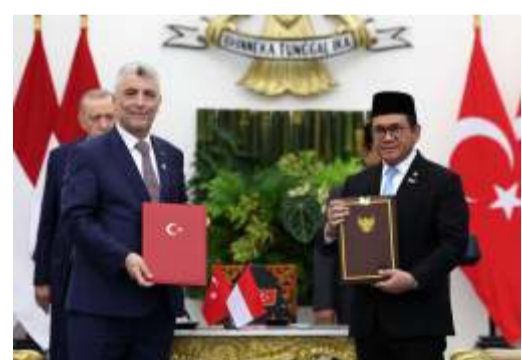
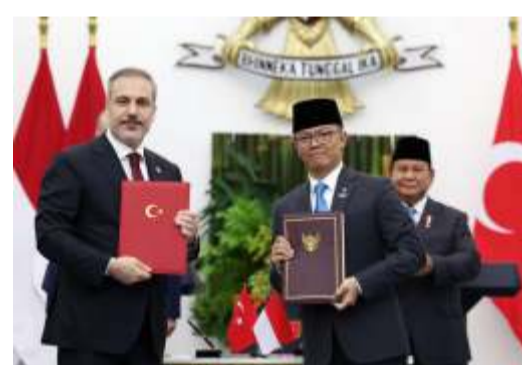
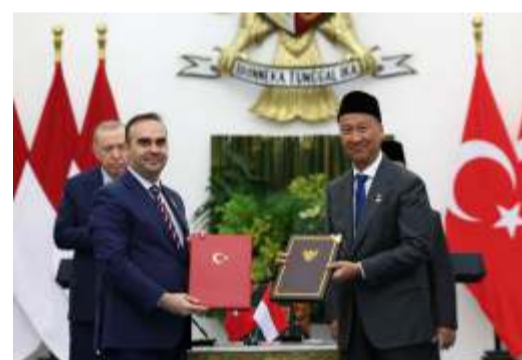
PRESIDENT ERDOĞAN ATTENDED A LUNCH HOSTED IN HIS HONOR BY INDONESIAN PRESIDENT SUBIANTO

President Erdoğan attended the official luncheon hosted by Indonesian President Subianto at the Bogor Presidential Palace. In his speech during the meal, President Erdoğan thanked Indonesian President Subianto for the warm and kind hospitality. He mentioned that this year, they had met on several occasions, exchanging views on many issues, both bilateral and global, as two friends and brothers. President Erdoğan stated, "I am very pleased to see Indonesia, which I last visited in November 2022 to attend the G20 Leaders' Summit, growing and developing each time."

INVITATION TO THE 4TH ANTALYA DIPLOMACY FORUM

President Erdoğan emphasized his belief that under the leadership of Indonesian President Subianto, Indonesia will enter the world's top 10 largest economies within 10 years, saying, "We have just completed the first meeting of our High-Level Strategic Cooperation Council. Inshallah, I look forward to welcoming you to the 4th Antalya Diplomacy Forum, which will be held from April 11-13."

Regarding the gift of Turkey's domestic electric car, Togg, to Indonesian President Subianto, President Erdoğan expressed, "It would make us happy for you to accept Togg as a symbol of the friendship and brotherhood between our countries. May Allah bless our solidarity and love, and I wish you a blessed Ramadan, which we will meet on March 1st."



Kyrgyzstan wants to follow Turkey's example in utilizing renewable energy resources

Altınay Abdikerimova, the Founder of the Women's Energy Sector Association of Kyrgyzstan, said, "We know that significant progress has been made in renewable energy activities in Turkey. We want to see these advancements firsthand, learn from them, and establish business partnerships."

Abdikerimova, who mentioned that they aim to adopt the best practices of foreign countries in evaluating renewable energy resources, added, "We know that Turkey has made great strides in renewable energy activities. We want to see these advances on-site, learn from them, and establish business partnerships."

Abdikerimova pointed out that solar and wind energy are currently not available among the renewable energy resources operating in Kyrgyzstan.

She stated that they want to see how renewable energy technologies work and learn about their advantages and disadvantages, adding that they aim to organize a visit to Turkey for this purpose.



"We want to increase the employment of women in the energy sector."

Abdikerimova shared that there are more than 17,000 employees in the energy sector in Kyrgyzstan, with only 17% of them, including administrative positions, being women. She mentioned that they are cooperating with Kyrgyzstan State Technical University and Almaty Energy Engineering and Communication University in Kazakhstan to increase the number of female students wanting to study energy-related fields.

"We want to increase the employment of women in the energy sector. We are also striving to create education and work conditions for more engineers to be trained in this field," she said.

Abdikerimova also emphasized that they aim to adopt the best practices of foreign countries in the energy sector, stating, "We are organizing experience-sharing programs so that our girls can see the development process of the energy sector in neighboring countries. We are open to sharing experiences. We want to adopt examples representing the best capacities of developed countries to implement them in Kyrgyzstan." Kyrgyzstan's first woman to build a dam

Abdikerimova highlighted that the government is increasing investments in the energy sector and explained that construction continues on the 4.3 million cubic meter capacity "Uç-Korgon Irrigation Dam" in the Issyk-Kul Region's Ton District, which will be completed in 2024. She added that the construction of the

Uç-Korgon Irrigation Dam is planned to be completed by August this year and mentioned, "This will be the first agricultural-purpose dam since Kyrgyzstan gained its independence. In this sense, I am the first woman in the country to build a dam." Advice to young girls to pursue STEM education

Abdikerimova encouraged young girls to pursue STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education, stating, "We encourage Kyrgyz girls not to be afraid of difficulties and to make bold choices in the fields of STEM. Young girls are the future of our country, and their contributions can make the world a better place. They can be the creators of great projects, the writers of technological solutions, and the leaders of change."

Abdikerimova also noted that women can play a key role in the transition to green energy and in building a sustainable future, stating: "Expanding women's access to technical and engineering education in renewable energy, supporting STEM programs focused on gender equality, creating scholarships and training courses for girls in the green energy sector, encouraging the employment of women in managerial and technical positions in energy companies, developing policies that support work-life balance, increasing awareness in the media about women's contributions to sustainable development, and highlighting the success stories of women in the green energy sector are all possible ways forward."



OTS Delegation Attends the 87th Session of the Inland Transport Committee in Geneva

Upon the invitation of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the delegation of the Organization of Turkic States (OTS), led by Secretary General Ambassador Kubanychbek Omuraliev, participated in the 87th session of the Inland Transport Committee held in Geneva.

During the Ministerial Roundtable Meeting on "Promoting Sustainable Transport Connectivity," co-hosted by Türkiye and the Netherlands, Secretary General Omuraliev highlighted the strategic importance of transportation in facilitating trade and ensuring sustainable development in the Turkic region. He emphasized OTS initiatives aimed at enhancing the efficiency and resilience of the Middle Corridor, positioning it as a key trade route between Asia and Europe.

Additionally, Secretary General Omuraliev reiterated OTS's commitment to digitalization in transport, particularly the adoption of the eTIR system. He noted that a Roadmap for the Implementation of eTIR in the OTS region was recently signed and reaffirmed the organization's dedication to strengthening cooperation with international partners, including UNECE, to accelerate the digital transformation of regional transport

networks.

With the participation of senior representatives from the Transport Ministries and Permanent Missions of OTS Member States, the session further reinforced the organization's commitment to regional connectivity and the development of sustainable transport solutions.



NATO Secretary General Rutte Warns About Defense Production

NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte warned about the need to increase defense spending, emphasizing that Russia produces as many weapons and ammunition in three months as the Alliance does in a year.



Speaking to the press before the NATO Defense Ministers' Meeting in Brussels, Rutte addressed the messages delivered by U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth during yesterday's Ukraine Defense Contact Group meetings.

"We all want peace in Ukraine sooner or later. We all want Ukraine to be in the best possible position when these negotiations begin so that they can lead to a successful outcome," Rutte said. He continued: "We must spend more—not just because the U.S. expects it, not just because Europe needs to take its share of the responsibility and ensure fair burden-sharing, but also because we know that threats from Russia and other adversaries are increasing."

NATO Secretary General Rutte stressed that inadequate defense production is a shared issue across the Alliance: "We are not producing enough. This is a common problem from the U.S. to Turkey, across the European Union, from Norway to the UK. We have an excellent defense industry, but we are not producing at the necessary levels."

He underlined the scale of the challenge: "Russia produces as many weapons and ammunition in three months as NATO does in a year."

Rutte pointed out that the main agenda of the meeting would be increasing defense spending among NATO allies.

Which Direction Is NATO Headed?

When asked about the future direction of the Alliance, particularly in light of shifting U.S. policies, Rutte responded: "NATO remains strong for future generations. We are here to ensure that we have the best possible deterrence to counter any adversary now and in the

future. But this also means that we must reach a good agreement on Ukraine. We need to increase defense spending. We must boost defense industry production. These are clear and common responsibilities we all share. We will discuss them. We may not always immediately agree, but as always, we will ultimately reach a common position."

A Betrayal in the Making?

Asked whether U.S. President Donald Trump's recent phone call with Russian President Vladimir Putin signaled the beginning of a betrayal of Ukraine, Rutte replied: "What we saw yesterday were the statements coming from Washington. That also included a long phone call between President (Volodymyr) Zelensky and President Trump, which you forgot to mention. So, we will see step by step how things unfold from here."

He emphasized the importance of ensuring Ukraine's full participation in any negotiations, stressing that any agreement must be sustainable and must prevent Putin from launching another attack.

U.S. Messages on Defense

During yesterday's Ukraine Defense Contact Group Meeting, U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth delivered strong messages while sitting alongside Ukrainian Defense Minister Rustem Umerov.

Hegseth stated that ending the war through diplomacy was the primary objective and suggested that Ukraine returning to its pre-2014 borders and joining NATO were not realistic goals. Additionally, the U.S. defense chief called for increasing defense spending to 5% of GDP, signaling a shift toward a higher level of military readiness across NATO.

Foreign Minister Fidan: Attempts to Change the Identity of Jerusalem Are Unacceptable

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan stated, "The games being played on this issue, the complete Judaization of Jerusalem, the removal of its Muslim and Christian identities, and the introduction of a monotheistic approach are, of course, unacceptable."

In a statement about the situation in Jerusalem, Fidan emphasized, "The games being played here, the complete Judaization of Jerusalem, the removal of its international identity, Muslim identity, Christian identity, and the introduction of a monotheistic approach are absolutely unacceptable." Fidan also shared his views on the ceasefire in Gaza and the Israel-Palestine issue with Palestine Television.

Regarding U.S. President Donald Trump's statements about Palestinians in Gaza moving to other countries and the reactions of the international community, Fidan remarked, "The displacement of Palestinians is unacceptable. We don't think such proposals should be taken seriously. It shows a lack of understanding of history."

Fidan referred to the displacement of Palestinians in 1948 and noted that the international community had proposed a two-state solution based on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as the capital, ensuring a Palestinian state that could coexist with Israel.

He pointed out that the majority of the Islamic and Arab worlds, Turkey, and the international community support this vision, which was demonstrated in the recent UN vote. Fidan said, "There is no political project more widely supported globally than this two-state solution. Yet, it is tragic that such a widely accepted proposal is not being practically implemented."

He highlighted several reasons why this solution has not been realized, saying, "We do not accept a repetition of displacement. We believe it should not happen. As an international community,



the countries of the region, the Arab world, the Islamic world, the European Union, Africa, South America, and Asia-Pacific will continue to diplomatically oppose this issue."

Foreign Minister Fidan: "Future of Gaza Ceasefire and Netanyahu's Decision to Attack Gaza Again"

Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan spoke about the future of the ceasefire in Gaza and the possibility of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu deciding to attack Gaza again. He expressed that this scenario remains a possibility but hoped that it would not come to fruition. Fidan reiterated Turkey's desire for the genocide that has been ongoing since October 7, 2023, to stop, the continuation of the ceasefire, the return of Gazans to their homes, and the resumption of normal life. He mentioned that Turkey, as part of the international community, has been doing everything it can to contribute to these goals.

Furthermore, Fidan referred to Netanyahu's "mindset" being apparent, emphasizing that after rescuing hostages, there would be nothing left to hold him back. He stated, "The only thing that can hold him back is the international community adopting a realistic stance, meaning a stance that completely isolates Israel."

"If Netanyahu Starts a War, America's Credibility Will Plummet Further"

Fidan reminded that Egypt, Qatar, and the U.S. are the guarantors of the ceasefire agreement. He emphasized that the U.S. must pressure Israel to abide by the terms of the agreement. Regarding the possibility that such pressure may not be applied, Fidan said, "If Netanyahu starts a war again with American support, America's already dwindling credibility will sink even further, and this distortion in the international system will continue to fuel the crisis."

In response to Netanyahu's remarks

about "drawing a new Middle East map with Trump" and potentially visiting the U.S., Fidan stated that the people of the Middle East are honorable, and the region has seen many such "problematic types" try similar projects, but they ended up in the "garbage dump" of history. He emphasized that although such individuals maintain their influence for a time, they eventually fade, and the people of the region will overcome these projects in the long term.

Turkey's Ongoing Diplomatic Efforts Against Israel

Regarding whether Turkey would take new diplomatic steps to ensure Israel's accountability, Fidan pointed out that diplomatic efforts are ongoing. He mentioned the ongoing work and consultations within the Contact Group formed by seven countries, including the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Arab League.

Fidan also noted that while the ceasefire has reached a certain stage, the two-state solution should not fall off the agenda. He concluded by emphasizing that the people of the region understand very well how the Palestinian issue is a source of instability and conflict.

Foreign Minister Fidan emphasized that the path to a lasting solution lies in implementing a two-state solution where both Israelis and Palestinians can live in peace and security. He reiterated that Turkey, along with the international community and regional countries, is ready to provide all necessary support for this. Fidan noted that efforts in this direction will continue, with various consultations and projects underway, which will be implemented in the coming weeks and months.

"International Support for the Palestinian Cause at Its Highest Level Due to Genocide"

Responding to a question about whether the humanitarian tragedy in Gaza has led to increased international support for

the Palestinian cause, Fidan stated, "Firstly, the martyrdom of so many innocent women and children has brought two things to light: the international support and awareness for the Palestinian cause have reached their highest level in modern times. Unfortunately, this happened as a result of genocide." He further remarked, "On the other hand, I regret to say that the inability of the international community to prevent something they so strongly oppose shows the dysfunction and helplessness of the international system." Fidan stressed that the international community and system must take steps to address their own weaknesses, dysfunctions, and failures, and that the steps to be taken regarding the Palestinian issue present a good opportunity for this. He also mentioned that Turkey has made the necessary calls to the international community for the fair and lasting resolution of this issue, continuing to take political, diplomatic, and humanitarian initiatives, whether open or closed.

"A Two-State Solution Based on the 1967 Borders Will Relieve the Region"

Fidan, noting that President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is also highly sensitive to this issue, stated, "A two-state solution based on the 1967 borders will not only relieve the regional countries but also restore the Palestinians' right to establish a dignified state and reduce global conflict risks." He added, "Any mindset opposed to such a permanent good is a satanic mindset, and we must watch it carefully."

Fidan emphasized that the international community is facing a mindset that threatens humanity as a whole. He concluded by pointing out that the conscience of humanity has seen and understood this mindset, recognized its goals, and will respond accordingly. Fidan highlighted that the recent UN vote on Palestine received over 145 votes, which he described as an immense show of support. He expressed hope that this support would translate into practical actions.

"Despite Humanity's Progress, Sadly, the Law of the Jungle Still Prevails"

Responding to why the international community was unable to stop Israel for over a year and a half, Fidan pointed out that Israel has received unconditional support from the US and the West, turning the issue into a matter of power rather than justice, rights, and law. He stated that those with more power often cause bloodshed, regardless of whether they are right or wrong, referring to this as the "law of the jungle." He emphasized

that while humanity has evolved in moral, legal, and systemic ways over thousands of years, the law of the jungle still prevails in the end.

Efforts to Protect the Identity of Jerusalem

On the issue of Jerusalem's identity, Fidan underlined that Jerusalem is a significant symbol in the Palestinian cause. He condemned attempts to change the city's identity, stating that the complete Judaization of Jerusalem and the removal of its international, Muslim, and Christian identities, as well as the imposition of a single religious approach, is unacceptable. Fidan mentioned Turkey's close collaboration with Jordan and its support for Amman's stance, as well as efforts to build strong relations with Islamic countries on this issue. He pointed out that Israel continues to take provocative steps in Jerusalem, aided by international support, and emphasized that Jerusalem could be a city of peace and convergence representing all three monotheistic religions. However, he criticized Israel for insisting on erasing all symbols belonging to both Muslims and Christians, aiming to dominate the city. Fidan firmly stated that this cycle of oppression will eventually break, asserting that things cannot continue as they are.

Mahmoud Abbas's Speech at the Turkish Grand National Assembly

Fidan also referred to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's speech in the Turkish Grand National Assembly in August 2024, describing it as a historic moment.

Fidan, recalling that he was also present in the Turkish Grand National Assembly and listened to Abbas's speech, stated that Abbas's speech was applauded by all members of parliament, which is a clear indication of the support given to him. Minister Fidan said, "While our country is divided on many issues, showing unity and solidarity on the Palestine issue, and the Turkish Grand National Assembly demonstrating this to Mr. Abbas, in my opinion, was a historic moment. This was important in terms of symbolism. This fire will not be extinguished, and this support will never end. In the coming days, we will have new meetings, new gatherings."

Fidan emphasized that Turkey's support for the Palestinian administration continues without interruption and noted that every possible support will continue to be provided to the Palestinians in the future. Fidan also underlined that President Erdoğan is very sensitive about this issue and mentioned that cooperation efforts with other Islamic countries are ongoing. He stated, "Whatever we can do to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinians,

to ease their burden, we will continue to do so." When asked, "Should we expect a visit to the State of Palestine or Palestinian territories soon?" he responded, "Honestly, I would like to come to the State of Palestine. If conditions are suitable, I have no problem with that."

Fidan reminded that from the very first day of the war, efforts for mediation and negotiation were underway. He stated that in addition to the ceasefire, it was emphasized that a two-state solution should also be worked on, saying: "We acted as mediators for the ceasefire. We wanted this conflict to stop, for a ceasefire to be in place, and for death to cease. But what we saw was that unless a lasting solution is found, we will continue to face bigger wars. Therefore, as soon as this war started, we immediately paired the ceasefire with the two-state solution so that we would never see this war again. Look, we need to find a political solution to this issue. The way for Israelis to live in peace in the region for many years, the way for Palestinians to live, and the way to prevent further provocation in the region goes through here."

Fidan stressed that everyone with reason, logic, common sense, and conscience agrees on this, and added, "But if you are the owner of a project that wants to take not only Palestinian land but also land from Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, and expand Israel's territory, then of course you won't want a two-state solution, you will delay it. As you did in Oslo since '93, you wait for the right times. At every appropriate moment, you expand your land, you expand it again at every suitable time. Fidan, noting that along with this risk, those expanding their land (Israel) are inevitably facing the risk of shrinking and losing their own land if they do not turn toward peace, stated the following:

"That's why I'm saying, this is the moment, this is the time. While the



Islamic world, the Arab world, and the people of the region are already behind the two-state solution, and after such a solution, when everyone is ready to recognize Israel and cooperate, it needs to be utilized. I know that there are reasonable people in Israel who stand behind this issue."

Fidan explained that the current prevailing strategic culture is expansionist and that peace negotiations, ceasefire negotiations, and any other matters are simply used as a tool for expansionism.

He pointed out that there is no sincerity in any matter, stating that the people of the region also see this, and that no one is saying anything due to the unconditional support from the United States, and this is the essence of the issue. Fidan mentioned that this is known by everyone, and that this reality is being lived, but he could not predict how much the world and the region could bear this reality.

"Let the Palestinian people be hopeful"

Minister Fidan said, "The Palestinian people should be hopeful. God willing, with the support of the whole world, not just the Arabs and Muslims, but all the oppressed, all the reasonable and conscientious countries will stand by the Palestinian people."

He emphasized the need to resist this oppression, stating that everyone is against this oppression in their hearts and on their tongues.

Fidan highlighted that the whole world has united on the Palestinian issue and that this oppression cannot continue in this way, stating that very different consequences will occur worldwide. He said that it is impossible to fully feel the suffering of the Palestinian people, but that the same difficulties, problems, and anguish are shared with them. He stressed that this is a duty both as a Muslim and as a human.

Fidan concluded, "There are many countries and people who feel like us. As long as their sentiments and views are in the right place, and as long as they have the means, they will continue to offer every kind of support to the Palestinian cause. We may also see political events in the world beginning to take a new shape through the Palestinian cause. International relations have this nature. An event happening somewhere might not produce a result there, but its effects can trigger other events elsewhere. I sincerely believe that the blood of the thousands of innocent women, children, and civilians who were martyred and murdered will lead to great blessings in other parts of the world, and I already see that blessing."



TÜRKSÖY to Hold the Opening Ceremony of the "2025 Turkic World Capital of Culture" in Aktau on April 5

The International Organization of Turkic Culture (TÜRKSÖY) is preparing to host the opening ceremony of the "2025 Turkic World Capital of Culture" in Aktau, Kazakhstan, on April 5, bringing together over 500 artists from different regions of the Turkic World.



TÜRKSÖY Secretary General Sultan Raev held a coordination meeting in Aktau with Nurdaulet Kilibay, the Governor of Mangystau Region in Kazakhstan, and other officials.

During the meeting, preparations for the opening ceremony of "Aktau – 2025 Turkic World Capital of Culture," to be held on April 5, as well as events planned throughout the year in the city, were discussed.

Governor Kilibay expressed gratitude to the members of the TÜRKSÖY Permanent Council for selecting Aktau as the "Turkic World Capital of Culture," stating, "This project, aimed at strengthening the spiritual bonds of the Turkic World, is a great honor and responsibility for us. We must present our national culture and traditions in the best way to our guests and promote the common values of the Turkic peoples from Aktau to the world."

As part of his visit to Kazakhstan, TÜRKSÖY Secretary General Raev also met with Kazakhstan's Minister of Information and Culture, Aida Balayeva, in the capital, Astana. Balayeva expressed her satisfaction with the growing

scope of TÜRKSÖY's "Turkic World Capital of Culture" initiative each year and stated that they were delighted to host artists from all over the Turkic World in Aktau.

Raev emphasized their preparations for a grand opening ceremony in Aktau with extensive participation from across the Turkic World, saying, "The opening ceremony, which we will hold at the historic theater on the shores of the Caspian Sea, will be remembered for many years. Among the 'cultural capitals' we have designated so far, Aktau holds a unique position as the first city located on the shores of the Caspian Sea. Geographically, it is the center of the Turkic World."



In addition to the opening ceremony, Raev noted that many events would be organized in Aktau to enrich the city's cultural and artistic life.

The "Turkic World Capital of Culture" opening event, to be held

outdoors in Aktau—one of Kazakhstan's most prominent tourism destinations on the shores of the Caspian Sea—is expected to bring together over 500 artists, including 200 from Kazakhstan, along with thousands of enthusiasts of the Turkic World. Moreover, an ethnovillage is planned to be built in Aktau, providing visitors with an opportunity to experience the shared culture and traditions of Turkic peoples while allowing them to explore the region's historical heritage, traditional handicrafts, and local lifestyle up close.

Last year, Aktau took over the title of "Turkic World Capital of Culture" from Anev, Turkmenistan.



TÜRKSÖY

Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Saidov Spoke at the Joint Press Conference with Fidan and Bayramov



Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov emphasized his country's commitment to strengthening good-neighborly relations in Central Asia and deepening mutually beneficial cooperation with strategic partners both near and far.

Following the Turkey-Azerbaijan-Uzbekistan Trilateral Meeting of Foreign, Trade, Economy, and Transport Ministers held in Ankara, Minister Saidov spoke at a joint press conference alongside Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan and Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov. Expressing his condolences for those who lost their lives in the hotel fire in Bolu Kartalkaya, Saidov also wished a swift recovery to the injured.

Minister Saidov noted that the trilateral meeting was more successful than expected, opening new horizons for strategic partnerships among the three brotherly nations. He recalled that this meeting was a continuation of the first trilateral meeting held in Tashkent in 2022 and had become an effective platform for discussing and implementing strategic initiatives. Highlighting that the relations between Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Turkey have reached an unprecedented level of development thanks to the political will of their presidents, Saidov mentioned that last year, his country signed agreements with Turkey to deepen their comprehensive strategic partnership and elevated relations with Azerbaijan to the level of alliance. Saidov stated, "These meetings are not only an important step in strengthening trilateral cooperation but also open new opportunities for bilateral relations based on strategic interests. In recent years, our cooperation in both bilateral and

multilateral formats has reached an unprecedented level, gaining new dynamics and practical dimensions."

He further explained that the meeting focused on strengthening strategic partnerships between Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Turkey in regional and international politics, trade, economy, investment, and transportation. The ministers also developed new proposals to advance mutually beneficial relations and agreed on a systematic approach to dialogue within international organizations.

"We Are Determined to Deepen Our Cooperation"

Saidov stressed that in today's world, it has become more important than ever to effectively promote common interests on the global stage and adopt a unified approach to key international issues. He continued: "Despite the complex global situation, under the strong political will of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan's open, constructive, and proactive foreign policy has become a defining characteristic of the new Uzbekistan in the international arena.



In this context, we are committed not only to strengthening good-neighborly relations in Central Asia but also to deepening mutually beneficial cooperation with our strategic partners worldwide. In today's interconnected

world, economic diplomacy is one of the key pillars of international relations. Uzbekistan seeks to leverage this trilateral cooperation to create new opportunities in this field."

He noted that the combined population of the three countries is approaching 140 million, emphasizing that there is potential to at least double trade volume in the near future. Saidov also stated that during the meeting, the ministers exchanged detailed views on activating new mechanisms to promote mutual trade.

Highlighting the importance of strategic geographical positioning and transit potential of the three brotherly countries in global logistics chains, Saidov said that closer cooperation in this area would not only stabilize cargo transportation but also facilitate the creation of new trade corridors that meet modern global market needs. Saidov stated: "Today, Turkey and Azerbaijan serve as the western

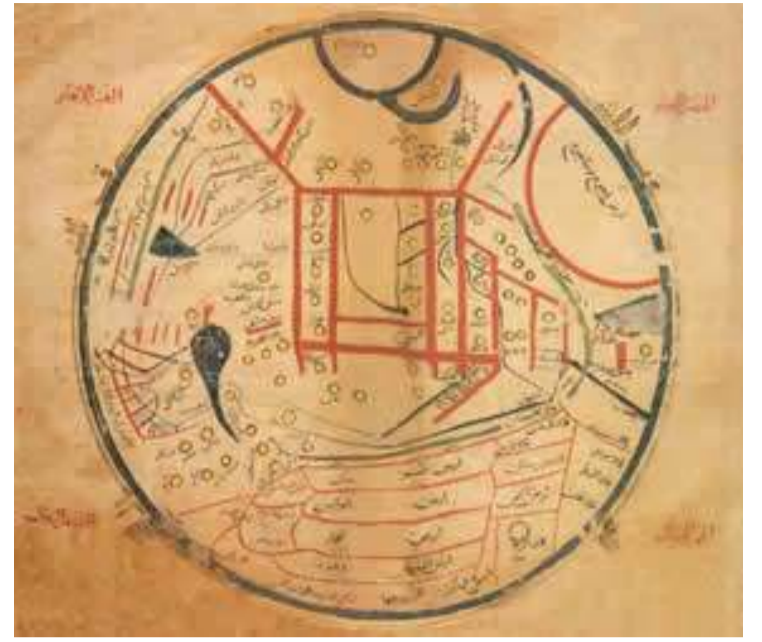
gateway of the Middle Corridor, while Uzbekistan, just like the historic Silk Road, is emerging as a strategic crossroads. We held extensive consultations on utilizing Uzbekistan as a transportation and logistics hub for Turkish and Azerbaijani companies looking to expand into new markets. In particular, we discussed ways to enhance transportation efficiency by leveraging the Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan-Turkmenistan-Azerbaijan-Georgia-Turkey-Europe international transport corridor."

"We Congratulate Our Turkish Brothers"

Saidov underlined the importance of collectively promoting their shared history and the rich Turkic-Islamic culture on a global scale and continued: "In this context, we sincerely congratulate our Turkish brothers on the successful launch of the satellite named after the great scholar Ahmad al-Farghani on January 14. This historic event not only showcases Turkey's scientific and technological achievements but also highlights the inseparable link between our common cultural and intellectual heritage and contemporary successes. We expressed our deep gratitude to our Turkish colleagues for their significant contributions to promoting the legacy of our great ancestors, who made invaluable contributions to world civilization."

"Divanulugati't-Türk" Exhibition on the 950th Anniversary of its Writing in Kazakhstan

In Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan, an exhibition titled "The Head of Virtue is Language: Divanulugati't-Türk" was opened to commemorate the 950th anniversary of the writing of Kaşgarlı Mahmud's "Divanulugati't-Türk" dictionary.



The exhibition, organized by the Turkish Culture and Heritage Foundation and the Turkish World Foundation, was inaugurated at the Kazakhstan National Museum. It features a replica of the Divanulugati't-Türk, along with information about the work's history, journey, and content. Additionally, Ezgi Karayel designed special costumes inspired by the Orhun inscriptions, crafted from a single material, which were also showcased at the event.

During the opening ceremony, the President of the Turkish Culture and Heritage Foundation, Aktotı Raimkulova, emphasized that the work serves as a unifying key for the Turkic world. Raimkulova expressed the pride of introducing the work again on its 950th anniversary, highlighting its invaluable contribution to the daily life, culture, and traditions of Turkic peoples.

Turkey's Ambassador to Astana, Mustafa Kapucu, also shared his happiness about the exhibition, stating, "When we see that lessons can still be drawn from this work prepared ten centuries ago, I have no doubt that the participants will be impressed by the power and simplicity of this work." Kapucu underscored the importance

of the exhibition meeting audiences in many centers, stating, "I believe it is our duty to introduce our shared heritage to both our children and the world in this way."

The Work Contains Important Information About the Turks
Deputy President of the Turkish

World Foundation, Osman Özsoy, explained that the exhibition was first held last November in Bishkek during the 11th Summit of the Heads of State of the Turkic Council and is now being held in Astana. He shared that the only original manuscript of the work is currently housed in the Millet Library in Istanbul.

Özsoy mentioned that the work contains more than just words, saying, "It describes how Turks lived in their daily life. It also includes a map showing the geography where Turks lived during that time. This Turkistan-centered map shows the regions where Turks resided back then."

He also pointed out that there are around 250 proverbs in the work, ten of which are included in the exhibition. Examples such as "Out of sight, out of mind" and "Drop by drop, the lake is formed" are widely used today in Anatolia, as well as in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. He emphasized that this cultural and linguistic unity demonstrates how the Turkish language has lived on for thousands of years without alteration.

The opening ceremony was attended by Kazakhstan's Minister of Information and Culture, Aida Balayeva, Azerbaijan's Minister of Culture, Adil Kerimli, Kazakhstan's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Alibek Bakayev, Secretary-General of the Turkic Council, Kubanıçbek Ömüraliyev, and President of the Turkish Academy, Şahin Mustafayev, along with numerous invited guests and press members.



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Palestinians in Gaza oppose Trump's Gaza plan "at any cost."

Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have emphasized that they will live on their land "at any cost" and will not abandon their homeland, rejecting U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to displace Gazans.

In statements, Gazans pointed out that Israel's military plans in Gaza, which have continued for more than 15 months, have failed. They stated that any plan to force the Palestinian people from their land or to make them leave their homeland is doomed to failure.

"We will remain on our land until the last drop of our blood."

Fethi Ebu Ala, President of the Rafah Services Sports Club, said Trump's plan to displace Palestinians is an extension of previous plans that forced the Palestinian people into exile.



Ebu Ala pointed out that the Palestinian people have resisted similar plans for years, stating, "Trump's plan is an investment initiative under the guise of forced migration, and it is part of previous plans that failed."

Gazan Sami et-Tilavi also stated, "Palestinians have deep roots in their land, and we will not accept any initiative aimed at uprooting us. Any attempt to force us into exile will fail. No matter the circumstances, they will not succeed."

Emphasizing his commitment to his homeland, Tilavi said, "We will remain on our land until the last drop of our blood. Even if the last child is left, we will not leave. Even if some Arab



countries try to implement this project, we do not accept it." "The Palestinian people prefer to stay on their land at any cost."

Palestinian woman Iman el-Kefarine, displaced due to Israeli attacks, firmly rejected being forced into exile despite the difficult conditions they faced.

Kefarine highlighted that she had been displaced multiple times from northern Gaza to the south, saying, "But I am determined, and no matter how hard the situation gets, I will never leave my homeland, I will not leave Gaza. This is our land, and we will not allow any party to decide our fate."

The Palestinian woman added, "The Palestinian people reject all material temptations or promises of a better life outside Gaza and prefer to stay on their land at any cost."

"I would prefer to be a martyr in my homeland rather than live in a palace outside Gaza."

Hayfa el-Misri also rejected the forced migration plans, saying, "I would prefer to die in Palestine than live anywhere else."

The Gazan woman said, "The conditions here are tough, but I would prefer to die a martyr in my homeland rather than live in a palace outside Gaza. This is the land of honor and jihad, and we will remain here until our last day. I would prefer to live in hardship in Gaza than in luxury elsewhere because we know very well that our honor and true happiness are not outside our homeland."

Trump's plan to "take over" Gaza and forcibly displace Palestinians

Trump had said in a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu at the White

House that the U.S. would take control of the Gaza Strip.

Trump noted that Gaza had become a complete destruction zone and argued that it would be better for Palestinians to go to new settlements that would be built in neighboring countries, especially Egypt and Jordan.

He also claimed that Palestinians had no choice but to leave Gaza.

During Israel's attacks on the Gaza Strip from October 7, 2023, to January 19, 2025, when the ceasefire took effect, more than 61,000 Palestinians were killed, including more than 14,000 who went missing under rubble.

Israel's attacks targeted the infrastructure, hospitals, and schools where displaced Palestinians were sheltered. Approximately 2 million people were displaced in Gaza, which has a population of 2.3 million.

Despite the long blockade on humanitarian aid and the targeting of hospitals and even tents by the Israeli army, the people of Gaza continue to reject the forced migration plans.



The Akçahisar Ethnography Museum in Albania is among the attraction centers of the Balkans

The Akçahisar Ethnography Museum, located in the center of the Balkans, introduces the lifestyle, handicrafts, and traditions of the Albanians developed over centuries.



The historical building, inspired by Albanian and Ottoman architecture, was constructed in 1764 in the town of Akçahisar, located in the central part of the country, and has been serving as the Akçahisar Ethnography Museum since 1989.

Regarded as one of the best examples of its kind in the Balkans, the museum is considered one of the most important elements of Albania's cultural and historical heritage.

At the museum, many artifacts ranging from the Ottoman era to modern times are displayed in areas divided into different rooms. Among the exhibits are clothing, kitchenware, weapons, household items, and handicrafts.

The museum consists of areas such as the guest room, women's room, kitchen, national clothing room, hamam (Turkish bath), and shepherd's room. It also features a room dedicated to various crafts, an olive oil processing and production room, a section for the traditional Albanian felt hat called "Plis," a room for shawls, blacksmithing, ceramic production, and a mill.

The museum also uses virtual reality (VR) technology, allowing visitors to take a "journey" through the region's culture and traditions with VR equipment.

Akçahisar Ethnography Museum Director Mehdi Hafizi provided information about the museum to AA reporters, noting that the preservation of the products here is significant for the country's history.

Approximately 1,100 artifacts are displayed in the museum.

Hafizi mentioned that around 1100

artifacts, ranging from 50 to 500 years old, are displayed in the museum, with each artifact being valuable in its own category.

He also mentioned that the historical building where the museum is located has a section with enclosed verandas. "The way the era's lifestyle is showcased attracts great interest from foreign visitors. The museum is regarded as the best ethnography museum of its kind in the Balkans," Hafizi said.

Hafizi pointed out that tourists from various places in Europe and the U.S. show interest in the museum, noting that "Italians, French, Germans, and Turks greatly admire the museum, but we also have visitors from Balkan countries."

He added that Albanians also show interest in the museum, stating, "I believe that this museum, where the culture is carefully preserved and highly appreciated in its category, knows no geographical boundaries."

SOURCE: VEDAT KURT



Ersin Tatar: We informed that we will participate in the meeting in Geneva.

President Ersin Tatar stated that after his meeting with UN Deputy Secretary-General Rosemary DiCarlo, he informed her that they could participate in the upcoming meeting to be held in Geneva on March 17-18.



President Ersin Tatar made a statement after his meeting with UN Deputy Secretary-General Rosemary DiCarlo, who is on the island to discuss the Cyprus issue and preparations for an informal meeting.

Tatar mentioned that they had a one-and-a-half-hour meeting with DiCarlo on various topics, and the meeting was positive. He said that the upcoming informal meeting, planned to take place in Geneva in March, was discussed, and he expressed his belief that it would be beneficial for all parties to attend.

Tatar said that he informed DiCarlo that they had approved their participation in the meeting on March 17-18. He added that preparations would continue before the meeting, emphasizing that there are two sides, two sovereign peoples, and two states on the island.

President Tatar stated that for a constructive step to be taken towards a solution, the sovereignty, equal rights, and equal international status of the Turkish Cypriot people must be recognized.

"TURKISH PEOPLE ARE THE PRIMARY ELEMENT"

Tatar, stating that the Turkish Cypriot people are the primary element in Cyprus and have a natural right to sovereignty, noted that he conveyed the vital rights of the Turkish Cypriot people during the meeting. He mentioned that the isolations imposed were a violation of human rights and unjust punishment in this day and age, and emphasized, "We will never accept an agreement that complicates our lives." Tatar stressed that for a fair, lasting, and sustainable agreement, the sensitivities of the Turkish Cypriot people and the experiences of the past 60 years on the island must be taken into account. He pointed out that the Greek Cypriots have rejected every agreement, but the Turkish Cypriot people are living under embargo, which he stated is unacceptable. He called on the UN to take action on this matter,

highlighting the necessity of opening direct flights, direct contact, and direct trade. Tatar mentioned that there could be cooperation between the two equal sides on many issues, including energy and tourism, as well as at the crossing points. He also discussed the possibility of cooperation regarding new crossing points, which had been addressed during the tripartite meeting in New York, and stated that there are nine crossing points, with the majority of the traffic (65%) occurring at Metehan. He noted that Metehan can no longer handle this volume and that it causes problems for both sides. He added that they had proposed opening new crossing points at Haspolat and Akincilar but had not received a response.

Tatar said that the Greek Cypriot side has exceeded the framework and is seeking transit passage, but this cannot be accepted. He also mentioned the difficulties related to the Pile Yiğitler road.

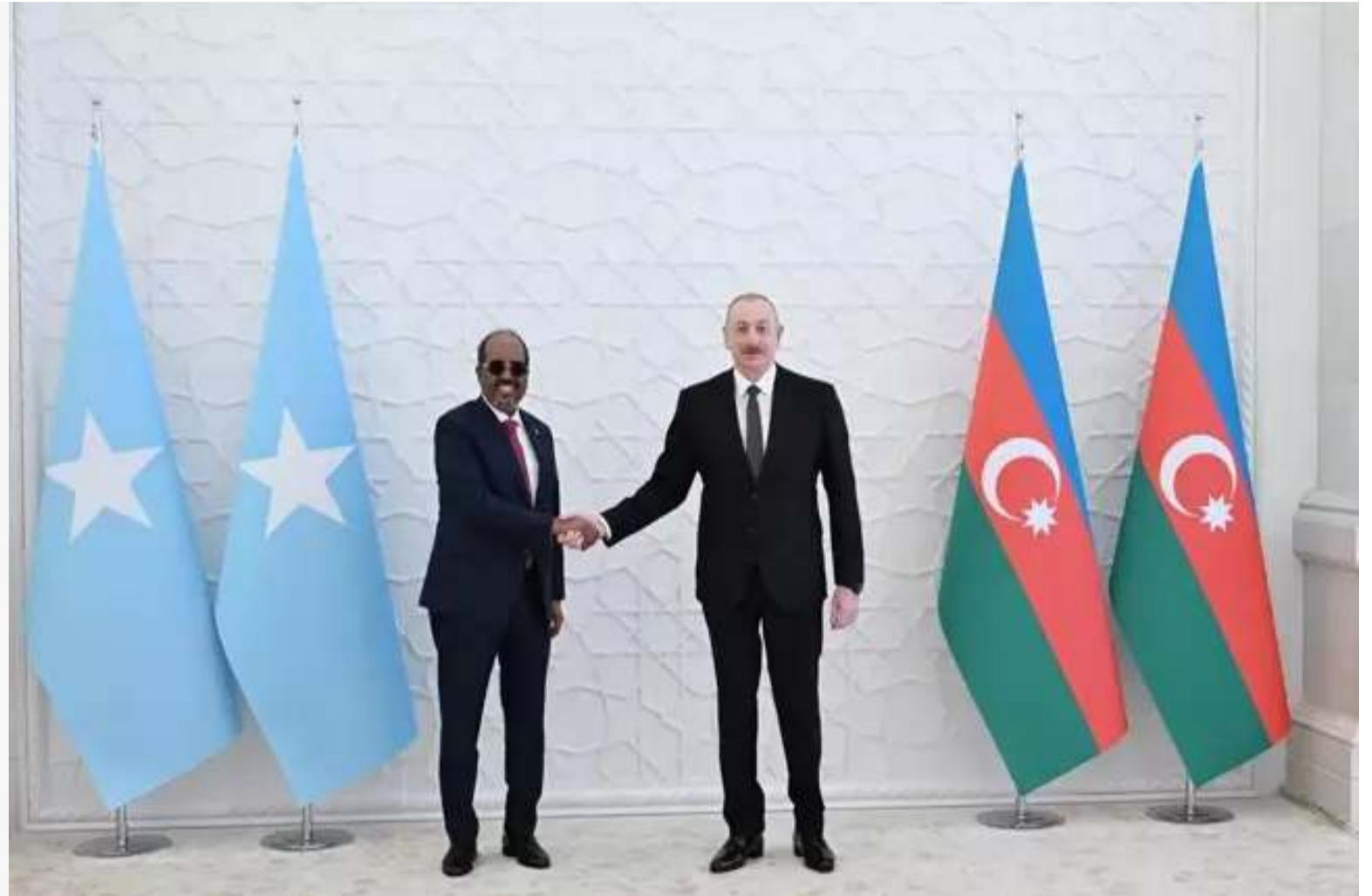
"WE CONFIRMED THAT WE CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE GENEVA MEETING"

Tatar expressed that cooperation could be beneficial for both sides, but the other side does not accept it. He reiterated that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) exists and will continue to exist. He stated that they believe an agreement can be reached through negotiations, but this is conditional. Tatar also mentioned that during the meeting, he had raised the issue of people of Turkish descent being unable to cross to the south, and they asked for this discomfort to be communicated to the other side.

President Tatar emphasized that they expressed the core issues of the Cyprus problem during the meeting, and concluded by stating that they had confirmed their participation in the informal meeting planned to take place in Geneva on March 17-18. He described the meeting as a productive one.

A New Era in Azerbaijan-Somalia Relations

Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev met with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, signing agreements to strengthen the bilateral ties between the two countries. Aliyev considered Mohamud's visit historic and emphasized that both countries would continue to support and collaborate with each other.



According to a statement from the Azerbaijani presidency, Aliyev welcomed Mohamud with an official ceremony, and the national anthems of both countries were played during the event. Following their bilateral talks, Aliyev and Mohamud held a joint press conference.

Aliyev referred to Mohamud's visit as a "historic visit" and stated that this high-level visit would mark the beginning of a new chapter in the relations between Azerbaijan and Somalia. He added that they had discussed the geopolitical situation in their regions and the challenges both countries face. They also confirmed their mutual support for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, and reiterated their joint stance against terrorism and extremism.

Azerbaijan Interested in Agricultural and Infrastructure Investments in Somalia

Aliyev shared his experiences in attracting investments and creating a favorable business environment with his Somali counterpart. He mentioned that Azerbaijan was willing to make investments in Somalia in agriculture and infrastructure.

Aliyev also highlighted that although the number of Somali students studying in Azerbaijan with scholarships was small, they intended to increase that number.

On defense cooperation, Aliyev stated that Azerbaijan had built a strong defense industry by producing most of its defense equipment domestically. He mentioned that Mohamud would visit Azerbaijan's defense industry facilities and meet with special forces personnel. He stressed that cooperation in defense, joint training, joint production, and the supply of defense industry products from Azerbaijan to Somalia should be important areas of cooperation.

Aliyev also spoke about the ASAN Service, a government service model in Azerbaijan that consolidates all state services under one roof, and suggested that Somalia could establish a similar institution based on Azerbaijan's experience. "We are ready to learn from Azerbaijan's experiences,"

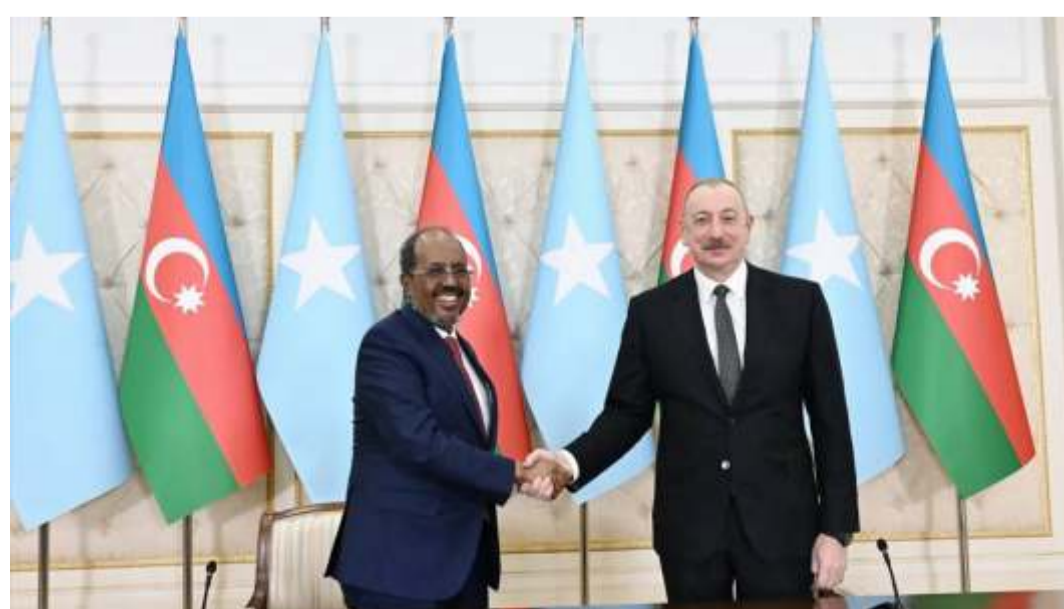
President Mohamud expressed great honor in being the first Somali president to visit Azerbaijan. He emphasized that a new era had



begun in Azerbaijan-Somalia relations. He stated, "We are ready to learn from Azerbaijan's experiences. All the areas of cooperation you mentioned will be beneficial to Somalia. Somalia is a country transitioning from difficult times to a bright future. Somalia has rich resources and great potential, but the conditions did not allow for development. With good partners like Azerbaijan, the potential of our country will be realized and made predictable."

Mohamud also praised Azerbaijan's achievements in energy, infrastructure, security, and education, stating, "Azerbaijan can see Somalia as a gateway to emerging African markets, especially in trade and logistics." **Agreements Signed Between Azerbaijan and Somalia**

During the ceremony attended by both Aliyev and Mohamud, and with the participation of relevant ministers and officials, four agreements were signed in the areas of state services, green energy, education, and defense and defense industry cooperation.



The agreement signed for the supply of Turkmen gas will contribute to Turkey's goal of becoming a natural gas hub.

Türkiye to Enhance Energy Supply Security and Strengthen Its Goal of Becoming a Natural Gas Hub with Turkmen Gas Supply Starting March 1

Oğuzhan Akyener, President of the Turkish Energy Strategies and Policies Research Center (TESPAM), stated that the increasing energy integration and cooperation within the Turkic world, Turkey's goal of becoming a natural gas trade hub, and the possibility of providing an alternative to Russian gas for the European Union have brought Turkmen gas back into focus.

Akyener noted that different options for the transportation of Turkmen



gas are being considered, including a swap route through Iran or the long-term construction of the Trans-Caspian pipeline. Although the volume of Turkmen gas is not large, Akyener emphasized its significance in strengthening relations with Turkic states, stating, "We don't necessarily have to transport this gas directly to the West. We can even use it in our eastern regions. The key is to

integrate it into our system."

Discussing the impact of Turkmen gas on markets, Akyener continued: "This development will enhance Turkey's geostrategic position, reinforce its goal of becoming a natural gas trade hub, and contribute, even if slightly, to energy supply security. Once this trade begins, new investment opportunities and larger-scale trade discussions will naturally follow. Additionally, it will help clarify the positions of countries along the relevant routes, particularly within the framework of swap options."

Akyener pointed out that Turkey has been supplying gas to European countries in recent years and added: "Even small volumes of additional gas supply enabling Turkey to feed the Balkan countries will result in significant benefits. While 2 billion cubic meters may seem negligible, it marks an important starting point. This step will encourage the Turkic world to focus on cooperation in this area, laying the groundwork for major agreements in the future."

He also noted that if favorable investment conditions and export corridors are established, Turkmenistan could export up to 65 billion cubic meters of gas by 2050. "Therefore, I believe it is in the interest of both Europe and the U.S. to support these processes. The integration of even 2 billion cubic meters of gas into the Turkic world

could pave the way for a corridor capable of reaching 100 billion cubic meters in the future," Akyener stated.

The Turkmen Gas Plan Dates Back to the 1990s

Turkmenistan, which stands out among the Turkic republics with its vast natural gas reserves, has been planning to supply gas to Turkey since the 1990s.

Although an agreement was signed between Ankara and Ashgabat after Turkmenistan gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, gas deliveries could not be realized due to various reasons.

Over the past 30 years, Turkmenistan has taken significant steps to diversify its gas export markets, increasing its annual gas production to approximately 80 billion cubic meters. The country currently exports 40 billion cubic meters of this amount to China, Iran, and Russia. Meanwhile, Turkey has implemented major infrastructure projects, including pipeline imports from Russia, Azerbaijan, and Iran, as well as liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from various countries, to diversify its gas supply.

With the addition of its Black Sea gas production, Turkey has transitioned from being a gas-importing country to a gas-exporting country, supplying energy to Europe.



Flaxseed: Nature's Miraculous Treasure

Flaxseed is obtained from the flax plant, which predominantly grows in temperate climates. Although many Turkic republics around the world produce it, countries like Russia and Kazakhstan are leaders in flaxseed production.

The cultivation of flax dates back to around 2000 BC in Anatolia, where it was produced for many years in regions such as Manisa, Trabzon, Rize, Kastamonu, and Mardin, as well as in the Middle East in places like Mosul and Baghdad. However, its production in Anatolia has unfortunately declined over time. In contrast, the situation in Kazakhstan has been quite the opposite, with increased incentives for flaxseed cultivation. Due to high yields and superior product quality, even Russia, which holds a large share of the global



flaxseed market, seeks imports from Kazakhstan. The healing power hidden inside these delicate brown seeds has recently attracted the attention of modern science, with new benefits being discovered every day. Let's explore the secrets of this miraculous seed together.

Active Components of Flaxseed

Flaxseed is like a nature laboratory with its rich components. Omega-3 fatty acids, particularly alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), are among the most essential fats that the body cannot produce on its own. Additionally, lignans, which are powerful antioxidant compounds, are some of the most remarkable components of flaxseed. This seed is also rich in fiber and contains important minerals such as protein, B vitamins, magnesium, and zinc. These components turn flaxseed into not just a food source but a natural medicine.

A Shield for Heart and Vascular Health

Omega-3 fatty acids enhance the elasticity of blood vessels, reducing the risk of heart attacks and strokes. They help balance blood pressure, lower bad cholesterol, and increase good cholesterol. Thus, flaxseed stands out as a heart-healthy food.



The Silent Hero of the Digestive System
Because flaxseed is rich in fiber, it regulates bowel movements, prevents constipation, and aids digestion. It also supports the intestinal flora, contributing to the more effective functioning of probiotics.

Natural Support for Blood Sugar Regulation

Flaxseed, with its slowly digested complex structure, prevents the sudden spikes and drops in blood sugar levels. This makes it a natural regulator, particularly beneficial for diabetes patients.

The Antioxidant Power That Protects the Body

Lignans protect the body from the damage caused by free radicals and prevent cell damage. This antioxidant structure also plays a role in hormone regulation, helping to prevent hormone-related diseases.

Natural Skin and Hair Care

Omega-3 fatty acids help maintain the skin's moisture balance, prevent

dryness, and strengthen the skin barrier. They also nourish hair roots, leading to stronger, shinier, and healthier hair. Flaxseed oil provides a natural solution for skin problems like acne and eczema by reducing inflammation.

Uses and Forms

Flaxseed is a versatile plant with a wide range of applications, from nutrition to cosmetics, healthcare to industry.

- **Nutrition:** Ground flaxseed can be added to breakfast cereals, yogurt, salads, and soups. Consuming one or two tablespoons daily helps meet the body's nutritional needs.
- **Flaxseed Oil:** The cold-pressed oil is used in salad dressings, cold dishes, and skincare.
- **Natural Cosmetics:** Flaxseed oil is a common ingredient in facial masks, hair care oils, and moisturizing creams.
- **Pharmaceutical Industry:** Due to its active compounds, it is used as a supportive ingredient in some medicines.

Things to Consider

Like any natural product, flaxseed should be consumed consciously. Overconsumption can have adverse effects on the digestive system. People who use blood thinners, pregnant women, and individuals with chronic conditions should exercise caution before using flaxseed.

Final Thoughts

Flaxseed is a unique treasure that nature has given us. Used as a healing source for centuries, this tiny seed continues to be one of the keys to a healthy life in modern times. When used correctly and regularly, it is like an elixir of life, offering countless benefits to our bodies. Isn't it time to incorporate this miracle of nature into our lives for a healthier future?





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