



EU-TURKEY CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE

EU-Turkey Civil Society Dialogue seeks to integrate civil society into the process of Turkey's EU accession. It aims to generate mutual knowledge and understanding between civil societies in both Turkey and EU Member States. The dialogue creates fora where mutual concerns and topics of common interest can be discussed. Further to the EU funded activities below, projects contributing to Civil Society Dialogue are also carried out on a bilateral basis between EU Member States and Turkey.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

CLOSED CALLS FOR PROPOSAL

- **“Small Projects Programme: Strengthening Civil Society Dialogue”** (€750,000)
This programme supports the broad goal of deepening dialogue and enhancing mutual understanding between civil society in Turkey and the EU Member States. 17 projects are currently being carried out with partners in 13 countries. These projects cover a variety of issues, including youth, business community dialogue, minority rights, regional development and disabled persons.

OPEN CALLS FOR PROPOSAL

- **“Civil Society Dialogue: Europa-Bridges of Knowledge”** (€1.4 million)
Open until 10 August 2006: Projects under this programme focus on establishing networks and strengthening existing collaboration between NGOs and universities based in Turkey and the EU to enhance Turkey's expertise on the *Acquis Communautaire*, ie the body of EU law.
- **“Strengthening Civil Society Dialogue: Participation in NGO events in the EU”** (€50,000)
Open until 30 October 2006: This programme provides financial support for study visits, exchanges and NGO participation in platforms, meetings and conferences in the EU.
- **“Civil Society Dialogue: Culture in Action”** (€1.45 million)
Open until 5 December 2006: This call for proposals provides funding for joint EU-Turkey cultural projects on the one hand and information/media activities regarding EU affairs on the other. It aims at raising public interest in Turkey in different aspects of European art and culture and increasing knowledge of the EU accession process.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

- **Education (Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, and Youth) and Culture 2000**
Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci, and Youth are Community programmes in the field of education. They help improve citizens' skills through promotion of transnational mobility, innovation, and training. The number of Turkish beneficiaries has been growing steadily over the past years. In particular, the Erasmus programme, part of Socrates, has seen high demand in Turkey. In 2005 more than 1.300 students and 320 teachers took advantage of it to pursue academic activities abroad.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- **“Promotion of Civil Society Dialogue between EU and Turkey”**
Under 2006 pre-accession assistance the European Commission will provide a further €21.5 million to promote the Civil Society Dialogue in Turkey. Activities will focus on the following target groups: Towns and local communities, professional organisations, universities, and youth organisations. Furthermore, this programme also includes a facility to assist the dialogue by supporting interpretation and translation services needed at Civil Society Dialogue events. The Turkish government is responsible for the implementation of all projects carried out under this programme. Further information may be obtained from the Turkish Secretariat General for European Union Affairs.

USEFUL LINKS

Policy guidelines on the Civil Society Dialogue: http://ec.europa.eu/comm/enlargement/docs/pdf/civil_society_290605_en.pdf	DG Enlargement: http://ec.europa.eu/comm/enlargement/index_en.htm
Delegation of the European Commission to Turkey: http://www.deltur.cec.eu.int	EuropeAid: http://ec.europa.eu/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm
Secretariat General for European Union Affairs: http://www.euturkey.org.tr	Links to Community Programmes: Culture 2000: http://ec.europa.eu/culture/eac/index_en.html Education: http://ec.europa.eu/education/index_en.html Youth: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.html
Central Finance and Contracts Unit: http://www.cfcu.gov.tr	

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