



European Committee
of the Regions

Brussels, 8 December 2020

NOTICE OF MEETING
WORKING GROUP ON RELATIONS WITH TURKEY

Meeting No **24**
Chair **Jens Christian GJESING (DK/PES)**
 Councillor, Haderslev municipal council, Denmark

Venue: Meeting will be held in fully remote format via *Interactio*
Date and time 16 December 2020, 14:30 – 16:30 (Central European Time, CET)
Interpreting: EN/FR/TK

All times in CET

13:30 – 14:30 *Interactio* test

Participants who are going to speak (Co-Chairs, speakers and members who intend to take the floor) should do the test.

14:30 – 15:20 Points 1 – 3

Participants should connect a couple of minutes before the official start.

1. **Adoption of the agenda (COR-2020-05108-00-05-CONVPOJ-REF) and approval of the minutes (COR-2019-05645-00-00-PV-REF) of the twenty-third meeting of the European Committee of the Regions Working Group on relations with Turkey held on 27 November 2019 in Edirne, Turkey**
2. **Opening remarks by the Chair**
 - **Jens Christian GJESING (DK/PES)**, Councillor Haderslev, Denmark
3. **Recent developments in Turkey and the EU – Turkey relations**
 - **Ignacio SÁNCHEZ AMOR (ES/S&D)**, Member of the European Parliament, Rapporteur on Turkey
 - **Fatma ŞAHİN (AK Party)**, Mayor of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality and President of Union of Municipalities of Turkey (TBB) (tbc)

- **Myriam FERRAN**, Director for Strategy and Turkey, Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG-NEAR), European Commission
- **Laura BATALLA**, Secretary General, EU-Turkey Forum
- **Amb. Faruk KAYMAKCI**, Turkish Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Director for EU Affairs

Exchange of views

15:20 – 16:15 Point 4

4. **Thematic session:**

Covid-19 pandemic in Turkey and the EU: consequences, lessons learnt, recovery

- **Amb. Mehmet Kemal BOZAY**, Permanent Delegate of Turkey to the EU
- **Bernard BRUNET**, Head of Unit, Turkey, Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG-NEAR), European Commission
- **Tunç SOYER (CHP)**, Mayor, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality
- **Yücel YILMAZ (AK Party)**, Mayor, Balıkesir Metropolitan Municipality
- **Wojciech KALAMARZ**, Head of Unit, International relations, Directorate General for Health and Food Safety (DG-SANTE), European Commission
- **Biröl EKİCİ**, Secretary-General, Union of Municipalities of Turkey (TBB)

Exchange of views

16:15 – 16:30 Points 5 - 7

5. **Work Programme of the WG Turkey for 2020 - 2025 (COR-2020-05357-00-01-TCD-TRA)**

Discussion and adoption

6. **Any other business**

7. **Concluding remarks by the Chair**

- **Jens Christian GJESING (DK/PES)**, Councillor Haderslev, Denmark