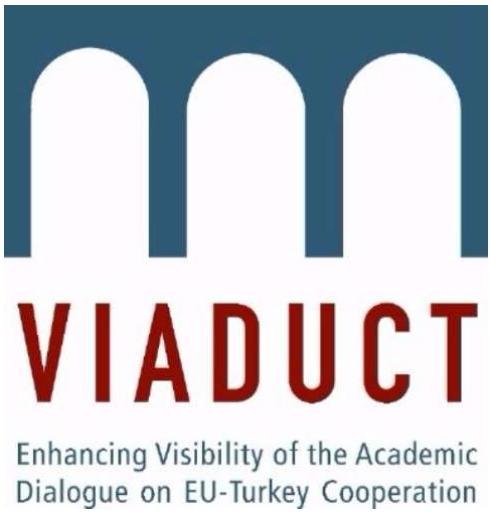

Dear VIADUCT Friend

We are happy to share with you a brand new VIADUCT Newsletter.

In this June 2018 Newsletter you will find:

The EDITORIAL by Prof Meltem Muftuler-Bac, Sabanci University

NEWS from the VIADUCT network

The latest publications on EU-Turkey in the VIADUCT LIBRARY

OTHER NEWS on EU-Turkey relations

and you will be able to DISCOVER the VIADUCT network

Follow VIADUCT also on **TWITTER** and **FACEBOOK**

Remember to **share** our Newsletter:

Tweet Share Share Forward

EDITORIAL

Turkey in unchartered waters with the European Union

It is never easy to talk about Turkey in the context of its future in the European Union. Yet, it has now become even harder in the

The already fragile checks and balances system in Turkey has further eroded following the multiple political 'reform' packages – the

the conundrum in Italian politics and the political uncertainties in some member states such as Poland and Hungary. Turkey's role in European politics has already been contentious as in some member states a possible Turkish accession to the EU is used to stir up populist sentiments for political gain. Similarly, the rocky accession process led to a loss of faith among the Turkish public towards the EU, and a decreased credibility for the EU in the Turkish eyes. While accession seems further away, the key mechanisms and pillars of Turkey's integration to the EU are still place. These mechanisms form the basis of the economic integration – the Customs Union Agreement – and political integration – the Accession Partnership Document and the Negotiations Framework. On top of these tools, Turkey entered into new institutional arrangements with the EU since 2015 with the adoption of High Level Dialogues – Economic, Political as well as on Energy and Counter-Terrorism policy areas. As the political rift between Turkey and the EU deepened, pulling them further apart from each other, the uncertainty over Turkey's respective position in the European order has intensified. Without going into the larger debates on Turkey's accession, this editorial aims to highlight potential areas of tension between the two parties and emphasise the areas where functional cooperation could flourish.

There is now an increased tendency to assess the future of Turkey's relations with the EU from a functional perspective, with transactional elements coming to the forefront. However, one needs to note that the EU is no longer only a functional entity, but a political union with its values and norms forming the basis of a common identity, and the creation of a common destiny. Even though there are challenges to these values in some member states such as Poland and Hungary, the EU still acts as the main embodiment of liberal democracy in an increasingly illiberal global order.

This means then even for a transactional and/or functional cooperation to flourish between Turkey and the EU, a minimum level of norm sharing is necessary. Yet, this seems to be the area where most of the divergence takes place, with Turkey caught in a spiral of de-Europeanisation.

uncertainty over the *modus operandi* of Turkish politics once the shift from a parliamentary to a presidential system is completed. This uncertainty is compounded by the recent economic challenges, where the inherent weaknesses in the Turkish economy (most notably a heavy reliance on consumption-based economic growth) coupled with global economic shifts led to a plunge in the value of the Turkish currency in 2018. Nonetheless, despite these significant challenges, Turkey is still predicted to rank among the top 15 economies of the future by institutions such as the World Economic Forum. What makes Turkey an integral part of the future of the European order is precisely the size of its economy, the magnitude of its population and its geographic position as a European borderland. This, in turn, requires for both parties to formulate feasible modalities of cooperation – both institutional and policy wise – without politicising the accession process further. While Turkey's return to normalcy is a precondition, a more responsible 'talking Turkey' in European capitals is also needed. Common security and economic interests, preserving the European relevance in an increasingly complex global order, and rebuilding Turkish democratic order depend upon open, honest and consistent political dialogue between Turkey and the EU. It is therefore high time for both parties to leave the sensational political dimensions and reformulate mutual trust and build a common future, irrespective of formal accession. Only then it would be possible to remold the functional dimensions of Turkey's future integration into the EU, in parallel to what might already be emerging with the United Kingdom or other non-EU European countries such as Norway, Iceland or Switzerland.

Meltem Müftüler Baç
Professor of International Relations and Jean Monnet Chair
Sabanci University

NEWS FROM THE VIADUCT NETWORK

PAST ACTIVITIES

Senada Šelo Šabić, IRMO Research Associate, inervention on EU-Turkey deal

Senada Šelo Šabić, a senior research associate from the **Institute for Development and International Relations** (**IRMO**) spoke about the EU-Turkey deal on migration at a plenary session of the international academic conference *"National minorities, migration and security in democratic societies"* which took place on the island of Brioni, Croatia from 24-27 May 2018.
Read more **here** and check the pictures **here**

VIADUCT Teachers Training: report now available

The VIADUCT Teachers' Training Seminar took place on 30 May - 1 June 2018 in Prague, at the Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University. It welcomed ten participants from various institutions in Turkey, Czechia, Greece, Belgium, Bosnia, and Moldova.
The report is available **here**

The first VIADUCT Teaching Paper is now out!

The **first VIADUCT teaching paper** is now online! The paper by **Selin Türkeş-Kılıç** is titled "Applying Learner-Centered Approach to Teaching Turkey – European Union Relations". It introduces a model of learner-centered approach to teaching Turkey

Toni Alaranta, FIIA Reserach Fellow, inerviewed on Turkish-Greek relations

FIIA Senior Research Fellow **Toni Alaranta** was interviewed by Ahval for an article entitled "*Turkish and Greek relations into uncharted waters*".
Read the article **here**

VIADUCT First Annual Conference

The 1st VIADUCT Conference took place in Brussels between 26 and 27 April 2018, coordinated by **CETEUS** and **TEPSA**.
Read more **here** and download the report **here**

Event: Will EU-Turkey economic ties withstand political turbulences?

On Tuesday 22nd of May, the headquarters of Foment del Treball Nacional in Barcelona hosted a reflection around the future of the economic relations between the European Union and Turkey. The event, **"Will EU-Turkey economic ties withstand political turbulences?"**, offered an in deep vision of the national and international spheres of the Turkish economy and remarked the relevance of the upcoming elections that, although unfair, will certainly be real.
The discussion counted on the presence of **Joan Canals**, President of the International Comission at Foment del Treball Nacional and President of the Committee for Mediterranean Countries, CEOE; **Sinan Ulgen**, Chairman at EDAM and visiting Scholar at Carnegie Europe; **Kadri Tasta**, TOBB

students at Yeditepe University, Political Science and International Relations Department.
Read it **here**

Batalla, Secretary General at European Parliament Turkey Forum.

VIADUCT LIBRARY

Siddi M., "**The EU's Botched Geopolitical Approach to External Energy Policy: The Case of the Southern Gas Corridor**", in *Geopolitics*, 27 December 2017.

Alaranta T., "**The 'New Turkey' as a NATO member: Domestic state transformation and competing strategic culture**" *FIIA Working Paper* 103.

Üstübici A., "**The Governance of International Migration: Irregular Migrants' Access to Right to Stay in Turkey and Morocco**", Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam Press, 2018.

OTHER NEWS

ULB Conference: **What is New in the New Turkey?** by ***Dr. Esra Özyürek***, Associate Professor and Chair for Contemporary Turkish Studies at the European Institute, London School of Economics. More info **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 16 "EU Turkey Relations and Irregular Migration: Transactional Cooperation in the Making"**. Read it **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 17 "It takes two Tango: Political challenges in Europe and their impact on Turkey's EU bid"**. Read it **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 18 "Asylum Policy and the Future of Turkey-EU relations: Between Cooperation and Conflict"**. Read it **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 19 "Turkey in European Identity Politics: Key Drivers and Future Scenarios"**. Read it **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 20 "The role of the Middle East in the EU-Turkey security relationship: key drivers and future scenarios"**. Read it **here**

Publication: **FEUTURE Online Paper No. 21 "Highly Skilled Migration between the EU and Turkey: Drivers and Scenarios"**. Read it **here**

DISCOVER THE VIADUCT NETWORK

SCIENCES PO Grenoble

Maastricht University

Sabancı Üniversitesi

UNIVERSITÉ DU LUXEMBOURG

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Copyright © 2018 TEPSA, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
viaduct@tepsa.eu

To know more about VIADUCT and its activites you can contact the project assistant
Lisa M. Hammelrath

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can **update your preferences** or **unsubscribe from this list**.

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>
why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences
VIADUCT project · Rue d'Egmont 11 · Brussels 1000 · Belgium

mailchimp