

Dear FEUTURE Friends,

We would like to present you a brand new FEUTURE Newsletter.

We sincerely hope you will find this issue interesting and beneficial! In this Newsletter you will find:

- [EDITORIAL](#)
- [PAST ACTIVITIES](#)
- [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)
- [FEUTURE ANALYSIS, OPINION, VOICES](#)



EDITORIAL

A year ago, on 1 April 2016, the Horizon 2020 research project “FEUTURE” started to assess the future of EU-Turkey relations by mapping dynamics and testing scenarios. Developments in the **EU**, in **Turkey** and in the **neighbourhood** as well as at the **global level** have taught us that its complexity and constant transformation are two things that we can take for granted when analysing prospects of the EU-Turkey relationship. Both the EU and Turkey had to deal with mounting challenges internally, in relations to one another and internationally. At the beginning of the project's lifetime this had resulted in a restart of Turkey's accession negotiations and the visa liberalisation procedure and a strengthening of institutional EU-Turkey relations through biannual EU-Turkey Summits and regular meetings at the highest level. Paradoxically, at that time Turkey's reform process in light of the Copenhagen Criteria had already seriously backslid. But the common refugee challenge represented the predominant driver of EU-Turkey relations reinforcing Turkey's relevance as the EU's key strategic partner.

This challenge was overtaken by **developments both in the EU and Turkey** seriously affecting their relationship. The EU needs to deal with the unprecedented case of the United Kingdom wanting to leave the Union and 60 years after the signing of the Rome Treaties is trying to find a new vision for the EU at 27. Turkey was exposed to a series of terrorist attacks and on 15 July 2016 to a failed coup attempt. The country has been in a state of emergency ever since with purges in its administration, judiciary and media. In a referendum on 16 April 2017 a slight

Conflict, convergence and cooperation have distinctly different implications for the institutional, political, security, economic, energy, societal and ideational structures and dynamics governing the EU-Turkey relationship. And yet the f(e)uture may have something else in store. Some **drivers** will push more towards one **scenario**, others towards another. Some drivers will matter more than others, and their impact may change over time depending on domestic, European, regional or global circumstances. But maybe the beauty and in some respects the tragedy of this relationship is precisely its protracted, perhaps perennial **ambiguity**. For all one knows the f(e)uture of the EU-Turkey relationship could very well be one in which elements of all three scenarios will continue to uneasily coexist in an unending unsteady state of attraction and repulsion.

In order to outline a most likely scenario, FEUTURE analyses drivers of EU-Turkey relations in **six thematic dimensions** (politics, economics, [security](#), [energy](#), migration, identity). This analysis is embedded in a historical context, because regardless of how complex and gloomy the state of the EU-Turkey relationship may look like, we should not forget about the historic ties. FEUTURE's historical analysis focuses on [narratives](#) which represent influential interpretations of EU-Turkey relations at different times in history. It is argued that narratives on EU-Turkey relations became increasingly competitive in the course of time, both within the EU and Turkey as well as between them. At the same time we should not forget that individual EU member states entertain different relations with Turkey and [national debates on EU-Turkey relations](#) might, hence, differ

presidency. These developments directly affected the EU-Turkey relationship, which reached a new (all time) low: the European Parliament demanded the freezing of accession negotiations with Turkey; the visa liberalisation procedure was suspended, (pre-electoral) rhetoric on both sides heated up including accusation against Germany and the Netherlands to employ “Nazi methods”; the reintroduction of the death penalty in Turkey was defined to represent a red line for Turkey’s accession perspective. The EU-Turkey statement on migration is still representing a key pillar of EU-Turkey relations but Turkey is regularly threatening to cancel the deal.

Developments in the neighbourhood and at the global level, such as the election of Donald Trump as 45th President of the United States, the prevailing conflict in Syria with the involvement of Turkey’s troops, Turkey’s unstable relations with Russia swaying between contestation and cooperation and the Cyprus conflict that remains unsolved in spite of promising negotiations in January 2017, have only added to the complexity of EU-Turkey relations.

Against this backdrop, research on the future of EU-Turkey relations represents a highly topical issue. At the same time, it is challenged by difficult circumstances and its characteristics of a “moving target”. It would be false to expect FEUTURE to predict the exact future of the EU-Turkey relationship. Instead, we started out by delineating a set of [three ideal-type scenarios](#) that at first sight point to alternative f(e)utures.

EU-Turkey relations have come a long way and we cannot expect them to become less contested in the future. In the second year of the project’s lifetime that has just started, FEUTURE research will, therefore, thoroughly identify and analyse the main drivers of EU-Turkey relations and assess their implications for the relationship. This will include foreseen events such as elections in France, Germany and Turkey as well as any sort of event that might seem highly improbable but that would have a deeply disruptive effect on EU-Turkey relations (so-called wild cards).

We are aware of FEUTURE being a unicum in critical times – one of the largest projects bringing together EU and Turkey’s academic and policy communities together – and we are going to keep you posted on our next research findings.



Funda Tekin (Project Director), Nathalie Tocci (Scientific Coordinator), Wolfgang Wessels (Project Coordinator)



Newsletter No.4 – April 2017

PAST ACTIVITIES

Launch of FEUTURE EU 28 Country Reports



The first EU 28 Country Reports are now available on the [FEUTURE website](#). The reports, based on a common questionnaire, aim to map the debates and perceptions on EU-Turkey relations in the 28 EU Member States. The reports form part of Work Package 1 “Conceptual and Analytical tool-kit” and have been compiled by researchers from the FEUTURE consortium and the TEPESA network, and edited by the University of Cologne with the support of TEPESA. A consolidated comparative report will be published soon on the [FEUTURE website](#).

[CIDOB event, "EU-Turkey relations: refugees, border controls and human rights", Barcelona, 9 March 2017](#)



On 9 March 2017, CIDOB and the Information Office of the European Parliament in Barcelona organized a debate on “EU-Turkey relations: refugees, border control and human rights”, a dialogue between Ernest Maragall, former MEP (2014-2016) and member of the EU-Turkey Joint Committee, and Eduard Soler, senior researcher at CIDOB, with journalist Anna Bosch as the moderator.

[CIDOB event: "The EU-Turkey deal on refugees. One year on", Barcelona, 15 March 2017](#)

On 15 March 2017, on the anniversary of the EU-

[FEUTURE Stakeholder meeting 2017: a make or break year for EU-Turkey relations?", Brussels, 8 February 2017](#)



On 8 February 2017, FEUTURE researchers had the chance to meet interested stakeholders from the European Commission, the European External Action Service and the Member States in order to present FEUTURE and discuss the relevance of the project for EU policy-making. FEUTURE researchers were also able to get valuable inputs to feed into the continuation of the project.

[FEUTURE Steering Group meeting, Brussels, 8 February 2017](#)



On 8 February 2017, the FEUTURE Steering Group met in Brussels in order to take stock of the project's implementation and take decisions with regard to scientific aspects of the project. The FEUTURE Steering Group is composed of the FEUTURE Work Package leaders, Project Director Funda Tekin, Project Coordinator Wolfgang Wessels and Scientific Coordinator Nathalie Tocci.

[DG NEAR "Away day", 9 February 2017](#)



On 9 February 2017, Eduard Soler (leader of WP2 "Political Drivers"), Nicolò Sartori (leader of WP5 "Energy and Climate Drivers"), Erkan Erdil (leader of WP3 "Economic Drivers") and Funda Tekin (FEUTURE Project Director) participated in an "away day" organized by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR). During an interactive discussion, participants were able to exchange views on challenges and prospects of EU-Turkey relations and the role of the European Commission therein.

[IAI workshop: "The refugee debate in Central and Eastern Europe: can the EU-Turkey deal survive without intra EU convergence on relocation and resettlement?", Budapest, 23-24 February 2017](#)



The workshop was organized by IAI in collaboration with Mercator Stiftung, IPC of Istanbul and the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS) in the framework of the

the Europe for Citizens programme, organized an event that brought together experts from academia, civil society and policy circles to

discuss the state of the deal one year on. The event was organized in two different sessions, one focusing on EU-Turkey relations and the EU's legal framework on immigration and asylum, and the second on the status and living conditions of the refugees in Turkey and Greece. More information can be found [here](#).

[Scientific and Policy Advisory Board Meeting, Brussels, 23 March 2017](#)



On 23 March 2017, FEUTURE researchers met the members of the project's Scientific Policy and Advisory Board (SPAB) to discuss the project's research architecture and how to address potential future challenges. The SBAB is one of the key elements of the project's quality assurance and provides the consortium with tailored consultancy and advice. It is composed of N.Arısan Eralp (TEPAV), O.Bengio (Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies), A.Duff (former MEP, European Policy Centre), J.Lagendijk (former MEP, Political Analyst & Publicist), R.H.Linden (University of Pittsburgh), M.Müftüler-Baç (Sabanci University), and H.E. Ambassador Albert Rohan (Independent Commission on Turkey). More information on the SPAB members can be found on the [FEUTURE website](#).

[IAI seminar: "The Turkish foreign policy in the age of global turbulence", Rome, 31 March 2017](#)



On 31 March 2017, IAI organized a talk with Ambassador Burak Akçapar, PhD, Director General for Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. More information about the event can be found [here](#).

[First FEUTURE Lecture, Ankara, 20 April 2017](#)



On 20 April 2017, Prof Dr Wolfgang Wessels (Director of the Centre for Turkey and European Union Studies at the University of Cologne and FEUTURE Project Coordinator) gave a lecture on the topic "The European Council - The Master of the EU Game" at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. This

relocation and more broadly on EU asylum and migration policies. It focused in particular on the consequences of these divisions on the effective implementation of the EU-Turkey deal. The workshop report is available [here](#).



Newsletter No.4 – April 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming FEUTURE PhD School



A FEUTURE PhD School will soon be organized in connection with the project mid-term conference in Barcelona. More information and a call for papers will be available shortly on the [FEUTURE website](#). Stay tuned!

Save the date: FEUTURE Mid-term Conference, Barcelona, 19-20 October 2017



On 19-20 October 2017, the FEUTURE project partners will gather in Barcelona to discuss their research activities and first results. The conference will involve relevant stakeholders and feature keynote speeches from experts. More information will soon be available on the [FEUTURE website](#).



Newsletter No.4 – April 2017

FEUTURE ANALYSIS, OPINION, VOICES

[FEUTURE publications:](#)



FEUTURE Online Paper No. 2: [Energy and Climate Strategies, Interests and Priorities of the EU and Turkey](#), by Lorenzo Colantoni, Dicle Korkmaz, Nicolò Sartori, Mirja Schröder, Duygu Sever-Mehmetoglu, Suhanaz Yilmaz



FEUTURE Online Paper No. 3: [Evolution of the EU's and Turkey's Security Interests, Threat Perceptions and Discourse](#), by Soli Özel, Pol Morillas, Jakob Lindgaard



FEUTURE PhD Online Paper No. 1: [The discursive construction of Turkey's role for European energy security: a critical geopolitical perspective](#), by Mirja Schröder, (University of Cologne)



FEUTURE [EU 28 Country reports](#) on perceptions of EU-Turkey relations in EU Member States

[Click here to find more FEUTURE publications!](#)

[Partners' publications:](#)

["Is this the end of Turkey's flirtation with Europe?"](#), interview with Fabrizio Tassinari, in *The Christian Science Monitor*, 15 March 2017

[much more than Externalisation](#), CIDOB, Opinion 473, April 2017

Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) & Hellenic American Leadership Council (HALC) (2017), [Is a Viable Solution in Cyprus Feasible?](#), February 2017

Ayhan Kaya & Cristiano Bee (2017), "[Determinants of civic and political participation of young people in Turkey](#)", in *Southeast Europe and Black Sea Studies*, 17:1, 35-39, London: Francis & Taylor

Ayhan Kaya & Cristiano Bee (2017), "[Conventional versus non-conventional political participation in Turkey: dimensions, means, and consequences](#)", in *Turkish Studies*, 18:1, London: Francis & Taylor

Ayhan Kaya & Cristiano Bee (eds.) (2017), [Southeast Europe and Black Sea Studies, Special Issue on Conventional and Unconventional Form of Political Participation in Turkey](#), 17:1, London: Francis & Taylor

Ayhan Kaya & Cristiano Bee (eds.), (2017), [Turkish Studies, Special Issue on Conventional versus non-conventional political participation in Turkey: dimensions, means, and consequences](#), 18:1, London: Francis & Taylor

Ayhan Kaya (ed.) (2017), [Research and Policy on Turkey, Special issue on the Right to Public Sphere in Turkey](#), Vol. 2, No. 1, London: Francis & Taylor

Athanasios Manis (2017), [The Referendum in Turkey: A Pyrrhic Victory and Continuous Crisis](#), MERI Policy Brief, vol. 4, no. 5

Kerem Öktem & Karabekir Akkoyunlu (eds.) (2016), [Special Issue on "Exit from Democracy: Illiberal Governance in Turkey and Beyond"](#), *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 16:4, 2016, ELIAMEP and Routledge – Taylor & Francis Group

Elena Sánchez-Montijano (2017), "[The Refugee Crisis...the Responsibility of the Management](#)", in *Euromed Survey of Experts and Actors*, No. 7, IEMed

Elena Sánchez-Montijano (2017), [Turkish Expats and their Political Participation Abroad: a Right with Limits?](#), CIDOB, Opinion 466, March 2017

Melike Janine Sökmen (2017), [Lessons Learned: The Netherlands-Turkey Crisis in 5 Points](#), CIDOB, Opinion 467, March 2017

Melike Janine Sökmen (2017), [Tensions at Home, Tensions Abroad: The Turkey-EU-Diaspora Impasse](#), Opinion 460, February 2017

Eduard Soler i Lecha (2016), [The International Impact of the Failed Coup in Turkey](#), CIDOB, Opinion 425, July 2016

Eduard Soler i Lecha (2017), [A Guide to Turkey's Constitutional Referendum](#), CIDOB, Opinion 474, April 2017

Eduard Soler i Lecha (2017), "[La Constitución de Erdogan](#)", in *El País*, 14 April 2017

Eduard Soler i Lecha (2017), "[Un resultado incómodo](#)", in *La Vanguardia*, 18 April 2017

Cecilie Stokholm Banke (2017), "Tyrkiet har stadig brug for Europa", in *Jyllands-Posten*, 2 March 2017

Fabrizio Tassinari (2017), "[The End of Turkey's European History](#)", in *The Huffington Post*, 8 March 2017, Spanish translation available [here](#)

Theodore Tsakiris (2017), [Η Ρώσο-Τουρκική Διακρατική Συμφωνία για το Δίκτυο Αγωγών Turkish Stream: Ευκαιρίες & Προκλήσεις για την Ελλάδα](#) [The Russian-Turkish Intergovernmental Agreement on Turkish Stream Pipelines Network: Opportunities and Challenges for Greece], ELIAMEP Policy Paper No. 26

[Media appearances:](#)

- "[Ekspert: Dansk-tyrkisk retorik tegnes hårdt op](#)", Kristeligt Dagblad, 20 March 2017
- "[Erdogan sætter danske tyrkeres loyalitet på prøve](#)", interview, Kristeligt Dagblad, 14. marts 2017
- "FN. Menneskerettigheder overtrædes i Tyrkiet", interview, Politiken, 11 March 2017
- "Folkeafstemning i Tyrkiet og Europa", TV2News, 12 March 2017
- "Forholdet mellem Tyrkiet og Europa under valgkamp", TV2News, 11 March 2017
- "[Krisen mellem Tyrkiet og Holland](#)", DR2Dagen, DR, 13 March 2017
- "[Presset Erdogan truer EU for at vinde nationalisterne](#)", DR.dk, 23 March 2017
- "[Tyrkisk folkeafstemning kan give Erdogan hidtil uset magt](#)", Kristeligt Dagblad, 15 March 2017

[Visit the FEUTURE Videos section on the FEUTURE website!](#)

[Share](#)[Tweet](#)[Forward](#)

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 692976.

Copyright © 2017 TEPSA, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

feuture@tepsa.eu

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](#)
TEPSA · Rue d'Egmont 11 · Brussels 1000 · Belgium



[Email Marketing Powered by Mailchimp](#)