

FEUTURE

THE FUTURE OF EU-TURKEY RELATIONS: MAPPING DYNAMICS AND TESTING SCENARIOS



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On 15 October 2018, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI, Italy) and the Centre for Economic and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM, Turkey), who lead Work Package 8 Synthesis of Research Findings and Policy Recommendations, organized a FEUTURE Expert Workshop in Bodrum, Turkey.

The workshop brought together a group of experts for a strategic dialogue on the future of the EU's relations with Turkey in a changing political environment. In particular, the workshop offered the FEUTURE consortium the possibility to test the project's research findings with a wide range of external stakeholders, including academics, think tankers, policy makers, journalists, and civil society representatives from EU, Turkey, the neighbourhood and the global scene.

The workshop was opened by Nathalie Tocci (FEUTURE Scientific Coordinator and Director of Istituto Affari Internazionali), Funda Tekin (FEUTURE Project Director, Vice-Director of the Centre for Turkey and EU Studies at the University of Cologne, and Director of the Institut für Europäische Politik), and Sinan Ülgen (FEUTURE Work Package Leader, Chairman of the Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies and Visiting Scholar at Carnegie Europe).

The first session was chaired by Nathalie Tocci and discussed the FEUTURE Synthesis Paper. It featured contributions by Sinan Ekim (Junior Researcher at Istituto Affari Internazionali), Beken Saatçioğlu (Associate Professor at MEF University) and Funda Tekin. The panel outlined that, on the basis of FEUTURE's extensive research on different drivers, the most likely scenario for the evolution of EU-Turkey relations until 2023 appears to be one of "conflictual cooperation" and that, as consequence, a "creative association" should be framed between Turkey and the EU.

The focus of the second session, chaired by Sinan Ülgen, was on the policy recommendations that can be drawn from FEUTURE'S research. It featured contributions by Aslı Aydıntaşbaş (Senior Policy Fellow at the European Council on Foreign Relations), Daniel Gros (Director of the Centre for European Policy Studies), Kati Piri (Member of the European Parliament) and Piotr Zalewski (Turkey Correspondent at The Economist).

The third and final session discussed EU-Turkey relations in the broader global context and was chaired by Funda Tekin. Nigar Göksel (Turkey Projector Director at International Crisis Group), Paul McCarthy (Regional Director for Europe at the International Republican Institute), Tengiz Pkhaldze (Advisor to the President of Georgia) and Amanda Sloat (Robert Bosch Senior Fellow at Brookings Institution) contributed to the debate.

In the concluding remarks, FEUTURE Project Coordinator Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wessels offered his take on the FEUTURE of EU-Turkey cooperation.