



VIADUCT Erasmus+ Network Meets Online to Discuss Researching and Teaching EU-Turkey Relations

*VIADUCT's Online Conference will provide excellent analysis at a
critical juncture for EU-Turkey relations*

COLOGNE, 13/10/2020: On 22-23 October, the VIADUCT Project is holding its Online Conference entitled "Bridge over Troubled Water: Researching and Teaching EU-Turkey Relations".

VIADUCT is a large network with 40 partner institutions and one extended network partner from 36 countries. Represented in every EU member state, Turkey and the neighbourhood, VIADUCT is extending its outreach in research and teaching beyond the EU. The challenge faced by the VIADUCT Partners are the EU Turkey relations as a moving target. On the one hand Turkey is seen as a "key strategic partner for the EU", on the other hand several interconnected crises are profoundly affecting EU–Turkey relations. VIADUCT's objective is, hence, to promote research, teaching and policy dialogue on EU-Turkey relations.

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wessels, the VIADUCT Coordinator, describes the conference as providing "not only proper analysis and assessment of the current state of EU-Turkey relations, but will formulate advice for policy makers to address future mutual challenges. We look forward to fruitful exchanges with researchers and professionals from across Turkey, the EU and our neighbours, continuing to build bridges in troubled times."

In addition to a keynote speech by Angelina Eichhorst, Managing Director for Western Europe, Western Balkans, Turkey and United Kingdom at the European External Action Service, and a Policy Debate on the topic of "Pouring Oil on Troubled Waters: Bridge-building in EU-Turkey Relations", five Working Groups will form to discuss the field of researching and teaching EU-Turkey relations. These will formulate recommendations to policy-makers to address future mutual challenges.

The two-day conference will bring together experts from across Europe and beyond, and produce meaningful policy recommendations at a critical juncture for EU-Turkey relations.

The event will take place online on **22-23 October**.

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