



**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR TACAN İLDEM
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY**

**In response to the address by the Secretary General
of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States
H.E. Halil Akıncı and Secretary General of
TURK-PA Mr. Jandos Asanov**

**978th Permanent Council
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Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome Ambassador Akıncı, Secretary General of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States (Turkic Council) and Mr. Asanov, Secretary General of Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TURK-PA). We thank both of the Secretary Generals for their comprehensive presentations. Both presentations testified once again how the Turkic Council and TURK-PA intend to reinforce friendship and cooperation, and how their activities are driven by the notion of regional ownership which we are trying hard to promote here at the OSCE.

Issues ranging from the fight against terrorism and organized crime to sustainable development, energy security and climate change affect all regions, countries and nations. As such, they require common action, cooperation, interaction and solidarity. While addressing these and other similar challenges, the Turkic Council remains firmly committed to the aims and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other universally recognized principles and norms of international law such as the Helsinki Final Act and all OSCE Summit declarations issued to date, as underlined by Ambassador Akıncı once again today.

We believe it is essential to explore ways and means to further enhance the OSCE's cooperation with the Turkic Council and TURK-PA as organizations sharing the same values with the Organization and display the potential of contributing to the OSCE's added value in addressing the issues on its agenda—a point very accurately underlined earlier in the statement made on behalf of the EU.

In fact, the Turkic Council and TURK-PA have already shown their ability and will to add to the OSCE's work on a multitude of occasions. Among these, I wish to recall only the input they provided to the Organization's Mediterranean Conference on enhancing the role of women in public, political and economic life, held in Monaco last October. We were particularly pleased to listen to numerous colleagues laud their constructive participation to the Conference's deliberations.



I also wish to draw the participating states' attention to TURK-PA's declaration stating its readiness to develop relations with a number of inter-parliamentary and inter-governmental institutions, including the OSCE. In our view, the OSCE's philosophy of openness, non-exclusion and dialogue, calls for the reciprocation TURK-PA's positive disposition.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Turkic Council and TURK-PA carry out important tasks that run in full parallel to the OSCE's principles, goals and objectives. These range from undertaking election observation activities upon invitation by governments, and numerous schemes and projects to bolster regional integration and cooperation, to trying to promote peace and stability by reaching out to non-member neighboring countries, covering political, economic, cultural and environmental fields.

Indeed, as highlighted in the joint statement we issued at the Kiev Ministerial Council meeting, the Turkic Council has every possibility to play a key role in strengthening the overall agenda for a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community and thus positively contribute to the enhancement of mutual trust and confidence which can be only beneficial to our ultimate objectives

By way of conclusion, I would like to thank both Secretary Generals for their presence among us today once again and wish all the best in their endeavors to the Turkic Council as well as TURK-PA.

Thank you.

