

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu:

# Indicators show moderate growth continues

**W**hile closing the year 2015, although the indicators point to some slowdown in economic growth performance for the last quarter, we expect the overall 2015 growth rate to stand at 4%. Private consumption held the largest share in the current year's improved growth performance, compared with the growth rate of 2.9% recorded in 2014. The current indicators show that some moderate growth continues in economic activities. It is projected that income channel will support domestic demand through salary hikes and low oil prices.



## CERN offers new opportunities for Turkish industrialists



**P**articipating Business Opportunities for Turkish Companies at European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) Meeting in İzmit, M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, the President of The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), stated that Internet was invented at CERN and industrialists have found new opportunities through Turkey's recent membership of CERN. Stating that every company can sell their products to CERN, Hisarcıklioğlu says, "Selling products to CERN means playing in the world's Champions League."



## Economic mobilization for Iran as embargoes lifted

**A**fter the lifting of the sanctions on Iran, Turkish business people got mobilized in an effort to grab a share from the country's USD 110 billion worth market. Chaired by M.

Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu, President of the Union of Chamber and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), a delegation from TOBB visited Iran to lead the way to the country for

Turkish businesses. The Preferential Trade Agreement signed between the two countries on 29 January 2014 also offers considerable advantages to Turkish industries.

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## Projects turn into investment and investments turn production thanks to CGF

**F**aik Yavuz, Credit Guarantee Fund (CGF) Chairman of Board, said, "We provide service with the initiative to enable SMEs, which lack surety, to access financing. Developing SMEs and supporting innovative enterprises, we help these establishments to grow and increase their production."

One of the most important challenges facing Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) that are the driving forces behind the national economy is the lack of easy access to finance. Cash flow is vital for enterprises to make new investments and to survive intense competition in the market.





## TOBB calls for logistics collaboration with Greece

A gala dinner for Turkish and Greek friendship was held by The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) and İzmir Chamber of Commerce at Hilton Hotel. Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoğlu and

Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras was among the participants. Halim Mete, Vice President of TOBB, called for a logistics collaboration with Greece by addressing Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras.

Mete says, "We can modernize and operate the Greek Customs Office of Kipi by using a Build-Operate-Transfer model, just as we did at the Customs Office of İpsala located just opposite Kipi."



## Gaziantep: Driving force behind Turkish economy

Gaziantep has always had played a unique role ever since its foundation. Being a major center of trade since ancient history and also located on the historical Silk Road, the city has hosted many civilizations throughout history. With its developed industrial and trade infrastructure, the city is, and has always been, a driving force behind the Turkish economy. According to 2014 data, Gaziantep is the 6th largest city in Turkey and holds a share of 2.3% in Turkey's total business volume. The city's foreign trade volume has grown 235-fold in the last decade, helping the city turn into an economy with trade surplus. The city boasts a share of 4.7% in Turkey's total exports, with exports per capita standing at USD 3.274. Turkey's average exports per capita is USD 1.828.