

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıođlu: Driving force of the new economy: Skilled individuals

Skilled people are now valued as the natural resources or geopolitical location were valued back then. When individuals have the chance to dream freely, to develop those dreams and share the ideas resulted from those dreams also freely, you receive an added value there.

When it's a fair game with fairly guaranteed competition conditions, people participate more in economic performance and get more efficiency. Competition only flourishes in an environment where fair and legal guarantees are granted.

So it's vital to realize structural reforms in judiciary system, fundamental freedoms and education.

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Having set important goals to become one of the 10 biggest economies in the world by 2023, the 100th anniversary of our Republic, Turkey wants to raise the bar in education.

Considering "Investments made in education as the biggest investment into the future" Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) contributes to 2023 goals with its "81 school for 81 cities of Turkey" Project.

Having built schools in many of the cities in 2017, TOBB will continue its project that contributes to the construction of new schools in many of the cities.

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıođlu underlines the importance he gives to education with saying "As a business man, I'm telling you, every investment has a risk. You either make profit or loss. But there's only one business you never lose investing in it: Education.

By investing in education you win the people, you win the city and you win the country. Even if you die, as long as people benefit from your investments, your legacy would continue."



“We encourage our companies to invest in Kosovo”

Turkey-Kosovo Business Forum took place in TOBB Twin Towers hosted by Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) with the

attendance of Minister of Delevopment Lütfi Elvan and Kosovo First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Behcet Pacolli.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the business forum TOBB Cahirman Vice Principle Ender Yorgancilar stated that they monitored the process after Kosovo declared independence in 2008. Yorgancilar appreciated Kosovo for building legal infrastructure in a short span of time while transiting into market economy and country’s improvements on maintaining macro-economic stability. Yorgancilar spoke as follows: “Kosovo-European Union (EU) Partnership and Stability Agreement entered into force on April 1st 2016 is a highly important step and we welcome these improvements. With the agreement entering into force Kosovo origin products could have the possibility to reach EU markets with zero tariff. We believe that more Turkish companies will invest in Kosovo which is now a more attractive investment destination. We encourage our companies to invest and build partnerships in Kosovo.”

Turkish Union of Chambers and Exchange Commodities (TOBB) Chairman M. Rifat Hisarcıkloğlu, gathered with Hatay Chamber of Commerce and Industry councilmen and businessman in Erzin, Hatay. Speaking at Erzin Cultural Center TOBB Chairman Hisarcıkloğlu spoke as follows: “White goods and furniture sales rise by 30% in just six months and house sales rose by 10% in the same period. We achieved this together in unity. When we move in unity, God gives us mercy and fruitfulness. Don’t we have any distress? Sure we do. But we have the will and opportunity to overcome those challenges. The only thing we ask from the government is to have equal conditions with rivals. We can deal with the rest unless we marginalize each other.” TOBB Chairman Hisarcıkloğlu together with Erzin Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Bekir Soylu did some reviews and got information on ongoing construction of the new service building of Erzin Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Sivas rolled up its sleeves to attract investors



Changing its shell with gigantic infrastructure projects, Sivas rolled up its sleeves to attract investors and to be a better city. The city designated an investment target of 1 billion dollars among different sectors in Organized Industrial Zone.

With infrastructure investments over 1 billion dollar realized in Sivas in the last five years, city is about to upgrade to a higher league. Besides highway and high-speed train projects connecting Mediterranean Region to Blacksea Region via Sivas leads to an extra excitement and provides further confidence. Sivas Chamber of Commerce and Industry Chairman Osman Yıldırım says "We revealed our Sivas Vision for 2023, the 100th anniversary of our republic. To achieve this vision we regularly gather with our President Board formed of NGO heads in our city and define our roadmap.

Sivas Commodity Exchange Chairman Abdülkadir Hastoğlu says "As Commodity Exchange we produce projects by taking effective, efficient and constructive decisions on present and future of Sivas".

Towards a stronger EU-Turkey energy dialog

Due to common necessities coming together energy security, it is expected that energy policies of European Union and Turkey will be converging in the upcoming period. Providing economic, reliable and environmentally sustainable energy supply requires policy synergy and deeper integration. Turkey already takes responsibility of being a hub for current and future natural gas and oil supplies alternating from Caspian and Middle East regions. Making a huge contribution for diversifying energy imports of Europe, Turkey also has an active responsibility in EU South Gas Corridor project which aims to make Europe less dependent on Russia.

