

TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklıoğlu:

Significance of the Amasya Circular for the history of national independence movement

We are commemorating the 100th anniversary of Amasya Circular, which was issued in Amasya, on June 22, 1919, by Gazi (War Veteran) Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founding President of the Republic of Turkey; and which marked history with Ataturk's famous saying "The resoluteness and the will of nation alone will save its independence."

Finalizing operations in Havza upon landing in Samsun, Mustafa Kemal, and his fellow fighters arrived in Amasya on June 12, 1919. Mustafa Kemal composed the memorandum, the Amasya Circular, in collaboration with Rauf Orbay, Refet Bele, Ali Fuat Cebesoy. Having been presented to, and approved by Kazım Karabekir, the Commander of the 15th



Corps in Erzurum, this Circular was distributed via telegraph to all civilian authorities and military commanders on June 22, 1919.

Amasya Circular is a crucial document in the history of National Independence. However, its significance transcends

the period of National Independence movement. Principles specified therein remained to be essential during the first years of the Republic. The first one of the lessons to be learned from this document is that one should never lose hope under any circumstances whatsoever.



Companies seeing this opportunity started investing in robotics and automation technologies. With Industry 4.0, we started seeing robot-human cooperation in every aspect of our lives.

While there are 531 robots per 10 thousand workers in South Korea, there are 398 robots per the same in Singapore. This number in Turkey is around 8.5. It is considered that in the long term, "metal-collar" robots as the new faces of technology will replace white-collar office workers.

Metal-collars are coming!

As of today, robot technology in global scale becoming more autonomous, flexible and cooperative while decreasing its manufacturing costs by improving its abilities. With Industry 4.0 transformation, robots now can increase their interaction with each other. Robot and automation

systems have been enabling increased competitive powers of companies, improved decision-making processes, engineering infrastructures and an efficient and high-quality planning and operational processes along with the popularization of automation systems in the recent years.



“We must promote these reforms in Turkey and abroad”

Ease of Doing Business Reforms Introduction Meeting was held at the TOBB Istanbul Service Building with the participation of TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu and the Minister of Finance and Treasury Bülent Aksu.

In addition to the representatives of the private sector, public sector officials who prepared the reforms and the arrangements joined the meeting, and the arrangements were explained to the private sector by the very representatives



of the public institutions who prepared them. Many innovations were introduced, such as the transition to one-stop one-counter practice in company foundation, facilitation of construction permit procedures, and abolishment of excavation permit requirement for electricity supply.

Hisarcıklioğlu also said that the introducing the reforms was not sufficient, and that they had to be promoted in Turkey and abroad. TOBB President stated that these reforms would not benefit anyone unless the business world was made aware of them.



“Free Trade Agreement with the UK must be completed”

Liam Fox, the Minister to International Trade in the UK, visited Turkey and met with the business professionals in the “Future of Turkey – UK Trade Relationships” meeting. Economic relations between the two countries in the post-Brexit era were discussed in the “Future of Turkey – UK Trade Relationships” meeting organized by Turkish Union of Chambers and Exchange Commodities (Türkiye Odalar ve Borsalar

Birliği – TOBB). The meeting was held in TOBB Reception Room. Ruhsar Pekcan, the Minister of Trade, Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of TOBB, and Liam Fox, the Minister to International Trade in the UK gave speeches during the meeting.

Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of TOBB, expressed that Turkey has always paid a great attention to its relations with the UK, which is among the largest economies

in the world and that these relations will always be prominent.

Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of TOBB, said “The support UK governments gave in Turkey’s EU Membership processes is acknowledged by Turkish business world. We also acknowledge and pay our respects for the support UK government gave for our democracy during the malicious coup attempt our country faced on July 15th”.

The Spanish Order of Civil Merit, Encomienda de Numero” was awarded to the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu for his contributions to the relations between the two countries. Hisarcıklioğlu who thanked for the Order of Merit presented by the Spanish Ambassador Juan Gonzalez Barba on behalf of the King of Spain Felipe VI emphasized that he regards this award as the success of the business world.

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu said, “I accept and receive this meaningful and precious award together with the primary representatives of the Turkish business world, my Chamber and Exchange Presidents. We will continue to improve our bilateral trade and investments. We will ensure that more firms will execute countertrade and investment.”

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu said, “Turkey and Spain are the two of most ancient civilizations in the Mediterranean; the Spanish culture, art and the achievements in sports are kept tabs on in Turkey.

TOBB President Hisarcıklioğlu emphasized that the trade relations between the two countries are at a satisfactory level.



Sakarya, a city which is envisaged to be one of the new metropolises in Turkey, aims to grow without disrupting the balance between industry, agriculture and tourism. To this end, Sakarya plans to become one of the leading cities in our country through branding and innovation.

A. Akgün Altuğ, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sakarya Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said, “We believe Sakarya can become a brand in industry, trade, tourism and agriculture, and we serve with this understanding. Our only priority is to develop our Sakarya. We must prioritize branding and innovation to become one of the top competitors.”

Adem Sarı, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sakarya Commodity Exchange, said, “As the Sakarya Commodity Exchange, we develop innovative projects which are appropriate to the technology developing in Sakarya, which provide sustainable contribution to the economy, and which will make Sakarya a Brand City in agriculture.”