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OIM Organisation Internationale pour les Migrations
OIM Organización Internacional para las Migraciones

Republic of Turkey Migration Profile

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Foreword

Migration patterns and trends have profound consequences for demographic, social and economic conditions. Studying these trends and patterns is required for national accounting and planning.

Recognizing the above, and in view of its upcoming EU Presidency and its migration agenda therein, the Slovenian government has taken the initiative to request IOM to draft “migration profiles” (as defined by the European Commission) for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Montenegro, the Republic of Serbia and Turkey.

This document was prepared by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on the basis of publicly available information, analysis and comment, and on IOM’s own knowledge. The document is a compilation of existing data and does not purport to be either exhaustive or conclusive. All sources are cited. For clarifications on the definitions, the reader must refer to the original source of the data, where more than one source may be given. The variety of sources might result in inconsistencies due to differences in data collection, definitions, and reference dates used.

The results of this exercise point out to the need for agreement on uniform definitions and methodology to record information on emigration and immigration. A general problem is the actual lack of or availability of data per se. Where data exists, the low level of standardization in terms and methodology results in varying degrees of comparability of data.

Despite such shortfalls on information available and comparability, it is our hope that this publication raises awareness on migration issues in these countries and provides useful background for policy development.



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Turkey – Basic facts	
Population (2005)	72,970,000
Total Area	780,580 sq km
GDP per Capita PPP	USD 7,753
Human Development Index (HDI) Rank	92 of 177
Net Migration Rate	-0.7 migrants/1,000 population
Sources: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division's World Population Prospects: the 2006 Revision Population Database; UN Development Programme Human Development Report, 2006	

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. IMMIGRANTS	8
1.1. Total number of immigrants	8
1.2. Status of immigrants	8
1.3. Main countries of origin of immigrants.....	10
2. EMIGRANTS.....	10
2.1. Total number of emigrants	10
2.2. Status of emigrants and countries of destination.....	10
3. REMITTANCES	12
3.1. Quantitative aspects of remittances	12
3.2. Qualitative aspects of remittances	13
4. MIGRANT COMMUNITIES	14
4.1. Description of relationship between migrant communities/diasporas and country of origin.....	14
4.2. Migrant communities/diasporas organizations by country of destination	15
5. IRREGULAR MIGRATION.....	16
5.1. Numbers/estimates of irregular movements.....	16
5.2. Figures and information on return migration flows.....	17
6. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS OF MIGRATION ISSUES	18
6.1. Summary assessment of migration issues	18
6.2. Ministries responsible for migration policy.....	19
6.3. Migration policies in place	22
6.4. International legal framework in place relevant to migration.....	23
6.5. Policies to address brain drain	24
6.6. Irregular migration routes and policies to address irregular migration	25
6.7. Trafficking in human beings and policies to address it	26
6.8. Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and relevant policies in place	28
6.9. Projects and programmes relevant to migration.....	30
6.10. Important migration actors within the country.....	31

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Number of Foreigners with Residence Permits in Turkey (2005-2007)	8
Table 2: Non-European refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey (30 th June 2007)	8
Table 3: New non-European asylum applicants (1997 to 30 th June 2007).....	9
Table 4: Recognition rates for non-European refugees (1997 to 2006).....	9
Table 5: UNHCR Resettlement Departures from Turkey (2000 to 30 th June 2007)	9
Table 6: Statistics regarding Turkish nationals abroad (2005)	10
Table 7: Number of refugees from Turkey by main countries of asylum	11
Table 8: Asylum applicants from Turkey by main countries of asylum	12
Table 9: Amount of incoming migrant remittances	12
Table 10: Worker Remittances and Selected Indicators of Turkey, 1964-2000*	12
Table 11: Irregular migrants apprehended in Turkey	16
Table 12: Third country nationals refused border entry in Turkey	16
Table 13: Turkish nationals apprehended within the EU-25 (2003-2005).....	16
Table 14: Statistics on Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) to Turkey	17
Table 15: Persons removed from Turkey by main countries of origin.....	17
Table 16: Turkish nationals removed from the EU-15 and EU-10 (2003).....	17
Table 17: Statistical Data Related to Trafficking in Human Beings in Turkey 2004-2007 ..	26
Table 18: Number of Victims of Trafficking Assisted by IOM Turkey as of 31/08/2007	26

1. Immigrants

1.1. Total number of immigrants

-----1,328,405 (2005, UNPD)¹
As percentage of total population----- 1.8 % (2005, UNPD)²
Gender ratio-----52.6% female (2005, UNPD)³

1.2. Status of immigrants

Permanent residence status

Table 1: Number of Foreigners with Residence Permits in Turkey (2005-2007)⁴

	2005	2006	2007
Work	23,184	23,381	23,018
Education	22,650	25,803	26,772
Other	122,284	150,011	157,286
Total	168,118	199,195	207,076

Source: Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum, Turkey.

Refugees/asylum-seekers:

Table 2: Non-European⁵ refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey (30th June 2007)⁶

Location	Female	%	Male	%	Total	%
"Satellite Cities" ⁷	2,677	42	3,682	58	6,359	61
Ankara	256	40	391	60	647	6
Eastern Border	333	33	690	67	1023	10
Istanbul	886	42	1,229	58	2,115	20
Unknown	125	43	164	57	289	3
Grand Total	4,277	41	6,156	59	10,433	100

Source: UNHCR.

¹ United Nations Secretariat, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division [2005]: *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2005 Revision*.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum, Turkey.

⁵ Turkey imposed a geographical and time limitation to its obligations under the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, whereby only European refugees and asylum seekers fleeing events occurring in their home country prior to 1 January 1951 could be granted access to asylum procedures. The time limitation was removed upon signing of the 1967 Protocol, but the geographical limitation remains to this day. It is expected that the geographic limitation will be lifted by 2012. European asylum seekers are those who are coming from countries that are members of the Council of Europe.

⁶ UNHCR Turkey [2007]: *Briefing Note*.

⁷ Following even a positive decision on their application, asylum seekers are assigned to live in one of 25 "satellite" cities, usually in poor neighbourhoods and in cheap accommodation.

Table 3: New non-European asylum applicants (1997 to 30th June 2007)⁸

Year	Iranians		Iraqis		Others		Total	
	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons	Cases	Persons
1997	746	1,392	1,275	2,939	83	117	2,104	4,448
1998	1,169	1,979	2,350	4,672	124	187	3,643	6,838
1999	2,069	3,843	1,148	2,472	184	290	3,401	6,605
2000	2,125	3,926	791	1,671	108	180	3,024	5,777
2001	1,841	3,485	497	998	372	709	2,710	5,177
2002	1,456	2,505	402	974	219	315	2,077	3,794
2003	1,715	3,092	159	342	373	514	2,247	3,948
2004	1,225	2,030	472	956	540	912	2,237	3,898
2005	1,021	1,716	490	1,047	753	1,151	2,264	3,914
2006	1,343	2,297	364	722	1,094	1,534	2,801	4,553
2007	407	631	853	1,558	717	1,011	1,977	3,200

Source: UNHCR.

Table 4: Recognition rates for non-European refugees (1997 to 2006)⁹

Year	Iranians	Iraqis	Others	Overall Rate	Total Recognised	
					Cases	Persons
1997	52%	25%	24%	35%	578	unavailable
1998	56%	30%	30%	40%	891	2,230
1999	59%	18%	31%	43%	841	1,903
2000	57%	27%	28%	49%	1,186	2,726
2001	70%	34%	56%	61%	1,287	2,867
2002	72%	38%	35%	63%	1,344	2,885
2003	79%	-	45%	76%	1,600	3,300
2004	75%	-	31%	69%	934	1,748
2005	67%	-	36%	59%	736	1,368
2006	90%	-	39%	79%	1,051	1,878

Source: UNHCR.

Table 5: UNHCR Resettlement Departures from Turkey (2000 to 30th June 2007)¹⁰

Destination	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Australia	318	154	297	339	313	131	101	54
Austria	1			4				
Belgium				6		3		
Canada	666	636	679	556	453	189	459	199
Denmark	5	25	267	3	5		1	
Finland	162	97	266	71	143	148	119	39
France		4	2					
Germany	19	38	75	78	28		4	
Ireland				2				
Italy		3						
Netherlands	10	3	11	5	3		14	1
Norway	62	608	315	263	48	1		
New	4	5	12	1	7			

⁸ UNHCR Turkey [2007]: *Briefing Note*.

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

Zealand								
Poland						1		
Sweden	122	200	302	109	252	7	2	
Switzerland	7	1		1	3			
United Kingdom	6	14	30	9	1	20	2	
United States	952	959	662	1,488	1,036	762	907	445
Total	2.334	2.747	2.918	2.935	2.292	1.262	1.609	738

Source: UNHCR

1.3. Main countries of origin of immigrants

(in alphabetical order)

Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro¹¹, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom.¹²

2. Emigrants

2.1. Total number of emigrants

-----4,402,914 (2005, World Bank)¹³
As percentage of total population-----6% (2005, World Bank)¹⁴

2.2. Status of emigrants and countries of destination

Table 6: Statistics regarding Turkish nationals abroad (2005)¹⁵

Country	Number of Turkish Nationals	Employed Turkish Nationals			Unemployed Turkish Nationals	Unemployment %	
		Dependent Employee	Independent Employee	Total		Turkish	General
Germany	1,764,041	458,243	64,600	522,843	210,821	32.5	11.7
France	359,034	87,992	5,000	92,992	21,275	25	9.9
The Netherlands*	358,846	118,000	11,500	129,500	13,000	10.7	6.2
USA	250,000	114,000	--	114,000	--	--	--
The Great Britain	150,000	50,000	13,000	63,000	4,279	9.4	4.7

¹¹ As data refers to 2005, it is not disaggregated between Serbia and Montenegro.

¹² World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ministry of Labour of the Republic of Turkey, External Relations and Services for Workers Abroad http://www.diyih.gov.tr/yayinlar/dosyalar/pdf/diyih_2005_raporu.pdf

Cyprus	146,442	46,010	--	46,010	--	--	9.4
Austria	116,882	52,021	3,000	55,021	10,834	17.2	8.7
Saudi Arabia	115,000	115,000	--	115,000	--	--	--
Switzerland	75,448	34,200	818	35,018	4,382	9.8	3.4
Australia	63,000	23,500	6,000	29,500	5,000	14.5	--
Denmark *	54,859	21,165	2,609	23,774	4,406	20.8	5.8
Greece	48,880	3,563	--	3,563	--	--	--
Canada	41,000	29,000	--	29,000	--	--	--
Belgium	39,885	13,412	1,743	15,155	5,416	36	8.5
Sweden	34,965	5,000	--	5,000	1,500	13.4	5.8
Israel	30,000	6,000	--	6,000	--	--	10.3
The Russian Federation	22,808	22,808	--	22,808	--	--	9
Norway	15,356	--	--	--	473	7.3	3.6
Azerbaijan	15,000	10,500	--	10,500	--	--	10.7
Italy	14,124	6,414	--	6,414	--	--	9
Romania	12,000	3,200	--	3,200	--	--	--
Kazakhstan	10,000	4,472	1,139	5,611	--	--	--
Lebanon	7,748	188	--	188	--	--	--
Finland	7,000	--	--	--	--	--	--
Turkmenistan	7,000	6,000	170	6,170	--	--	--
Japan	6,309	1,300	--	1,300	--	--	--
UAE	5,484	2,650	--	2,650	--	--	--
Afghanistan	4,500	4,500	--	4,500	--	--	--
Kyrgyzstan	3,380	1,967	--	1,967	--	--	--
Kuwait	3,262	2,660	120	2,780	--	--	--
Ukraine	2,250	1,900	--	1,900	--	--	3.7
Georgia	2,000	1,000	--	1,000	--	--	11.4
Other	42,875	22,881	190	25,293	--	--	--
TOTAL	3,829,378	1,269,546	109,889	1,381,657	281,386		

Source: Ministry of Labour, Turkey

* Number of dual citizens is included.

-- No data available

Table 7: Number of refugees from Turkey by main countries of asylum¹⁶

Country	2004	2005
Germany	128,419	122,891
Iraq	13,353	13,332
France	9,387	9,676
United Kingdom	8,602	9,055
Switzerland	5,613	5,501
Other	9,200	10,112
Total	174,574	170,567

Source: UNHCR

¹⁶ UNHCR [2005]: Statistical Yearbook.

Table 8: Asylum applicants from Turkey by main countries of asylum¹⁷

Country	2004	2005	2006
France	4,741	3,867	2,758
Germany	4,148	2,958	1,949
Austria	1,114	1,064	668
United Kingdom	1,590	950	175
Switzerland	1,154	723	693
Other	3,544	2,093	1,739
Total	16,291	12,465	7,982

Source: UNHCR.

3. Remittances

3.1. Quantitative aspects of remittances

Table 9: Amount of incoming migrant remittances¹⁸

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Remittances (million USD)	4,560	2,786	1,936	729	804	851

Source: World Bank

Remittances as % of GDP (2005): 0.2%¹⁹

Remittances as a share of exports (2003): 0.85%²⁰

Table 10: Worker Remittances and Selected Indicators of Turkey, 1964-2000*²¹

Years	WRR	In % of Imports	In % of Exports	In % of %GDP
1964	9	1.7	2.2	0.11
1965	70	12.2	15.1	0.83
1966	115	16	23.4	1.14
1967	93	13.6	17.8	0.83
1968	107	14	21.6	0.59
1969	141	17.6	26.3	0.69
1970	273	28.8	46.4	1.53
1971	471	40.2	69.6	2.75
1972	740	47.3	83.6	3.43
1973	1183	56.7	89.8	4.37
1974	1426	37.7	93.1	3.82
1975	1312	27.7	93.6	2.81

¹⁷ UNHCR [2005]: *Statistical Yearbook*; UNHCR [2006]: *2006 Global Trends: Refugees, Asylum-seekers, Returnees, Internally Displaced and Stateless Persons*.

¹⁸ World Bank, Development Prospects Group [2005]: *Migration and Remittances Factbook*.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ World Bank, World Development Indicators database, April 2007.

²¹ Osman Tuncay, Neyaptı Bilin and Metin Özcan Kivilcim [2005]: *Determinants of Workers Remittances: The Case of Turkey*. Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, M.E. Sharpe, Inc. vol. 41(3), pages 53-69, May. Source of figures: Central Bank of Turkey.

1976	982	19.1	50.1	1.84
1977	982	16.9	56	1.61
1978	983	21.4	43	1.46
1979	1694	33.4	74.9	1.85
1980	2071	26.2	71.2	3.01
1981	2490	27.9	52.9	3.51
1982	2140	24.2	37.2	3.32
1983	1513	16.4	26.4	2.45
1984	1807	16.8	25.3	3.01
1985	1714	15.1	21.5	2.55
1986	1634	14.7	21.9	2.16
1987	2021	14.3	19.8	2.32
1988	1776	12.4	15.2	1.96
1989	3040	19.3	26.2	2.84
1990	3246	14.6	25	2.15
1991	2819	13.4	20.7	1.87
1992	3008	13.2	20.4	1.88
1993	2919	9.9	19	1.62
1994	2627	11.3	14.5	2.03
1995	3327	9.3	15.4	1.96
1996	3542	8.1	15.3	1.95
1997	4197	8.6	16	2.2
1998	5356	11.7	19.9	2.69
1999	4529	11.1	17	2.4
2000	4560	8.4	16.4	2.29

*All figures (WRR, Imports, Exports and GDP) are used in millions of USD.

3.2. Qualitative aspects of remittances

Turkish banks play an important role in the transfer of remittances with special interest rate for foreign currency deposits, and low cost of remittance transfers.²² In addition to the commercial banks, the Central Bank of Turkey also plays an important role (the total amount of remittance deposit in the Central Bank of Turkey was € 14 billion in 2004).²³ However, informal transfers constitute also a significant part, although their scale is difficult to estimate.

Remittances are spent mainly on consumption items, subsistence of family members, in some cases investment in property. They have proven to considerably increase the welfare of the receiving families²⁴ even though they are not used for productive investment.

²² Manuel Orozco [2003]: *Worker Remittances: An International Comparison*. Inter-American Dialogue, Project commissioned by the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank.

http://www.thedialogue.org/publications/country_studies/remittances/WorkerRemittances.pdf

²³ İçduygu, A. [2005] *International Migrants Remittances in Turkey*. Analytic Synthetic Notes Demographic & Economic Module. CARIM-AS 2006/2007, European University Institute, Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (Florence).

²⁴ Ibid.

The findings of 1996 Turkish International Migration Survey TIMS-96 show that 12% of all households received remittances of some kind: 54% of recipients received cash, 18% goods and the remaining part a combination of cash and goods. 80% of remittance-receiving Turkish households spend them on daily expenses, 7% on medical bills, 4% for expenses related with marriage and 3% for land or house purchase. 12.9% of remittance receiving households declared that their income is insufficient, whereas the same ratio for households not receiving remittances was 43.3%.²⁵

4. Migrant communities

4.1. Description of relationship between migrant communities/diasporas and country of origin

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate of Turks Living Abroad, Migration, Asylum and Property

Department for Expatriate Turks is responsible for:

- Legal migration of Turkish citizens
- Issues related to the Turkish citizens' integration to the host societies
- Relations with associations of Turkish and Turkish-origin people
- Attendance of the Migration Committee of the Council of Europe
- Liaison with International Labour Organization in the field of Legal Migration.
- "Vacation Illumination" project
- Meetings of the Inter-ministerial Joint Commission for Culture
- Examination, assignment and personnel rights of the teachers and religious personnel to be assigned at abroad
- Bilateral social security issues
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

T.C. Dışişleri Bakanlığı, Dr. Sadık Ahmet Cad. No: 8 Balgat 06100 Ankara
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Ministry of Labour of the Republic of Turkey\ External Relations and Services for Workers Abroad aims to:

- to provide the necessary coordination with the institutions in and outside of the country in order to protect and enhance the rights and benefits on working life and social security of Turkish citizens working abroad and to solve problems they interface in countries they work and through their return.
- to follow up the employment abroad, to conduct research on Turkish employment abroad, to prepare labour agreements and to develop policies in order to implement them

²⁵ Koc, I., Onan, I. [2004]: *The Impact of Remittances of International Migrants on the Standard of Living of The Left-Behind Families in Turkey*. International Migration Review, 38 (1), pp.78-112.

- to coordinate the personnel working for the ministry, to control the implementation of the social security agreements through offices abroad and to provide facilitation on that.
- To liaise with international organizations working in the area of work and social security abroad.

İnönü Bulvarı No: 42 Emek/Ankara/Turkey
Tel: +312-296 60 00, fax: +312-215 23 12 [E-mail: dihiy@csgb.gov.tr](mailto:dihiy@csgb.gov.tr)

4.2. Migrant communities/diasporas organizations by country of destination

(Please note the lists below do not purport to be exhaustive or representative. IOM does not take responsibility for the accuracy of the contact details).

Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) was co-founded by the American Turkish Association of Washington and the Maryland American Turkish Association in an effort to create a national organization representing the Turkish American community. It represents 65 Turkish American Associations across U.S., Canada and Turkey
<http://www.ataa.org> 1526 18th St, NW, Washington, DC 20036
Tel: +202-483-9090, Fax: +202-483-9092

Belgium Turkish Workers Social Solidarity and Culture Association
Rue Auguste Gevaert, 39 1070 Anderlecht
Tel: +32 2/521 54 52

Federation of Turkish American Association is a non-profit organization established in 1956 for the purpose of supporting the Turkish community within the United States.
<http://www.tadf.org> 821 Un Plaza, 2nd floor, 1st Ave and 46th street, New York, NY 10017
E-mail: tadfoffice@tadf.org

South Australia Turkish Association
Kilburn Community Centre, 59 Gladstone Avenue, Kilburn, S.A.5084
P.O.Box 107 Prospect S.A.5082
<http://groups.msn.com/GuneyAvustralyaTurkDernegi>,
E-mail address: GuneyAvustralyaTurkDernegi@groups.msn.com

Turkish-British Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TBCCI) was founded in 1980 as a non-profit making organization to provide its members with a wide range of services targeted at promoting bilateral trade, investment and joint ventures between the UK and Turkey.
<http://www.tbcci.org> e-mail: info@tbcci.org
Tel: +44 20 7321 0999, Fax:020 7321 0989

Turkish Canadian Cultural Association of Ottawa
<http://turkishcanadian.org>, P.O.Box 6687 Station J, Ottawa, ON, K2A 3Y7
E-mail address: dernek@canada.com

Turkish Canadian Society
www.VancouverTurkishSociety.org, 185-9040 Blundell Rd. Box: 331 Richmond B.C. V6Y 1K3

The Turkish-German-Health-Donation

<http://www.tdg-stiftung.de/cms/index.php?l=en&menuloc=g&&linkid=79>

Friedrichstr. 13 35392 - Giessen

Tel: 0641 - 966 116 – 0 Fax: 0641 - 966 116- 29

Email: tdg.stiftung@freenet.de

Turkish Islam Union in Germany

<http://www.diyamet.org/tr/anasayfa/index.php>

5. Irregular Migration

5.1. Numbers/estimates of irregular movements

Table 11: Irregular migrants apprehended in Turkey²⁶

Year	Apprehended Irregular Migrants	Apprehended Human Smugglers
2000	94,514	850
2001	92,365	1,155
2002	82,825	1,157
2003	56,219	937
2004	61,228	957
2005	57,428	834
2006	51,938	951
Total	496,517	6,841

Source: Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum

Table 12: Third country nationals refused border entry in Turkey²⁷

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	TOTAL
24,504	15,208	11,084	9,362	11,093	8,008	6,001	3,835	89,095

Source: Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum

Table 13: Turkish nationals apprehended within the EU-25 (2003-2005)²⁸

2003	2004	2005
-----	12,568	7,835

Source: European Commission, 2006.

²⁶ Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum
<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/MFA/ForeignPolicy/MainIssues/TurkeyOnIllegalMigration/>

²⁷ Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum

²⁸ EC [2006]: *Second annual report on the development of a common policy on illegal immigration, smuggling and trafficking of human beings, external border controls, and the return of illegal residents.*

5.2. Figures and information on return migration flows

Table 14: Statistics on Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) to Turkey

2005	2006	2007
11 Sri Lanka	10 Afghanistan	1 Madagascar
1 India	2 Cameroon	1 Ukraine
1 Congo	1 Dominican Republic	2 Ethiopia
2 Gambia	5 Sri Lanka	1 Morocco
2 Afghanistan	3 Turkmenistan	6 Sri Lanka
1 Nigeria	1 Kyrgyzstan	3 Turkmen
		1 Congo
		1 Eritrea
Total: 18	Total: 22	Total: 16

Source: IOM Turkey.

Table 15: Persons removed from Turkey by main countries of origin²⁹

Country	2004	2005
Pakistan	9,396	11,001
Iraq	6,393	3,591
Moldova	5,728	3,462
Afghanistan	3,442	2,363
Bangladesh	3,271	1,524
Georgia	2,294	2,348
Romania	1,785	1,274
Azerbaijan	1,591	1,410
Germany	1,477	--
Ukraine	1,341	1,335
Russia	--	1,152
Total (for all countries)	55,777	44,302

Source: ICMPD

Table 16: Turkish nationals removed from the EU-15 and EU-10 (2003)³⁰

Country	Number
The Netherlands	4,477
Germany	4,310
France	630
Greece	362
Cyprus	288
Slovenia	215
Bulgaria	168
Sweden	161
Finland	92

²⁹ ICMPD [2005]: *Yearbook on Illegal Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe*, Vienna.

³⁰ European Commission [2003]: *Annual Report on Asylum and Migration*

http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/doc_centre/asylum/statistics/doc_annual_report_2003_en.htm

Romania	89
Hungary	82
Lithuania	24
Malta	21
Latvia	9
Total	10,928

Source: European Commission, 2003.

6. Assessment and analysis of migration issues

6.1. Summary assessment of migration issues

Throughout history Turkey has been affected by diverse forms of migratory movements and refugee flows. Traditionally Turkey has been a country of emigration with large numbers of its citizens migrating to Western Europe, particularly Germany since the 1970s. Based on a bilateral labour agreement, Turkish “guest workers” migrated to West Germany and in spite of expectations, remained there and settled with their families. Europe’s oil recession in the 1970s redirected the flows of the Turkish migrant labour force to Middle East, and in the 1990s to the Russian Federation and Commonwealth of Independent States. As a result of emigration, remittance flows have been an important input to the country’s economy since 1960s.

Turkey has also significant refugee population abroad as well as internally displaced population, mainly due to the internal conflict between Turkish armed forces and the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) between 1984 and 1999.

Since the early 1990s the country has been positioned on the transit route for irregular migrants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iraq, Iran and Pakistan.³¹ Turkey remains a destination for human trafficking in Black Sea region and victims from Moldova, Ukraine, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in particular.

It has also long been a country of destination for migrants, be it economic migrants or refugees or asylum seekers. It has recently emerged as a destination for migrants from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, as these new migrants envisage Turkey as a gateway to a new job, new life and a stepping stone to employment in the West.

The Iranian revolution, political turmoil in the Middle East, the end of the Cold War, the Gulf War, and Turkey’s geographical location as a transit zone between the West and the rest all contributed as historical events and forces to turn Turkey into a de facto country of first asylum.³² The country maintains the geographical limitation to the applicability of the Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees (granting the refugee status only to European asylum seekers). It has until recently ranked in the top three countries globally for resettlement of non-European refugees with main countries of destination of

³¹ Kirişçi, K. [2003]: *Turkey: A Transformation from Emigration to Immigration*. Migration Information Source. www.migrationinformation.org/Profiles/print.cfm?ID=176

³² Icduygu A., Keymanö E. F. [2000]: *Global Governance*. Volume: 6. Issue: 3. p: 383. Lynne Rienner Publishers.

resettlement being USA, Canada and Australia.

Migration issues in Turkey are shaped by its efforts to become a member of the European Union which are creating pressures for an overhaul of immigration and asylum policies in the country. The alignment of Turkey's migration policy and practice to the EU migration *acquis* and policies is one of the conditions for the country's accession. Another issue of discussion in Europe is related to Turkey's potential membership to EU which is considered as a potential massive wave of immigration from Turkey to the more prosperous members of the union.

6.2. Ministries responsible for migration policy

Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum, Directorate General of Security, Ministry of Interior

The Directorate General of Security under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior is the state institution responsible from the internal security. The Directorate is also responsible for the coordination and implementation of the integrated border management.

The duties of the Department of Foreigners, Border and Asylum include:

- management and implementation of relevant procedures regarding visa, passports, residence permits and regulations regarding diplomatic missions and consulate members;
- co-ordination of the procedures regarding the passports
- border management
- asylum requests of the aliens who enter Turkey through legal/illegal ways;
- reception of refugees and asylum seekers
- applications for residence from persons with Turkish ethnicity or foreigners who have close links with Turkish culture
- applications for Turkish citizenship
- co-ordination the national referral system on combating trafficking.

Head of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum Department

Tel: +90 312 412 32 10

<http://www.egm.gov.tr> ; www.icisleri.gov.tr

General Command of Gendarmerie

The Gendarmerie of the Republic of Turkey, which is responsible for the maintenance of safety and public order as well as carrying out other duties assigned by laws and regulations, is an armed security and law enforcement force, having military nature. As a part of Turkish Armed Forces, the General Command of the Gendarmerie is subordinated to the General Staff in matters related to training and education in connection with the Armed Forces and to the Ministry of Interior in matters related to the performance of the safety and public order duties. However, the General Commander of Gendarmerie is responsible to the Ministry of Interior. In general, the duty and responsibility area of the Gendarmerie is outside the Police duty zone. These are the places outside the municipal boundaries of the provinces and districts and having no police organizations. The

Gendarmerie is responsible for the performance of the safety and public order in above mentioned zones.

The Gendarmerie of the Republic of Turkey is also responsible for combating migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings and coordinating the final situation with the Ministry of Interior.

Tel: +312 456 78 50

<http://www.jandarma.tsk.mil.tr/>

Ministry for Foreign Affairs

The Republic of Turkey, which had a total of 39 missions abroad in 1924, is now represented by 164 missions throughout the world. These missions comprise of 94 Embassies, 11 Permanent Missions to international organizations and 59 Consulate Generals. Serving under the leadership of the 41st Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ali Babacan, the Turkish Foreign Service consisting of a total of 905 diplomats at the Ministry and its missions abroad, continues to operate with its resources and number of personnel to conduct and further promote international political, economic and cultural relations in the bilateral and multilateral context as well as to contribute to peace, stability and prosperity in the region and beyond. Additionally, the ministry is also responsible for chairing the National Task Force on Combating Trafficking.

Department for Illegal Migration and Asylum

Under the responsibility of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Department of Asylum and Migration is the government entity in charge of the policies mainly related to illegal migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings.

In particular the Department deals with the following tasks:

- Preparation of bilateral readmission agreements, bilateral cooperation protocols on combating trafficking, negotiations and ratification for all the countries on illegal migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings
- Combating illegal migration, trafficking in human beings (THB), border management and cooperation in legal and criminal affairs in these areas in line with the implementation of EU *acquis communautaire*
- Turkey- EU Readmission agreement negotiations
- Harmonization activities with the EU/Schengen *Acquis*
- Combating trafficking (coordinated by the Ministry of Interior)
- Contribution to Integrated Border Management (twinning) projects
- Liaison with IOM and UNHCR
- Activities regarding implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
- Presidency for Budapest Process on illegal migration and trafficking in human beings and participation in similar organizations
- Issues related to asylum and migration requests to Turkey
- Implementation of the National Action Plan on Asylum and Migration and organization of the Office on Migration and Asylum
- To follow up on issues regarding EU refugee policy and harmonization of the legislation in this area

Ambassador, Director General for Consular Affairs

Tel: +90 312 292 20 83-84

Deputy Director General for Expatriate Turks Asylum Migration and Property Issues

Tel: +90 312 292 21 20
Head of Department of Asylum and Illegal Migration
Tel: +90 312 292 20 56
<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/mfa>

Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Turkey is responsible for prosecution related issues. The ministry carries out its responsibilities through its several departments mostly including Directorate of Law, Directorate of International Law and External Affairs, Department of Prosecution Affairs, Directorate of EU Affairs, Department of Criminal Registration and Statistics.

Ministry of Justice is one of the key stakeholders participating in the National Task Force on Migration. The Ministry is involved in the migration related affairs through its Directorate of Law (contribution to migration-related legislation); through its Directorate of International Law and External Affairs in order to inform the implementation and provide comments on the international conventions, and finally through its Directorate of EU Affairs in order to facilitate legal issues of concern to the EU accession process.

General Directorate of International Law and Foreign Relations
Tel: +90 312 414 78 15
General Directorate of Laws
Tel: +90 312 418 67 48
General Directorate of Prosecution Affairs
Tel: +90 312 414 74 20
General Directorate of Criminal Registration and Statistics
Tel: +90 312 414 85 75
<http://www.adalet.gov.tr/>

State Planning Organization

State Planning Organization (SPO) was founded in 1960 with aim of accelerating Turkey's development. It works under the Prime Ministry. SPO works as a consultancy organization for government in identifying its economic, social and cultural aims. Moreover, SPO prepares development plans and annual plans in order to implement the Government' programme and fulfil its objectives, which are:

- To identify natural, social and economic sources and opportunities of the country and consult the government for the identification of the social, economic and cultural aims.
- To prepare development plans in line with the priorities of the government
- To coordinate the social, economic and cultural activities of governmental bodies
- To comment on the management of the related institutions and local administrations in order to be implement development programmes and plans efficiently.

Tel: +90 312 294 50 00
<http://www.dpt.gov.tr/>

Turkish Statistical Institute

TURKSTAT is responsible for the gathering of the official statistics including those related to migration, determining methods of data collection, statistical definitions and classifications in cooperation with national and international institutes and organizations, forming of national registration system, developing research and technical assistance projects when needed.

Telephone: 00 90 312 410 04 10

<http://www.turkstat.gov.tr/>

Ministry of Labour and Social Security

The main responsibilities of the ministry include the regulation of the relations between employers and employees, ensuring employment, workers' health, job security, monitoring the working practices, provision of social welfare, services for the Turkish workers abroad, consolidating and publishing relevant statistics.

Tel: +90 312 212 14 72, + 90 312 296 60 00

<http://www.calisma.gov.tr/>

6.3. Migration policies in place

In line with Turkey's aspirations to join the European Union and its candidacy status, Turkish government is assuming efforts and resources to align its migration policies with the migration-related EU *acquis communautaire* and policies. Accession Partnership document outlines the changes necessary in terms of management of migration.

National Action Plan on the implementation of Integrated Border Management strategy was accepted in 2006 in Turkey and it can be considered as the preliminary step forward in line with the EU accession process. Meanwhile, there is a need for the enhancement of administrative capacity for the harmonization and implementation of the *acquis*.

A Task Force for the "National Action Plan for the Adoption of the EU *Acquis* in the Field of Asylum and Migration" bringing together officials from relevant ministries and organizations was established in 2004. The Task Force convened in November and December 2004 and drafted the Action Plan, which was endorsed by the Prime Minister in March 2005.

The Action Plan for the Adoption of the EU *Acquis* in the Field of Asylum and Migration includes the legislation, the development projects complementing the administrative structure and the physical infrastructure relating to Turkey's asylum, migration and immigration system that should be harmonized with the EU *acquis* and policy.³³

Turkey imposed a geographical and time limitation to its obligations under the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, whereby only European refugees and asylum seekers fleeing events occurring in their home country prior to 1 January 1951 could be granted access to asylum procedures. The time limitation was removed upon signing of the 1967 Protocol, but the geographical limitation remains to this day. Through the National Action Plan, the Government proposes to lift the "geographic limitation" to its

³³ Turkish National Action Plan for the Adoption of the EU *Acquis* in the Field of Asylum and Migration can be reached at http://www.unhcr.org.tr/MEP/FTPRoot/Dosyalar/Anasayfa/EU%20Acquis%20Book_Eng.pdf

obligations under 1951 Convention by 2012, on the condition that the legal and institutional arrangements for asylum and understandings on “burden sharing” with the EU are in place.³⁴

Turkey is also in the process of adopting the EU Schengen visa system, which requires member countries to apply a common visa policy to third-country nationals which will probably require Turkey's current, relatively liberal visa system with a much stricter one.³⁵ Visa requirement for a number of states have been introduced, specifically towards countries in the Middle East and Central Asia.³⁶

In 2003 Turkey ratified the Law on Work Permits for Foreigners, which liberalised access by foreigners to certain occupation, previously open to Turkish nationals only.³⁷ The work permit in Turkey is not issued directly to the foreigner himself but to the employer instead. The Ministry of Labour and Social Security is the responsible institution for applications for the foreigner work permits.³⁸ The Ministry carries out the labour market test, i.e. if the vacancy can be filled by a Turkish national, the application for the work permit is rejected. This provision results in much of the low-skilled employment to enter the informal economy.

6.4. International legal framework in place relevant to migration

Selected International Instruments³⁹

- The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1962) (with a geographical limitation clause bounding application only to European asylum seekers)
- The 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (1968)
- The 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (2004)
- The 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2003)
- The 2000 Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (2003)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 1965, ratified 16/09/2002
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 1966, ratified 23/09/2003
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966, ratified 23/09/2003
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 1979, acceded to 20/12/1985
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment 1984, ratified 25/06/1999
- Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989, ratified 04/04/1995

³⁴ UNHCR Turkey [2007]: *Turkey Briefing Note*.

³⁵ Kirişçi, K. [2003]: *Turkey: A Transformation from Emigration to Immigration*. Migration Information Source www.migrationinformation.org/Profiles/print.cfm?ID=176

³⁶ Hecker, P. [2006]: *Turkey Country Profile*. Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Netzwerk Migration in Europa, Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung.

³⁷ Ibid.

³⁸ www.calismaizni.gov.tr

³⁹ United Nations Treaty Collection. Data available online, as of 31 December 2005, at: <http://untreaty.un.org>.

- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, ratified 27/09/2004
- European Convention on Human Rights, 18/05/1954

Readmission Agreements

- Greece 8 November 2003
- Syria 10 October 2001
- Romania 16 January 2004
- Kyrgyzstan 6 May 2003
- Ukraine 8 June 2005

Turkey is in the process of negotiating readmission agreements with the European Community, Bulgaria, Libya, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Italy, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Russia and Pakistan.

Bilateral Labour Agreements of Turkey

- Germany 30 October 1961
- Australia 5 October 1967
- Austria 15 May 1964
- Belgium 16 July 1964
- France 8 April 1965
- The Netherlands 19 August 1964
- Jordan 8 July 1982
- Sweden 10 March 1967
- Qatar 1 April 1986
- Cyprus 9 March 1987
- Libya 5 January 1975

6.5. Policies to address brain drain

Turkey is among the top ten sending countries in terms of the number of students studying in US higher education institutions. The number of Turkish students in the US grew to about 12,500 in the 2004-2005 academic year, according to the Institute for International Education, 2005.⁴⁰ According to the UNESCO statistics, approximately 52,000 Turkish students studied abroad in 2004, mainly in Germany, USA, France and England, which made Turkey the 7th highest ranking country in terms of gross outflow of students for that year (UNESCO, 2006).⁴¹

These figures indicate that brain drain is an important issue for Turkey. A high incidence of student non-return results in difficulties for newly established universities to recruit qualified academic staff.⁴² Training of individuals for academic positions at domestic institutions, supporting study abroad for shorter periods and improving academic facilities in the newly established universities are some of the suggested solutions. The State Planning Organization supports domestic training of individuals and TUBITAK (The

⁴⁰ Gungor, N. D. and Aysitö T. [2007]: *Brain Drain from Turkey: The Case of Professionals Abroad..* IZA Discussion Paper No. 2617 Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=962373>

⁴¹ Ibid.

⁴² Ibid.

Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) supports short term postdoctoral training abroad.

6.6. Irregular migration routes and policies to address irregular migration

Due to its geo-political location, Turkey is on a major migration route with significant number of irregular immigrants from its East trying to cross Turkey towards wealthy Europe. Approximately 500,000 migrants were apprehended in Turkey within the period of 2000-2006. Much of irregular immigration within Turkey is conducted by internationally organized networks.

Irregular migration flows into Turkey can be divided into three main groups. The first involves migrants coming from Ukraine or Moldova, who come to Turkey in order to find better living standards and work. Many of these migrants are employed by Turkish farmers, construction companies and families (as domestic workers) in Turkey. The second irregular migrant group involves people mainly coming from the Middle East (mostly Iranian and Iraqis) and Asia (mostly Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka). These migrant often consider Turkey as a transit zone while they try to enter Europe. The third group of irregular migrants includes rejected asylum seekers, who do not wish to return home and look for possible employment opportunities in order to migrate to another country.⁴³

Turkey signed the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Additional Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air. This agreement and its addition were accepted in Turkish Grand National Assembly on 18 March 2003.⁴⁴ The article 79 of the new Turkish Penal Code Law No: 5237 which was put into force on 1 June 2005, defines migrant smuggling. This article introduces a provision stipulating penalties of 3 to 8 years of imprisonment and 10,000 days judicial fines to migrant smugglers. If the crime is committed by perpetrators acting as an organization, the penalty to be imposed shall be increased by half. Article 79 also provides for coercive measures (confiscation of assets) on legal entities involved in migrant smuggling. The Road Transportation Law came into force on 19 July 2003 and the Road Transportation Regulation became effective in 2004. The regulation states that transportation permit shall be cancelled for 3 years and the vehicle used will be seized if the person is sentenced for migrant smuggling.

Readmission Agreements were signed with Greece, Syria, Kyrgyzstan, Romania and Ukraine. Negotiations are ongoing with the European Commission regarding the EU-wide Readmission Agreement. An Action Plan for Implementing Integrated Border Management Strategy was signed by the Prime Minister in March 2006 and submitted to the EU Commission.

Since 1997, Turkey actively takes part in Border Police Conferences, EU Illegal Migration and Violation of Borders (CIREFI) and Bern Initiative activities. The Bern Initiative aims at defining the principles which would increase the responsibilities of states, a roadmap for migration policies and programs to be developed by governments and a common

⁴³ İcduygu, A. [2003]: *Irregular Migration to Turkey*, IOM, Migration Research Series, No.12, Bilkent University, Turkey

⁴⁴ <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/MFA/ForeignPolicy/MainIssues/TurkeyOnIllegalMigration/>

understanding between countries. In January 2006 Turkey took over the Presidency of the Budapest Process.⁴⁵

6.7. Trafficking in human beings and policies to address it⁴⁶

Turkey is a major destination and transit country for human trafficking for sexual exploitation because of its proximity to main source countries. The vast majority of women and girls trafficked to Turkey come from the former Soviet Union, with sixty percent of all cases from two countries, Moldova and Ukraine. Majority of the victims of human trafficking identified in Turkey are between 18 to 24 years old, with mainly secondary school education. Istanbul, Antalya and Trabzon are the main ports of entry for trafficked individuals, majority of whom enter Turkey legally under tourist visa. A small number of men from Turkey were trafficked to the Netherlands for the purpose of forced labour in 2006. In 2006 victims were also trafficked from Kenya, Nigeria, and the Philippines.⁴⁷ More than one third of women trafficked to Turkey are mothers with children and illegal profits from trafficking top more than 1 billion USD annually. The vast majority of victims recruited to Turkey had a personal relationship with their recruiter.⁴⁸

Table 17: Statistical Data Related to Trafficking in Human Beings in Turkey 2004-2007⁴⁹

Year	Number of identified victims by Turkish Ministry of Interior*	Number of victims voluntarily returned by IOM Turkey	Number of human traffickers apprehended
2004	239	62	227
2005	256	220	379
2006	246	191	422
2007 (until June)	125	99	278
Total	866	572	1,306

Source: Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum, Turkey, 2007.

*The number of victims of human trafficking, who received accommodation, medical and psychological assistance in shelters between November 2004 and February 2007.

Table 18: Number of Victims of Trafficking Assisted by IOM Turkey as of 31/08/2007

Country of Origin	2004		2005		2006		2007		Total
	adults	minors	adults	minors	adults	minors	adults	minors	
Azerbaijan	3	0	2	0	6	3	3		17
Armenia		0		0	1	0			1
Belarus	1	0	5	0	1	0			7

⁴⁵ Budapest Process is an inter-governmental unofficial cooperation and dialogue forum which involves 50 countries' governments and 10 International Organizations and aims to prevent illegal migration, to ensure permanent solutions in combating against illegal migration, and to establish sustainable mechanisms in the field of migration management.

⁴⁶ <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/MFA/ForeignPolicy/MainIssues/TurkeyOnTrafficingInHumanBeings/>

⁴⁷ US Department of State [2007]: Trafficking in Persons Report 2007.

⁴⁸ IOM Turkey [2005]: 2005: Turkey, Trafficking & Trends.

⁴⁹ Directorate General of Security, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum.

Bulgaria		0		0	2	0	6		8
Colombia	1	0	0	0		0			1
Georgia	0	0	3	0	2	0	3		8
Kazakhstan	1	0	6	0	1	0			8
Kyrgyzstan	0	0	19	1	23	1	12	1	57
Moldova	33	1	62	2	59	0	34	1	192
Romania	5	1	9	2		0			17
Russian Federation	2	0	28	1	37	2	13	2	85
Turkmenistan	1	0	2	0	4	0	11		18
Uganda	0	0	1	0		0			1
Ukraine	12	0	65	1	29	4	5		116
Uzbekistan	1	0	11	0	16	0	7		35
Tunisia							1		1
Total	60	2	213	7	181	10	95	4	572
Grand Total	62		220		191		99		572

Source: IOM Turkey.

Turkey ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children. Trafficking in human beings was first defined in Turkish Penal Code in 2001, in accordance with the Protocol, with the prison-term for this crime set to up from 8 to 12 years. In 2006, the term 'forced prostitution' was added to the definition of human trafficking to be punished under the provisions of Article 80.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security was authorized to prevent uncontrolled employment of foreign labour and to grant work permits to foreigners under the Law on Work Permits for Foreigners effective since 6 September 2003.

In 2003 an amendment was made to the Citizenship Law in order to prevent foreigners marrying Turkish citizens and claiming Turkish citizenship simply through a declaration at the time of marriage. This puts an end to traffickers exploiting this provision for their benefit.

The National Task Force on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings has been established in 2002. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs chairs the task force and is the national coordinator. Turkey's first Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking was prepared by the Task Force and is being currently implemented.

A national referral mechanism has been established in Turkey to protect and meet the needs of trafficked persons, to co-ordinate counter human trafficking efforts with the countries of origin and to prosecute those responsible. Participating in this mechanism are national law enforcement agencies, non-governmental organizations, Turkish and foreign embassies and IOM. The system is designed to ensure effective and expedient coordination of the major stakeholders involved in combating human trafficking and providing assistance to trafficked persons.

In cooperation with IOM, leaflets in Turkish, Russian and English were produced and distributed in border crossings, especially in Istanbul, Ankara, Trabzon air and sea ports

and targeting tourists. TV spots were aired and training courses organised for the law enforcement officials. First public awareness campaign was launched in February 2006.

Two shelters were established in 2004 in Istanbul and in 2005 in Ankara for victims of trafficking. An emergency helpline (157) became operational in May 2005. The helpline is available to callers using mobile phones as well as calling from abroad. Calls are answered in Russian, Romanian, English and Turkish.

Free medical care is given to victims of THB (based on the cabinet decision (2003-6565), January 2004, Ministry of Health). Bar Associations extend free legal counselling to the victims of trafficking. In addition, through the cooperation among Ministry of Interior, Department of Foreigners, Borders and Asylum and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IOM and non-governmental organizations (including the Human Resource Development Foundation and the Women's Solidarity Foundation) have co-operated to assist trafficked persons in Turkey to retrieve the legal documentation from the representative of trafficked person's country of origin.

Entry and exit of victims of trafficking are exempted from any charges or penalties and "temporary entry restriction to Turkey" is not applied. Humanitarian visa and short term residence permits are issued to victims in order to enable them to stay legally in Turkey during their rehabilitation period. Since 2004, a total of 35 trafficked persons have been granted humanitarian visas which are additional temporary residence permits provided to ensure the medical and psychological support and treatment of trafficked persons.

Voluntary return of the victims is provided with the cooperation of law enforcement officials, IOM, relevant institutions in the source country and local NGOs. 572 victims were voluntarily returned in cooperation with IOM since 2004. No trafficked persons with illegal status have been expelled from Turkey. Trafficked

Turkey has signed cooperation Protocols on fighting against trafficking with Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Ukraine.

In 2007 IOM mission in Turkey will start implementing an EC funded counter trafficking project which will run for two years. The overall objective of the project is to provide support to Turkish institutions in their fight against human trafficking and protection of victims in line with EU council directives and harmonization with the EU *acquis*. The specific objective of the project is to increase identification and protection of victims of trafficking in Turkey and initiate prosecution of human trafficking crimes under the Trafficking Statute (Article 80) of the new Turkish Penal Code in Turkey.

6.8. Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons (IDPs) and relevant policies in place ⁵⁰

Turkey maintains the "geographic limitation" restricting its obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (the "1951 Convention") and its 1967 Protocol, whereby only European refugees and asylum seekers fleeing events occurring in their home country prior to 1 January 1951 could be granted access to asylum procedures.

⁵⁰ UNHCR Turkey [2007]: *Turkey Briefing Note*

The time limitation was removed upon signing of the 1967 Protocol, but the geographical limitation remains to this day.

According to the 1994 Asylum Regulation, European asylum-seekers have the right to apply to the Government for refugee status; however non-European refugees are eligible only for “temporary asylum-seeker status.” European asylum seekers are considered those who are coming from countries that are members of the Council of Europe. Few Europeans seek protection in Turkey, and the Government’s practice has been to treat them as “guests” rather than formally recognising them as refugees under the 1951 Convention.

UNHCR also receives applications for refugee status under its Mandate from non-European asylum-seekers and, due to the temporary nature of asylum in Turkey, resettles those determined to be refugees. As of 30 June 2007 10,443 non-European persons of concern were registered with UNHCR, including 5,827 refugees and 4,066 asylum-seekers waiting for a decision on their applications. This population involves mainly Iranian, Iraqi, Afghan and Somalis refugees and asylum seekers in Turkey.

Until 2004, Turkey ranked in the top three countries globally for resettlement, along with Egypt, Pakistan and Kenya – countries hosting far greater numbers of refugees. Resettlement to third countries continues to be the only durable solution available to non-European refugees in Turkey. UNHCR resettled 1,262 refugees in 2005 and 1,609 in 2006. The main countries of destination in 2006 were USA, Finland, Canada and Australia. Additionally, IOM in Turkey also resettling citizens mainly coming from Africa and Asia to third countries like European and Scandinavian countries and USA, Canada and Australia.

As well as being an area of transit and temporary asylum for migrants coming from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, the Caucasus and elsewhere, Turkey is also a country with a significant refugee population abroad, mainly of Kurdish ethnicity (227,832 persons of concern to UNHCR in 2005).⁵¹

Turkey Migration and Internally Displaced Population Survey (TMIDPS) has been carried out by the Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies between December 2004 and June 2006 under the coordination of the State Planning Organization in order to estimate the size of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) population, mainly of Kurdish ethnicity, originating from East and Southeast Anatolia in the course of the conflict between the Turkish armed forces and the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) between 1984 and 1999.⁵² The eviction and evacuation of several hundred thousand people from their rural homes resulted in the violation of their constitutional and human rights, and created serious political and socio-economic problems. The majority of the IDP population in Turkey has been living in urban centres for nearly ten years and faces many problems such as unemployment, abuse of child labour, lack of access to education and health care services, and lack of psychosocial care for women and children.⁵³

⁵¹ UNHCR [2005]: *Statistical Yearbook*.

⁵² Hacettepe University – Institute of Population Studies [2006]: *Turkey Migration and Internally Displaced Population Survey (TMIDPS)*.

⁵³ Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation [2006]: *Overcoming a Legacy of Mistrust: Towards Reconciliation Between The State And The Displaced*. Norwegian Refugee Council, Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre.

At the invitation of the government of Turkey, the Representative of the Secretary-General on Internally Displaced Persons (RSG), Francis Deng, undertook a mission to Turkey from 27 to 31 May 2002 “to gain first-hand knowledge of the situation of internal displacement in the country and to hold a dialogue with the government, international agencies, representatives of donor countries and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with a view to ensuring that the conditions of the internally displaced in Turkey are responded to effectively”. Since the publication of the RSG’s report in 2002, the Turkish government has taken some concrete steps to address the IDP issue, such as the enactment of the “Law on Compensation for Losses Resulting from Terrorism and the Fight against Terrorism” in July 2004, and the formulation of a framework document for government policy titled “Measures on the Issue of IDPs and the Return to Village and Rehabilitation Project in Turkey” (hereafter the “Framework Document”) in August 2005.⁵⁴ “Damage Assessment Commissions” have been set up to process the compensation claims. So far, approximately 267,000 applications have been received, and 50,000 processed.

The Hacettepe survey estimated the total number of IDPs to be between 953, 680 and 1,201,200. The survey has aimed not only to identify the IDPs and their needs, but also to shed light on the possible measures to be taken to alleviate their situation. The results of MIDPST will be taken into consideration in devising future strategies and policies vis-à-vis the issue of IDPs as declared by the Turkish Minister of Interior.⁵⁵

6.9. Projects and programmes relevant to migration

(Please note the list of projects below do not purport to be exhaustive or representative).

Since January 2007 IOM in Ankara is implementing a project in Technical Cooperation in Migration funded by the UK Embassy. The project, with the Ministry of Interior of Turkey as the major partner, has the main objective of facilitating a dialogue and conceptual understanding of the fundamental principles of the EU *acquis* in the field of migration, furthering the process of Turkey’s alignment with the European Union.

Through capacity building seminars key policy makers and local practitioners are being provided the tools for adapting administrative practices, legal norms and policy in line with the requirements of the EU *acquis* and by doing so ensuring a more effective migration management in the country. Further, the project will complete the groundwork for implementation of selected activities of the Turkish National Action Plan on Asylum and Migration. The seminars are providing capacity building and awareness raising about both the EU *acquis* and the National Action Plan with them aim to enhance government investment in the principle of orderly migration management within the requirements of EU accession. A legal analysis comparing the EU *acquis* with the Turkish legislation in the field of migration will be undertaken in order to find the existing gaps and give recommendations for harmonization.

The methodology and training material produced and utilized in this project builds on a previous EC funded CARDS project in the Balkans in 2005 with IOM and the Swedish Migration Board as the implementing partners. Although this project is not funded by the EC, the EC delegation in Turkey is actively participating in the project.

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ <http://www.mfa.gov.tr/MFA/ForeignPolicy/MainIssues/IDPs/>

The Migration Research Program at Koç University (MiReKoc) was established in 2004, by a joint initiation of Koç University (Istanbul) and the Foundation for Population, Migration and Environment (Zurich). The main purpose of MiReKoc is to develop the research capacity to address migration-related issues in Turkey. The programme intends to advocate multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research on various aspects of migration. This program aims to create new avenues of research and collaboration among researchers working in the migration-related fields and thus strengthen the capacity of research on migration issues in the country.⁵⁶

Launched in 2002 to support multidisciplinary and multilateral scientific research efforts, the Istanbul Bilgi University Centre for Migration Research (CMR) is the first migration research centre in Turkey.⁵⁷

The Centre for Black Sea and Central Asia (KORA) is a research centre of Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. KORA was established in 1992 and has become a leading research institute conducting research on Caucasian, Central Asian, East and Central European countries.⁵⁸ Currently KORA is implementing a project on “Global Migration from the Eastern Mediterranean and Eurasia: Security and Human Rights Challenges to Europe (GLOMIG)”. The main objective of the GLOMIG Project is to foster international cooperation between the EU and the INCO countries on global migration. Workshops will be organised in order to provide a milieu for interaction for academics, policy-makers, and non-governmental organisation (NGO) representatives through which they can develop new strategies for dealing with problems related to global migration and formulate policy recommendations.

6.10. Important migration actors within the country

(in alphabetical order)

International actors

Delegation of the European Commission to Turkey is the channel for day-to-day relations between the European Commission and Turkey, and reports to Brussels on the latest political, economic and commercial developments. It monitors and reports to Brussels political and economic developments related to Turkey's reform process related to the EU *acquis* and short- and medium-term priorities under the accession partnership. The Delegation also actively supports Turkey's accession and negotiation process by direct involvement in the preparatory and follow-up stages of the process.

www.deltur.cec.eu.int Uğur Mumcu Cad. No: 88, Kat: 4, Gaziosmanpaşa 06700 Ankara
Tel: +312- 459 87 00 E-mail: delegation-turkey@ec.europa.eu

International Catholic Migration Commission

Processing refugee applications for resettlement to the United States remains ICMC Turkey's main focus. Currently, the ICMC Turkey region covers Turkey, Kuwait, Lebanon, Yemen, India, the United Arab Emirates, Nepal and Pakistan. Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan also are covered by the program, although currently no processing is being conducted in these countries.

⁵⁶ http://www.mirekoc.com/mirekoc_eng.cgi?a=eng_welcome

⁵⁷ <http://ces.bilgi.edu.tr/digerarastirma.asp?id=0>

⁵⁸ <http://www.kora.metu.edu.tr/index-eng.php>

ICMC Turkey is committed to the monitoring of refugee caseloads, as well as working closely with local health clinics, municipalities, and other private and State entities. It strives to provide a human face for refugees as they are guided through the resettlement process. It works closely with Caritas Istanbul, the Istanbul Inter-Parish Migrants Program and the Refugee Legal Aid Program, The Light House, and The Human Resource Development Foundation.

http://www.icmc.net/e/programmes_operations/present_programmes/turkey.htm

Tel: +212-260 20 55

International Labour Organisation (ILO) office in Ankara works through promoting ILO policy/programmes and international labour standards in Turkey. It develops, implements and monitors technical cooperation programmes and projects. It also administers fellowship programmes both for Turkish nationals abroad and fellows from other countries in Turkey. ILO Ankara also maintains Information Resource Centre and Publication Sales Programme.

<http://www.ilo.org/public/turkish/region/eurpro/ankara/index.htm>

Ferit Recai Ertuğrul Cad. No: 4 06450 Oran/Ankara

Tel: +312- 491 98 90 E-mail: ankara@ilo.org.tr

International Organization for Migration (IOM)'s primary objective is to support the Turkish government in its efforts to address irregular migration and trafficking in human beings in a dignified and human rights-based manner as well as to provide research and technical expertise. IOM operates in areas of emergency refugee assistance, assisted voluntary return and almost every major aspect of migration management, from migrant health to remittances to promoting legal migration. Turkey has been a member of IOM since November 2004, having ratified a bilateral agreement on the legal status, privileges and immunities of IOM's diplomatic mission to Turkey.

http://www.countertrafficking.org/iom_tr.html Birlik Mah. 2. Cad. No: 11 06610

Çankaya/Ankara

Tel: +312-454 11 52, E-mail: ankmission@iom.int

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Turkey works for progress in three core areas: 1) capacity building for democratic governance; 2) action and advocacy for poverty reduction; and 3) environment and sustainable development. In addition to these core areas, UNDP Turkey is emphasising the role of women, private sector, capacity development, and information and communication technology in its policies and programmes. UNDP is based in Ankara, with project offices in Istanbul, Erzurum, Adıyaman, Mardin, Diyarbakır and Şanlıurfa, through which it implements projects with non-governmental organisations, women and youth groups, the business community, universities, and regional and local administrations to directly address the development issues in these regions. Most recently, in 2005 UNDP established a Project Office in Istanbul especially to cooperate with the private sector and to support its contribution to Turkey's development goals such as poverty reduction, democratic governance and improvement of environmental sustainability.

www.undp.org.tr Birlik Mah. 2. Cad. No: 11 06610 Çankaya/Ankara

Tel: +312-454 11 00, E-mail: registry.tr@undp.org

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Turkey aims at supporting the Turkish Government in addressing several key challenges in developing a new national asylum system, including: establishing a new legal framework for refugee protection and

asylum that draws upon models and good practices adopted by EU Member States and other countries, with advice and support from UNHCR and other partners; creating a national capacity for the humane reception of asylum-seekers that meets EU minimum standards and developing institutional arrangements for refugee status determination, including the continued development of a development of a dedicated, specialised and highly-skilled cadre of asylum decision-makers and other professionals.
www.unhcr.org.tr Tiflis Caddesi, 212. Sokak No: 3, Sancak Mahallesi 06550, Ankara
Tel: +312-409 70 00 E-mail: turanpi@unhcr.org

United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) began cooperation activities with the Government of Turkey in 1971, initially on a project-by-project basis. The first multi-year Country Programme covered 1988 to 1992. Currently the third Country Programme (2000-2005) is being implemented. In Turkey UNFPA has been helping to improve reproductive health especially supporting efforts to meet the needs of young people and to promote gender equality. UNFPA has also played a key role in improving the collection, use and dissemination of data .

www.unfpa.org.tr Birlik Mah. 2. Cad. No: 11 06610 Çankaya/Ankara
Tel: +312-496 14 79 E-mail: tunga.tuzer@un.org.tr

UNICEF Turkey Country Office manages active programmes under the Country Programme of Cooperation (CPAP) liaising with government agencies, children and their families, non-governmental organisations, United Nations sister agencies, the EU, the World Bank and other agencies concerned with promoting and upholding children's rights.
www.unicef.org.tr Birlik Mah. 2. Cad. No: 11 06610 Çankaya/Ankara
Tel: +312-454 11 00 E-mail: ankara@unicef.org

Local Actors

Amnesty International Turkey

<http://www.amnesty.org.tr>

Müeyyitzade Mh. Galipdede Cd. No. 149 Kat: 1, D: 4 Beyoğlu / İstanbul

Tel: +0.212-293 63 21

E-mail: posta@amnesty.org.tr

The Association for Solidarity with Asylum-seekers and Migrants (ASAM)

<http://www.asam.8k.com>

Tel: +90 312 426 03 19, Fax: +90 312 426 03 67

Helsinki Citizens Assembly

<http://www.hyd.org.tr/default.aspx?sid=17>

Kuloğlu Mah. Gazeteci Erol Dernek Sok. Hanif Han No: 11 D: 5 Beyoğlu/İstanbul

Tel: +90 212 292 68 42 – 43, Fax: +90 212 292 68 44

Human Resources Development Foundation (HRDF)

<http://www.ikgv.org/> Siraselviler Cad. Kristal Apt. No:152, D.3-4 80060 Beyoğlu/İstanbul

Tel: +0-212 293 1605, E-mail: ikgv@ikgv.org

Women's Solidarity Foundation (WSF)

Mithatpaşa Cad. No:10/11 Sıhhiye/Ankara

Tel: +312- 435 00 70

E-mail: kadindv@yahoo.com.tr