

Turkey and the European Union (1963–2005)

Caption: Table showing the main stages in relations between Turkey and the European Union, from the signing of the Association Agreement in 1963 to the opening of accession negotiations in 2005.

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| 12 September 1963 | Signing of an Association Agreement between Turkey and the European Economic Community |
| 23 November 1970 | Signing of a Financial Protocol and an Additional Protocol to the Association Agreement |
| 14 April 1987 | Turkey's application for accession to the European Economic Community |
| 18 November 1989 | Unfavourable opinion delivered by the Commission on the opening of accession negotiations with Turkey |
| 6 March 1995 | Signing of an Agreement establishing a customs union between Turkey and the European Union |
| 1 January 1996 | Entry into force of the customs union between Turkey and the European Union |
| 12-13 December 1997 | The Luxembourg European Council confirms Turkey's eligibility for European Union membership without granting it candidate status |
| November 1998 | First Commission Report on Turkey's progress towards accession to the European Union |
| 10-11 December 1999 | The Helsinki European Council recognises Turkey's status as an applicant country to the European Union |
| 26 February 2001 | Council Regulation concerning the establishment of an Accession Partnership between Turkey and the European Union |
| 12-13 December 2002 | The Copenhagen European Council declares that if, in December 2004, the European Council decides, on the basis of a Report and a Commission Recommendation, that Turkey meets the political Copenhagen criteria, the EU shall open accession negotiations with this country without delay |
| 6 October 2004 | The European Commission recommends the opening of accession negotiations with Turkey |
| 16-17 December 2004 | The Brussels European Council recommends that conditional accession negotiations be opened with Turkey on 3 October 2005 |
| 3 October 2005 | Opening of European Union accession negotiations with Turkey |