

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