

**SHOULD TURKEY JOIN THE EU?**

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**ABSTRACT**

Turkey has been part of an ongoing process of integration with its European Union (EU) neighbors for year, and yet the debate for inclusion continues. Can the economic disparity, the social and religious gulf, as well as the weight of history be breached to bring Turkey into the mainstream of Europe. Will the companies that dominate the economic landscape at home, vie with European giants for market share in a capitalist-driven west? Will Turkish global companies retain their edge when competing against European labor and business models? This paper will address these questions in light of the accession process, and how the current and past economic and political climate affects the EU application.

Keywords: *EU, Turkey, EU membership*