AmCham Events & Committees

AM Cham Turkey

Şirketler Derneği

I AMCHAMPION AWARDS

I AmChamPion Awards 2022!

The Awards Program was initiated in 2019 to highlight and encourage companies that sustain bilateral economic development between Turkey and the U.S. In the 4th year of the Awards Program, some of the best examples of Turkey-U.S. economic cooperation will be awarded in 9 categories including:

Son

Başvuru Tarihi:

19 Ekim

2022

- Investment Award (U.S Investment in Turkey & Impact Investment)
- Regional Hub Award
- Sustainability Award (Climate Action & Sustainable Development)
- Diversity & Inclusion Award
- Innovation Award
- Contribution to Education Award
- Turkish Champ of the Year
- Turkish Entrepreneur of the Year
- Turkish E-Export Company

For more information, you can visit: **LINK**

"Hedefimiz ülkemizi global pazarlara taşıyan güç olmak"

AmCham Türkiye, bu sene dördüncüsünü düzenlediği "T AmChamPion Ödülleri" ile Türkiye-ABD ekonomik ülşkilerinin gelişmesine katkıda bulunan şirketler ve projeleri kamuoyu ve iş dünyası nezdinde onurlandırm ne bu çavide yayı izyırmıları toçrik tetmayi anadıyar

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Türkiye-ABD ikili ticaret ve yatırımına katkıda bulunan Türk ve Amerikan şirketleri **"I AmChamPion Awards"**

Yatırım, Bölgesel Merkez, Sürdürülebilirlik, Çeşitlilik ve

Kapsayıcılık, İnovasyon, Eğitim, Girişimcilik, E-İhracat

kategorilerinde sunulacak ödüllere başvuru için **amchamturkey.com** adresini ziyaret ediniz.

programında ödüllerine kavuşacak!



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MEMBER EXCLUSIVE EVENTS

August 3 I AmCham Board & Members Summer Gathering in Bodrum





September 6 I AmCham Annual Back to Business Reception at CG's Residence

AmCham Turkey organized its annual Back-to-Business Reception with the attendance of AmChams in Central Asia visiting Istanbul on that week. Thanks to Consul General Henick who hosted AmCham members at his residence, around 70 AmCham members, representatives from AmChams in Central Asia and US Embassy and Consulate team members gathered at the reception.



BOARD EVENTS

August 16 I Dinner with U.S. Congress Delegation

AmCham Turkey Board Members met with Chief Counsel and Senior Counsel of U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee (SFRC) to discuss further opportunities to develop bilateral economic relations.

August 24 I AmCham Board Meeting with Nabil Habayeb of GE

AmCham Turkey Board Members attended to a breakfast meeting organized on the occasion of the Turkey visit of Nabil Habayeb, General Electric's International Markets CEO and Executive Vice President.

September 2 I Amcham Board Meeting with MSD Global Emerging Markets Leadership Team

AmCham Turkey Board Members attended to a breakfast meeting with MSD's Global Emerging Markets Leadership. Emerging Markets President Jan Van Acker and EEMEA President Renan Özyerli were among the guests at the delegation.



September 2 – Meeting with U.S. Chamber's Senior VP Khush Choksy

AmCham Turkey Board Members and members from the Public Affairs Committee met with Khush Choksy, U.S. Chamber's Senior Vice President of International Development and Senior Vice President of Middle East and Turkey to discuss potential cooperation opportunities. The meeting was hosted by AmCham member TBWA.



September 26 – Meeting with Coca-Cola Global CEO

AmCham Turkey Board met with James Quincey, Chairman & CEO of The Coca-Cola Company during his visit in İstanbul. The discussions focused on the business environment in Türkiye.



U.S. ROADSHOW TO CHICAGO AND NEW YORK

AmCham Turkey delegation led by AmCham Chair Tankut Turnaoğlu travelled to Chicago and New York for a series of events to further develop bilateral economic relations.

CHICAGO

- The U.S. visit kicked-off with several visits in Chicago including a **Reception at Turkish Consulate General in Chicago** with the Presidency **Investment Office**, hosted by Turkish Consul General Engin Türesin.
- AmCham Board and team members met with potential investors at **Baker McKenzie Chicago** HQ.
- Chicago visit continued with a site visit to Mondelēz International HQ in Chicago together with the Presidency Investment Office.



NEW YORK

- AmCham Türkiye delegation travelled to New York to attend to 12th Türkiye Investment Conference organized by TAIK at Meta HQ.
- AmCham Chair Tankut Turnaoglu shared contributions and suggestions of US companies in the development of bilateral trade at a fireside chat with Derya Matraş.
- Minister of Trade Mehmet MUS and Minister of Industry and Technology Mustafa VARANK were among the honorary guests at the conference.
- In the evening, AmCham Türkiye Chair Tankut Turnaoglu attended to the Investor Roundtable attended by Türkiye's President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan. The roundtable organized by TAIK hosted global CEOs of US companies.





August 1 – September 1 I Meetings in Ankara

AmCham team members attended to a series of meetings in Ankara on the occasion of the Turkey visit of U.S. Chamber delegation.

- US Chamber USTBC Digital Economy Sectoral Roundtable with Deputy Minister of Transport & Infrastructure Ömer Fatih Sayan
- US Chamber USTBC Energy Policy Workshop with Deputy Minister of Energy Alparslan Bayraktar

The visit continued with meetings with representatives from several ministries:

- Meeting with Presidency of Strategy & Budget VP Kutluhan Taşkın
- Meeting with Minister of Health General Directorate of Health Services-Dr. Ertugrul Egin
- Meeting with Ministry of Treasury & Finance, Financial Markets and Exchange General Manager Onur Gök

BRIEFING WEBINARS

September 6 - Briefing Webinar : Export Control Sanctions on Russia

AmCham Turkey has organized an online briefing session in cooperation with the **U.S. Foreign Commercial Service** and **BIS (Bureau of Industry and Security), U.S. Department of Commerce** on export control sanctions on Russia, as part of its commitment to further develop business and investment Environment. The webinar hosted Thea Rozman Kendler, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration and Matthew S. Borman, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Administration.

September 9 – FDA Briefing Seminar: Pharma, Medical Device, Cosmetics with IKMIB

AmCham Turkiye, in cooperation with **IKMIB (Istanbul Chemicals and Chemical Products Exporters' Association)** organized a Briefing Seminar on **FDA (U.S. Food and Drug Administration)** approval and certification. The seminar hosted Tania A. Martinez from USA-based Demos Global Group Inc. and cover topics including FDA processes required for exports to the USA in the cosmetics, pharmaceutical and medical device sectors.

The seminar was held in two separate sessions for the cosmetics and pharma-medical device sectors. AmCham Board Member and UPS General Manager Engin KOLAT made the opening speech of the seminar.



September 28 I Managing Technology Seminar by U.S. Embassy

AmCham members attended to a briefing seminar on managing technology, organized by the EXBS (Export Control and Border Security) of the U.S. Embassy. The full-day seminar covered topics including international export control regimes, risk analysis, deterring malicious attempts to gain technology, and a deep dive into intangible technology/tech transfer in biomedical and telecommunications.

REGIONAL AMCHAM NETWORK

September 5 – 8 I AmChams Central Asia Visit to Turkey

AmChams in Central Asia travelled to Istanbul in September to attend CLDP-US-Central Asia Regional Digital Trade & Women Economic Empowerment Working Group Meetings.

As part of the visit, the delegation has attended to the following events organized by AmCham Turkey:

- MEXT presentation and Digital Factory Tour for Central Asian AmChams
- Reception at U.S. Consul General's Residence
- Site Visit to 3M HQ



October 5-8 – AmChams in Europe Best Practices Conference, Sofia

AmChams in Europe (ACE), a network of 46 AmChams from 44 countries, gathered in Sofia, Bulgaria, at the AmChams in Europe Best Practice Conference, which AmCham Bulgaria Team hosted from October 5-8, 2022. The conference welcomed over 40 representatives from 27 American Chambers in Europe and Eurasia.

At the conference, AmChams discussed their development and perspectives, as well as further integration of the network. Throughout the conference, AmChams shared their good practices, looked at the ACE Benchmark Survey that provided the results of the comparative analysis between AmChams, and enjoyed plenty of social events and opportunities to get to know the Bulgarian business community. They also visited Sofia University and attended the special presentation of INSAIT Institute (Institute for Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Technology).



GLOBAL TURKS par EXCELLENCE

Launched in March 2021, Global Turks par Excellence Project aims to reach out to the top Turkish professionals around the globe. Global Turks par Excellence project will start with a **Research Study** to capture individuals with international success, incorporating diverse sectors, expertise areas and key functions, while the survey will be capturing the underlying success elements and prevailing competencies.

The Project led by **Ayşegül Dicle Aydın, HST Consultancy** and coordinated by **AmCham Turkey**, in cooperation with **YASED**, organizes Steering Committee Meetings with Sponsors including:

Main Sponsors: Procter & Gamble, Microsoft, FacebookProject Sponsors: Citi, Coca-Cola, Mastercard, Socar, Unilever, VisaBrand Sponsors: Carqill, General Electric, Gilead, Johnson Controls, Medtronic, Nielsen IQ

October 4 I Global Turks Webinar-5

Global Turks Webinar-5 was organized with **Harvard Business Review Türkiye**, hosting the project's partner institutions, as well as leading Global Turks as the role models for next generations.

The 5th webinar that hosted Burak DAĞLIOĞLU, President of the Presidency Investment Office, the panelists focused on **investment space across the world**.

Speakers:

- Burak DAĞLIOĞLU, President, Investment Office of the Presidency of the Republic of Turkey
- Ayşegül DİCLE AYDIN, Global Turks par Excellence Ltd., Chair and Managing Partner
- Serdar TURAN, HBR Türkiye, Editor in Chief
- Haluk YALÇIN, AmCham Turkey Deputy Chair



Panelists

- Turhan TURHANGIL, Schneider Electric SVP Strategy, Marketing, Business Development ZURICH
- Gamze YÜCELAND, Takeda, SVP, US Business Unit BOSTON
- Emre KARTER, Citibank, General Manager ISTANBUL

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COMMITTEES & ADVOCACY

PUBLIC & GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

July 19 I AmCham PGAC Committee - Public Policy & Engagement Sub-Group Meeting

Sept 16 I AmCham PGAC Committee - Public Policy & Engagement Sub-Group Meeting

Sept 20 I Amcham PGAC Committee - Presentation by Adnan Akgün, BTS on new e-trade Regulations

Topics discussed at the PGAC Committee Meeting took place on September 20th:

- There are 3 sub-groups of the committee: Door knock, public policy and engagement working group led by Moroğlu Arseven and regional cooperation subgroup led by P&G.
- Updates on Door-knock visits in June 21-23, 2022, was given by the Chair of the committee.
- Updates about the ongoing events in Chicago and NY in the framework of UN Summit was given.
- Updates about the next I AmChamPion Awards highlighting a full day event with Working breakfast, panels and a Gala dinner was shared by AmCham team.
- Information about the activities of the 2 Working Subgroups were given and members are invited to join these groups by the Chair of the Committee.
- Information about increasing relations with Central Asia AmChams were given by AmCham team. The importance of the establishment of a Subgroup which will work to increase the relations with AmChams in Caucasus and Central Asia regions was shared. P&G has volunteered for leadership of this group. Other members were also invited to take part in.
- The Chair of the committee has given information about US Chamber's Ankara visit and AmCham meetings with them and other visits to Ankara by other Committees, such as by Health Committee and Tax and Incentives Subgroup in the first half of September.
- AmCham has prepared some opinions with feedbacks from its members on the recent laws that might affect the US companies in Turkey. Tax and Incentives Subgroup has shared "Opinion on the obligation to make payments in Turkish Lira in sales contracts" with the related public authorities.
- The 12th Development Plan is being prepared by the Presidency of Strategy and Budget. There are some Working Groups and Special Committees that AmCham can take part in. AmCham team and Members of the Public Policy and Engagement Subgroup are going to take part in some of them.
- A letter was sent to Presidency of Strategy and Budget on October 12th and delivered the names of the AmCham Secretariat and Members Public Policy and Engagement Subgroup who have applied to participate in Working Groups.
- Information about "AmCham Turkey History Project -200 Years of Turkish-American Relations A Proposal for a New Context on Past, Current and Future Turkish-American Relations Based on Common History and Moral Value" was given by the Chair of the committee.
- BTS made a presentation on the newly legalized E-Commerce law, its possible effects, in comparison with similar legal regulations in the EU (Digital Market Act) and the USA.

Public Policy & Engagement Sub-Group

On July 19th, the Public Policy and Engagement Sub-Group had a meeting and took the following decisions:

- It was decided that BTS Legal will hold an online information meeting in autumn open to all members in order to provide information on the newly legalized E-Commerce law, its possible effects, in comparison with similar legal regulations in the EU (Digital Market Act) and the U.S. It was suggested to invite the members' e-commerce teams, digital marketing, and digital sales teams to this meeting.
- It was agreed that it would be more beneficial to hold an information meeting like this before reflecting the opinions of our members to the government authorities on the e-commerce law and to convey constructive criticisms after this meeting.
- After the talks hosted by the Ministry of Treasury last year, it was decided to form an opinion on the previc Round Table Meeting notes by DowAksa and Borusan.

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Public Policy & Engagement Sub-Group (cont'd)

- A series of webinars on the latest developments in Sustainability and Green Deal, new legal regulations in the EU and TR and their possible effects, for the members of the Sustainability and Food and Agriculture Committee is planned.
- AmCham Sustainability Webinar-1: "EU Green Deal and Turkey's Compliance Roadmap: Critical Topics for Companies" took place on October 20th. Borusan moderated the webinar, where Bahar GÜÇLÜ, Deputy Director General for International Agreements and EU, Ministry of Trade spoke on the following topics:
 - Policy and legislative changes envisaged in Turkey within the framework of the EU Green Deal
 - The working groups created or initiated by the Ministry of Trade and their actions plans
 - o Planned activities by other relevant ministries
 - $_{\odot}$ $\,$ Calendar Forecasts for Prospective Regulations within the EU and Turkey

HEALTHCARE AND LIFE SCIENCES COMMITTEE

Sept 1 I Visit to Ministry of Health and Presidency of Strategy and Budget on "Future of Healthcare Project"

Sept 14 I Visit to TITCK on "Future of Healthcare Project"

- AmCham Team started the preparations for the new "Future of Healthcare Project".
- The proposals from potential partner company are gathered.
- A team is established to analyze the proposals in October.
- Another meeting will be organized in November to inform members on recent updates about the Project and sponsorship opportunities.
- The public stakeholders that were visited expressed their readiness to support the project.
- Several members of the Committee will make additional visits to Ministry of Health in November.

FOOD & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

Aug 11 I AmCham Food & Agriculture Committee Working Meeting

Aug 25 I AmCham Food & Agriculture Committee - Livestock Sub-group Meeting

Oct 14 I AmCham Food & Agriculture Committee Meeting @PepsiCo HQ

Topics discussed at the Food & Agriculture Committee Meeting took place on October 14th:

- An update by the leader of the Livestock Subgroup is given.
- An interactive discussion about the possible effects of Climate Council Decision published in June 2022 is moderated by PepsiCo.
- Presentation on İzmir Agricultural Technology Center by Dr. Erçin Güdücü, Izmir Commodity Exchange Secretary General.
- Information was given about Agriculture Innovation Mission for Climate (Aim for Climate) or other Programs by the US Authorities by Michael Francom, Agricultural Counselor at the US Embassy.





DIGITAL ECONOMY COMMITTEE

Oct 18 I AmCham Turkey Digital Economy Committee Meeting

- The Committee hosted Kathleen Aldrich, International Trade Administration's Industry and Analysis Office in US Department of Commerce on September 9th. As one of the key people in organizing Digital Dialogue program, especially very active in data flow and privacy related sessions in different countries, she heard member companies' opinion on subject matter and gave recommendations to the sector to follow up.
- The last Committee meeting took place on October 18th featuring Prof. Leyla Keser, Dean of the Faculty of Law, Istanbul Bilgi University thanks to our member, BTS Partners giving update on the expected amendments in the Personal Data Protection Law in the process of its harmonization with the GDPR and the potential impacts of amendments on companies.

Personal Data Protection and AmCham Cloud Services Survey Results in partnership with TÜSİAD-TÜBİSAD-TOBB-YASED

- The survey and interview results that was collected from members of TÜSİAD, TÜBİSAD, TOBB and YASED have been analyzed.
- The results were shared by the Chair of the Committee with Investment Office President Burak Dağlıoğlu on September 1, 2022.
- A meeting with Vice President Oktay with the attendance of other related public stakeholders is suggested by the Investment Office, followed by AmCham team.

AmCham's Cross-Border Start-up & SME Expansion Program

• It has been announced to interested members that the 3rd Cohort applications of the GrowthX Accelerator program, developed in cooperation with Microsoft for Startups and Abu Dhabi Investment Office (ADIO), are open.

E-commerce Mentorship Program in partnership with TOBB & UPS

- The program kicked off on May 18.
- 110 Mentee applications was collected by TOBB. UPS have screened these applications according to the criteria that was agreed upon and established a short list of 20 mentees. 21 AmCham member volunteered as mentors. The coaching partner was EMCC.
- An informative webinar about TOBB Chicago Türkiye Trade Center was held on July 6th as well as a webinar about recent e-commerce incentives was presented by Ministry of Trade on October 18th for the mentorship program participants.

Opinions on different laws that can affect our members

• The member views, regarding the Press Law and Law on Regulation of Electronic Commerce are collected.

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

July 21 I AmCham Investment Environment Committee - Tax & Incentives Sub-Group Meeting

Sept 22 I AmCham Investment Environment Committee -Tax and Incentives Sub-Group Meeting

Sept 26 I AmCham Investment Environment Committee - Regional Hub Group Leaders Meeting

Oct 13 I AmCham Investment Environment Committee - Regional Hub Leaders Meeting

Under this committee, **3 sub-groups** were established: Regional hub, tax and incentives, global value chains.

Regional Hub Sub-Group

Regional Hub-Subgroup Leaders met on September 26, to discuss roadmap under the below given leaderships of

- 1. Production Center Leadership / Ford Otosan
- 2. Financial Center Leadership / Citibank
- 3. Service Center Leadership / PMI
- 4. Management Center Leadership /NielsenIQ
- 5. Logistic Center Leadership / UPS

The leaders have decided to

- examine the Finance Center and Management Center leadership under a common heading
- prepare the project charter for being an investment and management center
- contact their designated stakeholders (4-5 companies or NGOs) and develop joint solutions and improvement suggestions with their support
- receive information from the AmCham Tax and Incentives Sub-group on incentive and tax issues related to Regional Hub issues with a set of questions
- combine all the outputs of the project and making a report until February 2023
- share this report with all AmCham members at a meeting, and telling the regional hub stories of various members, especially the Regional Hub executive committee members', conveying the recommendations
- a short survey can be made using the questions in the previous survey conducted by Nielsen IQ
- hold a meeting with the Investment Office during the process and sharing information

Tax and Incentives Sub-Group

On July 21, the members met and adopted below given decisions:

- To follow up the results of last year' meetings with Ministry of Treasury.
- An opinion on the obligation to make payments in Turkish Lira in sales contracts (amendment made in the Communiqué No. 2008-32/34) was formed with the assistance of PWC, after AmCham has collected the views from its members. It was decided to submit these views to Ministry of Treasury.
- An opinion will be submitted to Ministry of Treasury on Communique no:538 upon the request by Esin Avukatlık. → On July 26th, a letter is sent to Ministry of Treasury on Communique no:538.
- Another issue which was discussed was the decreasing of Dividend Withholding Tax Rate between US and Türkiye from 15 % to 5%.

On September 1st, a group of representatives from our members visited Ministry of Treasury & Finance, Financial Markets and Exchange General Manager Onur Gök and hand delivered the letter concerning on the obligation to make payments in Turkish Lira in sales contracts (amendment made in the Communiqué No. 2008-32/34)

On September 22, the members have met and adopted below given decisions:

- It was stated that there may be a tax amnesty before the upcoming elections and should be followed.
- PWC gave information about government incentives for export. It was decided that another session to all members about this issue in an online meeting will be planned.
- It was stated that there are preparations for group of laws (Torba Kanunu) by the Revenue Administration. On this subject, PWC will prepare a report and suggestions. These suggestions will be distributed to the members and opinions will be collected.
- PMI to deliver a draft program for a meeting to discuss illicit trade.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

July 7 I AmCham D&I Committee Meeting

Aug 18 I AmCham D&I Committee – Disability Sub-Group Meeting

Sept 23 I AmCham D&I Committee- Disability Sub-Group Volunteers Meeting

Sept 29 I AmCham D&I Committee - Global Women Network: Educating Man Webinar by P&G

Oct 4 I AmCham D&I Committee- Disability Sub-Group Leaders Meeting

Sept 29 & Oct 7 I AmCham D&I Committee - Disability Sub-Group Meeting with Microsoft on "Accessibility Summit"

- On July 7th, D&I Committee had a meeting and discussed future projects.
- On August 18th, Disability Sub-Group had a meeting and discussed the results of the Checklist which was sent to members.
- On Sept 29th, the Women Sub-Group have organized an online "Equality & Inclusion Dialogue" session thanks to P&G. The E&I Dialogues is an experiential session designed to engage the hearts and minds of everybody, as full partners in achieving equality into your Company and in Society at large. It is a very different kind of learning experience. It's not a 'training' where you will walk out with a toolkit or specific action plan. It is not a lecture on what is right or wrong. It is an experience, designed to help you step back and think, challenge yourself, your understanding and your beliefs on equality and help you reflect on the role you can actively play to change both the conversation and the game.
- Disability Sub-Group will be organizing a "Accessibility Event" with Microsoft on Dec.8 in Microsoft premises. They are planning to invite AmCham Member companies' C level executives.
- D&I Committee is planning an extensive half day event with the participation of various important figures who will evaluate Women in business leadership in January 2023.

CIRCLES

July 28 I Coca-Cola Global HR Team Meeting with AmCham HR Circle Members

July 29 I AmCham FMCG Circle Meeting

FMCG Circle

FMCG Circle members had their third meeting this year on July 29, online.

- Esin Attorney has provided information about competition law watch out in HR.
- Korn Ferry made a presentation about the HR issues, how to keep talent in FMSG sector.

HR Circle

Coca-Cola Türkiye hosted global culture & employee experience team from Atlanta as well as global HR representatives in Istanbul (July 25-30). The discussion was more about the culture of different companies operating in Türkiye. AmCham Türkiye organized a meeting in order to bring these Coca-Cola HR Representatives with AmCham HR Circle members to share & learn from each other at office premises of Coca-Cola on July 28th. The objective was to listen to different culture implementations, employee experience practices and flex/hybrid work