

The Enlargement of the European Union: The United Kingdom and Turkey 1973 to the present

Student Research Report

A newly elected prime minister of a member country of the EU is scheduled in the near future to attend a meeting of the European Council that will discuss Turkey's progress in meeting the criteria to join the European Union. You may decide which country your prime minister is from and you should be aware that your choice of country will determine the viewpoint you take.

The new prime minister has indicated that they currently have little knowledge or understanding of the issues and concerns about Turkey's application for membership of the EU.

As a chief historical advisor to the prime minister, you have been asked to research and present a report that will bring them up to speed with the complex issues around Turkey's EU application. Your report will also inform the prime minister as to whether Turkey is ready yet to join the EU or not.

The report needs to:

- provide a concise historical background
- be informative
- be clear and concise.

The prime minister has specifically requested that the report addresses the following:

- What political, economic, and social criteria must be met for a country to be admitted to the EU?
- Identify three specific aspects that you believe will affect Turkey's possible accession to the EU.
- Background the history of these aspects and discuss how they have affected Turkey's relationship with other EU members.
- What are the views of public opinion in the prime minister's country on Turkey's possible accession to the EU.
- Weigh the issues you have identified against the aims and intentions of the EU and views expressed by the government of your country. On the basis of your research, explain the position your government should take concerning Turkey's accession.

Things to consider when writing the report

Historical ideas:

- Your report must clearly communicate key *historical ideas*. Historical ideas are generalisations or concepts about history. Narrative by itself is insufficient (ie, telling what happened in an historical event is not by itself communicating historical ideas.) Historical ideas need to be supported by evidence. This example may be helpful:

Historical Idea: Turkey has always been a crossroads between Europe and Asia. It has always played a role in Europe.

Historical Evidence: An example of this European influence can be seen by the Ottoman Empire's involvement in the Balkans for a number of centuries.

Format and style:

- To complete this task you will need to write a report using report writing style and conventions. A useful website that gives guidelines on structuring a report is <http://www.teachingonline.org/reports.html>

Use appropriate historical conventions:

- Given the range of material used for referencing your report must provide accurate and extensive footnotes and references. Your teacher will give you information about the appropriate format.
- You must **consistently** and **accurately** use appropriate names, dates, places, numbers, and terms.