



TÜRK ATLANTİK KONSEYİ

Turkish Atlantic Council (ATA Türkiye)

Gaziosmanpaşa Mahallesi, Kuleli Sokak, Nu:81/11, Ankara/Istanbul

www.tak.org.tr / secretariat@tak.org.tr

TURKISH ATLANTIC COUNCIL (ATA TÜRKİYE)

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HARICIYE CENTER FOR FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY STUDIES

NATO SUMMIT DIALOGUES

ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATO ANKARA SUMMIT

International Event Series

Ankara, Türkiye

6-8 July 2026

EVENT PROGRAMME

Day 1 — 6 July 2026: Opening Reception and Discussion

19:00	Opening Reception <i>Official opening reception held on the occasion of the NATO Ankara Summit.</i> Master of Ceremony: İdil Öztürk Participants: Upon Separate Invitation
20:30	Keynote Discussion Sessions <i>Political Discussions under moderation of Att. Emir Abbas Gurbuz</i>

Day 2 — 7 July 2026: Panel Programme

09:00 – 09:20	Opening Remarks <i>Welcome and framing addresses by President of ATA, ATA Türkiye,</i> Speakers: Amb. (Ret.) Mehmet Fatih Ceylan Theodossis Georgiou Att.Emir Abbas Gurbuz
09:20 – 09:40	Doorstep Speech <i>Keynote address setting the strategic frame for the day's deliberations on the occasion of the NATO Ankara Summit.</i> Speakers: Amb. (Ret.) Tacan Ildem H.E. Burçin Gönenli
09:40 – 10:45	Panel I — Transatlantic Defense Industrial Collaboration <i>Allied defense industrial cooperation, supply chain resilience, and the equipment dimension of NATO interoperability.</i> Moderator: Taner Sağıroğlu Speakers: Levent Gülcan Prof. Dr. Ulrich Schlie Dimitar Dimitrov



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09:40 – 10:45	Round Table I — Ready for What Comes: Societal Resilience and the New Culture of Defense <i>A closed-format round table running in parallel with the afternoon panels. Discussion on societal resilience, the emerging culture of defense, and civilian preparedness capacity. Convened by the Hariciye Center for Foreign Policy and Security Studies. Convened in Chatham House Rules.</i> Moderators: Batu Coşkun Dr. Burak Sarper Bayramoğlu Speakers: Emrah Özdemir Dr. Çağlar Kurç Oktay Tanrısever Engin Avcı Benedicte Røvik
09:30 – 17:00	NATO Youth Dialogue <i>Hosted by YATA Türkiye Cooperation with John Hopkins University and International Republican Institute Turkey Branch</i> Hosted by: YATA Türkiye
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:15	Panel II — Stability on NATO's Southern Flank: Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean <i>The southern dimension of Euro-Atlantic security, from maritime security and energy in the Eastern Mediterranean to instability across North Africa and the Sahel. Discussion on NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and partnerships, hybrid and migratory pressures, and coordinated allied approaches to the Alliance's southern neighborhood.</i> Moderator: Theodosios Georgiou Speakers: Prof. Fabrizio W. Luccioli Burak Yıldırım Amb. (Ret.) Ömer Önhon
11:00 – 12:15	Round Table II — Transatlantic Security through a Gender Lens: Multi-Stakeholder Cooperation, Military Institutionalization, and Future Pathways for WPS <i>As NATO navigates a highly volatile and complex global security environment, the implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda remains a strategic necessity rather than a normative ideal. True resilience, deterrence, and sustainable peace can only be achieved by integrating comprehensive gender perspectives into both political decision-making and military command structures. While robust institutional frameworks exist at the NATO Headquarters level, the practical execution relies heavily on national defense systems, legislative infrastructure, and regional multi-stakeholder cooperation. In this context, Southeastern Europe and the Mediterranean present unique geopolitical dynamics where civilian-military synergy can pioneer new models for the WPS agenda's future.</i> Moderators: Aliko Mitsakos Dr. A. Nuriye Sitare Kurdeş Speakers: Dr. Gökçen Yılmazlı Prof. Dr. Zehra Odyakmaz Tuğba Işık Ercan Gizem Coşkunur Dr. Merve Önenli-Güven Participants: Open to Public
12:15 – 12:45	Lunch



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12:45 – 14:00	Panel III — Anchoring Europe's Defense: The European Pillar and the Future of Allied Burden-Sharing <i>As the Euro-Atlantic security environment grows more contested, the question of how Europe organizes its own defense within the Alliance has moved to the center of strategic debate. This panel examines the rebuilding of Europe's security architecture and the strengthening of the European pillar within NATO, asking how European allies can assume greater responsibility for their own defense while reinforcing, rather than fragmenting, Alliance cohesion. Bringing together policymakers, diplomats, and scholars, the session addresses the relationship between European defence initiatives and NATO's collective defence framework, the practical dimensions of capability development, and the political conditions required to translate ambition into credible deterrence and a durable European security order.</i> Moderator: Terhi Suominen Speakers: Jane Kinninmont Christian Schmidt Att.Emir Abbas Gurbuz
12:45 – 14:00	Roundtable III — From the Gulf to the Atlantic: Security Partnerships in a Multipolar Era <i>The transformation of security partnerships between the Gulf and the Atlantic in a multipolar order; regional power dynamics, alliance structures, and emerging partnership models.</i> Moderator: Dr. Gökhan Çinkara Speakers: Dr. Diren Doğan Prof. Dr. Evren Balta Batu Coşkun Participants: Open to Public
14:00 – 14:15	Coffee Break
14:15 – 15:30	Panel IV — Balkans and Euro-Atlantic Integration: Stability, Enlargement, and Strategic Competition <i>The strategic trajectory of the Balkans between Euro-Atlantic integration and renewed external competition. Discussion on NATO enlargement and stabilisation, EU accession dynamics, malign external influence, and the management of unresolved tensions across the region.</i> Moderator: Amb. (Ret.) Hakan Okcal Speakers: Dijana Gupta Prof. Edward P. Joseph Amb. (Ret.) Elena Poptodorova
14:15 – 15:30	Round Table IV — The Responsibility Gap: Autonomous Weapon Systems, Meaningful Human Control and the 2026 Threshold <i>As artificial intelligence enters targeting and decision-support on the modern battlefield, the question of who bears legal responsibility when autonomous systems cause unlawful harm becomes pressing. This closed-format round table examines the responsibility gap across the chain of accountability, from state and command responsibility to the obligations of developers and procuring states, and tests the compatibility of autonomous targeting with the principles of distinction, proportionality, and precaution. Discussion will address the concept of meaningful human control and the divergence between the prohibition track at the CCW and the responsible-use track of the Political</i>



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	<i>Declaration as states approach the Seventh Review Conference. Türkiye's distinctive position, as both an endorsing state and a producer of advanced unmanned and autonomous systems, serves as a focal point. Convened by Legart Law&Consultancy.</i> Moderators: Dr. Mehmet Cengiz Uzun Att. Emir Abbas Gürbüz Speakers: Dr. Berkant Akkuş Dr. Mert Nomer Dr. Ayşenur Zeynep Özmen Participants: Open to Public
15:30-15:35	Youth Engagement Speaker: Francisco Nobre
15:35 – 15:45	Keynote Speech Speaker: H.E. Radmila Shekerinska
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:15	Panel V — Ukraine's Integration into the European Security Architecture: From Partner to Security Provider <i>Lessons learned from the war, military interoperability, defense industrial cooperation, deterrence on NATO's Eastern Flank, and the strategic implications of Ukraine's integration into Euro-Atlantic security structures. Convened in partnership with the National Defense Foundation (Lithuania) and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (Germany)</i> Moderator: Juxhina Sotiri Gjoni Speakers: Amb. (Ret.) Mehmet Fatih Ceylan Mr. Nico Lange Oleg Dunda Daryna Patiuk
16:00 – 17:15	Round Table V — Countering Disinformation and Foreign Information Manipulation <i>A closed-format round table on countering disinformation and foreign information manipulation across the Euro-Atlantic space. Discussion on hybrid threats to the information environment, societal resilience, and coordinated allied responses to hostile narratives.</i> Moderators: Dr. Özgür Özer Att.Emir Abbas Gurbuz Speakers: Hüseyin Dönmez Elena Marzac Gizem Coşkunur Participants: By invitation
17:15 – 17:30	Coffee Break
17:30 – 18:15	Panel VI — From Istanbul to Ankara: Rethinking NATO's Partnership Architecture from the Alliance's Asymmetric Frontier <i>As NATO convenes in Ankara for its 2026 Summit, its partnerships face a defining test: what do they deliver, and for whom? Two decades after the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative, a persistent gap separates the Alliance's expectations from the realities its partners navigate. From the Gulf to the Mediterranean, partners engage selectively,</i>



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	<i>pursue parallel arrangements, and resist conditionality, while NATO struggles to make partnership binding without becoming a deterrent. The Panel is in cooperation with National Intelligence Academy & Beykoz University & CeSPI & CASSIS</i> Moderator: Dr. A. Nuriye Sitare Kurdeş Speakers: Prof. Aylin Ünver-Noi Valeria Giannotta Gina Bou Serhal Dr. Merve Önenli Güven
17:30 – 18:15	Round Table VI — The Türkiye–Azerbaijan Axis and Euro-Atlantic Security: Convergence, Limits, and Shared Interests <i>The Türkiye–Azerbaijan axis, deepened since the Shusha Declaration, now shapes Caspian, Black Sea, and South Caucasus security in ways that intersect with Euro-Atlantic priorities such as energy diversification, east-west connectivity, and post-normalization stability. This closed roundtable asks where the partnership advances Western goals, where it diverges, and how to engage a non-aligned Azerbaijan realistically.</i> Moderator: Amb. (Ret.) Hüseyin Diriöz Speakers: Elhan Mehdiyev Saffet Akkaya Amb. Metin Kılıç Tural Ahundov Participants: By invitation
18:15 – 18:30	Closing Statement Speakers: Att.Emir Abbas Gurbuz
19:30	Private Dinner with YATA Representatives <i>A private dinner hosted by YATA Türkiye for visiting ATA chapter representatives and invited guests.</i> Participants: By invitation
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Master of Ceremony: Funda Karayel

Day 3 — 8 July 2026: Strategic Dialogues with the Munich Security Conference

09:30 – 11:30	Breakfast Session for Youth Delegates Hosted by YATA Türkiye
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	Participants: By invitation
12:30 – 14:00	Panel — Routes to Resilience: The Middle Corridor, the Development Road, and the New Connectivity Agenda <i>The strategic dimensions of the new connectivity agenda along the Middle Corridor and the Development Road; an assessment from the perspectives of energy, logistics, and economic security. The Panel is in cooperation with Eastern Circles & APRI Armenia</i> Moderator: Mustafa Murat Orhan Speakers: Benyamin Poghosyan Bohdan Kostiuk Amb. (Ret.) Mehmet Fatih Ceylan



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