

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TURKISH-HUNGARIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

THE DEVELOPMENT OF TURKISH-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS IN THE COURSE OF HISTORY

Turkish-Hungarian relations have developed into a fruitful partnership characterized by friendship, cooperation, and mutual respect. The multi-faceted collaboration between the historical foundations and the diplomatic, economic, and cultural spheres underpins the continued strength of this important relationship and holds further opportunities for growth.

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Turkish-Hungarian relations are deep-rooted and date back several centuries, and currently, strong cooperation has developed between the two nations. Relations between the two countries are characterized by cultural exchanges, shared experiences, and historical interactions. Today, Türkiye and Hungary maintain a strong partnership in several areas. They visit each other regularly at the diplomatic level, demonstrating their commitment to maintaining bilateral relations. As far as the economy is concerned, trade and investment activities are booming, and the numerous joint ventures and cooperations are increasing mutual prosperity. Not to be forgotten are the cultural sphere, traditions, arts, and educational programs, whose lively exchanges foster deeper understanding between the two peoples. Moreover, Türkiye and Hungary frequently coordinate their positions on regional and global issues, emphasizing shared values and interests. This foreign policy convergence strengthens their diplomatic cooperation and paves the way for joint initiatives in various international forums. Overall, it can be said that Turkish-Hungarian relations have developed into a fruitful partnership characterized by friendship, cooperation, and mutual respect. The multi-faceted collaboration between the historical foundations and the diplomatic, economic, and cultural spheres underpins the continued strength of this important relationship and holds further

opportunities for growth. In the study, we present the evolution of the relationship between the two countries in different eras and also discuss the current common demands and the possible ways to develop bilateral relations.

The Beginnings: The Relationship of the Hungarians with the Turkic Peoples before the Conquest of the Carpathian Basin

Until the arrival of the ancient Hungarian people in the Carpathian Basin and the conquest (895-896), it was in constant contact with various Turkic peoples, and according to some theories it is also possible that it was formed from the union of Finno-Ugric and Oghur Turkic elements.¹ It is certain that the Turks exerted a linguistic and cultural influence on the Hungarians. This relationship brought linguistic, cultural, and population changes and still affects Hungarian identity today. The origins of the Hungarians and the exact details of their arrival in the Carpathian Basin remain controversial, but based on research and historical sources, it is clear that the Hungarian people were in contact with various Turkic peoples in the eastern region centuries before the Hungarian conquest (of the Carpathian Basin).² These relations provided the opportunity to exchange goods and information and to share various cultural elements. It is



important to know that, in general, trade routes and nomadic way of life contributed to the development and maintenance of relations between different peoples.

As mentioned above, the relationship with the Turkic peoples had a significant impact on the language of the Hungarians.³ The Turkic languages are similar to Hungarian in many respects, and many common linguistic features can be identified. Thus, it can be said that the latter language was enriched with Turkic elements during the contact with Turkic peoples, on the one hand with the vocabulary and on the other hand with grammatical peculiarities. It can be observed that the adopted words and linguistic features can be found in the Hungarian language until today, which indicates the long-term effects of the contact with the Turkic peoples.⁴ Cultural contact was also significant. The culture, art, and religion of the Turkic peoples influenced early Hungarians. For example, the traditional nomadic lifestyle and equestrian culture of the Turkic peoples had an inspiring effect on the Hungarians, who also maintained a nomadic lifestyle and fought on horseback for centuries.⁵

The population has undergone demographic changes over time. Interactions with Turkic peoples had an impact on the structure and cultural identity of the population. One of the most important of these changes was the transformation of the tribal organization of the Hungarians. Relations with Turkic peoples strengthened the tribal identity and unity. Following the model of the Turkic tribal organization, the Hungarians organized

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themselves into various tribes, which formed the Hungarian tribal federation through alliances among themselves.⁶ Moreover, the relations also opened economic and trade opportunities for the Hungarians, as they gave them access to eastern goods and various trade routes, thanks to which the Hungarians could participate in the trade and economic development of the region. It is important to mention that the religion of the Turkic tribes also influenced the Hungarian people. The polytheistic religion of Tengrism, in which the forces of nature, ancestors, and spirits were worshipped, influenced the religious beliefs and customs of the Hungarians. The traditional religion of the Hungarian people has many similarities with the religious practices of the Turkic tribes.⁷

The Ottoman-Turkish Conquests

The Ottoman Empire conquered and ruled the southern and central parts of what had been the Kingdom of Hungary from 1541 to 1699. The Ottoman rule covered almost the entire region of the Great Hungarian Plain and Southern Transdanubia. The north-western rim of the Hungarian Kingdom remained unconquered and recognized members of the House of Habsburg as Kings of Hungary, giving it the name “Royal Hungary.”⁸ However, the period of Ottoman Turkish conquests had many negative consequences. The Hungarian territories subjugated by the Turks suffered heavy human and material losses. The Turkish troops launched campaigns, carried out repeated attacks, and destroyed numerous settlements. This ongoing conflict caused severe economic and infrastructural damage in the region.⁹ The country was in a constant state of war and the population suffered the consequences of the conflicts and Turkish oppression. The division of the Kingdom of Hungary into several parts had a long-term effect on the unity and identity of the Hungarian nation. In the areas ruled by the Turks, the population was forced to adapt to Turkish rule, and the practice of the Christian religion was also subject to

restrictions. It can be concluded that the period of Ottoman-Turkish conquests was a great challenge for the Hungarian people. However, it should be noted that the areas under Turkish rule came into contact with Turkish culture and way of life. The Turkish influence had a significant impact on the Hungarian culture, and despite the negative experiences, it was enriched with Turkish elements. This cultural interaction was especially felt in the fields of art, language, music, architecture, religion, and gastronomy.

During the Turkish occupation, some Hungarians converted to Islam, mainly because of taxes and privileges. The Turks, on the other hand, generally did not impose their religion on others and were mostly tolerant towards Christians and Jews.¹⁰ This is also proven by the fact that there was no mass conversion among Hungarians. Moreover, many mosques were built on the territory of the Kingdom of Hungary during Turkish rule, some of which can still be seen today. As for linguistic influences, the Hungarian language adopted many Turkish words during the Turkish subjugation, especially in the fields of trade, warfare, architecture, and food. Examples of such words are “ostor” (whip), “bicska” (knife), “csizma” (boot), “mecset” (mosque), “kávé” (coffee), “dandár” (brigade), “papucs” (slipper), “korbács” (whip), “sátor” (tent), etc. The Turkish language has also adopted some Hungarian words, such as “çardaş” (small bar), “çigan” (gypsy), “gulaş” (goulache soup), “koçu” (carriage), “soba” (room), etc.¹¹ However, not only the language, but also Turkish music had an influence on the development of Hungarian folk music.¹² Ottoman musical styles and orchestration techniques were integrated into the Hungarian folk music tradition, and many Turkish-influenced melodies and rhythms have survived in Hungarian folk music. Significant Turkish influences can also be seen in the field of architecture, consider the Buda Castle or the Turkish baths. In addition, Turkish influences can also be felt in gastronomy. The flavors and preparation methods of Turkish cuisine have been incorporated into Hungarian gastronomy; just a few Turkish-influenced dishes such as “töltött káposzta” (cabbage roll) or “lángos” (fried flatbread) may be mentioned as examples.¹³

Thus, the period of Ottoman-Turkish conquests was full of contradictions in Hungarian history. Although the Kingdom of Hungary suffered heavy losses, at the same time the culture was enriched by Turkish elements. It is enough to mention the Hungarian clothing and fashion of that period. Turkish designs and patterns influenced the design and decoration of Hungarian clothing. Turkish influences could also be seen in the clothing of nobles and peasants, in which oriental motifs and colors appeared. Coexistence was also noticeable in the field of literature. During the Ottoman Turkish conquests, many Hungarian poets and writers translated Turkish works or were inspired by Turkish literary traditions.¹⁴ Ottoman

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Turkish literary traditions influenced Hungarian poetry and prose and enriched the works that were included in the Hungarian literary canon.

The 19th-20th Century Events

In the 19th century, both the Turks and the Hungarians were affected by the rising nationalism and the desire for independence from foreign powers. The Turks wanted to reform and modernize the declining Ottoman Empire, which was under pressure from European powers. The Hungarians wanted to gain autonomy or independence from the Habsburg Empire, which ruled most of Hungary after the Ottomans withdrew. In the 19th century, European powers vied for influence and territory in the Balkans, where the Ottoman Empire was losing ground. The European powers frequently interfered in the internal affairs of the Ottoman Empire. The Hungarians also faced interference from the Habsburg Empire, which tried to suppress their autonomy and culture. Both the Hungarians and the Turks found themselves in a similar situation during this period.

In 1914, the First World War broke out, in which the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire) and the Entente Powers (British Empire, France, Russian Empire, Kingdom of Italy and later the United States) faced each other. The Turks and the Hungarians were on the same side in this war, fighting their common enemies. The war had devastating consequences for both nations as many people lost their lives and significant territories fell. The war led to the collapse of the Ottoman Empire.

Turkish-Hungarian political, economic, and cultural relations gained momentum especially in the second half of the 19th century and reached a new level at the beginning of the 20th century.¹⁵ Particularly noteworthy is the Hungarian Institute for Science in Constantinople, which was founded in 1916 by the Ministry of Religion and National Education of the Kingdom of Hungary under the patronage of Archduke Ferenc József to promote relations between Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire and between Hungarians and Turks.¹⁶ The Institute was of great importance to both Hungary and Türkiye and served as a center for Hungarian

scholars, intellectuals and researchers who wished to promote scientific and cultural exchange between the two nations. Its establishment was a mutual recognition of common interests and the importance of intellectual cooperation in times of conflict. It played a crucial role in promoting scientific research and cooperation between Hungary and Türkiye. It provided a space for Hungarian scholars to study Turkish culture, history, and language while facilitating Turkish scholars' access to Hungarian scientific achievements and knowledge. The goal of the Institute was to deepen mutual understanding and strengthen relations between the two nations through these exchanges.

The establishment of the Hungarian Institute for Science in Constantinople is a good example of the determination of Hungary and Türkiye to build strong ties even in times of political tension. It underscores the importance of intellectual exchange and cultural diplomacy as a means of promoting understanding and strengthening international relations. The Institute's legacy works not only in the academic and cultural spheres but also in the broader context of Turkish-Hungarian relations. The Institute's legacy is a reminder that intellectual and cultural diplomacy can build bridges and promote understanding, even in times of political turmoil.

The Period of the 20th Century Peace Treaties

After the end of World War I, both Hungary and Türkiye were dissatisfied with the postwar peace treaties. The Treaty of Trianon was a peace treaty between Hungary, which had lost World War I (as one of the successor states to the Austro-Hungarian Empire), and the victorious Entente powers that, among other things, established Hungary's new borders as a result of the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and created many small multinational states in place of the monarchy.¹⁷ The primary goal of the Allied victorious powers in World War I was to fundamentally weaken Germany and the countries allied with it. They also wanted to demand substantial war reparations and break the unity of multinational great powers such as Austria-Hungary or the Ottoman Empire. The decision-makers could not ignore the hostile attitude toward Hungarians that prevailed throughout Europe. What the Treaty of Trianon was for Hungary, the Treaty of Sèvres was for Türkiye, which dismembered the Ottoman Empire. On 10 August 1920, the envoys of Sultan Mehmed Vahideddin and the Allied powers signed the Peace Treaty of Sèvres, which deprived the Ottoman Empire of about 3/4 of its territories (this was even more serious than the peace with the Hungarians). The peace decree was rejected by the Turkish National Assembly led by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, which had been formed independently

of the Sultan's government (as early as 23 April 1920), and between 1920 and 1923 Türkiye waged a war to revise the decree, which was ratified by the Peace of Lausanne on 24 July 1923. During the war, on 1 November 1922, the previous form of government of the Ottoman Empire, the Sultanate, was abolished and the Republic of Türkiye was established on 29 October 1923.¹⁸

These peace treaties, signed after World War I, resulted in territorial losses, population shifts, and significant changes in the political and social situation in both countries. Although the specific details and circumstances of each treaty were different, they had in common that they caused significant disruption and difficulties for the Hungarian and Turkish populations. Both treaties not only changed the territorial boundaries of Hungary and Türkiye but also had significant demographic implications. Most Hungarians and Turks found themselves outside their own country, which significantly isolated the former citizens of the empires who were stuck abroad. The treaties also affected cultural and linguistic heritage. Although the specific effects and context of the Treaty of Trianon and the Treaty of Sèvres were different, Hungary and Türkiye suffered a similar fate in terms of the major changes brought about by the peace treaties. These had a lasting impact on the national consciousness and historical image of both countries and shaped their path and identity in the following decades.

From the Second Half of the 20th Century to the Beginning of the 21st Century

After World War II, Turkish-Hungarian relations cooled somewhat, largely due to the effects of the Cold War. Since the 1980s, however, relations between the two countries have improved significantly. The regime change in Hungary played a crucial role in reshaping the dynamics between the two nations and led to increased support for Türkiye's European integration efforts. Both Hungary (since 1999) and Türkiye (since 1952) are members of NATO, further strengthening their partnership.

In the 21st century, Hungary and Türkiye have become strategic partners, cooperating closely in various fields. At the political level, the two countries have forged close ties and promoted diplomatic dialog and cooperation on regional and international issues. Hungary has always supported Türkiye's integration into European structures and advocated its accession to the European Union.¹⁹ This shared vision of European integration created common ground and strengthened bilateral cooperation between the two countries. On the economic level, trade relations between Hungary and Türkiye developed significantly. Both countries recognized the potential for mutually beneficial economic



cooperation and actively worked to expand trade and investment opportunities. Trade agreements and joint ventures have facilitated the exchange of goods and services, strengthened economic ties, and promoted prosperity in both countries. Military cooperation between Hungary and Türkiye has also increased.²⁰ As NATO allies, the two countries work closely together on defense and security issues. Joint military exercises, training programs, and information sharing have enhanced the military capabilities and interoperability of the two countries' armed forces. This cooperation serves to strengthen regional security and contributes to the collective defense efforts of NATO.

In the 21st century, cultural relations between Hungary and Türkiye have also deepened. Cultural festivals, exhibitions, and art projects presented the rich traditions and artistic expressions of both countries. These cultural interactions not only brought people closer together but also enabled a broader exchange of ideas and perspectives and fostered mutual understanding and respect.²¹

In addition, Hungary and Türkiye have sought closer cooperation in recent years in areas such as energy,

tourism, and education. Collaboration in the energy sector includes joint projects and investments in natural gas, renewable energy, and infrastructure development. In the tourism sector, bilateral visits have increased, with both countries using their historical and cultural heritage to attract tourists. In addition, cooperation in education has expanded, facilitating student exchanges, academic partnerships, and research collaborations.²² Moreover, the two countries have demonstrated their commitment to regional stability, cooperation in the fight against terrorism, and addressing global challenges. It fosters their joint positions on global issues in international organizations and platforms.²³

In light of all this, it can be stated that Turkish-Hungarian relations in the 21st century have evolved into a strategic partnership characterized by close political, economic, military, and cultural cooperation. The improvement in relations is due to Hungary's support for Türkiye's European integration efforts and a shared vision of regional stability. The two nations view each other as valuable partners, working together to advance their mutual interests and contribute to peace and prosperity in their respective regions and beyond.

It is an important development that Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Affairs, traveled to the Turkish capital on April 19, 2022, to visit the future three-thousand-square-meter construction site of a new embassy in the spirit of strengthening relations with Türkiye.

Turkish-Hungarian Relations Today

As mentioned above, Turkish-Hungarian relations have recently developed dynamically, both economically and strategically. The two countries have significantly expanded their mutual trade, and Hungary has repeatedly stated that Türkiye is a partner of utmost importance for the country.²⁴ This is reflected in the investments and cooperation we have witnessed recently, but it is also a non-negligible fact that visits at the level of heads of state and ministers are becoming more frequent, where extremely important decisions and agreements are made. If we look only at the economy, we can see that Türkiye is one of the fastest-growing countries in the world and has a good chance to become one of the largest market economies within a few years.²⁵ Türkiye is also an indispensable factor for energy security and the fight against illegal immigration²⁶, so cooperation with the Turks can be of great benefit to Hungary.²⁷

The Hungarian-Turkish economic relations began to develop extraordinarily well. Hungarian-Turkish trade turnover reached a record in 2021, and the trade turnover of \$4 billion meant an increase of 15% compared to 2020. Hungarian exports to Türkiye amounted to \$2.5 billion in 2021, which meant an increase of 21%.²⁸

As far as cultural relations between the two countries are concerned, the 100th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations in 2024 will be marked with a joint cultural year, but many other projects are also aimed at strengthening Hungarian-Turkish cultural relations.²⁹ For example, the Hungarian Cultural Institute in Istanbul has existed since 2014, while the Yunus Emre Institute in Budapest has a similar function. Both institutions are committed to presenting the culture of the other side.

It is an important development that Péter Szijjártó, Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Affairs, traveled to the Turkish capital on April 19, 2022, to visit the future three-thousand-square-meter construction site of a new embassy in the spirit of strengthening relations with Türkiye. During his stay, Péter Szijjártó also held talks

with former Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu in the Turkish capital Ankara, after which a joint press conference was held.³⁰

1. The foreign minister said that cooperation between Hungary and Türkiye has always been a priority of Hungarian foreign policy and should be further developed in the future. Szijjártó also said that, in his opinion, the big election victory of the ruling parties was a clear guarantee that Türkiye would continue to occupy an important place in Hungarian foreign policy in the future. Three extremely important points can be extracted from the Hungarian foreign minister's remarks³¹:
2. At a press conference with his former Turkish counterpart Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, he said that the economic and security challenges caused by the war in Ukraine underscore the importance of further expanding the strategic partnership. Hungary highly appreciates Türkiye's role in mediating between the parties and promoting peace negotiations. The minister warned that the Islamic State terrorist organization was planning further attacks in Europe, which is why border protection and the fight against illegal migration³² were becoming increasingly important. "We will not allow illegal migrants to come to Hungary, and Türkiye plays a key role in this," he said, calling on the EU to pay the full amount it promised Ankara for detaining illegal immigrants instead of "haggling" with Türkiye.³³
3. He also addressed the fact that Türkiye has become an important hub for natural gas transportation. He confirmed that energy deliveries to Russia to our country are proceeding according to the contractually agreed schedule and that Türkiye plays a key role in this, as ten million cubic meters of natural gas are delivered daily via the route in question.

And Çavuşoğlu spoke of the "deep friendship and strategic partnership" between Türkiye and Hungary, adding that bilateral relations are developing in all areas, and he appreciated Hungary's active support for Türkiye's EU accession process.

It is an important development that Çavuşoğlu and Szijjártó laid the foundation stone for the new Hungarian Embassy in Ankara. "The construction of the new 3,000-square-metre embassy building in Ankara begins," Péter Szijjártó announced on his Facebook page, where he also shared a photo of the construction.³⁴ He also said that the building was expected to be handed over in mid-2023. The Hungarian foreign minister also pointed out that Hungary has doubled the number of its diplomats in Türkiye since he took office and plans to increase it further.

The Hungarian foreign and trade minister also made other important announcements in Türkiye:³⁵

- “Budapest and Ankara have established an operational working group to improve trade and economic cooperation for even closer cooperation.
- The war has now made truck freight traffic even more valuable. There are 50 Turkish customs officers at the Hungarian-Romanian and Hungarian-Serbian border crossings, which are mostly used by Turkish truckers.
- East-west railroad traffic has also become partly impossible due to the war-related situation and is partly facing extraordinary challenges, so the ministers responsible for transport have established a railroad working group within the framework of Turkish-Bulgarian-Serbian-Hungarian cooperation.
- In order to encourage Turkish investment, the government will provide 14 billion forints for the investment of the Turkish company Sisecam in Kaposvár, which will create 320 new jobs in Somogy County as part of a 100 billion forint project.
- In parallel, the Hungarian company Medicor is building a medical equipment factory in Turkey with government support.
- Finally, as part of a government program, we are helping Hungarian companies enter the Turkish market in the areas of power plant construction, water management, and the printing industry, and Hungary’s Eximbank is ready to support further Hungarian-Turkish economic cooperation with a 105 million euro credit line.”

As we have seen, we can report an increasingly intensive Hungarian-Turkish cooperation, which is guaranteed to increase in the near future. The cooperation concerns areas such as trade, investment, defense policy, and energy security, but cultural ties should not be ignored either. The nearly three thousand square meter embassy building in Ankara, which would be completed by mid-2023, is also an expression of the special relationship. Clearly, the challenges will only further strengthen the established close relationship. The security issues following the Russian-Ukrainian war have shown the Hungarian and Turkish sides the importance of developing a strategic partnership, and the leaders of both countries have stated that they are interested in a peaceful resolution of the conflict. To achieve this, Türkiye is playing an active role, which is also supported by the Hungarian government.

A Possible Way to Develop Cooperation

Turkish-Hungarian cooperation has already made significant progress in many areas, but this partnership can be further developed in various directions to deepen and promote relations between the two countries. Above all, the economy holds enormous potential. Both Türkiye and Hungary have diverse and complementary economies that are conducive to both trade and investment. Exploring new sectors and identifying areas of mutual benefit can lead to an increase in bilateral trade and joint ventures. Fostering business and investment ties through trade missions, business forums, and other events can help create new opportunities for companies from both countries.

Moreover, strengthening relations in the energy sector is a promising path for the Turkish-Hungarian partnership. Projects in the energy sector, such as joint investments in renewable energy, infrastructure development, and exploration and production of natural gas, can contribute to the energy security, diversification, and sustainability of both countries. Sharing expertise, technological know-how, and best practices in the energy sector can pave the way for a more sustainable and flexible energy future. In addition, it should be emphasized that cooperation in the field of innovation and technology can be further developed. Support for research and development projects, joint innovation programs, and knowledge sharing between universities, research institutes, and the private sector can foster innovation and drive technological development in both countries. This can lead to the development of innovative products, processes, and services, promoting economic growth, and competitiveness.

In addition, cultural and educational exchange programs provide another opportunity to deepen Turkish-Hungarian relations. Expanding student exchange programs, scholarships, and college partnerships can promote mutual understanding and knowledge sharing. Scientific projects between Turkish and Hungarian universities can be supported by funding joint research projects, scientific programs, and faculty exchange programs. There is also great potential for development in the field of tourism. Mutual promotion of touristic

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activities, development of marketing campaigns, and facilitation of travel between the two countries can boost this segment and create new opportunities for the hospitality industry.

If we take a closer look at the defense and security sector, we can say that the deepening interaction between Türkiye and Hungary can contribute to regional stability and address common security challenges. Joint military exercises, intelligence sharing, counterterrorism, cybersecurity, and peacekeeping operations can improve the capabilities and efficiency of both countries' defense forces. Strengthening defense ties can also create opportunities for defense industry development, including joint research and development projects and defense equipment and technology exchanges. It should also be remembered that by taking advantage of the strategic geographic locations of both Türkiye and Hungary, the development of both countries in the field of infrastructure development and logistics is possible. Cooperation in the development of transportation networks, including railroads, highways, and maritime links, can improve connectivity, facilitate trade, and promote regional integration. Joint initiatives in logistics and supply chain management can optimize trade flows and create more efficient supply routes.

In summary, Turkish-Hungarian relations have a promising future with many more opportunities for development. Expanding economic ties, promoting joint energy projects, innovation and technology partnerships, strengthening cultural and educational exchanges, promoting tourism, strengthening defense and security

ties, and collaborating on infrastructure and logistics projects offer tremendous potential. By exploring these avenues, the two countries can develop a more comprehensive and robust partnership and promote common goals of peace, prosperity, and regional integration.

Conclusion

Turkish-Hungarian relations have a rich and varied history that has benefited both nations through the exchange of values and experiences. Fruitful cooperation in different fields between Türkiye and Hungary continue to this day and have the potential to deepen even further in the future. Throughout history, the two countries have interacted in different ways, sometimes with a positive tone, and sometimes with a negative tone. An excellent example of this is that during the Ottoman Empire's expansion into Central Europe, contact between the Ottoman Turks and the Hungarians, while often marked by conflict and fighting, was nevertheless characterized by cultural exchange, joint trade, and knowledge transfer. Recently, Türkiye and Hungary have further developed their relations in various fields. Diplomatic visits, economic cooperation, and cultural exchanges played an important role in strengthening relations between the two countries. These interactions led to closer trade relations, investments, and joint cultural events that further fostered relations between the two parties. In addition, Türkiye and Hungary have also demonstrated their mutual support on international platforms. The two countries often share common

positions on important global issues and share common values such as sovereignty, regional stability, and cooperation. This balance of interests has contributed to a sense of unity and a common purpose, bringing Türkiye and Hungary closer together. The outlook for Turkish-Hungarian relations is promising. Both nations recognize the importance of drawing on their shared values and experiences. Both sides can continue to deepen their relations by further promoting cultural understanding, strengthening economic partnerships, and fostering people-to-people exchanges. As both countries strive to deepen their relations, the future holds great opportunities for further strengthening relations between Türkiye and Hungary, which would be to the benefit of not only the two nations but also the entire international community at large.

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Endnotes

- 1 Hóman, n. d.
- 2 Csósz et al., 2016.
- 3 Péli, 2010.
- 4 Sándor, 2014.
- 5 Hóman, n. d.
- 6 Hóman, n. d.
- 7 Wikiwand, n. d.
- 8 Encyclopaedia Humana Hungarica, n. d.
- 9 Pálffy, 2001.
- 10 WritingBros, 2020.
- 11 Martincsák, 2015; Batisz, 2019.
- 12 Szak, 2016.
- 13 Pi, 2021; Ingyenc Fenevad, 2020.
- 14 Fodor, 2013: 408-409.
- 15 Çolak, 2011.
- 16 Magyar Emlékek Törökországban, n. d.
- 17 Britannica, n. d.; Flesch, 2007.
- 18 Britannica, n. d.; Flesch, 2007; N. Rózsa, 2015.
- 19 University of Cologne, n. d.
- 20 Defence.hu, 2022.
- 21 Laczkó, 2022.
- 22 About Hungary, 2023.
- 23 Defence.hu, 2022.
- 24 VG, 2023.
- 25 According to a forecast by Standard Chartered, a London-based multinational banking and financial services company, Türkiye will be the world's fifth largest economy by 2030. According to an analysis by economic consulting firm PwC, Türkiye's economy will surpass Italy's by 2030 and become one of the seven largest emerging economies. See Daily Sabah, 2019; Daily Sabah, 2022.
- 26 Kmeczkó, 2024; Tóth, 2022; Sayfo et al., 2024.
- 27 Kovács – Párducz, 2022; Pénzváltó, 2022.
- 28 Facebook, 2022a.
- 29 Aslan, 2021.
- 30 Republic of Türkiye, 2022.
- 31 About Hungary, 2022.
- 32 For Europe, typical gatekeeper states are Türkiye, Morocco, Niger, Libya, or Serbia. See: Marsai, 2023.
- 33 Türkiye is at the crossroads of Europe and Asia and has taken in the most Syrian refugees in the world. Syrian refugees make up the bulk of Türkiye's total refugee population in 2022, as more than 3.5 million of Türkiye's 4 million refugees are officially Syrians. See: Horváth & Tárík, 2022; Pénzváltó, 2022; Csicsmann, 2020.
- 34 Facebook, 2022b.
- 35 Facebook, 2022b.