



TÜRKİYE CUMHURİYETİ DIŞİŞLERİ BAKANLIĞI AVRUPA BİRLİĞİ BAŞKANLIĞI



R E P U B L I C O F T U R K E Y MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE FOR EU AFFAIRS



* Who are the national, ethnic, religious minorities? * Who are the refugees and immigrants? * Integration *Advantages and challenges of these groups living in Turkey.

How is the religion divided in Turkey?

The population of Turkey is nearly 85 million.

The 99.8 % of the population is Muslim.







Christian minorities in Turkey and their estimated population

the Armenian Patriarchate of Constantinople	65,000
Latin Catholicism	20,000
the Syriac Orthodox Church	15,000
the Greek Orthodox Church of Antioch	10,000
Chaldean Catholicism	8,000
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople	5,000
the Syriac Catholic Church the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East	2,000 1,500





Ethnics in Turkey

- There are seven main ethnics in Turkey.
- Turks (the majority)
- Kurds
- Circassians
- Armenians
- Greeks
- Arabs
- Jews

People who have their own citizenship can make a trade, buy or rent a house, buy a car and have an education easily.









If they have dual citizenship, they can choose whether they want to attend the army otherwise they can have all the rights as Turkish people in our country. If their religion is different, they don't have to attend religion classes at schools







IMMIGRANTS in TURKEY

 Straddling Europe and Asia, Turkey has historically been a country of origin, transit and destination for migrants. With its geopolitical location on the route from the Middle East to Europe and open conflicts continuing in neighbouring Iraq, Iran and Syria, Turkey hosts one of the largest migrant populations in the world.



It is like a bridge between Asia and Europe. So it is like an open-door for immigrants who want to go to Europe in legal or illegal ways. Immigration to Turkey has increased sharply in recent years due to the increasing crises in neighboring regions, such as Iran, Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan. Of course, many of these applicants chose Turkey as their destination in search of a better life with different goals, such as: studying in Turkey, <u>obtaining Turkish</u> <u>citizenship</u>, working and living and investing in Turkey, etc.







While the number of people forcibly displaced due to conflict, violence and persecution reached record levels globally; Turkey continued to be the country hosting the largest number of refugees in the world. The number of migrants and refugees residing in Turkey now stands at 3.9 million, over 90 per cent of whom are Syrian and came to Turkey as a result of ongoing conflict in Syria. 3.6 million Syrians have registered for Temporary Protection in Turkey.







The sheer number and diversity of migrants and refugees in Turkey demands effective humanitarian assistance, migrant protection and migration management strategies. In Turkey, governments, international organizations, and humanitarian organizations are working together to develop comprehensive policies and actions to sustainably manage migration and facilitate its potential positive outcomes. As the UN Migration Agency, IOM provides support and assistance to the Turkish Government for an effective, comprehensive and human-rights based migration management system.





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Integration

 Turkey's Temporary Protection Regulation grants Syrian refugees access to basic services including education and health care but generally requires them to live in the province in which they are registered. Refugees must obtain permission to travel between provinces.







Refugees can attend the courses to learn Turkish and also go on education in Turkish schools. They can work in factories, companies and other places. If they stay enough in Turkey, they can get citizenship.







The government built new living places for them so they can adopt the certain life in Turkey. They don't need to pay taxes for electricity gas or other things. In many ways they have lots of opportunies more than Turkish people.









The project is establishing an exchange on the integration of refugees between Turkey and Germany. It is part of the Support to Refugees and Host Communities (SRHC) cluster and follows a cross-sectoral approach. In addition, the project aims to strengthen exchange on the integration of refugees between government actors within Turkey. A particular emphasis is placed here on the gender-sensitive integration of refugees into the public service system. These include migration management, labour force integration, voluntary work and training for refugees. The project designs training courses in line with the individual requirements of partners in order to develop their institutional capacities and human resources.





Advantages and challenges of these groups living in Turkey

 Unfortunately, there are lots of conflicts about refugees in Turkey. Firstly, they don't have a citizenship because of it, they have some difficulties about sheltering, education and finding a job. When they started to come to Turkey, the government didn't prepare a certain report and solution for the refugees. Nowadays it is getting better and better but in some parts of country, Turkish people and refugees still have problems together.

 In cultural and social way, they don't have any knowledge the lifestyle in Turkey so it can be sometimes a problem for both side. They have the regime system in their country so the clothing style of Turkish people can be strange for them. Sometimes we watch the news about the arguments of these people on TV. The rate of crime is nearly high in parts of the country where refugees start to live. So it effected all the people and unfortunately they don't want the refugees in their living areas.





 As a country, we have a population problem in general. Especially in some cities(Istanbul,Izmir,Adana,Mersin and etc.) there are lots of people more than the capacity of the city so the problems are getting more more about living conditions, sheltering and finding suitable job after the refugees start to come to our country.

 The other problem is working conditions, the refugees accept working without insurance. They are accepted as a low-cost labour. So some people think this as an opportunity but this is a big problem between Refugees and Turkish people who are looking for a good job.





Nowadays the mendicity is getting higher and higher. Especially they prefer children for getting money from the people. In the traffic lights or streets you can see refugee children for asking money or food.







 However for both side, it is very difficult to get accustomed to live together. The refugees want to live freely but firstly they have to think the citizens rights also. With respect, empathy,understanding; the bridges between two parts can be set up again and be stronger than before.