



TAA Newsletter Volume 2 Issue 11

November 2012

Dear Friends,

The Turkic American Alliance is extremely saddened by the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of the victims, and to the thousands of people suffering from the damage caused by the hurricane. At this time of crisis, our thoughts and prayers are with all those in need. We have recently collaborated with the Helping Hands Relief Foundation to provide material support to the victims of hurricane Sandy.

We wish to congratulate President Barack Obama on his Re-election. It is noted that the 'Turkish Americans for Obama' initiative took an active role in all elements of the presidential and congressional electoral campaigns. This has made the relationship between the Turkic American community and the office of the President even more robust. It is our hope that the next four years will take us on the road of economic recovery, social prosperity and multiethnic harmony and understanding.

This month, one of our partners, the Rethink Institute organized a panel discussion on its recently published "Linking the Caspian to Europe: Repercussions of the Trans-Anatolian Pipeline" report. The panel featured four distinguished speakers and focused on the recently signed intergovernmental agreements between Azerbaijan and Turkey for the construction of the next phase of the Trans-Anatolian natural gas pipeline project (TANAP).

We actively continue and expand our traditional outreach initiative of organizing Dialogue Annual Dinners, aimed at bringing together elected officials, community leaders and academics for the purpose of promoting social peace and tolerance. Our dinners are currently taking place in more than 100 different locations and we are encouraging you to contact one of our component organizations and take part in one of these beautiful dialogue celebrations in your area.

Wishing you a Peaceful and Joyful Holiday Season,

Faruk Taban, Ph.D.

Turkish Parliamentarian Prof. Pelin Gundes Bakir visited TAA

November 30, 2012

On November 30, the Turkish Parliamentarian Prof. Pelin Gundes Bakir, Demet Cabbar and Oya Bain from the ATAA, Erdem Tekinel from TurkishNY, and Merve Demirel and Rachel Cerqueira from Saltzman & Evinch took a tour of the TAA headquarters. They were given a detailed presentation on the structure and the

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project development of the Alliance and later discussed its upcoming 2013 activities. The guests were also led to the building's rooftop where they enjoyed a breathtaking Washington sunset and Prof. Gundes

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TAA hosted Governor of Hatay with his delegation



November 28, 2012

Turkic American Alliance organized a lunch for "The Civilizations Choir of Antakya". The choir is a mosaic of outstanding performers from Turkey. Actually, The Choir has 130 members from the southern city's rich variety of peoples. They performed hymns from the three major monotheistic religions in order to build a bridge between civilizations with harmony and peace. The purpose of the choir is to demonstrate people all over the world that we all can live peacefully and friendly dispute of all different religions and ethnicity.

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TAA hosted District and Deputy Governors from Turkey



November 21, 2012

On November 21, the TAA hosted a dinner reception for a group of District and Deputy Governors from Turkey. The TAA Program Director Murat Akkus warmly welcomed the distinguished guests and introduced the Alliance's structure and activities. Later, Dr. Bilal Hacıogullari, a Research Fellow at the TAA partner, the Rethink Institute, presented the work of the Institute and discussed the various publications, talks and conferences it has conducted in the last year. Mr. Mustafa Akpinar, Principle of the Pinnacle Academy in Fairfax, VA

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Kazakhstan's Mufti Sheikh Abdsattar Haji Derbisali visited TAA

November 21, 2012

On November 21, the Kazakhstan's Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdsattar Haji Derbisali visited the Turkic American Alliance. He was accompanied by his Assistant Nurzhan Makhanov and Mr. Kulmukhammad Makhanbet, Imam of Almaty mosque, as well as, diplomats from the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Washington, DC. As the Grand Mufti entered the TAA's offices, he expressed appreciation for the located in the hallway different cultural corners representing each of the Turkic countries. Mufti Haji Derbisali made informative

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TCC's Support to the Clinton Foundation for Sandy



November 20, 2012

Turkish Cultural Center (TCC) gave support to the campaign to help victims of the Hurricane Sandy which was organized by the Clinton Foundation, one of the most influential civil society organizations in the US. Turkish Cultural Center attended with 70 volunteers to the Foundation's convoy that included 1000 volunteers in total. Former President Bill Clinton was in attendance in the campaign.

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ATFA-DE hosts 4th Annual Friendship Dinner "Peacebuilding through Education"



November 15, 2012

Delaware Chapter of ATFA hosted its 4th American Turkish Friendship Association's Annual Friendship Dinner. The theme of the evening was "Peacebuilding through Education" and those in attendance included government officials, and members of the non-profit, law enforcement and academic communities.

The theme of the evening was inspired by the words of the Islamic Scholar and Peace Activist, Fethullah Gulen, who says: "Be so tolerant that your bosom becomes wide like the ocean. Become inspired with

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Divan Center's 8th Annual Dialogue&Friendship Dinner

November 14, 2012

Divan's 8th Annual Dialogue & Friendship Dinner was held on November 14th, 2012 at the Hilton RTP. Every fall, this dinner brings together over a hundred distinguished governmental officials, community leaders, businessman and academics with the objective of discussing a specifically chosen topic. This year's topic was "Education: Cure for Poverty, Ignorance and Disunity" and more than 200 guests honored the event. The dinner was hosted by Mr. Frank Stasio, the host of the NPR Show "State of the Things". The event started with opening remarks by

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Donate now to help Hurricane Sandy victims



November 5, 2012

Turkic American Alliance and its member organizations would like to send our deepest condolences for the lives lost and a speedy recovery for the victims of Hurricane Sandy.

One of our member federations MAFTAA is collaborating with Helping Hands Relief Foundation to help victims of Sandy. Any financial donation can make the biggest and the most immediate impact.

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Linking the Caspian to Europe: Repercussions of the Trans-Anatolian Pipeline



November 1, 2012

On November 1, the Rethink Institute organized a panel discussion on its recently published report "Linking the Caspian to Europe: Repercussions of the Trans-Anatolian Pipeline" by Prof. Michael J. G. Cain, Dr. Rovshan Ibrahimov, and Dr. Fevzi Bilgin. Mr. Michael Ratner from the CRS attended the event as a discussant. Also attending were distinguished guests from the Embassies of Azerbaijan and Turkey, as well as, members of the policy and academic communities.

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