



TAA Newsletter Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2013

Dear Friends,

What an exciting month! In total, with a record of over 1000 participants, more than 100 international dignitaries, 50 US Senators and House Members, 20 Turkic Parliamentarians and 25 Ambassadors, this year's convention was a remarkable success!

Turkic American Alliance hosted the Third Annual Turkic American Convention at the JW Marriot Hotel on Wednesday, March 13th in Washington D.C. Countries such as Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and the United States were highly represented. We were excited to bring together these nations, their leaders and the US Government Representatives including the US Departments of State, Energy, Defense, Commerce, and Trade.

The Turkic American Convention began with the opening reception as a cruise tour on Potomac River on March 12th which hosted around 400 guests. Following day began with the breakfast opening session that was continued with the Rethink Institute organized forum that covered discussion sessions on each of the Turkic republics as well as Tajikistan. Luncheon, Pre-Gala Reception, Gala Dinner turned to a symbol of the friendship that brought altogether peoples of the US and Turkic republics.

Turkic American Alliance continuously bolsters cooperation between the US and the Turkic republics in the field of energy and trade. Noting that the US has a keen interest in the diversification of export routes for energy resources of Central Asia; TAA proposes to bring the issue to the table for discussions over what can be done in the face of the fact that other key players are also eyeing the resources in the region. Underlining that the organization received positive feedback, TAA set the bar high and that this year's convention turned to the largest Turkic American event in Washington D.C.

As Turkic American Alliance team and volunteers nationwide, we would like to thank those who helped and supported our program.

Sincerely,

Faruk Taban, Ph.D.
President

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Turkic American Convention was a huge success

March 14, 2013

Annual Turkic American Convention, in partnership with TUSKON, widely celebrated as a success. The TAC was held at the JW Marriot in downtown Washington, DC on March 13, 2013. The Turkic American Convention drew attendance from a large and distinguished body of guests. In all, nearly 1000 guests attended the Convention, including 8 US Senators, 42 Congressmen, 20 Turkic Members of Parliaments, 4 Mayors, 3 Secretaries of State, and 25 ambassadors. The Convention kicked off on the



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VIP Reception and Cruise



March 14, 2013

Turkic-American Alliance held the premiere of its third annual Turkic-American Convention on board in Washington on Tuesday. In association with the Turkish Confederation of Businessmen and Industrialists (TUSKON), about 400 guests attended the dinner held as a cruise tour on Potomac River. Guests of the dinner included Texas democrat Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee,

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Breakfast Opening Session



March 14, 2013

TAA and TUCSON jointly organized Turkic American Convention. The opening session of the convention over breakfast at the JW Marriott, hosted by Fox News Correspondent Jehmu Greene. The highlights: Dr. Taban talked about their work throughout the U.S. Arkansas Senator Mark Pryor started his with remembering his Turkish friend in high school, the main reason of his interest [Read](#)

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Tajikistan Session



March 14, 2013

The US decided to place a base in Tajikistan, but then withdrew from the decision. Fortunately, the Tajikistan community rose from the issue. Rumsfeld expressed that the US owed the country for their decision and as a result, Rumsfeld sent a check of 12 million dollars 3 months later. The highlight of the panel was Huddle's anecdote of how he was able to raise the 12 million dollars in Tajikistan. [Read More](#)

Kazakhstan Session

March 14, 2013

Moderator: William Courtney Former, US Ambassador to Kazakhstan Panelists: H.E. Kairat Umarov, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to the United States Dr. Richard Weitz, Director, Center for Political-Military Analysis, Hudson Institute Julia Nanay, Senior Director, Markets&Country Strategies PFC Energy Islambek



Salzhanov, President, Altyn Kyran Companies Dr. Ariel Cohen, Senior Research for Russian, Eurasian Studies and International Energy Policy, Heritage Foundation "The region has been under the influence of several countries."

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Uzbekistan Session



March 14, 2013

Highlight was Admiral Ron MacLaren's explanation of how they built the logistical and procurement process within Uzbekistan to supply the troops in Afghanistan. Each of these neighboring countries was impacted by each other. The logistical packaging of fruits and vegetables to be shipped to Afghanistan was one of many examples. Ultimately, the challenges and successes were overcome together. Moderator: AMB. John Herbst, Director for the Center of complex Operations, [Read More](#)

Turkmenistan Session



March 14, 2013

Moderator: Najiya Badykova, President, Antares Strategy; Panelists: H.E. Meret Orazov, Ambassador of Turkmenistan to the US Laurie Curry, Director of Central Asia, Office of US Trade Representative Eric Stewart, Director, US -Turkmenistan Business Council; Robert Blake, Assistant US secretary of State, South and central Asian Affairs, "U.S. and Turkey relations have never been stronger than they are today."

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Luncheon Session



March 14, 2013

Robin Hamilton of Ebru TV welcomed the guests who attended the luncheon session of the Turkic American Convention.

US Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) said "we share common values and goals. We have invested number one in global and regional security. We have realized importance of economic and democratic reforms. We are united by the vision free, safe and prosperous world. US Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs, Robert

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Azerbaijan Session



March 14, 2013

The shared interests between U.S. and Azerbaijan are security, energy, and economic reforms. In the past two decades we have seen improvements in those areas. Moderator: Joshua Walker, International Affairs Fellow Council on Foreign Relations; Panelists: Hon. Ted Poe, US Representative Texas; Hon. Samad Seyidov, Chairman on the Committee of International and Inter-Parliamentary Relations National Parliament Michael McMahon, Former US Representative New York [Read More](#)

Kyrgyzstan Session



March 14, 2013

Honorable Kanybek Imanaliyev emphasized how the natural resources, water, are not appropriately and efficiently taken advantage of. Although 95% of the countries' energy is hydropower plants, only using 3% are being applied. Moderator: Dr. Erica Marat, Instructor, American University; Panelists: Hon. Kanybek Imanaliyev, Chairman of Foreign Relations Committee, Kyrgyz Supreme Council Paul Poletes, Deputy Director, Office of Central Asian Affairs, US Department of State, "The three major pillars formed by the UN country team are: human rights, social projects, and poverty reduction." [Read More](#)

Turkey Session



March 14, 2013

Moderator: Fevzi Bilgin, Executive Director Rethink Institute; Charles R. Johnston, Chair, US-Turkey Business Council & Senior VP of International Government Affairs, Citigroup Ata Ceylan, President of the Energy Committee at Istanbul Chamber of Commerce, ortadogu Energy Group. H.E. Namik Tan, Ambassador of Turkey to the US, "Turkey and America have both accumulated memories". "We do not forget our American friends. We have common visions such as democracy,"

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Turkish Executive Session



March 14, 2013

Ali Aslan, "Before the formation of Turkic American Alliance, Turkey was not being represented fully in the U.S. The importance of this federation and convention is representation of both pieces of Turkey, Turks with different belief and cultures etc." Dr. Faruk Taban, TAA President, "Turkic American Alliance is growing very fast; there is a huge improvement and difference between the 2010 and 2013 conventions." [Read More](#)

Pre-Gala Reception with Leader Nancy Pelosi



March 14, 2013

Emcee of the night, Richard Lui of MSNBC, welcomed Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader, and other honorable guests to the stage to take a family picture. Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, House Representative from Florida and the Chair of the Democratic National Committee, was the first guest to give a speech at the Pre-Gala reception of the Turkic American Convention. Thanking the organizers of the convention and especially those leaders of the Turkic community in the state of

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Convention Dinner and Gala



March 14, 2013

Dozens of members of the United States Congress have reaffirmed strong ties and growing friendship between Turks and Americans in an annual grand convention that also brought together businessmen and public figures. Organized by the Turkic American Alliance (TAA) and the Turkish Confederation of Businessmen and Industrialists (TUSKON), the closing gala of the third annual Turkic American

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2013 Turkic American Convention in Press



March 15, 2013

2013 Turkic American Convention hosted ministers and politicians from Turkey, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan and ambassadors of the countries that have representation in the TAA. The event, which will host panel discussions with participants from seven countries, is sponsored by Ziraatbank, Halkbank, Summa, Today's Zaman, Turkish Airlines (THY) and the Turkish Review. [Read More](#)

TAA President was on evening news live of Bloomberg TV in Turkey



March 19, 2013

Turkish Bloomberg TV hosted Faruk Taban, Turkic American Alliance President, on live evening news to discuss current regional issues and particularly recent Annual Turkic American Convention in Washington, DC. 2013 Annual Turkic American Convention was the main focus of TAA President's appearance on the news. He emphasized the importance of such events abroad and highlighted the overall growing success of Annual Turkic American Conventions. [Read More](#)

Turkish Cultural Center opens in Manchester, NH

March 23, 2013

On March 23, 2013 Turkish Cultural Center opened in Manchester with a reception. Gov. Maggie Hassan greets the Consul General of Turkey, Burak Kararti at a meeting with community leaders, then she was on hand for the event, cutting a ceremonial red ribbon and proclaiming. Among the guest were State Senator



Lou D'Allesandro; Nedim Aycaner, a board member of the TCCNH; Eyup Sener, president of TCCNH; Furkan Kosar, president of the Council of Turkic American Associations.

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Joint Letter by TAA and Member Federations



March 25, 2013

Türki Amerikan Birliği ve Üye Federasyonlar'ından Ortak Bildiri. Congratulations on Turkish-Israeli reconciliation. We congratulate governments of Turkey and Israel for their historic decision to restore diplomatic relations which have been severely damaged in the aftermath of Mavi Marmara incident in 2010. Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin

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