



## TAA Newsletter, Volume 4, Issue 11 November 2014

Dear Friends,

This month, U.S. Vice President Joe Biden visited Turkey to discuss U.S.-Turkey relations and the ongoing ISIL threats in the region. During the visit, Vice President Biden also reaffirmed the United States' commitment to assisting Syrian refugees by pledging an additional \$135 million in humanitarian aid throughout the region.

In other news, His Holiness Pope Francis, head of the Roman Catholic Church, made his first official visit to Turkey. While there he met with prominent religious leaders such as His All Holiness Bartholomew I, spiritual leader of the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Grand Mufti of Istanbul, Rahmi Yaran, as well as with Turkish government officials, including President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and the President of Religious Affairs in Turkey, Mehmet Görmez. Discussions centered on the promotion of interfaith and intrafaith dialogue and a call for an end to the violent oppression and persecution of Christians and other minorities in Iraq and Syria.

TAA and its member federation representatives attended the Clinton Presidential Center's 10-year Celebration in Little Rock, Arkansas, to show their support on behalf of the Turkic American communities. TAA also attended the World Affairs Council of America (WACA) Conference held earlier this month in Washington, D.C., and later hosted its President and CEO at its offices. Additionally, the Mid-Atlantic Federation of Turkic American Associations (MAFTAA), one of TAA's six regional federations, partnered with local government officials, religious communities and NGOs in Northern Virginia to once again organize the Syrian Refugees Blanket Drive for Syrian refugees in eastern Turkey.

Across the country, The Turkish Cultural Center in New Hampshire (TCCNH) held its 3rd Annual Friendship Dinner and Award Ceremony; the Raindrop Foundation held an annual Thanksgiving Dinner in Houston, Texas; the Turkish Cultural Center in Pittsburgh (TCCP) hosted their 14th Annual Friendship Dinner; the Council for Turkic American Associations (CTAA), one of TAA's six regional federations, celebrated its 5th Annual Turkish Day in the State Capitol in New Jersey.

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In closing, TAA and its member federations would like to extend a warm and happy Thanksgiving full of blessings and joy to you and yours. We at the Turkic American Alliance are so grateful for your kindness, friendship and support over the years. TAA also congratulates Tajikistan on the observance of its National Flag Day on November 24th.

Sincerely,

Faruk Taban, Ph.D.  
President

## TAA Attends WACA Conference



**November 5th, 2014**

On November 5th, TAA attended the World Affairs Council of America (WACA) Conference. This year's theme, America and the World 2015, brought together leaders from its WACA's national networks, business and civic communities, including leading policy makers and experts to discuss and engage on critical issues in the global...[Read More](#)

## Turkish Day Celebrations in New Jersey



**November 13th, 2014**

On November 13, 2014, the Council for Turkic American Associations (CTAA) and the Turkic American Chamber of Commerce in New Jersey (TACCNJ) celebrated its 5th Annual Turkish Day Celebrations at the State Capitol in Trenton, New Jersey. The event brought together state legislators and community leaders to recognize prominent...[Read More](#)

## TAA Attends Clinton Presidential Center Celebration



**November 14th, 2014**

On the weekend of November 14th-16th, staff from the Turkic American Alliance (TAA), its board members, representatives and student leaders from across the U.S. attended the Clinton Presidential Center's 10th Year Celebration event in Little Rock, Arkansas, to show support from the Turkic community. The 3-day event was aimed...[Read More](#)

## WACA President Visits TAA



**November 17th, 2014**

On November 17th, 2014, Bill Clifford, President and CEO of the World Affairs Council of America (WACA), visited the Turkic American Alliance. TAA President Dr. Faruk Taban introduced the Turkic American Alliance and its current projects and discussed possibilities for future collaboration between WACA, TAA and their respective member...[Read More](#)

## TCCNH Hosts 3rd Annual Friendship Dinner



**November 19th, 2014**

On November 19th, 2014, the Turkish Cultural Center in New Hampshire (TCCNH) collaborated with the Council for Turkic American Associations (CTAA), the Peace Islands Institute and the Turkish Cultural Center of New Hampshire (TCCNH) to hold their 3rd Annual Friendship Dinner and Award Ceremony in Manchester, New Hampshire. The...[Read More](#)

## 14th Annual Friendship Dinner Held in Pittsburgh





**November 20th, 2014**

On November 20th, 2014, the Turkish Cultural Center in Pittsburgh (TCCP), hosted its 14th Annual Friendship Dinner to celebrate its commitment to cultural dialogue and understanding. Below is the complete news report as published on the TCCP website. Local non-profit, government...[Read More](#)

## Raindrop Foundation Holds Thanksgiving Dinner



**November 20th, 2014**

On November 20th, 2014, The Raindrop Foundation hosted its Annual Thanksgiving Dinner in Houston, Texas. The dinner was also a commemoration of Citizenship Month- an annual volunteer driven celebration showcasing Houston's civic diversity. Attended by over 300 guests, the event was organized in collaboration...[Read More](#)

## MAFTAA Partners to Organize Syrian Blanket Drive



**November 22nd, 2014**

On November 22nd, 2014, The Mid-Atlantic Federation of Turkic Americans (MAFTAA) partnered with local government leaders and elected officials from major municipalities in Northern Virginia, international aid organizations, private sector firms, NGOs and religious communities to organize the Syrian Refugees...[Read More](#)



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