

Euler Hermes: Turkish GDP should grow by +3.1% in 2014 and +3.8% in 2015, supported by exports

ISTANBUL – 20 NOVEMBER 2014 – [Euler Hermes](#), the world's leading provider of trade credit insurance, presented the main findings of its second International Trade Observatory at a conference in Istanbul in collaboration with Yapı Kredi and the Turkish Exports Assembly (TIM).

A diverse audience of clients, business leaders, and media representatives were welcomed by Euler Hermes Turkey CEO Özlem Özüner and TIM President Mehmet Büyükeksi. Ludovic Subran, Euler Hermes chief economist, discussed global economic developments, followed by Mustafa Mente, secretary general of TIM and Kaan Şakul, head of Financing and Product Groups at Yapı Kredi.

Turkey's 2014 GDP growth: +3.1%

"After +4.1% in 2013, we expect a GDP growth of +3.1% in 2014 and +3.8% in 2015," said Ludovic Subran. "We also expect companies to capture \$13 billion of additional exports in 2015, to a total of \$180 billion. Turkey grew rapidly between 2003-2008 and made a strong recovery after the economic crisis."

During a presentation entitled "Turkey: the awakening of an industrial giant?" Subran also detailed export opportunities for Turkey. Clothing and foodstuffs are progressively being replaced by diverse sectors such as automotive, machinery and metal. Of the \$13 billion in potential export gains expected in 2015, \$11 billion will be generated outside the Eurozone. Three sectors will dominate approximately half of the total potential 2015 export gains: agri-food, automotive and textiles.

EU emergence from recession of great importance for Turkey

"Turkey operates in a very competitive environment, and in order to succeed businesses need favorable domestic conditions for the production and export of value-added products, knowledge of their environment and the ability to quickly adapt," said Özlem Özüner. "Credit insurance can be a driving force in international trade, not only as exporters target new markets but in helping them to identify quality buyers with whom they can develop healthy turnover growth."

According to October data, Turkey increased exports by 5.6% in the first 10 months of the year, to a total of \$131.1 billion. In addition to the key role of diverse export routes, the EU's emergence from recession is notable since the region accounts for 42% of Turkish exports.

Turkish 2023 export goal: \$500 billion

Emphasizing that Turkey has attained achievements of solid merit in foreign trade, TIM President Mehmet Büyükeksi said: "Turkey performed better than countries like the US and China, having increased its foreign trade six-fold in recent years. In the first 10 months of 2014, we increased EU country exports by 12 percent to \$52 billion. With our 2023 export goal of \$500 billion, we aim to rank among the world's top 10 largest economies, with a 1.5 percent share of the global economy."

Turkey should be active in international trade

Kaan Şakul, head of Financing and Product Groups at Yapı Kredi stated that Turkey needs to take an active role in international trade: "We place great importance on the support we provide to exporters. In the first nine months of 2014, we handled the foreign trade transactions of around 15,000 customers, equal to 2,000 foreign trade transactions daily. At Yapı Kredi we support exporters - the locomotive force behind the Turkish economy - with traditional financing products as well as the Koç Group's strength, the alternative resources UniCredit provides, and resources we obtain from capital markets. Looking ahead to our 2023, we believe we can cover more ground as the long-term solution partner of our customers in reaching the \$500 billion export goal."

Exporters expect increased production

Mustafa Mente shared the results of a survey TIM conducted among the top 1,000 exporters who account for 58 percent of Turkey's total exports: "The survey results indicate that exporters expect both an increase in production and an increase in profits gained from exports."

#

Media contacts:

Euler Hermes Turkey

Bedia Dernek +90 212 290 76 10
bedia.dernek@eulerhermes.com

Arti PR

Simay Yıldız / Elif Batu Yener +90 212 347 03 30
eh@artipr.com.tr

Euler Hermes MMEA

Guglielmo Santella +39 335 84 96 775
bedia.dernek@eulerhermes.com

Euler Hermes Group Media Relations

Remi Calvet +33(0)1 84 11 61 41
remi.calvet@eulerhermes.com

Euler Hermes is the global leader in trade credit insurance and a recognized specialist in the areas of bonding, guarantees and collections. With more than 100 years of experience, the company offers business-to-business (B2B) clients financial services to support cash and trade receivables management. Its proprietary intelligence network tracks and analyzes daily changes in corporate solvency among small, medium and multinational companies active in markets representing 92% of global GDP. Headquartered in Paris, the company is present in over 50 countries with 6,000+ employees. Euler Hermes is a subsidiary of Allianz, listed on Euronext Paris (ELE.PA) and rated AA- by Standard & Poor's and Dagong Europe. The company posted a consolidated turnover of €2.5 billion in 2013 and insured global business transactions for €789 billion in exposure at the end of 2013. Further information: www.eulerhermes.com, [LinkedIn](#) or Twitter [@eulerhermes](#).

Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements: The statements contained herein may include statements of future expectations and other forward-looking statements that are based on management's current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. In addition to statements which are forward-looking by reason of context, the words "may", "will", "should", "expects", "plans", "intends", "anticipates", "believes", "estimates", "predicts", "potential", or "continue" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Actual results, performance or events may differ materially from those in such statements due to, without limitation, (i) general economic conditions, including in particular economic conditions in the Euler Hermes Group's core business and core markets, (ii) performance of financial markets, including emerging markets, and including market volatility, liquidity and credit events (iii) the frequency and severity of insured loss events, including from natural catastrophes and including the development of loss expenses, (iv) persistency levels, (v) the extent of credit defaults, (vi) interest rate levels, (vii) currency exchange rates including the Euro/U.S. Dollar exchange rate, (viii) changing levels of competition, (ix) changes in laws and regulations, including monetary convergence and the European Monetary Union, (x) changes in the policies of central banks and/or foreign governments, (xi) the impact of acquisitions, including related integration issues, (xii) reorganization measures, and (xiii) general competitive factors, in each case on a local, regional, national and/or global basis. Many of these factors may be more likely to occur, or more pronounced, as a result of terrorist activities and their consequences. The company assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement.