

Turkey

Turkey remains one of the most strategically positioned countries due to its location between Asia and Europe, making it a key player in global commerce¹. The country boasts one of the largest economies across the region, owing to a broadly diversified investment in technology-driven agriculture, manufacturing, and service industries.

1. *Industrial Strategy (including objectives/goals)*

Turkey's industrial policies and strategies are based on its National Technology Initiative, which primarily focuses on transformation, innovation, and industry competitiveness. Critically, the main focus areas of its industrial policies include:

- Enhancement of technological innovation and research and development investments².
- Improving and strengthening the capabilities of manufacturing and capabilities across industries.
- Focusing on export-based growth by enhancing industrial competitiveness.
- Prioritizing digital transformations and integration of industry 4.0 applicability³.
- Promoting sustainability in industrial ecosystems mainly focuses on the development of green technologies.
- Offering support to small and medium-sized enterprises by offering financial incentives⁴.
- Prioritizing the creation of employment opportunities across high-tech industries.

2. *Digital (development) strategy*

The Digital Turkey Initiative primarily serves as the main driving force for enhancing digital competencies and capabilities across nationwide sectors⁵. The identified digital Strategy involves:

- Focusing on the development of artificial intelligence (AI) and its applications⁶.
- Development of a robust digital environment, including broadband expansion and use of 5G technologies.

¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *AI Policy Initiative: [Initiative Name]* (OECD AI Policy Observatory, 2021) <https://oecd.ai/en/dashboards/policy-initiatives/> accessed 27 March 2025.

² Ibid.

³ Republic of Turkey, *Official Gazette No. 29677: Regulation on Electronic Commerce* (Official Gazette, 7 April 2016) <http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/04/20160407-8.pdf> accessed 27 March 2025.

⁴ Republic of Turkey, *Official Gazette No. 31889: Crypto Asset Service Providers Regulation* (Official Gazette, 7 July 2022) <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2022/07/20220707-2.htm> accessed 27 March 2025.

⁵ Republic of Turkey, *Official Gazette No. 29677: Regulation on Electronic Commerce* (Official Gazette, 7 April 2016) <http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2016/04/20160407-8.pdf> accessed 27 March 2025.

⁶ Republic of Turkey, *Guide for Crypto Asset Service Providers* (Ministry of Treasury and Finance, 2021) <https://ms.hmb.gov.tr/uploads/sites/12/2021/05/Kripto-Varlik-Hizmet-Saglayicilar-Rehberi.pdf> accessed 27 March 2025.

- Support for growing startups, especially in technology-driven ventures⁷.
- Implementation of cybersecurity frameworks and regulations highlighting data protection regulations.
- Supporting public-private partnerships to foster digital transformations.

3. *Main constitutional provisions*

- Article 167 grants state authority to ensure regulation and supervision of markets, ensuring stability of economies.
- Article 173 focuses on state protection of small business ventures and startups.
- Article 171 promotes cooperation and support for economic initiatives.

4. *Main regulatory provisions and policy developments*

- The Industrial Property Law of 2017 focuses on strengthening rights to intellectual property⁸.
- The Technology Development Zones Law, which was implemented in 2001, promotes the creation and maintenance of innovation hubs nationwide.
- Tax reductions through the Investments Incentive program aim to offer financial aid to strategic industries⁹.
- The Electronic Signature Law of 2004 supports the development of secure digital transactions for the development of business transactions¹⁰.
- The Personal Data Protection Law, instituted in 2016, prioritized cybersecurity and data privacy developments across the country's digital infrastructure.
- The National Artificial Intelligence Strategy of 2021 outlines the objectives for the integration of AI across various industries.
- The Green Deal Action Plan of 2021 aligns with EUs environmental objectives and sustainability of industrial practices¹¹.

5. *(Regional) economic treaties to which the state is a signatory*

- The Turkey-European Union Agreement facilitates Turkey's trade engagements across Europe¹².
- Agreement with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation promotes the establishment and development of economic cooperation initiatives¹³.

⁷ Republic of Turkey, *Official Gazette No. 31889: Crypto Asset Service Providers Regulation* (Official Gazette, 7 July 2022) <https://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2022/07/20220707-2.htm> accessed 27 March 2025.

⁸ Republic of Turkey, *Turkish Criminal Code* (Eastern Mediterranean University, 2025) <https://staff.emu.edu.tr/alexanderchefranov/Documents/CMPE455/Turk%C4%B1sh%20Cr%C4%B1m%C4%B1nal%20Code.pdf> accessed 27 March 2025.

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ Republic of Turkey, *Electronic Signature Law No. 5070* (Lawsturkey, 2025) <http://www.lawsturkey.com/law/electronic-signature-law-5070> accessed 27 March 2025.

¹¹ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *AI Policy Initiative: [Initiative Name]* (OECD AI Policy Observatory, 2021) <https://oecd.ai/en/dashboards/policy-initiatives/> accessed 27 March 2025.

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *AI Policy Initiative: [Initiative Name]* (OECD AI Policy Observatory, 2021) <https://oecd.ai/en/dashboards/policy-initiatives/> accessed 27 March 2025.

- The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) enhances trade among Turkey and its regional neighbors¹⁴.

6. *Plurilaterals*

- The World Trade Organization negotiations on e-commerce and digital trade¹⁵.
- The G20 digital economy task force.
- The United Nations Industrial Development Organization partnership.

7. *Proceedings Initiated Against the State, or by it, Before the International Fora for the Adoption/Implementation of Industrial Policy Measures (e.g., before WTO panels, the WTO AB)*

Turkey was involved in disputes with the World Trade Organization to resolve cases regarding trade engagements, but it prioritizes aligning industrial policies with global trade regulations and best practices.

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¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.