

CULTURAL YEARS/ANNIVERSARIES OF ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

2020 Türkiye-Jordan Reciprocal Cultural Year



Despite the pandemic conditions, 2020 was celebrated as “Türkiye-Jordan Mutual Cultural Year”. In this framework, Minister of Culture and Tourism of Türkiye paid an official visit to Jordan on 17 September 2020. During the visit, a Declaration of Intent has been signed by the Ministers of Culture.

In the context of the cultural year, a special concert was held, articles regarding Turkish culture were issued on culture and art magazine, “Afkar” published by Jordanian Ministry of Culture, the book titled "Looking at Jordan in the 19th Century from the Yıldız Palace Photography Collection" was printed, a commemorative first day cover with the theme Turkish Cemetery in Salt was put into circulation.

2020 100th Anniversary of the Establishment of Turkish-Russian Diplomatic Relations

Numerous events organized to celebrate the centennial of Turkish-Russian diplomatic relations were cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic.

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary, a special day cover and a commemorative stamp were issued and an exhibition titled “Ottoman Kaftans from the Perspective of Contemporary Turkish Designers” was displayed

60th Anniversary of The Turkish-German Labor Agreement



Having achieved tremendous industrial development after the World War II, the German economy employed *guest workers* called “Gastarbeiter” by signing agreements with some of the Southern European countries so that it can meet its workforce need. In this context, in accordance with the Labor Agreement which was signed on October 30, 1961 between the Republic of Türkiye and the Federal Republic of Germany, approximately 6500 Turkish citizens travelled to Germany by train. Accounting for the first workforce immigration, these workers started a new life with the grief of leaving their families and their country behind.

On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Turkish-German Labor Agreement, our diplomatic and consular missions in Germany organized various activities in cooperation with the German authorities and a special day cover with commemorative stamp was issued by our Ministry.

2020-2021 The 70th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Türkiye and Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries



In 2020, we celebrated the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations with 9 Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries. In this context, our Ministry issued a special day cover and a commemorative stamp for each country.

In 2021, we organized events with El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, Peru as they celebrated the 200th anniversary of their independence. With the addition of Brazil, which will celebrate the 200th anniversary of its independence in 2022, various cultural events were organized in Ankara throughout the year in different areas such as painting, music, gastronomy, archival research, in coordination with the MFA.

In that regard a concert was held at the Presidential Symphony Orchestra Hall with the participation of the aforementioned 7 countries.

A gastrodiplomacy event was also held with the participation of these Latin American and Caribbean countries.

2020 The 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Türkiye and Indonesia



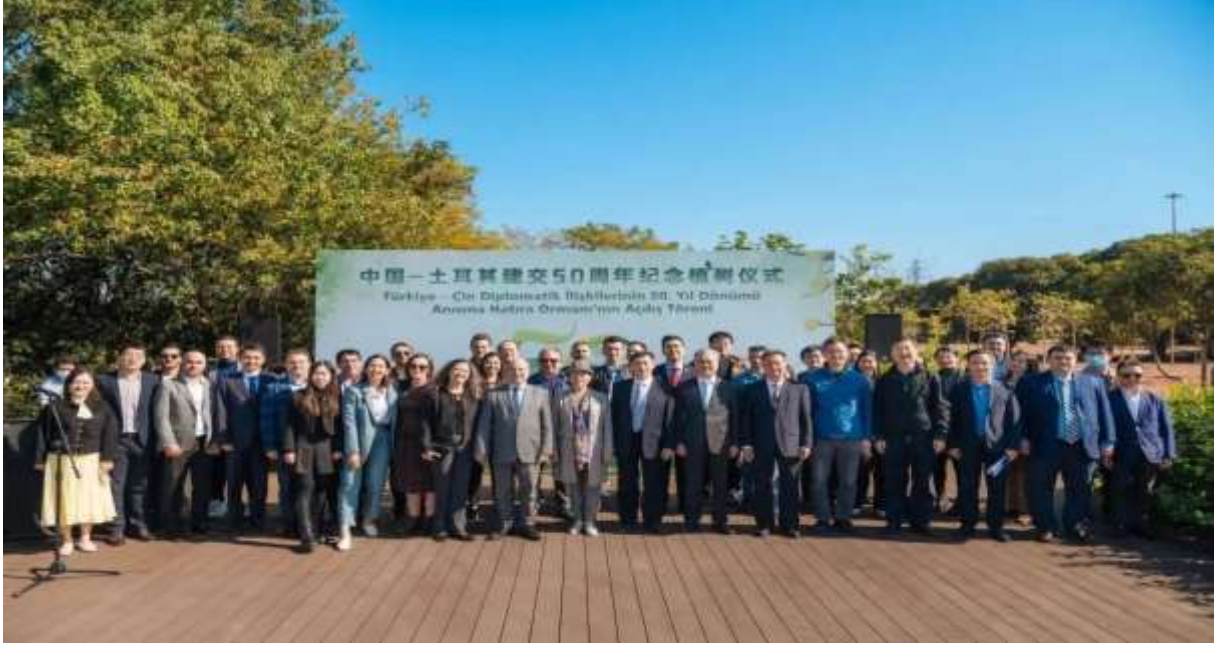
On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the establishment of the diplomatic relations between Türkiye and Indonesia, our Ministry issued a special day cover and a commemorative stamp.

2020 the 75th Anniversary of the Foundation of UNESCO



2020 marked the 75th Anniversary of the Foundation of UNESCO. On that occasion, our Ministry has issued a special day cover and a stamp and sent to the UNESCO Secretariat as well as to the national delegations.

2021 the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Türkiye and China



In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Türkiye and China a memorial Forest opened in Guangzhou in 2021. In addition, Chinese authorities issued a special day cover.

2021 the 100th Anniversary of Diplomatic relations between Türkiye and Afghanistan



Various events were held in 2021 on the occasion of the centennial of the establishment of Türkiye-Afghanistan diplomatic relations. In that regard, Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu attended virtually a reception held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu and Ambassador of Afghanistan in Ankara planted tree saplings in MFA's garden as a symbol of historic friendship between the two nations. A similar event was also organized in Kabul.

2021 The 100th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Türkiye and Georgia



Democratic Republic of Georgia was the first country that sent an Ambassador to Türkiye in 1921 while Türkiye's national struggle under the leadership of great leader Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk) against the foreign occupation forces was going on. 2021 marked the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Turkish-Georgian diplomatic relations. On that occasion our Ministry has issued a commemorative stamp that was introduced by Deputy Foreign Minister Yavuz Selim Kiran and the Georgian Ambassador in Ankara.

THEMATIC YEARS / SPECIAL DAYS

2020 Patara Year



2020 was announced by our President as the *Patara Year* and the events were extended into 2021. On the occasion of the Patara Year, a special day cover and a commemorative stamp were issued by the Turkish Postal Administration.

2021 Year of Yunus Emre and Turkish Language



2021 marks the 700th year of decease of Yunus Emre, poet and philosopher, one of the monumental names in Turkish language and culture. Therefore, UNESCO has included it into its list of anniversaries. 2021 was also designated by the President of Türkiye as the “Year of Yunus Emre and Turkish Language”. Accordingly, various events were organized across Türkiye and abroad with the theme of “Turkish; the World Language” in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

In addition to Yunus Emre, UNESCO also included into its list of anniversaries the 750th year of decease of Hacı Bektaş Veli and 850th year of birth of Ahi Evran. Similarly, the Turkish Presidency also declared 2021 as the years of Hacı Bektaş Veli and Ahi Evran.

2021 The centennial of “İstiklal Marşı” (Independence March)



Penned by national poet Mehmet Akif Ersoy, “İstiklal Marşı” (Independence March) was officially adopted as the national anthem of Türkiye during the session of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (TBMM-GNAT) on March 12 1921. In order to mark the centennial of this historic occasion, various events were organized throughout the year that were attended by President Erdoğan and the Speaker of the Parliament Prof.Dr. Mustafa Şentop.

18 March Martyrs’ Day



As a result of heinous terrorist attacks from 1973 to 2019, 77 people, among them 58 Turkish citizens (including 31 Turkish diplomats and family members) lost their lives and many more wounded.

We remember every year our members who became martyrs in various countries, through ceremonies held on March 18 Martyrs Day in Ankara and at our missions abroad.

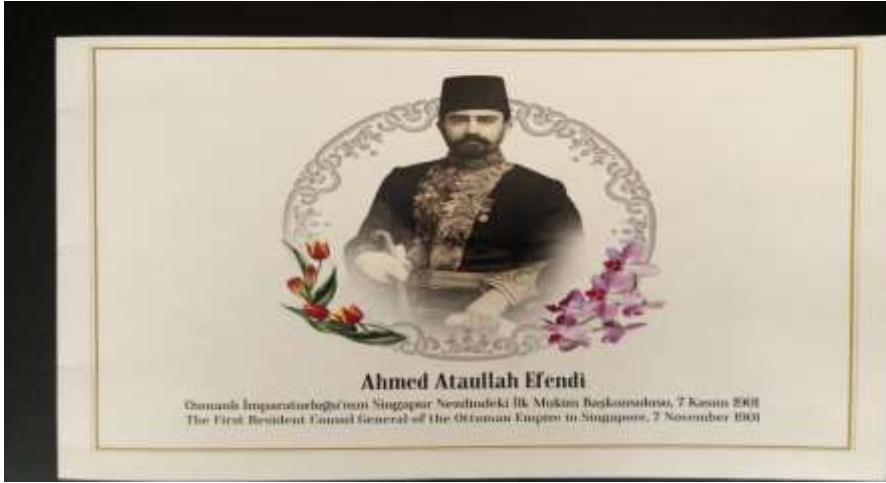
Our Ministry issued special day cover and commemorative stamp on March 18 2021 in memory of our martyrs.

Holocaust Remembrance Day



Selahattin Ülkümen saved the lives of 42 Jews in July 1944, during his tenure as Turkish Consul in Rhodes. On January 27th Holocaust Remembrance Day, Our Ministry issued a special day cover and a commemorative stamp to remember the Holocaust victims and praise Ülkümen's courage as well.

2021 the 120th anniversary of the assumption of official duties of Ahmed Ataullah Efendi, the first resident Consul General of the Ottoman Empire in Singapore



On the occasion of the 120th anniversary of the assumption of official duties of Ahmed Ataullah Efendi, the first resident Consul General of the Ottoman Empire in Singapore, a special day cover with a commemorative stamp was issued by our Ministry

2021 the Inauguration of the Turkish House



The foundation stone of the Turkish House, located on the same street and stands across the UN Headquarters in New York, was laid by H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Türkiye on September 18, 2017 and the building was inaugurated again by President Erdoğan on September 20, 2021.

On the occasion of the inauguration of the Turkish House, our Ministry commissioned the Ministry of Treasury and Finance-Directorate General of Mint and Stamp Printing House, to issue a commemorative coin. A special day cover and a commemorative stamp were also issued.

2021 The Third Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summit



The Third Türkiye-Africa Partnership Summit hosted by President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan was held in Istanbul on 16-18 December 2021 with the theme of "Enhanced Partnership For Common Development and Prosperity". A commemorative stamp was issued by our Ministry on the occasion of the summit.

EXHIBITIONS



In the period of 2020-21, our culture and art were presented to foreign visitors, especially through the exhibitions held abroad. In addition to these pleasant and proud moments, our colleagues and family members who lost their lives in the line of duty were commemorated with the exhibition held in memory of our "Martyr Diplomats".



With the opening of our new Turkish House (Türkevi) building just across the United Nations Headquarters in New York, in addition to many conveniences, a new and spacious exhibition venue has been gained to promote abroad the cultural values of our country as well.

GREEN DIPLOMACY



With the Presidential Circular issued in 2019, November 11 has been declared as the “National Afforestation Day”. Every year on November 11, Foreign Minister Çavuşoğlu and Deputy Foreign Ministers plant tree saplings in our Ministry’s garden. To that end, 33 tree saplings

were planted on the “National Afforestation Day” events in 2020 and 2021. Our foreign missions have contributed to the afforestation efforts as well.

GASTRODIPLOMACY



On the occasion of the “World Breakfast Day” designated as the first Sunday of June, various breakfast events have been organized by our missions with a view to promoting Turkish breakfast culture.



Since 5th December is recognized as “Turkish Coffee Day, promotional and tasting events were organized by our missions.



Permanent Delegation of Türkiye to the EU organized a gastro-diplomacy event titled “Diplomacy on the Menu: Mediterranean Day” within the framework of Türkiye’s EU Communication Strategy on 28 September 2021 in cooperation with Directorate for EU Affairs, European Parliament (EP) Türkiye-EU Friendship Group, Yunus Emre Institute and Brussels-based non-governmental organization ECOPNET.

It was aimed to promote the common Mediterranean culture and cuisine of Türkiye and the EU, to highlight the unifying power of gastronomy through dishes and beverages specific to the region and the Mediterranean basin as well as to support the development of intercultural dialogue between Türkiye and the EU.