

## TOBB President M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu: Gallipoli Victory Changed Turkish and World History

**T**he Gallipoli Naval Victory is commemorated every March. Failing to pass the Dardanelles Straits on 18 March 1915, the British-French forces launched an amphibious landing on the Gallipoli peninsula on 25 April 1915. The naval victory was won in one day on 18 March 1915; however, the land campaign, which started on 25 April 1915, lasted for another seven months. After many bloody battles and thousands of casualties on both sides, the Entente powers accepted defeat and withdrew.

We commemorate with mercy, gratitude and respect, notably, Mustafa Kemal, “the Hero of Anafartalar” and Cevat Pasha, the Commander of Gallipoli (Çanakkale) Fortress and the Hero of 18th



March and Fevzi Çakmak, Kazım and Fahrettin Pashas, Lieutenant Commander Tophaneli Hakkı, the Captain of Nusrat; Corporal Seyit and Mehmetçik the heroes

who presented us with this country at the cost of their lives in Gallipoli (Çanakkale) and then at the War of Independence. May they rest in peace.

## The key for wealth is at the hands of women



**T**he Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB) hosted a significant event on March 8th, a day which has been celebrated as the “International Women’s Day” since 1921. Speaking at the Turkey Women Entrepreneurs Meeting, TOBB President Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu said “If we want to prosper, if we aim to put Turkey among the world’s top 10 economies,

we need women. If we increase the labor force participation of our women to the level of men, our economy will grow by 20%. In other words, our national income will increase by \$ 170 billion and exceed \$ 1 trillion.”

According to ILO data, Turkey held the last place among OECD countries with regards to women’s participation in labor force in 2015, 2016 and 2017. One

of the leading factors affecting women’s employment is the social gender-based wage difference, as a result of which women at all educational levels are given lower wages than men with the same educational level. According to 2017 data, 20 million women and 8 million men are outside the labor force in Turkey, and 11 million women are also outside of the labor force because of housework.

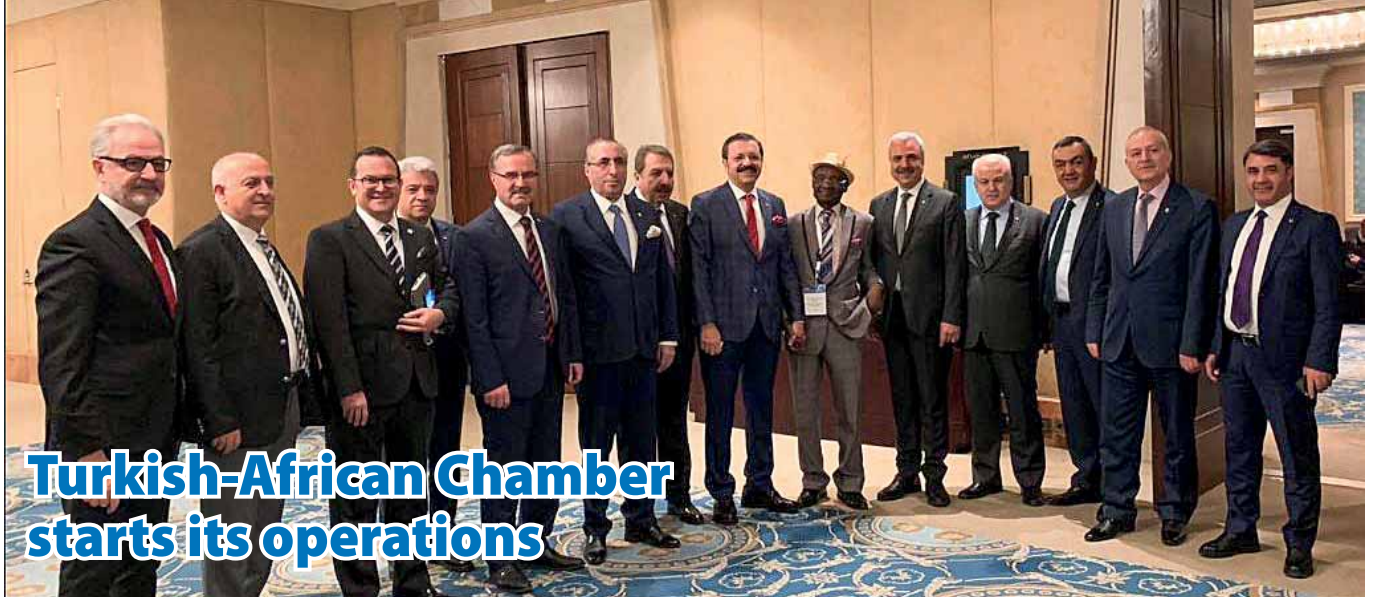
## "We have moved up the ladder in logistics thanks to our border gates"

**T**he Sarp Border Gate renewed by Gümrük ve Turizm İşletmeleri A.Ş. (GTİ), a subsidiary of the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) was opened and M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, TOBB President; Ruhsar Pekcan Minister of Commerce; Ivane Matchvariani Minister of Finance of Georgia; Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia,



George Kobulia; Arif Parmaksız GTİ A.Ş. CEO; İsmail Güle, TİM President; Bendeve Palandöken, TESK President and chairpersons of chambers and commodity exchanges in the region participated in the opening ceremony. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of Turkey participated in the ceremony through video conference.

M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, TOBB President told that Turkey has moved up the ladder in logistics thanks to modernized border gates and added, "When we started these investments in 2010, we were 39th in the World Bank Logistics Index. With the modernization of the border gates we moved up to 34th."



**M**. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, President of the Turkish Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB) participated in the meetings of African Investment Forum, Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and Turkish-Africa Chamber. Held in Egypt. M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, TOBB President told that he had been in Egypt for two days as the representative of the

Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry and participated in the African Investment Forum organized in Cairo, Egypt, where he gave a speech and talked with investors at the Forum.

M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, TOBB President told that he spoke as the Deputy President of the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry and talked about

perspectives of chambers in Turkey and Europe about Africa.

M. Rifat Hisarcıklioğlu, TOBB President said, "The Turkish-African Chamber was established 10 years ago but it hadn't been active until today. After 10 years we are organizing the first activity. Turkish-African Chamber starts its operations. Because we have our road-map now."





## How can Turkey adapt to new technological revolution?

In the 21st century one of the most important phenomena with the biggest effect in the global development is the fast and intensive developments in science and technology and the impacts of such developments.

This process which we define as BTDR (Scientific and Technological Revolution) differs in many aspects from previous milestones in the history of science and technology. These differences also provide an insight about the new characteristics of economic development in the BTDR process. We need to look at the history of BTDR even only briefly in order to understand these characteristics.

Today just like any other country Turkey has to prepare itself for the colossal changes with the ongoing Scientific and Technological Revolution and resulting new conditions in international competition. Today, no country without active preparations in science and technology as well as other critical areas can have full control over its economic development for a long period of time.

Turkey is the second biggest exporter of yarn for the European Union countries and aims to be one of the five countries with the highest export numbers in the world in the mid-term. Acting fast to achieve this and differentiating itself from other countries with its fast adoption of innovations in yarn production Turkey has a competitive edge in export with R&D, design and innovation. However it is very important to make yarn, the most important input in textile and textile raw materials industry a finished product like fabric to export and help the industry to create more added value. Experts suggest that R&D and design work is important for Turkey to have a better competitive edge in the global markets and recommend that the focus should be on export oriented operations with added value production.

On the other hand the most important product sub-group with trade deficit in the textile and textile raw materials industry is yarn.



## The yarn industry embraces R&D and innovation