TURKISH AMERICAN COALITION POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

2026 Midyear Report

1032 15th Street NW, #128
Washington, DC 20005

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Introduction

The year 2026 has gone down in history as a time when the Turkish-American community not only made its voice heard more powerfully but also made concrete contributions to strengthening the strategic partnership between the two allied nations. The work we have undertaken as TAC PAC has once again demonstrated that it is possible to establish strong relationships in Washington D.C., foster collaborations based on trust, and steadfastly defend the rights and interests of the Turkish-American community.

As Americans of Turkish heritage, we are uniquely positioned to foster greater understanding and cooperation between the United States and Türkiye. Our two countries are longstanding NATO allies, united by common security interests, democratic institutions, and decades of strategic partnership. As the global landscape continues to evolve, the importance of this relationship extends beyond defense to include trade, innovation, energy, education, technology, and people-to-people ties.

This year reaffirmed that meaningful engagement matters. Through constructive dialogue, trusted relationships, and active participation in the democratic process, Turkish Americans have expanded their voice in Washington D.C. and strengthened their ability to contribute to the conversations shaping the future of both countries. These efforts are not only advancing policies that reinforce the U.S.-Türkiye alliance, but also ensuring that the Turkish-American community is recognized as a valued and engaged part of American civic life building lasting bridges for our shared future.

We are committed to supporting elected officials who value the strategic partnership between the United States and Türkiye, promoting democratic principles and the rule of law, and expanding opportunities for Turkish Americans to participate in the political process. Our work is rooted in the belief that lasting partnerships are built through trust, unity , relationships, dialogue, and a belief in shared goals.

The accomplishments highlighted in this report reflect more than a successful year. They represent continued progress toward a stronger, more influential Turkish-American community and a more resilient U.S.-Türkiye partnership to be passed onto future generations. None of this would be possible without the dedication of our supporters, volunteers, donors, and advocates who believe in the importance of civic participation and community leadership. We extend our gratitude to everyone's commitment to continuing our work for a stronger Turkish-American community.

The future of the Turkish-American community is bright. Together, we are stronger. Together, we are more effective. Together, we are building the future.

Önsöz

2026 yılı, Türk-Amerikan toplumunun sesini yalnızca daha güçlü duyurduğu değil, aynı zamanda iki müttefik ülke arasındaki stratejik ortaklığın güçlenmesine somut katkılar sunduğu bir yıl olarak tarihe geçmiştir. TAC PAC olarak yürüttüğümüz çalışmalar, Washington'da güçlü ilişkiler kurmanın, güvene dayalı iş birlikleri geliştirmenin ve Türk-Amerikan toplumunun hak ve menfaatlerini kararlılıkla savunmanın mümkün olduğunu bir kez daha göstermiştir.

Amerika Birleşik Devletleri ile Türkiye, NATO'nun en güçlü ve en önemli iki ordusuna sahip, ortak değerler ve ortak güvenlik anlayışı etrafında birleşen stratejik müttefiklerdir. Bölgesel ve küresel istikrarın korunmasında bu ittifakın taşıdığı önem her geçen gün daha da artmaktadır. Bizler de bu güçlü ortaklığın yalnızca savunma alanında değil; diplomasi, ekonomi, ticaret, enerji, teknoloji ve sivil toplum alanlarında da daha da derinleşmesi için çalışıyoruz.

Bu yıl boyunca kurulan temaslar, geliştirilen dostluklar ve inşa edilen güven ilişkileri, Türk-Amerikan toplumunun Washington'daki etkinliğini yeni bir seviyeye taşımıştır. Karar vericilerle kurduğumuz yapıcı diyaloglar, toplumumuzun haklarının korunmasına, sesinin daha güçlü duyulmasına ve ortak geleceğimiz adına kalıcı köprülerin kurulmasına katkı sağlamıştır.

TAC PAC ; Amerika Birleşik Devletleri ile Türkiye arasındaki stratejik ortaklığı destekleyen, demokratik değerlere bağlı, hukukun üstünlüğünü esas alan ve Türk-Amerikan toplumunun temsil gücünü artırmayı hedefleyen bir platformdur. Gücümüz; birlikten, güvenilir ilişkilerden ve ortak hedeflere duyduğumuz inançtan gelmektedir.

Bugün elde edilen başarılar, yalnızca bugünün kazanımları değil aynı zamanda gelecek nesillere bırakılacak daha güçlü bir Türk-Amerikan ortaklığının kararlı adımlarıdır. İnanıyoruz ki, güçlü müttefiklik, güçlü toplumlarla; güçlü toplumlar ise güven, katılım ve ortak vizyonla inşa edilir.

Bu yolculukta bizlerle birlikte yürüyen tüm destekçilerimize, gönüllülerimize, bağışçılarımıza ve dostlarımıza teşekkür ediyor; daha güçlü bir Türk-Amerikan toplumu ve daha sağlam bir Türkiye-Amerika ittifakı için kararlılıkla çalışmaya devam edeceğimizi gururla ifade ediyoruz.

Birlikte daha güçlüyüz. Birlikte daha etkiliyiz. Birlikte geleceği inşa ediyoruz.

CONGRESSMAN

SETH MOULTON

MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT 6

A large group of Turkish Americans from Massachusetts, along with some from neighboring states, attended a meet-and-greet reception with Congressman Seth Moulton (MA-6), who is planning to run for the US Senate.

Congressman Moulton is a young rising star in politics. He has a strong military background and served in Iraq. He serves on the important Armed Services, Infrastructure, and Transportation Committees, as well as the Select Committee on China-US Strategic Competition.

The meeting was highly successful, as the Congressman got acquainted with the Turkish American community, scientists, and entrepreneurs, and was impressed by the high level of professionalism.

Topics common to the Turkish American Community and Turkiye-US relations were discussed, such as military readiness, NATO, immigrant surges, economic challenges, and endless wars.

CONGRESSMAN
STEVE COHEN

TENNESSEE DISTRICT 9

Turkish Americans from many Eastern states and Texas met again with Congressman Steve Cohen on Capitol Hill.

For more than 15 years, Rep. Cohen has been a trusted voice for the Turkish-American community in Congress and a consistent supporter of the US–Türkiye relationship.

First elected to the House in 2007, he has served as Co-Chair of the Congressional Caucus on US–Türkiye Relations and Turkish Americans and CoChair of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus. He is the only House member with Turkish heritage.

The meeting lasted more than an hour, and many had a chance to chat with the Congressman. He was pleased with the group's enthusiasm and reiterated his steadfast support for the Turkish American community.

He is a senior member of the House Judiciary and Transportation and Infrastructure Committees. He has senior leadership involvement in civil liberties and constitutional law initiatives.
Congressman Cohen has a balanced view of the Middle East and Türkiye, supports peace initiatives, and is not involved in the historic ethnic conflicts within the communities within communities in the US.

We also like to thank for the contributions of the other Turkish American PAC's to this event.

CONGRESSWOMAN

JULIE JOHNSON

TEXAS DISTRICT 32

Turkish Americans recently met with Congresswoman Julie Johnson (TX-32) during their visit to Washington, DC.

Congresswoman Johnson shared that she has visited Türkiye twice and spoke warmly about her experiences, noting in particular her appreciation for Turkish food and traditional Turkish tea. The group welcomed her genuine interest in Türkiye and her positive engagement with the Turkish American community.

During the meeting, participants exchanged views on issues of importance to the Turkish American community and discussed opportunities to further strengthen ties between Türkiye and the United States, particularly with Texas. The conversation was constructive and cordial, reflecting a shared commitment to continued dialogue and cooperation.

Committees she serves on;
Foreign Affairs Committee
Homeland Security
House Administration

CONGRESSWOMAN

BETH VAN DUYNE

TEXAS DISTRICT 24

Turkish Americans met with Congresswoman Beth Van Duyne (TX-24) for an introductory gathering during their recent visit to Capitol Hill.

The meeting served as a first opportunity for the group to engage in meaningful conversation with Congresswoman Van Duyne and begin building a stronger relationship. Participants discussed topics of importance to the community, with special focus on small businesses, trade, and economic cooperation.

The group also shared perspectives on expanding opportunities for Turkish Americans in Texas and international commerce.
Congresswoman Van Duyne expressed her appreciation for the group's insights and demonstrated genuine interest in continuing dialogue on shared priorities.

Committees she serves on;
Small Business,
Ways and Means.

CONGRESSWOMAN
ROSA DELAURO
CONNECTICUT DISTRICT 3

Turkish Americans met with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (CT-3) during their recent visit to Capitol Hill.

During the meeting, Congresswoman DeLauro spoke about the Turkish American community in her district and shared her appreciation for Turkish culture, noting in particular that she enjoys dining at Turkish restaurants. Participants exchanged views on community engagement and discussed ways to strengthen connections between Turkish Americans and local communities in Connecticut.

Congresswoman DeLauro serves as Ranking Member of the House Committee on Appropriations, where she works on federal funding priorities affecting communities, economic development, and international engagement.

The conversation was warm and constructive, reinforcing continued dialogue and cooperation.

CONGRESSMAN

AARON BEAN

FLORIDA DISTRICT 4

Turkish Americans met with Congressman Aaron Bean (FL-4) during their recent visit to Capitol Hill.

The meeting provided an opportunity to introduce the Turkish American community and exchange views on issues of shared interest. Discussions included the economy, local business engagement, and the growing Turkish American community in Florida. Participants also thanked Congressman Bean for the video message he shared on October 29 celebrating Turkish Republic Day.

Congressman Bean expressed appreciation for the group's outreach and welcomed continued engagement with Turkish Americans in his district and across the country. He currently serves on the House Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on the Budget, where he works on tax policy, economic growth, and fiscal responsibility.

The conversation was cordial and constructive, laying the groundwork for continued dialogue and cooperation.

CONGRESSWOMAN

JULIE JOHNSON

TEXAS DISTRICT 32

Turkish Americans organized a successful follow-up meeting with Congresswoman Julie Johnson (TX-32) in her district at a Turkish American-owned restaurant.

The luncheon provided an important opportunity to continue building a strong local partnership. Participants engaged in a productive discussion about increasing Turkish American involvement in Texas legislative and community initiatives. Topics included the growing Turkish American business community in Dallas, the increasing population of Turkish Americans in her district, and ways to support active civic engagement in upcoming elections. The group also discussed internship opportunities for young Turkish Americans and received positive feedback from her team.

Members expressed gratitude for Congresswoman Johnson's ongoing outreach efforts and for her warm engagement with the community. Congresswoman expressed interest in the Congressional Turkiye Caucus to continue dialogue and cooperation.

Congresswoman Johnson currently serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and its Subcommittee on Europe, South Asia, and Central Asia, where her work includes advancing international partnerships, regional cooperation, and U.S. engagement worldwide.

The meeting was forward-looking and constructive, laying the groundwork for a strengthened community voice and lasting collaboration.

CONGRESSMAN

MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER

WASHINGTON DISTRICT 5

Turkish Americans met with Congressman Michael Baumgartner (WA-5) for an introductory meeting during their recent visit to Capitol Hill. Attendees represented Turkish American communities from NJ, NY, CT, RI, MA, VA, and TX.

The meeting provided an opportunity to introduce the community and begin building a constructive dialogue. Congressman Baumgartner expressed strong interest in Türkiye and U.S.–Türkiye relations, engaging thoughtfully on regional and international matters. A Turkish American AI expert who participated in the meeting stressed the need to advance U.S. innovation in artificial intelligence while establishing a federal framework that promotes transparency, accountability, and sustained public trust.

In addition to policy topics, Congressman Baumgartner showed special interest in Turkish soccer teams, adding a cultural dimension to the conversation and highlighting shared connections beyond politics.

Congressman Baumgartner serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House Judiciary Committee, where his work includes international affairs, national security, and legal policy matters.

The introductory meeting was productive and cordial, laying the foundation for continued dialogue and engagement.

CONGRESSWOMAN

NELLIE POU

NEW JERSEY DISTRICT 9

Turkish Americans got together with Congresswoman Nellie Pou at an Iftar Dinner in New Jersey

Major NY-NJ NGO's Joined the iftar
Turkish American Coalition Political Action Committee (TAC PAC)
Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Federasyonu (TADF)
Turkish American Bussines Network (TABNET)
NY Turkish American Center (NYTAC)
UID USA & MUSIAD USA
TAMA (Turkish American Medical Association)

Also RI State Representative David Morales who is running to become the mayor of Providence, also joined the Iftar.

Congresswoman was delighted to meet another successful latino whom was introduced to her by Turkish Americans.

MORRIS COUNTY COMMISSIONER
TAYFUN SELEN

NEW JERSEY

Turkish Americans joined a community event in support of Morris County Commissioner Tayfun Selen (NJ - Morris County).

During the gathering, Commissioner Selen thanked attendees for their continued support and opened his remarks on a warm and lighthearted note, which was met with positive energy from the audience.

He reflected on past elections, noting that while the process had been challenging, it had consistently resulted in success, and expressed confidence in the upcoming election. He also spoke about the growth of the region, highlighting the increasing population as more people move into the state, particularly from metropolitan areas.

Commissioner Selen also acknowledged and thanked local city leaders, including several mayors in attendance, for their support.

He concluded his remarks by expressing his appreciation to everyone who has supported him.

CONGRESSMAN

MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER

WASHINGTON DISTRICT 5

Turkish Americans met with Congressman Michael Baumgartner (WA-5) during their recent visit to Capitol Hill.

The meeting provided an opportunity for an in-depth discussion on regional developments and U.S.–Türkiye relations. Congressman Baumgartner demonstrated a strong understanding of the region, drawing on his personal and professional experience, including time spent in Syria, service in Afghanistan, and multiple visits to Türkiye with his family.

Participants highlighted the importance of stability in Syria and its broader impact on regional security. The discussion also touched on the Zangezur Corridor in the Caucasus, emphasizing its potential as a key trade route connecting Türkiye with Central Asia and beyond. The importance of timely U.S. engagement in this initiative was noted, particularly in light of growing geopolitical competition in the region.

Congressman Baumgartner currently serves on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, including the Subcommittees on the Middle East and North Africa and on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber, where he focuses on regional security and international cooperation.

The meeting was thoughtful and constructive, contributing to a deeper exchange of perspectives and continued dialogue.

GOVERNOR
MAURA HEALEY
MASSACHUSETTS

Turkish Americans joined a large-scale event in Massachusetts focused on innovation, economic growth, and the future of artificial intelligence. The event brought together over 400 attendees from diverse sectors.

During the program, Governor Maura Healey (MA) highlighted Massachusetts' position as a leading technology hub and emphasized the state's growing role in artificial intelligence. Discussions included the emergence of the Massachusetts AI Coalition, as well as efforts to strengthen the ecosystem by attracting AI companies from outside the state, alongside those founded by MIT graduates and the broader academic community.

Governor Healey also spoke about the expansion of data centers in MA to support AI development and emphasized the importance of addressing energy challenges to ensure sustainable and affordable growth. Infrastructure and affordability were key themes as well, including ongoing efforts to improve transportation systems and make Massachusetts more affordable for residents and businesses.

The event reflected a forward-looking vision for Massachusetts, bringing together stakeholders and community leaders from different sectors to support innovation, collaboration, and long-term economic growth.

CONGRESSMAN

JOE COURTNEY

CONNECTICUT DISTRICT 2

Congressman Joe Courtney serves on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and is the Ranking Member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces.

Our board member had a warm and productive discussion with Congresman, who expressed enthusiasm for connecting with the Turkish American community.

Congressman courtney underscored Türkiye's critical role as a NATO ally and acknowledged the important contributions of both Türkiye and Pakistan to ongoing diplomatic efforts between Iran and the United States.

CONGRESSMAN

SETH MOULTON

MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT 6

Turkish Americans attended a fundraising event in support of Congressman Seth Moulton (MA-6), bringing together community members and leaders for an evening of engagement and discussion.

During the event, Congressman Moulton shared his perspectives on key national and international issues. He emphasized that ongoing conflicts in the Middle East would not benefit U.S. interests or the economy, and instead could have negative consequences, including for broader international relationships.

He also noted that he closely follows developments in artificial intelligence and recognizes its growing importance in shaping the future of the economy and national policy.

In addition, Congressman Moulton touched on the issue of term limits for elected officials, highlighting the importance of accountability and effective governance.

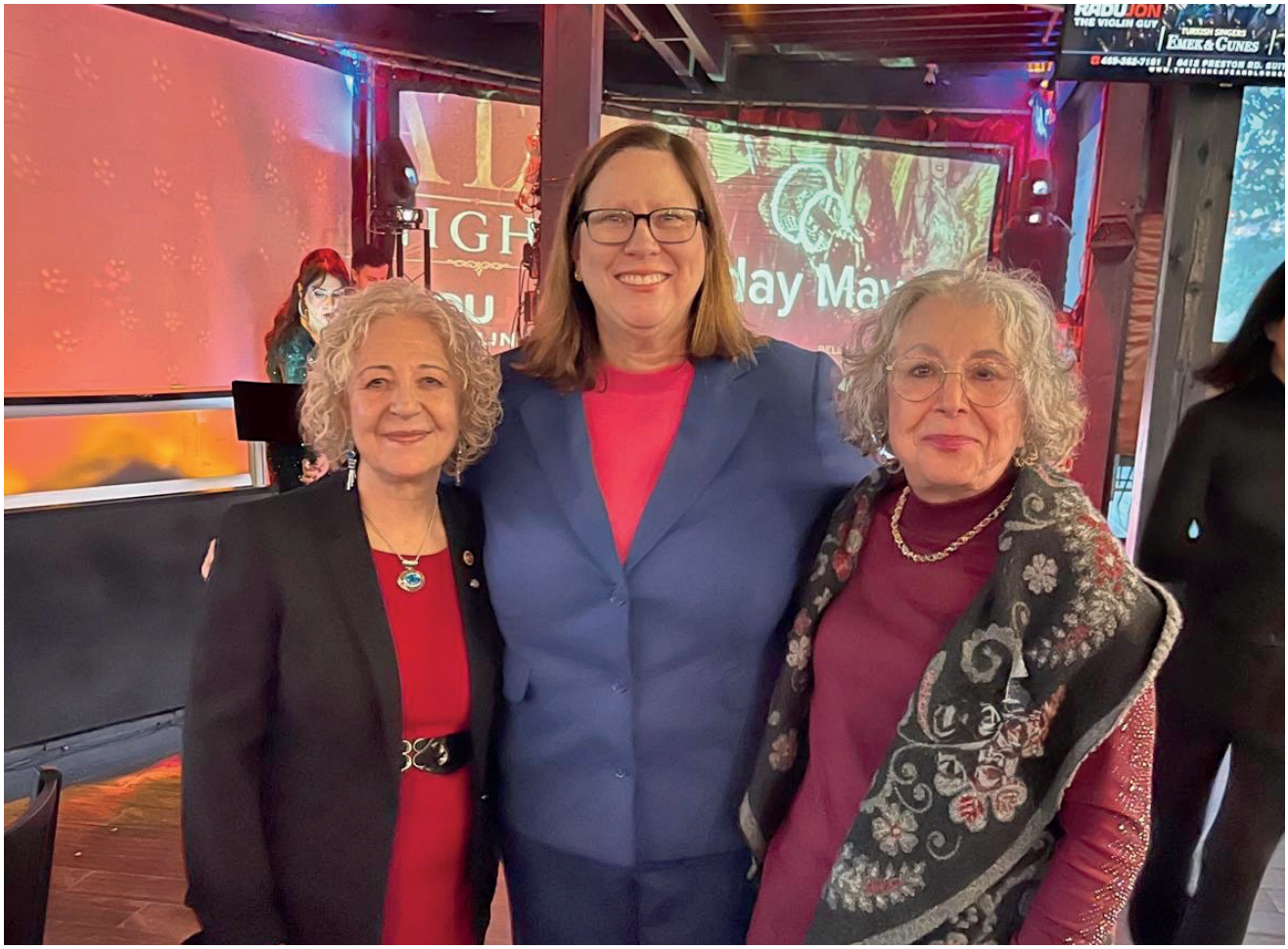
The event provided a valuable opportunity for dialogue and community engagement, reinforcing continued connections between Turkish Americans and public leaders.

We also extend our thanks for their support to the National Coalition of Turkish American Women (NC-TAW PAC) and the Turkish Coalition California PAC (TC-CAL PAC).

CONGRESSWOMAN

JULIE JOHNSON

TEXAS DISTRICT 32



Congresswoman Julie Johnson (TX-32) met with the Turkish American community in Texas for another gathering and conversation.

Members of the Turkish American community expressed their appreciation to Congresswoman Johnson for her warm engagement and thoughtful conversation. The gathering provided another opportunity to strengthen connections and continue a constructive dialogue.

We thank Congresswoman Johnson for her openness and continued support.

We also thank TC USA PAC and Turkish American Heritage PAC for their supports.

CONGRESSMAN

PETE SESSIONS

TEXAS DISTRICT 17

Turkish Americans Meet with Congressman Pete Sessions' Office in Washington, D.C.

Recently, Turkish Americans held a productive follow-up meeting with Congressman Pete Sessions' Legislative Aid, Albert Mercer, in Washington, D.C., continuing to strengthen our relationship with our congressional members.

We raised critical concerns on behalf of our community, including:

• The economic impact on our citizens including rising costs, trade relations, and the financial pressures felt by Turkish and all Americans.

• The ongoing wars in the Middle East and the financial toll they carry on everyday Americans, alongside the critical importance of diplomatic ties between Türkiye and the United States, a relationship vital to regional stability and global security.

We also introduced congressional staff to our subject matter expert in Artificial Intelligence, an educational moment that highlighted the expertise and talent within our community.

We are proud to be at the table, representing our community, amplifying our concerns, and showcasing our expertise at the highest levels of government.

CONGRESSMAN

MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER

WASHINGTON DISTRICT 5

A noteworthy meeting recently took place on Capitol Hill.

Through the efforts of Turkish Americans, Congressman Michael Baumgartner was presented with a special Galatasaray jersey signed by the club's players. He was also gifted a Galatasaray scarf and pin and was named an Honorary GS USA Member.

The initiative began after Congressman Baumgartner expressed his admiration for Galatasaray during earlier meetings.

The gathering on Capitol Hill was attended by TAC PAC Chair Melih Bektaş, TAC PAC Board Members and Representatives Şenay Özbay and Murat Ersin, UID USA President Derya Taşkın, GS USA President Yusuf Başusta, and Vice President Yücel Edebalı.

The strong relationship established with Congressman Baumgartner, who was elected to Congress in 2025, is viewed as an important example of the growing visibility and engagement of the Turkish American community in Washington, D.C.

PASiFiK
HOLDING

REAGAN
1905
BAUMGARTNER

PASiFiK
HOLDING

CONGRESSMAN

PETE SESSIONS

TEXAS DISTRICT 17

Congressman Pete Sessions (TX-17) was the honored guest at an event hosted by the Turkish American community in support of his upcoming election, bringing together community members for an evening of engagement and dialogue.

During the event, Congressman Sessions emphasized the importance of unity within the Turkish American community and expressed his strong appreciation for its role in strengthening U.S.–Türkiye relations. He noted that recent claims and discussions regarding tensions between Türkiye and Israel are not grounded in confirmed facts, while acknowledging the concerns such narratives may create within the community. He assured attendees that he would personally look into these matters and follow up directly.

Congressman Sessions highlighted Türkiye's strategic importance to the United States and reaffirmed his commitment to supporting strong bilateral relations. He emphasized that he will continue to stand with the Turkish American community and do his part to advance cooperation between the two countries. In a personal, heartfelt moment, he expressed his respect for the community, saying, "You are good people."

He also shared that his interest in Türkiye and its people has been shaped in part by his family, including encouragement from his father to value and strengthen these relationships.

The event provided a meaningful opportunity for open dialogue and reinforced continued engagement between Turkish Americans and public leadership.

CONGRESSMAN

MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER

WASHINGTON DISTRICT 5

Turkish Americans attended a fundraising event in support of Congressman Michael Baumgartner, hosted by Saltzman & Evinch PLLC and Günay Evinch.

The gathering provided an opportunity for a thoughtful discussion on U.S.–Türkiye relations and regional developments. Congressman Baumgartner emphasized the importance of Turkish Americans maintaining regular communication with their elected representatives and sharing information about Türkiye, noting that many policymakers have limited familiarity with a country that plays a significant geopolitical role.

Participants highlighted Türkiye's importance as a key NATO ally located in a complex and strategically significant region. Discussions covered ongoing peace efforts in the Caucasus, the potential opening of a trade and tourism corridor connecting the Caucasus with Central Asia, and the role the United States can play in supporting regional connectivity and economic development. Turkish Airlines' service to Yerevan was also noted as an example of growing regional engagement.

The conversation also addressed developments in Syria, where participants emphasized that lasting peace and border security would benefit regional stability and broader U.S. interests in the Middle East. Türkiye's potential contribution to Syria's reconstruction was also discussed.

Congressman Baumgartner spoke warmly about his multiple visits to Türkiye, sharing fond memories from his travels, including his appreciation for Turkish hospitality and traditional Turkish ice cream. He also reflected on Türkiye's strategic position and the importance of strong bilateral relations.

The meeting concluded with Turkish American participants expressing their appreciation for the upcoming 250th anniversary of American independence and the enduring principles upon which the United States was founded.

The event provided a valuable opportunity to strengthen dialogue and deepen mutual understanding between the Turkish American community and public leaders.

CONGRESSMAN
JAMES WALKINSHAW

VIRGINIA DISTRICT 11

Turkish Americans met with Maha Syed, Legislative Assistant to Congressman James Walkinshaw, during a recent visit to Capitol Hill.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss several issues of importance to the community and the broader public. Participants exchanged views on the impact of ongoing conflicts around the world, emphasizing the importance of peace and stability. The discussion also touched on economic concerns affecting American families, including rising prices and inflation.

In addition, attendees highlighted the importance of policies that prioritize the interests and well-being of American citizens, while promoting economic growth and opportunity.

The conversation was constructive and informative, reinforcing the value of continued dialogue between the Turkish American community and congressional offices.

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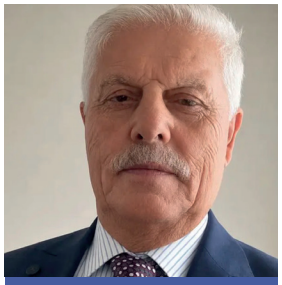
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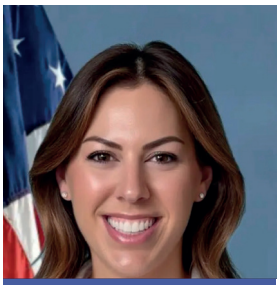
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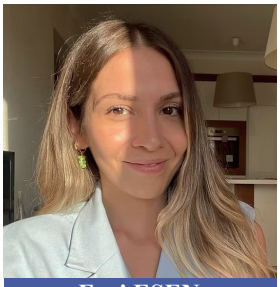
Ezgi ESEN

We like to thank all of our NGO's and our valuable Turkish American Citizens for being a part of this movement.

Now,
We need your support..
We are a lot stronger
with you...

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO DONATE

turkishamericanpac.org/donate

Turkish American Coalition

Political Action Committee

Board Members

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