



-Turkmenistan-

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GENERAL FEATURES OF TRADE POLICY

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The following table is an overview of the tradeflow between the European Union and Turkmenistan

Section	Year	Import(Euro)	Export(Euro)
Animals & animal products	1996	92,980	12,339,530
	1997	5,390	6,766,830
	1998	137,840	3,823,910
	1999	366,290	3,713,140
	2000	2,890	2,046,550
	2001	93,450	465,650
	2002	63,480	1,524,610
	2003	0	4,214,660
Vegetable products	1996	969,290	806,380
	1997	1,103,950	355,030
	1998	2,651,040	247,730
	1999	481,100	480,570
	2000	1,392,440	946,700
	2001	1,162,240	2,744,390
	2002	37,840	1,244,410
	2003	11,400	1,128,730
Animal or vegetable fats	1996	0	2,022,160
	1997	0	343,680
	1998	0	106,840
	1999	0	177,400
	2000	1,000	642,350
	2001	5,030	1,411,570
	2002	0	27,500
	2003	0	16,690
Prepared foodstuffs	1996	129,050	4,353,340
	1997	14,060	2,149,370
	1998	144,670	3,766,390
	1999	40,670	2,487,600
	2000	8,170	1,901,640
	2001	63,980	2,635,020
	2002	51,750	1,933,710
	2003	36,940	2,405,840
Mineral products	1996	6,346,470	1,058,170
	1997	22,333,330	4,062,540
	1998	78,271,120	2,143,200
	1999	183,502,420	582,180
	2000	150,287,880	823,420
	2001	107,499,550	1,268,290
	2002	133,815,040	1,820,370
	2003	191,593,900	2,639,530

Chemical products	1996	311,230	10,189,990
	1997	488,190	12,546,060
	1998	945,860	8,583,700
	1999	307,200	13,204,150
	2000	1,256,070	18,298,450
	2001	0	19,903,170
	2002	108,030	18,847,460
	2003	13,220	20,178,070
Plastics & rubber	1996	0	2,382,720
	1997	50,920	2,646,410
	1998	111,720	3,212,220
	1999	15,770	1,140,810
	2000	17,340	3,956,520
	2001	16,560	6,551,500
	2002	295,790	3,404,720
	2003	2,910	4,664,380
Hides & skins	1996	310	86,410
	1997	14,070	37,060
	1998	155,580	159,990
	1999	11,560	38,960
	2000	89,820	110,070
	2001	345,140	84,660
	2002	103,940	114,380
	2003	16,830	82,870
Wood & wood products	1996	780	3,187,940
	1997	730	489,090
	1998	38,110	915,010
	1999	37,510	4,984,210
	2000	28,170	2,343,380
	2001	520	1,389,210
	2002	4,760	1,917,270
	2003	1,190	831,170
Wood pulp products	1996	4,750	244,310
	1997	1,270	825,880
	1998	2,620	979,810
	1999	0	819,310
	2000	9,410	834,110
	2001	990	1,342,280
	2002	1,670	2,011,240
	2003	0	1,409,710
Textiles & textile articles	1996	61,074,590	2,637,450
	1997	32,934,020	1,340,140
	1998	32,440,640	1,636,470
	1999	59,399,140	1,244,250
	2000	60,414,280	1,933,130
	2001	47,455,760	2,648,010
	2002	33,624,890	1,272,480
	2003	20,880,200	962,130
Footwear, headgear	1996	0	248,690
	1997	0	95,420
	1998	8,130	170,640
	1999	0	165,320
	2000	0	298,410
	2001	0	142,570
	2002	140	403,030
	2003	0	120,510
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos	1996	6,300	6,826,100
	1997	12,400	2,858,920
	1998	8,650	4,019,290
	1999	4,410	5,089,930
	2000	1,750	5,745,220

	2001	106,360	7,102,930
	2002	0	3,956,390
	2003	0	10,040,770
Pearls, (semi-)precious stones, metals	1996	1,050	120,720
	1997	990,740	567,610
	1998	388,290	1,204,160
	1999	1,113,310	1,317,410
	2000	1,945,860	4,169,740
	2001	2,133,350	2,568,860
	2002	1,748,330	1,240,970
	2003	1,920,070	873,970
Base metals & articles thereof	1996	75,520	17,897,980
	1997	248,970	8,452,520
	1998	691,310	30,990,060
	1999	629,170	23,348,770
	2000	641,630	15,786,960
	2001	441,160	38,317,610
	2002	83,030	62,621,910
	2003	1,700	37,331,910
Machinery & mechanical appliances	1996	410,200	55,627,320
	1997	201,230	61,516,940
	1998	351,900	63,535,860
	1999	157,560	100,513,780
	2000	3,139,900	73,647,370
	2001	243,600	76,673,960
	2002	468,940	119,848,450
	2003	1,083,620	164,925,070
Transportation equipment	1996	300	2,241,800
	1997	286,500	4,963,820
	1998	124,470	12,824,540
	1999	14,530	14,915,930
	2000	43,750	4,285,680
	2001	39,920	7,132,450
	2002	94,760	12,547,090
	2003	8,360	17,941,690
Instruments - measuring, musical	1996	148,340	3,162,240
	1997	56,750	11,193,230
	1998	92,440	6,626,700
	1999	289,800	11,600,580
	2000	188,540	6,553,250
	2001	57,530	14,503,650
	2002	580,990	7,820,870
	2003	89,410	10,048,050
Arms & ammunition	1996	0	2,700
	1997	0	108,040
	1998	0	190,350
	1999	0	5,330
	2000	0	55,760
	2001	0	156,160
	2002	0	448,340
	2003	0	284,960
Miscellaneous	1996	4,160	6,253,930
	1997	8,270	5,049,830
	1998	21,190	4,383,500
	1999	52,620	6,714,730
	2000	13,190	5,949,010
	2001	208,240	13,140,220
	2002	22,880	7,355,710
	2003	103,190	4,295,490
	1996	4,170	0
	1997	19,420	0

Works of art	1998	3,610	52,420
	1999	5,490	27,930
	2000	131,300	86,980
	2001	32,080	1,349,690
	2002	2,840	122,030
	2003	0	6,860
Other	1996	210,400	2,536,990
	1997	112,800	1,677,960
	1998	285,530	1,316,540
	1999	414,360	556,930
	2000	308,250	1,803,550
	2001	147,840	23,590,870
	2002	438,700	5,282,140
	2003	4,224,020	4,366,350

**Services -
Energy
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Turkmenistan is important to world energy markets because it contains over 100 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves. It is the third largest reserve of gas in the world.

Turkmenistan's gas production is targetted to return to its full potention of 90 bcm per annum after a dip of 20 bcm (in 1994) due to the break up of the former Soviet Union.

The only export route currently available for Turkmenistan's gas is Kazakhstan's gas pipeline which exports to Ukraine.

In late 1993, Turkmenistan announced a long-term plan to develop its oil and gas industry that stressed the importance of drawing investment to the industry.

While Turkmenistan has attempted to ease restrictions on foreign investment, many layers of bureaucratic regulation remain in place. In addition, Turkmenistan maintains prohibitive rules that prevent companies using subsurface resources to export hydrocarbons. Since foreign investors do not have access to export pipelines (state-run Turkmenneft, Turkmengaz, and Turkmenneftegaz currently own all of the country's pipelines), they are forced to sell oil and gas produced in Turkmenistan through the state commodities exchange or send it to refineries. Oil and gas are sold at fixed prices that are well below world market levels.

Turkmen officials plan to liberalize pipeline transport and to ease the tax burden on foreign investors for pipeline projects. One of the main obstacles hindering development of Turkmenistan's oil industry is the lack of export routes. While there are several oil export pipeline options from the Caspian Sea region , Turkmenistan currently is not playing a major role in the debate, with much of the focus instead on Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan. Without the ability to pipe its oil to world markets, Turkmenistan is forced to rely on tanker and rail arrangements.

Since 1998 Turkmenistan increasingly turned to swap agreements with Iran in order to export its oil, with Turkmen oil being delivered to the Iranian Caspian port of Neka.

In addition to the question of export routes, the five countries surrounding the Caspian Sea remain divided over who owns the resources in the seabed. The littoral states have yet to agree on a legal framework governing the Sea's resources, with the environmental risks and potential oil and gas wealth heightening the stakes for each country (the Oil and Gas Industry and Natural Resources Ministry of Turkmenistan reported recently that oil and gas reserves in the disputed Turkmen sector of the Caspian Sea were estimated at 81 billion barrels and 194 trillion cubic feet--Tcf--respectively). Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan remain locked in a dispute over the Serdar/Kyapaz field, and, in addition, Turkmenistan claims that portions of the Azeri and Chirag fields--which Ashgabat calls Khazar and Osman, respectively--lie within its territorial waters. Turkmenistan has insisted that work at the Azerbaijan International Operating Company's concession at the Azeri and Chirag fields be stopped.

Electricity

Turkmenistan's power sector, while in need of repair to its deteriorating infrastructure,

still provides the country with more than enough electricity to meet its needs.

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