



Department for
International Trade



Department for
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& Industrial Strategy

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
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The Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith QC
Chairman
International Agreements Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

29 December 2020

Dear Lord Goldsmith QC,

Free Trade Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Republic of Turkey

The United Kingdom and Turkey have, today, signed a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The agreement lays the groundwork for an enhanced United Kingdom - Turkey trade relationship in the future – and is significant in its own right for both countries, because it locks in tariff-free trading arrangements today. Our existing trading relationship was worth £18.6 billion of trade in 2019.

The deal will secure preferential tariffs for the 7,600 British businesses that exported goods to Turkey in 2019, ensuring the tariff-free flow of goods and protecting vital United Kingdom-Turkey supply chains in the automotive, manufacturing and steel industries.

It will ensure preferential trading terms for British businesses that exported more than £1 billion worth of machinery and £575 million worth of iron and steel in 2019. Vital supply chains will also be protected for car manufacturers; car exports to Turkey were worth £174m in 2019.


This agreement enables the United Kingdom and Turkey to work towards a more comprehensive, ambitious, British shaped FTA in the future, tailored to our economy. Such an agreement will aim to cover a range of modern FTA issues, like intellectual property, provisions to ensure open and fair competition, and regulations that seek to protect human, animal and plant life health.

In under two years, HM Government has secured trade agreements with 62 countries, plus the EU. Total trade with these countries was worth £885 billion in 2019. This is unprecedented. No other country has ever negotiated so many trade deals simultaneously.

As set out in our election manifesto, we have ambitious goals for Britain's trade. We want to secure free trade agreements with countries that cover 80 per cent of our trade within three years.

We will lay a copy of this agreement in the Libraries of both Houses, alongside an Explanatory Memorandum and a Parliamentary Report to explain our approach to delivering continuity.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grimstone', written in a cursive style.

Lord Grimstone of Boscobel, Kt
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