

Editorial
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The TIKA and the Turkic World

Has the Turkic World taken advantage of the opportunities that emerged at the end of the 20th century? Has the initial romantic enthusiasm paved the way for perennial cooperation? It is not appropriate to look down upon the achievements, but it is also clear that they are not sufficient. In particular, the efforts of TIKA (The Turkish Agency for Cooperation and Coordination), whose very cause of existence is exactly that, have been relegated to the minimum level.

The energy production of the Turkistan geography does not increase simply because there is not market enough. On the other hand, Turkey has to consider its potential energy crisis supplied by countries hostile to her. At times, Turkey, instead of retaliating against those countries, acts complacently. We must also take into consideration the ethnic terrorist activities perpetrated in the last six months nor is much being done about international connections of terrorism along the southeastern border. The developments aim to deter Turkey from getting energy, and having a say on the energy supply lines. If in the last quarter of the past century, Turkey had been able to get natural gas from Turkmenistan, the supporters of ethnic terrorisms could not have been that audacious. If TIKA had fulfilled the duties ascribed to it, the negative effects could have been minimized.

TIKA has failed in meeting the expectations in other areas, too. Specifically speaking, what TIKA has done in the cultural sphere is far from ideal. For instance, the common Turkic alphabet has not come into being. In the Central Asian Turkic Republics, Western companies and trademarks have tried more than TIKA to adopt the common Turkish alphabet, albeit with a different purpose: Latinize the alphabet to promote their products better. Now is the time for the political power; governments should resolve the issue. Unfortunately, even in Kazakhstan, which is more promising than others are, the adoption of the new alphabet will linger on until 2017.

Uzbekistan, which has adopted the Latin alphabet in 2 September 1993, has adopted letters like ch, sh, instead of the Turkish ç, ş sounds. The adoption of o' instead of o is another weird development. If the sound e in the Azerbaijani alphabet would replace e, Turkish reader would follow the Azerbaijani media much more easily.

The foregoing shows that, there is a lot to do to promote cooperation among the Turkic peoples. TIKA must have a leading role in all those, and on the field in all countries. It must develop ways and methods, to help promote and publicize the cause with dexterity. Our Journal, *Journal of Turkology Research*, consider monitoring those activities as part of its cause of existence.

Some authors, who do not know how the procedures work in *JTR*, demand the publication of their work early. It must be noted that *JTR* is a biannual journal, published twice a year, June and December. We do not want the journal overloaded either. We hope you would appreciate our policies.

With the hopes and wishes of bringing you better and more mature issues...

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