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The Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey

# Some research findings on economic cooperation opportunities between Turkey & Armenia

ATNP CONSORTIUM MEETING Istanbul, July 25, 2014

### **Outline**

- TEPAV research summarized in this presentation:
  - → Final report of "Strengthening Connectivity and Business Synergies in the Southern Caucasus" project (supported by the Foreign Ministy of Switzerland) March 2014
  - → Initial findings from "Support to Armenia Turkey Normalization Process" (support by the EU) -- ongoing
- Diagnostics
  - → Regional development perspective
  - Potential trade complementarities,
  - → Armenian economic priorities
  - → Regional and sectoral dimensions -> high synergy areas
- Emerging opportunities and project ideas
  - → Tourism and ICT sectors

# Turkey's rank in the neighborhood country's major trade partners list (2007-2011 Average)

		<b>IMPORTS</b>
Georgia		1
Bulgaria		4
Romania		5
Greece		12
Syria		3
Iran		7
Russia		14
Azerbaijan		2
Iraq		1
Armenia	_	4

Source: BACI database (2007-2011 Average) ,Tepav Calculation



# Turkey's rank in the neighborhood country's major trade partners list (2007-2011 Average)

	EXPORTS
Georgia	1
Bulgaria	2
Romania	4
Greece	5
Syria	6
Iran	8
Russia	9
Azerbaijan	9
Iraq	10
Armenia	?

Source: BACI database (2007-2011 Average) , Tepav Calculation

# Turkey's rank in the neighborhood country's major trade partners list (2007-2011 Average)

	EXPORTS	IMPORTS
Georgia	1	1
Bulgaria	2	4
Romania	4	5
Greece	5	12
Syria	6	3
Iran	8	7
Russia	9	14
Azerbaijan	9	2
Iraq	10	1
Armenia	39	4

Source: BACI database (2007-2011 Average) , Tepav Calculation

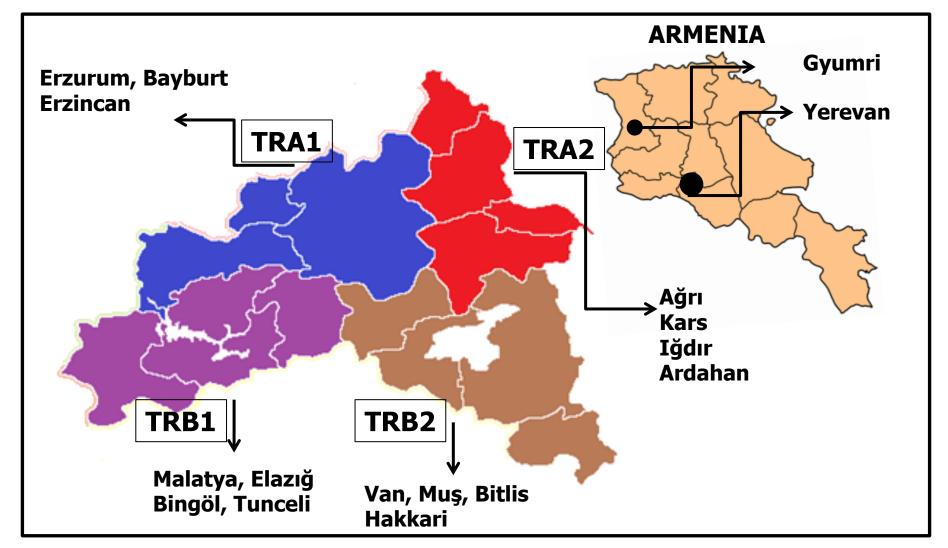
## So, what if ???

Rank	Armenia's Top Export Partners (2007-2011)	Share	Export Volume (million USD)
1	Russia	16 %	184
2	Germany	<b>14</b> %	161
3	Netherlands	9 %	100
4	Bulgaria	8 %	91
5	Yemen	6 %	72
6	Belgium-Luxembourg	6 %	69
7	USA	6 %	67
8	Georgia	5 %	62
9	Canada	4 %	47
10	Spain	3 %	36
	Other	21 %	238
39	Turkey	1 %	14
	TOTAL		1.127

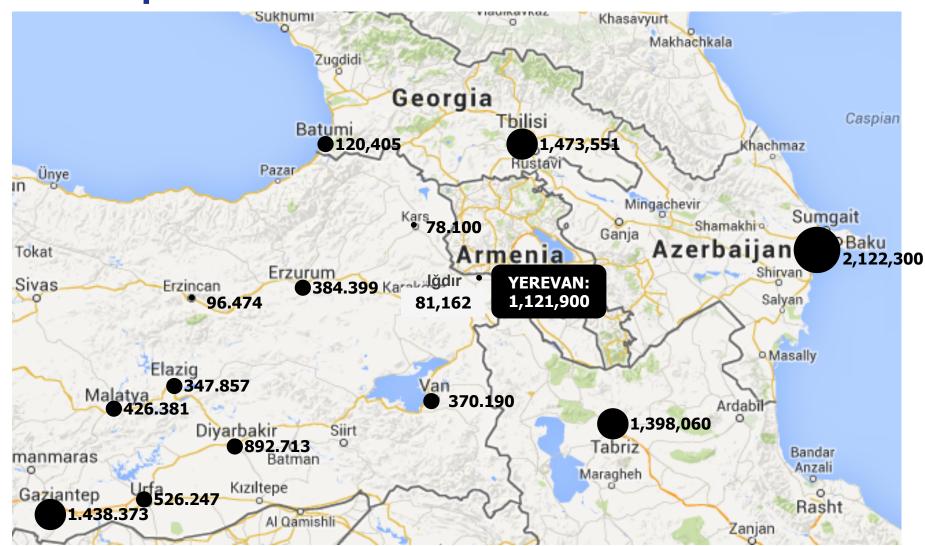
Full normalization could imply a direct increase of 10 % for Armenia's exports, and around 1 % of its GDP

(neglecting
transport costs!)

## Regional perspective: Jointly looking at the Eastern Turkish Economy and Armenia



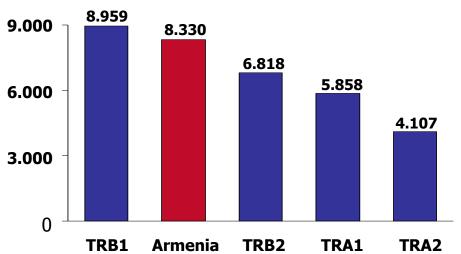
# (1) Yerevan is larger than all the Turkish cities east of Gaziantep: A center of attraction?

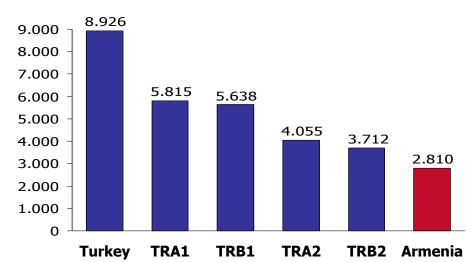


# (2) Armenia appears to be poorer but interestingly, more developed than Turkey's eastern regions

#### Gross Value Added in bn.\$, 2010

#### **GVA per Capita in \$, 2010**





	TRA1	TRA2	TRB1	TRB2	Armenia	Turkey
Total population, millions, 2012	1.07	1.15	1.67	2.08	3.10	74
Share of industry in GDP	16.9	19.5	12.6	15.8	37.1	28
Exports per capita, \$, 2012	26	154	197	181	429	2061
Gross secondary enrollment, 2010-11	89%	64%	108%	65%	92%	82%
Hospital beds per 1000 people, 2010	3.7	1.4	3.6	1.9	4.0	2.5
Motor vehicles per 1000 people, 2010	66	23	69	20	103*	155

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## Any product complementarities at the regional level? (1)

For Turkish products in Armenian market

<u>Armenia's imports vs TR A – TRB – Turkey exports, million USD, top 10 products</u>

HS2	HS2_Name	Armenia's imports	2002-2012 Change	Turkey's exports	TRATRB
27	MINERAL FUELS MINERAL OILS AND PRODUCTS OF THEIR DISTILLATION	902,9	434.99%	7,708	
84	MACHINERY, BOILERS,	385,5	636.40%	11,999	
85	ELECTRICAL TELEVISION IMAGE AND SOUND	212,8	337.86%	9,373	
99	COMPLETE INDUSTRIAL PLANT	186,5	941.58%	148,2	000
71	NATURAL OR CULTURED PEARLS	178,7	-15.27%	16,325	
87	VEHICLES OTHER THAN RAILWAY OR TRAMWAY	169,4	617.09%	15,148	
10	CEREALS	152,5	211.75%	170,3	000
39	PLASTICS AND ARTICLES THEREOF	119,9	650.26%	5,012	000
30	PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	110,9	361.11%	661,7	
72	IRON AND STEEL	102,4	593.62%	11,332	0

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## Any product complementarities at the regional level? (2)

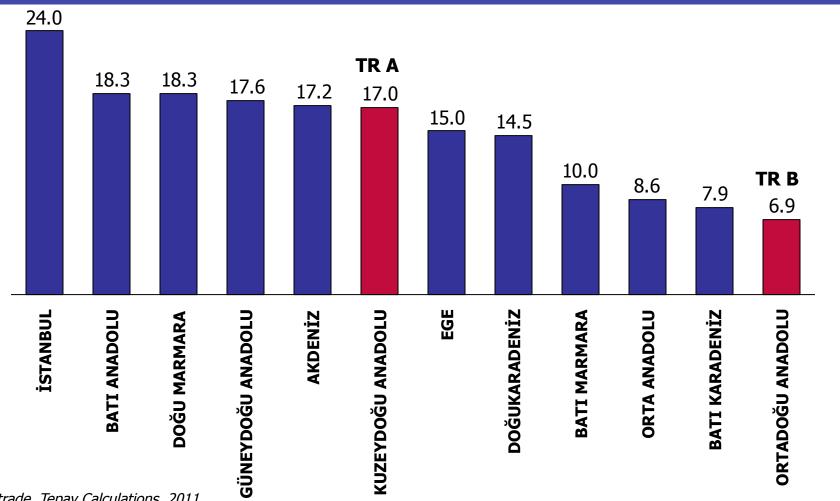
For Armenian products in the Turkish market

<u>Armenia's exports vs TR A – TRB – Turkey imports, million USD, top</u> 10 products

HS2	HS2_Name	Armenia's Export	2002-2012 Change	Turkey's Import	TRATRB TR
26	ORESSLAG AND ASH	279	316,2%	1.260	000
22	BEVERAGES SPIRITS AND VINEGAR	187	1343,9%	213	000
71	NATURAL OR CULTURED PEARLS	173	889,1%	8.529	000
72	IRON AND STEEL	119	702,7%	19.642	00
74	COPPER AND ARTICLES THEREOF	111	-33,2%	3.878	000
27	MINERAL FUELS MINERAL OILS AND PRODUCTS OF THEIR DISTILLATION	108	930,1%	20.646	
76	ALUMINIUM AND ARTICLES THEREOF	88	849,1%	2.984	000
88	AIRCRAFT SPACECRAFT AND PARTS THEREOF	48.8	397,3%	3.153	000
24	TOBACCOAND MANUFACTURED TOBACCO SUBSTITUTES	41.9	162,8%	487	000
84	NUCLEAR REACTORS BOILERS	24.3	19783,6%	26.213	000

#### (3) Indeed, most of the economic opportunities for Armenia are «currently» in the Istanbul market

Complementarity Index value between Armenian imports and Turkish Exports (2011)



# (4) Overview of the Armenian policy framework – recent issues

- Search for a new growth model
  - → Accumulation, competition, connectivity
  - → High value products, air freight: a new Israel emerging?
  - → National Competitiveness Foundation of Armenia
  - → Benefiting from Diaspora networks in ICT, Tourism, Life Sciences (nuclear medicine)
- EurAsEc Customs Union
  - → Upside: easier access to CIS markets
  - Downside: rates for Turkish goods may go up
- Open skies
  - → Air transport opening up to full competition
  - → Lower transport costs, expected increase in passengers (tourism) and freight (exports)

## Where and how can we find the business synergies?

- At the product level, complementarities are not directly visible at the industrial product level
  - → Manufacturing structure of Armenia landlocked country with problematic borders
- Taking a look at the broader, sectoral areas, with a dynamic perspective?
  - Including the services and agricultural sectors.
- Four main categories of assessment:
  - (1) How closed border affect business interaction?
  - (2) Does the sector carry political priority in Armenia?
  - (3) Is the sector open to SMEs?
  - (4) How relevant for Turkish economic policy?

#### Results from our sectoral assessment

: High level

: Medium level

: Low level

	Border problem?	Armenia Policy Priority?	SME Orientation?	Policy relevance for Turkey?
GOODS				
Primary Goods (mining)				
Food and Agricultural				
<b>Construction Materials</b>				
Pharmaceuticals				
Textiles and Apparel				
Machinery and Electronics				
Other Man. (Jewelery etc.)				
<u>SERVICES</u>				
ICT				
Energy				
Construction and Engineering				
Retail				
Education				Ō
Finance				
Health				
Tourism and Hospitality				
Transport and Logistics				

### (5) Two sectors stand out: ICT and tourism

: High level

Medium level

: Low level

	Border problem?	Armenia Policy Priority?	SME Orientation?	Policy relevance for Turkey?
GOODS				
Primary Goods (mining)				
Food and Agricultural				
<b>Construction Materials</b>				
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Energy				
Construction and Engineering				
Retail				
Education				
Finance				
Health				
Tourism and Hospitality				
Transport and Logistics				

# **Shortlisted sector (2): ICT**

#### **Current State**

- One of the leading sectors in Armenia
  - → Total share of IT, Telecom, Systems development and Engineering Sectors in GDP > 6% (higher than of US & India)
  - → 22% CAGR (2008-11)
- Export-oriented sector
  - Not negatively affected by connectivity problem
  - → Share of ICT exports in total =8.5%
  - → 8.9% CAGR (2008-2011)

#### **Relevance for Turkey**

- Centers of excellence in Armenia, human capital
  - → Key constraint in Turkish ICT
- Tapping entrepreneurial potential in Armenia
  - → Demand of prosperous and commercializable business plans
  - → Raising capacity of technoparks & innovation centers & incubators

#### **Enablers**

- Public incentives for ICT sector
  - → Spur of investment, Support to startups, Copyright protection, Streamlining business registration
- Diaspora links with US & Russia
- Soviet manufacturing inheritance
- Better connectivity with Turkey

## **Shortlisted sector (1): Tourism**

#### **Current State**

- Fast growing sector in Armenia
  - → 24% CAGR in revenues (2002-10)
  - → 15% CAGR in visitors (2007-11)
- 400,000 visitors per year from Diaspora
- 70.000 Armenian tourists to Turkey in 2012
  - Connectivity problem: flights are rare and expensive

#### **Relevance for Turkey**

- Turning Eastern Anatolia into a tourism destination
  - → South Caucasus Tours
- Potential areas of cooperation
  - Marketing Yerevan as a destination for Turkish upper middle class, similar to Greek Islands
  - VIP and health tourism with helicopters across the border

#### **Enablers**

- Open skies agreement
  - → chance for new/increased flights
  - → 10% reduction in prices, 20-25% increase in tourists
- Van-Yerevan flights, raised high interest but got cancelled

## **Open Skies: A shift in air transport?**

- Era of monopoly recently ended
  - → Armenia had a monopolistic airlines market, presence of one national airline (Armavia), (Until April 2013)
  - → Passengers used to prefer other routes to travel to Armenia
- Very recent Open Skies impact on flights
  - → Air France: 3 to 7; Emirates: 7 to 11
- Very high prices on TR-ARM Flights:

	Istanbul - Yerevan	Istanbul - Tbilisi
Round-trip	Armavia: 403 €	THY: 166 € Pegasus: 152 €

Source: THY & Pegasus

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#### Opening of the Çıldır-Aktaş border gate:

#### Distance between Yerevan-Kars soon to be halved

- Sarpy
  - Main transportation gate
- Posof Türkgözü:
  - → It remains limited in the winter months.
- Çıldır Aktaş: De jure open, de facto closed since 1995
  - Construction started (2013)
  - → Convenient winter climate



#### Distances of selected routes through border gates (in km)

	Gyumri – Kars	Yerevan- Kars	Tblisi- Kars
Over Sarpy	462	507	527
Over Posof- Türkgözü	325	470	440
Over Aktaş	235	375	390
Assuming open borders with Armenia	85	230	265

# Modern Silk Road: Routes over Southern Caucasus in the Middle Corridor



# Opportunities & challenges on using

transport routes

- In 2010 BSEC entry permits were granted for transit of Armenian trucks via Turkey
- Development of Rize port can potentially create competition to Poti
- But challenges remain:
  - → Another issue is the issuance of work visas for Armenian truck drivers entering Turkey.
  - → The excise cargo deposit applied by Turkey.
- Other admin barriers:
  - → "AM" code issue
  - → Risk of "one-window" border crossing

