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ISTANBUL – Turkey's Development Minister Cevdet Yılmaz briefed foreign investors about investment opportunities in Turkey at a business summit in Istanbul Saturday.

Speaking at the submit organized by BKR International, a major association of independent accounting and business advisers, Yılmaz said, "The custom union with the EU came into effect in 1996 and Turkey's trade volume with the EU has since reached a remarkable level. Thanks to the advantages of the Custom Union, Turkey has become an attraction center of companies from Asian origin."



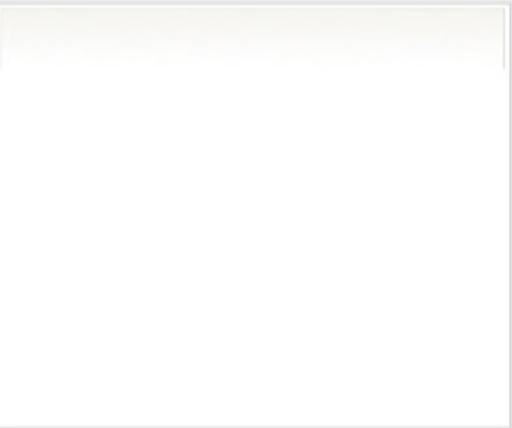
Turkey's strategic position between Europe, Asia and Africa has made it attractive to companies, according to the country's development minister

Yılmaz also mentioned the geographical importance of Turkey. "Turkey is located in the heart of Europe, Asia and Africa, it is of crucial importance for the region and rest of the world, we are just in the middle of three continent with a lot of historical and economic ties," he said.

"We will first turn Istanbul into a regional financial center and in time a global financial center," Yılmaz informed conference attendees and provided information on plans for a third airport in Istanbul.

BKR International, hosting a conference for the first time in Istanbul, represents over 155 independent accounting business advisory firms in over 75 countries.

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