

# Conference Report: 2018 BRICA Istanbul Summit

Nov.13, 2018



## 2018 Belt and Road Industrial and Commercial Alliance (BRICA) Istanbul Summit (Oct 18-19, 2018, Istanbul, Turkey)

On October 18-19, Belt and Road Industrial and Commercial Alliance (BRICA) Istanbul Summit co-hosted by CFIE and TÜSİAD in collaboration with BRICA Secretariat was successfully held in Istanbul, Turkey, marking the second high-level multinational business event within the BRICA cooperative framework with broad member participation.

### Background

Since its establishment on June 16, 2016, BRICA has extended its membership to 31 renowned and leading industrial and commercial organizations from 29 countries and regions. Within this cooperative framework, a number of bilateral and multilateral activities have been successfully held with BRICA annual summit being the most important and influential among them all. With Turkey's high interest in engaging the Belt and Road Initiative, TÜSİAD as the founding BRICA member applied to host the BRICA Istanbul Summit 2018 ([www.bricaistanbul.com](http://www.bricaistanbul.com)). The summit gained much attention and support from both Chinese and Turkish central government throughout its preparation, including:

#### CHINESE SIDE:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Commerce
- National Development and Reform Commission
- Chinese Embassy to Turkey

#### TURKISH SIDE:

- Ministry of Treasury and Finance
- Ministry of Trade
- Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure
- Turkish Embassy to China

### Highlights

The summit broadly engaged 750 high-level business representatives from 27 countries & regions, including CFIE's high-level business delegation of approximately 50 representatives (including 10 speakers) from leading Chinese enterprises from a variety of sectors: automotive, energy, machinery, electronics, transportation, asset management etc...

In the two-day event, delegates discussed the present and prospects of the Belt and Road Initiative from a full set of perspectives while exploring business opportunities in Turkey, China and BRICA member states and discussing how to avail the BRICA cooperative framework to further facilitate bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

On the first day of the summit, Treasury and Finance Minister of Turkey Berat Albayrak (Photo 1); Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Yu Hongyang; Chairman of TÜSİAD Erol Bilecik, Executive Vice Chairman and Secretary General of CFIE & BRICA Xiong Meng, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Suma Chakrabarti and President of TÜSİAD China Network Korhan Kurdoğlu made the opening speeches.

After the end of the sessions on the first day of the summit, the Gala Dinner sponsored by İşbank was held with the participation of Trade Minister of Turkey, Ruhsar Pekcan. (Photo 2)



### Some of the Prominent Speakers:

- Mr. Erol Bilecik, President of TÜSİAD
- Mr. Korhan Kurdoğlu, President of TÜSİAD China Network
- Mr. Xiong Meng, BRICA Secretary General; Executive Vice Chairman & Secretary General of CFIE
- Mr. Berat Albayrak, Minister of Treasury and Finance of Turkey
- Ms. Ruhsar Pekcan, Minister of Trade of Turkey
- Mr. Enver İşkurt, Deputy Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of Turkey
- Mr. Yu Hongyang, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Turkey
- Mr. Suma Chakrabarti, President of EBRD
- Mr. Cedrik Neike, Member of the Managing Board of SIEMENS AG
- Mr. Mukhtar Hussain, Group General Manager, Head of Belt & Road Initiative, Asia Pasific, HSBC
- Mr. Xiangyang Gao, Chairman of the Board, ICBC Turkey
- Lord Robin Janvrin, UK Prime Minister's Trade Envoy
- Mr. Christian Ewert, President of Amfori
- Mr. William Chui, Europe Regional Director of Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)
- Mr. Murat Kolbaşı, Chairman of DEİK Turkey - China Business Council
- Mr. Taner Horoz, CEO of Horoz Lojistik
- Mr. Özgür Soy, CEO of Kumport Liman Hizmetleri ve Lojistik San. ve Tic. A.Ş.
- Mr. Matej Zakonjšek, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner for Transport of European Commission
- Mr. Shen Andong, Vice President of Beijing Automotive Group Co Ltd.
- Mr. Yang Guangyao, Vice President and COO of BOARD Group
- Ms. Li Ge, Chairman of the Supervisor Committee of XCMG Construction Machinery Co. Ltd.
- Ms. Fan Hongli, General Manager of China National Electronics Imp.&Exp. Beijing Co.
- Ms. Zhi Peng, Secretary General of Zhongguancun M&A Promotion Association; Executive Vice President of Tsinghua Asset Management Group
- Mr. Zhang Jianwei, Vice Chairman of SINOTRANS & CSC Holdings Co. Ltd
- Mr. Xiong Lixin, Vice President of Powerchina International Group Limited
- Ms. Zhang Mei, General Manager of Kunming Meilin Science and Technology Co., Ltd.
- Mr. Sun Ho, Chairman of Chang Cheng Insurance Brokers Ltd.

### Participant Countries & Regions:

USA, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Netherlands, Sweden, Poland, Bulgaria, Malta, Portugal, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Japan, Djibouti, Afghanistan, China, Hong Kong (China), United Arab Emirates, Turkey

### Topics in Discussion:



#### SPECIAL FOCUS ON:

- Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
- Turkey: Crossroads of the Continents
- Regions/Continents from BRI Perspective
- Digital BRI
- Regulatory Cooperation & Dispute Settlement
- Banking-Finance-Insurance

#### MEDIA COVERAGE:

- **Journalist:** 41 journalists attending the Summit
- **Printed media:** 68 news about BRICA Istanbul Summit on all mainstream newspapers in Turkey; 4 pages prepared specifically for BRICA Istanbul Summit in Dünya Newspapers published on October 19, which is the most important business and economy journal of Turkey.
- **Online media:** 523 news
- **TV media:** partly broadcasted live on 3 TV channels (Bloomberg HT, TRT, A Para); 4 TV channels (ATV, TRT1, NTV, Ulusal Kanal) reporting BRICA event as news during their bulletins



#### SECTORAL FORUMS ON:

- Transportation-Logistics
- Smart Cities
- EPC-"Engineering, Procurement, Construction"
- E-Commerce
- Tourism-Culture
- Think-Tank and Academic Approach

### Sponsors:

BRICA Istanbul Summit was supported by HSBC Turkey and Siemens as Gold Sponsors, Garanti Bank as Event Sponsor, İşBank as Gala Dinner Sponsor, TFI Tab Food Investments as Lunch Sponsor, Arzum OKKA as Coffee Break Sponsor, Mazars Denge as Knowledge Partner, Çimtaş and Çitam as contributors.

### Achievements:

- Building a broad platform for practical exchanges and potential business cooperation among BRICA member countries, China and Turkey in particular.
- Showcasing business opportunities of BRICA member countries with a special focus on business environment & potential projects in Turkey, eg. Istanbul new airport.
- Mobilizing BRICA members' enthusiasm to participate in future BRICA activities.
- Increasing BRICA's international media exposure and recognition among business communities in relevant countries.
- Enhancing China-Turkey business relations and facilitating pragmatic bilateral project cooperation.

For further details about BRICA Istanbul Summit 2018, you may go into the website: [www.bricaistanbul.com](http://www.bricaistanbul.com)

Please visit TÜSİAD ([www.tusiad.org](http://www.tusiad.org)) and BRICA Istanbul Summit websites for the videos of 27 Summit speakers about their assessments on the BRICA.

Annex: BRICA Istanbul Summit Brochure

\*BRICA Secretariat is now in close contact with several BRICA members highly interested in hosting BRICA annual summit 2019 and welcomes any additional proposals and suggestions from member organizations regarding next year's event.