

## **Türkiye-North Macedonia Business Forum**

### **Panel Session I-Bilateral Cooperation: Trade, Industry, Manufacturing and Supply Chains**

**12 June 2026, Grand Cevahir Hotel,**

**Minister of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources Sanja  
Božinovska,**

**Minister of Economy and Labor of Besar Durmishi,**

**Deputy Ministry of Industry and Technology ...,**

**Honorable Participants,**

Let me now open Panel Session I, which focuses on bilateral trade, industry, manufacturing and supply chains, the core of what our two economies can build together.

Our bilateral trade stood at 886 million USD in 2025. Türkiye's exports to North Macedonia reached 710 million USD, led by steel, machinery and electrical equipment while imports stood at 176 million USD. Türkiye's cumulative direct investment reached 384 million USD, making us one of North Macedonia's most significant foreign investors. These are solid numbers but they reflect only a fraction of where we could be.

North Macedonia's total trade volume exceeds 21.5 billion USD and the ratio of external trade to GDP is above 110%. This is one of the most open economies in the region, highly integrated into global value chains, and actively positioning itself as a destination for quality foreign investment. For Turkish companies in manufacturing, logistics, energy and construction, that is a signal worth paying attention to.

With that context in mind, “At a time of global geo-economic shifts, restructuring of supply chains, and an accelerated green and digital transformation of industry, how is North Macedonia positioning itself as a reliable partner and an attractive investment destination for Turkish companies, and in what way can the Government’s new policies – from investment support and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises to the establishment of green industrial zones – open a new chapter in economic cooperation between the two countries?”

I now give the floor to Mr. Besar Durmishi, Minister of Economy and Labor;

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Thank you Excellency.

And I now give the floor to Ms. Sanja Božinovska, Minister of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources asking, How is North Macedonia positioning itself in relation to the energy transition, the development of renewable energy sources, energy storage systems, and the adoption of new technologies in the energy sector? What are the biggest challenges facing the country’s energy system, and what measures are being taken to address them, including investments, grid infrastructure, and new technologies?

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Thank you Excellency.

I now give the floor to ... from the Ministry of Industry and Technology of Türkiye asking, as global supply chains are being reconfigured, what opportunities do you see for strengthening Türkiye–North Macedonia cooperation in trade, manufacturing, investment, and industrial partnerships? How do you envision the future of economic and investment relations between Türkiye and North Macedonia in this evolving global context?

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Thank you Excellency.

I believe we have had a productive meeting. I'd like to thank everyone for your participation and those whose efforts and supports made this event possible.

Thank you.

**Nail OLPAK**

**President of DEİK**