

Turkey in the World Economy: Challenges and Perspectives

Bachelor Seminar in International Economics

Chair of International Economics

Prof. Dr. Volker Clausen, University of Duisburg-Essen, Campus Essen

Winter Semester 2025/26

Overview

This year's Bachelor seminar in International Economics in the Bachelor program focuses on current economic developments in Turkey and its role in the global economy. Central aspects of the Turkish economy in an international context will be addressed, including Turkey's trade relations with the European Union, the role of foreign direct investment and international migration flows. Participants will work on these topics independently by preparing a seminar paper and an accompanying presentation. Successful completion of the seminar confers 6 ECTS credits, which can be counted according to the credit options listed below.

Organisation

Target group and credits The seminar is offered to Bachelor students of Business Administration and Economics. Students from other degree programmes cannot earn credit. A prerequisite for participation is proof of 72 ECTS credits from the core studies. Depending on the topic's content, knowledge from the bachelor courses *Reale Außenwirtschaft* and/or *Monetäre Außenwirtschaft* is also required. Basic knowledge of the Turkish economy and its international economic relations is advantageous. Economics students may count the seminar toward the *mandatory seminar module* or alternatively the *elective module*. Business Administration students may count it toward the *supplementary seminar module*.

Seminar paper Requirements include the mandatory attendance at a preparatory meeting at the beginning of the lecture period (probably in the second week), submission of a written paper of about 15 pages of body text¹ by the deadline and delivery of a presentation supported by slides. To obtain credit, a grade of at least 4.0 (sufficient) must be achieved in both the written paper and the presentation. The preparatory meeting provides an introduction to writing academic texts and giving presentations; it also offers an opportunity for discussion and clarification of open questions. After that, questions can only be addressed in a one-hour outline meeting with the supervisor.

¹This applies only if the formatting guidelines have been observed.

Block seminar Presentations will take place as a block seminar around mid-January. The exact date will be arranged with the participants. A one-page thesis handout, to be submitted at least one week before the presentation and briefly explained to the supervisor, is part of the requirements. It helps the other participants follow the presentation and ensures a clear structure.

Registration Registrations must be submitted in writing to Mehmet Burak Akren (R12 R07 A11). Registration is open immediately until and including 03 October 2025 (deadline). Prior registration for office hours by e-mail is mandatory: mehmet.akren@vwl.uni-due.de. Bring the completed registration form attached to this document. Registering simultaneously for seminars at other chairs may result in exclusion from both.

After the deadline you have one week to withdraw from the seminar without consequences. Please do so promptly so that other students may switch topics without losing further time.

Topic allocation Please indicate a first and second preference when registering. Each topic can be assigned to up to two students. Ensuring coverage of all topic areas has priority. Allocation takes place after the registration deadline. Early familiarisation with the provisional topic is welcome but does not entitle you to it.

Coordination / materials All information will be communicated via the Moodle course room, including introductory literature, scheduling and all other arrangements.

Literature The sources listed are introductory reading. Independent study of additional literature is essential and should rely exclusively on scholarly sources such as peer-reviewed journals and reputable working-paper series. To evaluate your sources, you can use, for example, the journal rankings of Handelsblatt, Scimago, VHB and the Institute for the World Economy. Some literature is subject to license and can therefore only be downloaded via the university network.

Schedule Within three weeks after the introductory session all participants must consult their supervisor with

- An outline that already shows a logical thread and follows a consistent style,
- A preliminary bibliography that contains the key sources and follows the formal requirements and
- A drafted introduction (about one page) giving an impression of the planned content and structure.

All three documents must be submitted to the supervisor by e-mail before the outline meeting. Writing the seminar paper full-time should take about 3–4 weeks, plan accordingly.

Submission Two printed copies of the seminar paper, stapled with a prong fastener, must be submitted no later than *19 December 2025, 12:00 pm* to the chair's secretary's office (R12 R07 A05). A digital version must be e-mailed to the supervisor by the same deadline.

Formalities Guidelines on formal requirements are available in Moodle. Serious violations may lead to grade deductions or even failure.

Seminar Topics

Introductory literature and additional articles are available in Moodle.

Topic 1: Trade Relations between Turkey and the EU

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- Antonucci, D., Manzocchi, S. (2006). Does Turkey have a special trade relation with the EU? A gravity model approach. *Economic Systems*, 30(2), 157–169. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0939362506000124?via%3Dihub>
- Krugman, P. R., Obstfeld, M., & Melitz, M. J. (2022). Chapter 2 - World Trade: An Overview. *International economics: Theory and policy (12th ed.)*, Pearson. <https://elibrary.pearson.de/book/99.150005/9781292409795>
- Altay, S. (2024). Trade Policy Review of Turkey. *The World Economy*, 47(9), 3861–3892. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/twec.13609>

Topic 2: Turkey and the Dynamics of International Migration

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- Dustmann, C., Schönberg, U., Stuhler, J. (2016). The Impact of Immigration: Why Do Studies Reach Such Different Results? *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 30(4), 31–56. <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.30.4.31>
- Aksu, E., Erzan, R., Kırdar, M. G. (2022). The impact of mass migration of Syrians on the Turkish labor market. *Labour Economics*, 76. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0927537122000744?via%3Dihub>
- OECD (2024). *International Migration Outlook 2024*. OECD Publishing, Paris. <https://doi.org/10.1787/50b0353e-en>

Thema 3: Foreign direct investment in Turkey

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- Deichmann, J., Karidis, S., & Sayek, S. (2003). Foreign direct investment in Turkey: regional determinants. *Applied Economics*, 35(16), 1767–1778. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0003684032000126780>
- Temiz, D., Gökmen, A. (2014). FDI inflow as an international business operation by MNCs and economic growth: An empirical study on Turkey. *International Business Review*, 23 (1), 145–154. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2020.04.017>

- Krugman, P. R., Obstfeld, M., & Melitz, M. J. (2022). Chapter 8 - Firms in the Global Economy: Export and Foreign Sourcing Decisions and Multinational Enterprises. *International economics: Theory and policy (12th ed.)*, Pearson. <https://elibrary.pearson.de/book/99.150005/9781292409795>

Topic 4: The green transformation in Turkey

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- World Bank Group. (2022). Türkiye Country Climate and Development Report (CCDR Series). <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/01826a0c-059f-5a0c-91b7-2a6b8ec5de2f>
- International Labour Organization & United Nations Development Programme. (2022). Social and Employment Impacts of Climate Change and Green Economy Policies in Türkiye: Application of the Green Jobs Assessment Model for Türkiye (Green Jobs Assessment Model series) . <https://www.undp.org/turkiye/publications/social-and-employment-impacts-climate-change-and-green-economy-policies-turkiye>
- Gözkün, K. A., Orhangazi, Ö. (2025). Green transition for Turkey: Growth, employment, and trade deficit effects. *Energy Policy*, 202, Article 114577 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.enpol.2025.114577>

Topic 5: Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) as a guide to the exchange rate

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- Froot, K. A., & Rogoff, K. (1995). Perspectives on PPP and long-run real exchange rates. In G. M. Grossman & K. Rogoff (Eds.), *Handbook of International Economics (Vol. 3, pp. 1647–1688)*. Elsevier. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1573-4404\(05\)80012-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1573-4404(05)80012-7)
- Rogoff, K. S. (1996). The purchasing power parity puzzle. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 34(2), 647–668 <https://www.jstor.org/stable/2729217>
- Krugman, P. R., Obstfeld, M., & Melitz, M. J. (2022). Chapter 16 - Price Levels and the Exchange Rate in the Long Run. *International economics: Theory and policy (12th ed.)*, Pearson. <https://elibrary.pearson.de/book/99.150005/9781292409795>

Topic 6: Economic crises in Turkey since 2018 and their macroeconomic policy

Supervisor: Mehmet Burak Akren, M.A.

Introductory literature:

- Orhangazi, Ö., Yeldan, E. (2021). The Re-making of the Turkish Crisis. *Development and Change*, 52(3), 460–503. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dech.12644>
- Orhangazi, Ö., Yeldan, E. (2023). Turkey in turbulence: Heterodoxy or a new chapter in neoliberal peripheral development? *Development and Change*, 54(5), 1197–1225. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dech.12644>
- Gürkaynak, R., Kısacıkoğlu, B., & Lee, S. (2023). Consequences of weak monetary policy: Learning from the Turkish experience. *VoxEU CEPR*. <https://cepr.org/voxeu/columns/consequences-weak-monetary-policy-learning-turkish-experience>

Registration for the IER Seminar

I hereby register *bindingly* for the seminar *Bachelor Seminar in International Economics: Turkey in the World Economy: Challenges and Perspectives* in Winter Semester 2025/26 at the Chair of International Economics, taught by Professor Dr. Volker Clausen. After the binding assignment of a topic or after the registration deadline (for both mentioned periods, the earlier one is relevant), I have one week to withdraw from this registration without consequences. A later withdrawal will be reported to the examinations office as a failed attempt. Parallel registration for seminars at other chairs will be penalised.

Last name _____

First name _____

Date of birth _____

Address _____

Email _____

Student ID number _____

Degree programme _____ Semtr. of study _____

Advanced courses attended related to International Economic Relations:

Course _____ Term, grade _____

Course _____ Term, grade _____

Topic preference (number):

Primary _____ Secondary _____

Place / Date, Signature _____