



Dear Mr. President,

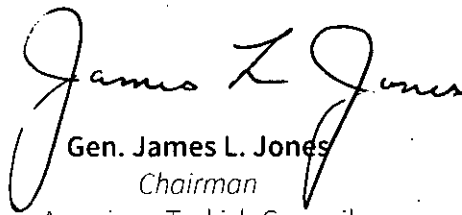
As we face an unprecedented crisis in our long history of cooperation and mutual support, our respective organizations are deeply concerned about the status of our historically strong relationship. We are compelled to express our significant concerns and to implore each of you to please personally negotiate an end to this current situation.

Only through your direct engagement and leadership can we avert further damage to our longstanding relationship and avoid unnecessary hardship to the working men and women in both countries. We pledge the full resources of our respective organizations to support your monumental efforts to stabilize and advance our bilateral economic, political, and strategic relationship.

As the American-Turkish business community we encourage our respective governments to find positive terms and common ground to anchor the relationship. We seek increased dialogue, greater collaboration, and support your efforts to strengthen our trade and investment ties in the near, medium, and long term.

As the situation moves forward, we urge both sides to focus on what binds us, rather than what divides us. Our long-term mutual business interests are deep and broad and as we work our way through this difficult period, we hope your work will keep this in mind.

Sincerely,


Gen. James L. Jones
Chairman
American-Turkish Council


Mehmet Ali Yalçındağ
Chairman
Turkey-US Business Council