

# Selected projects in Türkiye



- 1 Construction of the Çerkezköy-Kapıkule Section of Halkalı-Kapıkule railway line
- 2 Research and innovation on rare earth elements
- 3 Border protection to fight smugglers and counter illegal migration

● Projects not featured on the map

# Construction of the Çerkezköy-Kapıkule Section

of Halkalı-Kapıkule railway line

*The railway line will strengthen relations between Türkiye and the EU.*

**Abdulkadir Uraloğlu**  
Minister of Transport and Infrastructure

## Project description

This project, which is the single-largest EU contribution in Türkiye, aims at enhancing rail connectivity between the EU and Türkiye, as well as Central Asia. The railway line will directly connect Istanbul to the Turkish-Bulgarian border, boosting economic development through facilitated trade and providing faster mobility services to Turkish citizens.

## Funding

Total cost (estimated)

**€1.3**  
billion

EU grant  
**€275** million

IFI loans  
**€150** million

IFI grant  
**€300** million

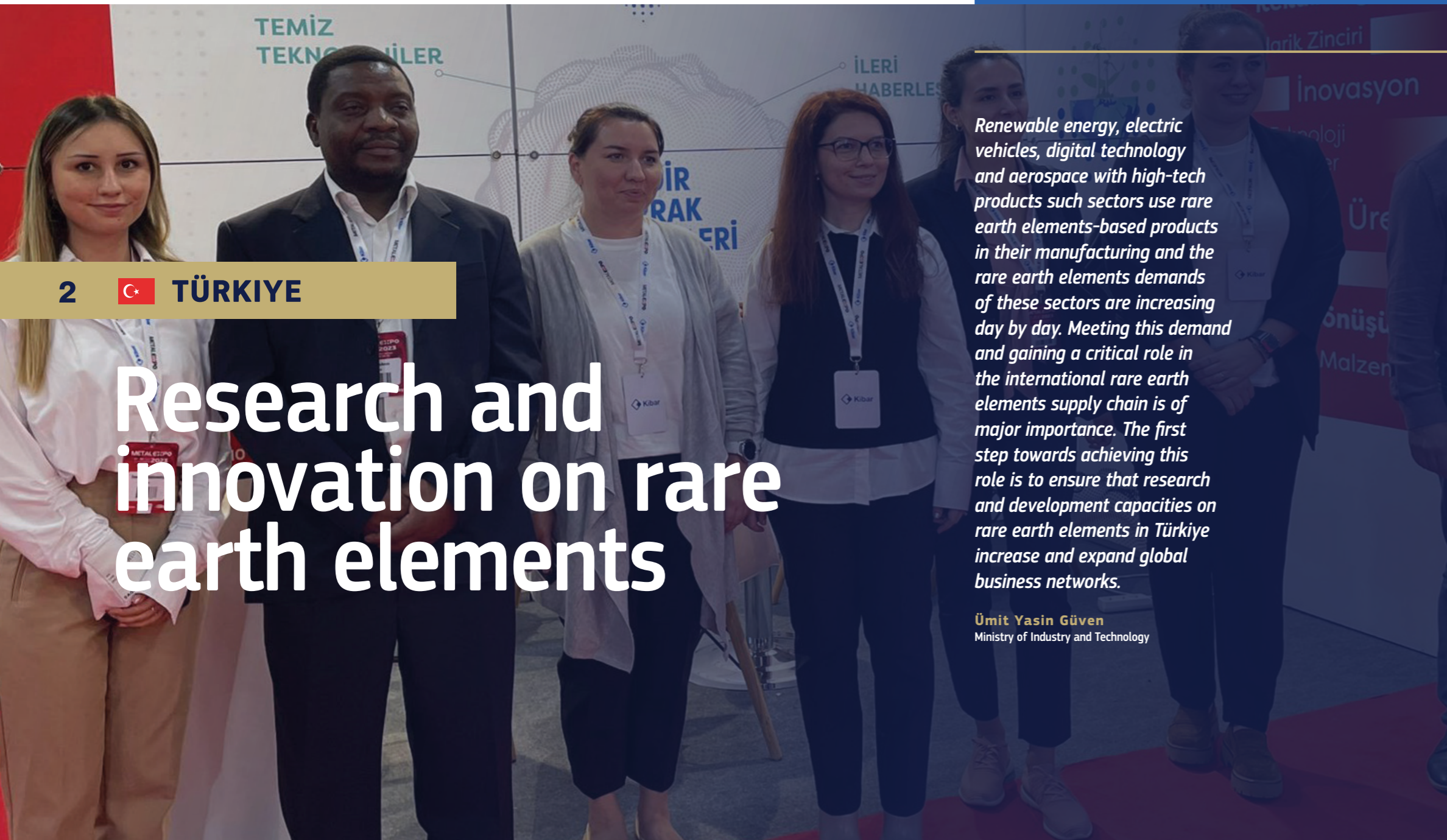
National contribution  
**€545** million

## Impact

- ✓ **231 km long high-speed railway line** built between Halkalı and Kapıkule, including signalling, telecommunication and electrification systems
- ✓ Operational speed increased to **200 km/h** for passenger trains, reducing travel time from 8 hours to **3.5 hours**
- ✓ Freight capacity increased from 1.5 million tonnes to **9.6 million tonnes**
- ✓ Appropriate connection established to the TEN-T Core Network through Bulgaria

BULGARIA





## 2 TÜRKİYE

# Research and innovation on rare earth elements

*Renewable energy, electric vehicles, digital technology and aerospace with high-tech products such sectors use rare earth elements-based products in their manufacturing and the rare earth elements demands of these sectors are increasing day by day. Meeting this demand and gaining a critical role in the international rare earth elements supply chain is of major importance. The first step towards achieving this role is to ensure that research and development capacities on rare earth elements in Türkiye increase and expand global business networks.*

**Ümit Yasin Güven**  
Ministry of Industry and Technology

## Project description

Rare Earth Elements are crucial raw materials and play a key role in sustainable high-tech production activities in Türkiye and the EU's economic sectors. Research & development studies, the development of innovative ideas, exploration of raw materials, enrichment and training of experts are important components to support the sustainable supply of rare earth elements. The project supports the establishment of a sustainable rare earth elements supply chain for Türkiye's economic development and increasing research and development capacity, including through new laboratories and centres. It will transform rare earth elements into high-value added products and recycle them, while also improving business networks and ensuring sustainability.

## Funding

Total investment (estimated)

**€14**  
million

EU grant  
**€11.8** million

National contribution  
**€2.2** million

## Impact

- ✓ **Two new Research and Development Centres**
- ✓ Quality certifications, related to materials production, conformity and operation of laboratories
- ✓ **23 training**, accreditations and capacity-building sessions
- ✓ **A research partnership** for the development of new products
- ✓ **Five innovative products**
- ✓ **Six national and international patent applications**
- ✓ Commercialization of **one eco-innovative product**
- ✓ Contribution of **35 researchers**, including 15 female researchers
- ✓ **Three national patents** and **one international and regional patent**



### 3 TÜRKIYE

# Border protection to fight smugglers and counter illegal migration

*We appreciate very much all the efforts Türkiye is putting into hosting Syrian refugees and protecting its borders. It is a common challenge, where we are contributing. It is quite satisfying to see what a very advanced border protection system is at the border. We are also contributing financially to continue to protect the border and to crack down on smugglers and organised crime groups who want to make use of illegal migrants. Our message today to Türkiye: you can continue to count on Europe as well as we want to count on you.*

**Olivér Várhelyi**  
Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement

## Project description

This project supports the installation of high-technology border management and surveillance equipment, coupled with training and expert support at the borders between Türkiye and Bulgaria, Greece, Iran and Armenia, including command and control shelters. The next phase of the project includes installation of surveillance masts at the border with Iraq as well. It will contribute to the work of the Turkish authorities to protect the border and to crack down on smugglers and organised crime groups who want to make use of illegal migrants.

## Funding

Total investment (estimated)

**€338.5**  
million

EU grant  
**€320.7** million

Other grants  
**€17.8** million

## Impact

- ✓ 112 surveillance masts installed at the Western borders and 250 at the Eastern borders, for a total of **362 masts**
- ✓ 47 command and control shelters installed at the Western border and 86 at the Eastern border, for a total of **133 shelters**
- ✓ **90%** of the Western border fitted with the electro-optical surveillance and communication masts system
- ✓ **170 additional communication and surveillance masts** to be installed along the Eastern and South-Eastern borders

