

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. RES. 358

Expressing the importance of friendship and cooperation between the United States and Turkey.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 29, 2007

Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. BYRD) submitted the following resolution;  
which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the importance of friendship and cooperation  
between the United States and Turkey.

Whereas the United States and Turkey share common ideals  
and a clear vision for the 21st century, in which freedom  
and democracy are the foundation of peace, prosperity,  
and security;

Whereas Turkey is a strong example of a predominantly Mus-  
lim country with a true representative democratic govern-  
ment;

Whereas for more than 50 years a strategic partnership has  
existed between the United States and Turkey, both bi-  
laterally and through the North Atlantic Treaty Organi-  
zation, which has been of enormous political, economic,  
cultural, and strategic benefit to both countries;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has demonstrated its opposition to terrorism throughout the world, and has called for the international community to unite against this threat;

Whereas Turkey maintains an important bilateral relationship with Israel and seeks to play a constructive role in Middle East peace negotiations;

Whereas Operation Enduring Freedom entered its 6th year on October 7th, 2007;

Whereas Turkey commanded the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan twice, from July 2002 to January 2003, and from February 2005 to August 2005;

Whereas Turkey has provided humanitarian and medical assistance in Afghanistan and in Iraq;

Whereas the Government of Turkey has made its base in Incirlik available for United States missions in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Robert Gates credits United States air bases in Turkey with handling 70 percent of all air cargo deployed into Iraq;

Whereas 95 percent of the Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protective vehicles (MRAPs) deployed into Iraq transit through air bases in Turkey;

Whereas MRAPs protect coalition forces from improvised explosive devices and roadside bombs;

Whereas the people of Turkey have been victims of terrorist attacks by Al-Qaeda on November 15, 2003, and November 20, 2003;

Whereas the United States supports Turkey's bid for membership in the European Union; and

Whereas the Secretary of State has listed the Kurdistan Workers' Party, which has taken up arms against Turkey since its founding, as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in accordance with section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2               (1) reiterates its strong support for the strategic alliance between the United States and Turkey;

3               (2) urges Prime Minister Recep Tayyip  
4               Erdogan of Turkey to communicate the continuing  
5               support of the Senate and of the people of the  
6               United States to the people of Turkey;

7               (3) condemns the violent attacks conducted by  
8               the Kurdistan Workers' Party over the last 2 decades;  
9                 
10              (4) urges Kurdish leaders in Iraq to deny safe

11              harbor for terrorists and to recognize bilateral agreements between Iraq and Turkey for cooperation  
12              against terrorism;  
13                
14              (5) encourages the Government of Turkey and

15              the Government of Iraq to continue to work together  
16              to end the threat of terrorism; and  
17                
18              (6) thanks Prime Minister Erdogan and the

19              people and Government of Turkey for—  
20                
21              (A) assuming command of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul,

1           Afghanistan from July 2002 to January 2003,  
2           and from February 2005 to August 2005;

3           (B) providing humanitarian and medical  
4           assistance in Afghanistan and in Iraq;

5           (C) their willingness to contribute to inter-  
6           national peace, stability, and prosperity, espe-  
7           cially in the greater Middle East region; and

8           (D) their continued discussions with offi-  
9           cials in the United States and Iraq regarding  
10          constructive stabilization efforts in northern  
11          Iraq.

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