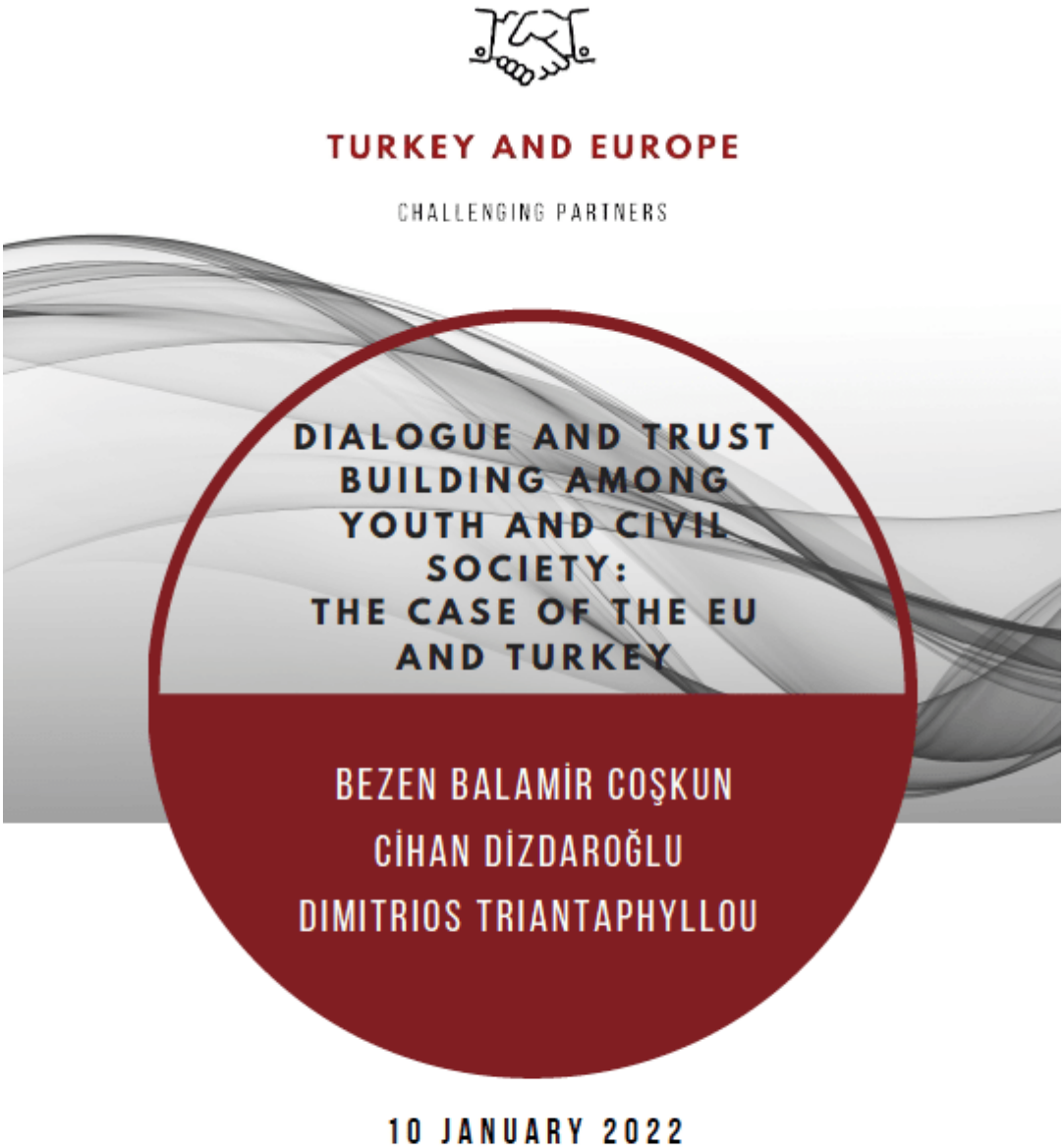
Dialogue and Trust Building Among Youth and Civil Society: The Case of The EU and Turkey



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Since the start of Turkey's accession process, Turkey has been perceived as a challenge by the European Union (EU) and its member states, in terms of security. The prevailing atmosphere of economic, social, and political crises in European states over the last few years have contributed to existing distrust with Turkey, as Ankara has also been slowly evolving into a more autonomous foreign policy actor at the same time, with a diverging normative framework. Despite the existence of an enduring lack of trust, the EU has not stopped perceiving Turkey as a strategic partner. Based on the 'problematique' of Turkey as a partner and simultaneously a challenge for European security, this paper evaluates the challenges, opportunities and prospects for trust building and dialogue between the EU and Turkey, with a particular focus on the youth and civil society.

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