

# Turkey Mends Fences with Israel

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## ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Soner Cagaptay is the Beyer Family Senior Fellow and director of the Turkish Research Program at The Washington Institute.



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## A closer look at Turkey's motivations for normalizing relations with Israel.

**B**elow are key points from Dr. Cagaptay's article on Turkish-Israeli rapprochement. Download the PDF to read the full article.

## Key Points

- Turkey was under little apparent pressure to accept the apology offered by Israel for the 2009 *Mavi Marmara* incident during which Israeli naval commandos killed nine Turkish civilians on a ship attempting to break Israel's economic blockade of the Gaza Strip.
- However, regional political and security concerns and more nuanced Turkish foreign policy objectives have combined to compel Ankara to embrace a normalization of relations with Israel.
- These Turkish concerns include the fallout from the conflict in Syria, competition with Iran, influence over the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and oil and gas exploitation in the Eastern Mediterranean.

*Jane's Islamic Affairs Analyst*

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