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Republican People's Party (CHP) put forward a parliamentary research proposal to the Turkish Grand National Assembly (TBMM) with regards to Ensar and Turgev Foundation's joint NY-based organization Turken Foundation.

As the CHP US Representative Office, we procured the tax filings and financial documents of Turken through the Internal Revenue Service. CHP Member of Parliament Tekin Bingol gave a speech in the Turkish Parliament regarding these documents:

https://youtu.be/J9_QFtgB_MU

Party Chairman Mr. Kemal Kilicdaroglu also shared his party's ideas for funding to fight the Covid-19 during a live broadcast.

In addition to policies such as family insurance, salary guarantee and payment deferral for mega projects, he also demanded that the financial resources of the Erdogan-affiliated NY-based Turken Foundation brought back to Turkey. Kilicdaroglu reminded people that 56.5 million dollars that Turken Foundation received from Turkey in the past five years was funneled through public funds of Istanbul Municipality and Turkish Red Crescent.

The video:

<https://twitter.com/yurterozcan/status/1250392955912957952?s=21>

The interview:

<https://t24.com.tr/haber/canli-kilicdaroglu-t-24-te-hukümetin-salginla-mucadelesi-soyly-nun-istifasi-ve-belediyelerin-calismalari,872856>

Related stories in Turkish media:

<http://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/haber/kilicdaroglu-turkene-yollanan-bagislar-geri-cekilsin-1731104>

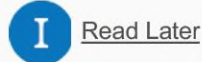
<https://www.milliyet.com.tr/siyaset/kati-tedbirler-sart-6188089>

<https://www.sozcu.com.tr/2020/yazarlar/saygi-ozturk/abdden-kilicdarogluna-gece-gelen-belgeler-5721586/>

<http://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/yazarlar/aykut-kucukkaya/bagis-yemeginde-zarar-ettiler-1732745>

<http://www.cumhuriyet.com.tr/haber/chpden-akpye-kaynak-onerisi-turgev-ve-ensar-vakfinin-abddeki-varliklari-yurda-getirilsin-1732697>





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Who donated \$22.8 million to New York-based pro-Erdogan Turken Foundation between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019? Are Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay) and

Ensar Foundation lying?

Turken, founded jointly in the US by two controversial and pro-government Turkish youth organizations, Ensar and Turgev; received \$56,552,052 in donations between 2014 and 2019. This amount has been used to construct a 21-story building in Manhattan and purchase legendary boxer Muhammad Ali's farm in Michigan.

As the US Representative Office of the Republican People's Party (CHP), we obtained Turken Foundation's July 2018-June 2019 tax returns from the IRS on March 31, 2020. Below, you will find the relevant documents from these tax returns. We have a few questions regarding these:

- 1- Who or which organization made a \$22.8 million donation to Turken Foundation between these dates? As it was reported in the media, were contributions made to Kizilay funneled to Turken through Ensar Foundation?
- 2- If these reports are true, why was only \$8 million announced as the donation from Kizilay to Turken? If they aren't true, where is this \$8 million that are not reported in the tax returns?
- 3- If this donation was made by Ensar Foundation, how much of it was funneled through Kizilay -a government organization-? Is taxpayer money being used to fund a construction in Manhattan?

Form **990** **Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax** OMB No. 1545-0047
 Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)
 ▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
 ▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information. **2018**
 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service **Open to Public Inspection**

A For the 2018 calendar year, or tax year beginning **Jul 1**, 2018, and ending **Jun 30**, 2019

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return/terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization **TURKEN FOUNDATION INC**
 Doing business as
 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
4 WEST, 43RD STREET 316
 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
NEW YORK, NY 10036

D Employer identification number
47-1421022

E Telephone number
(718) 791-5002

G Gross receipts \$ **22,853,649.**

F Name and address of principal officer:
BEHRAM TURAN, 4 WEST, 43RD ST, SUITE 316, NEW YORK, NY 10036

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes No
H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes No
 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ **N/A**

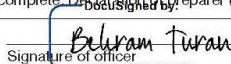
K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other ▶ **L** Year of formation: **2014** **M** State of legal domicile: **NY**

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: PROVIDE STUDENT HOUSING, EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROMOTE CULTURAL AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION.		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	12
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	12
	5 Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2018 (Part V, line 2a)	5	2
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	44
	7a Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	1,058.
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 38	7b	0.	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	1,577,868.	22,845,437.
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	347,539.	7,154.
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	361,657.	1,058.
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)		
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	2,287,064.	22,853,649.
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1–3)	100,000.	
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5–10)	165,711.	79,696.
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 115,469.		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a–11d, 11f–24e)	1,066,725.	856,987.
18 Total expenses. Add lines 13–17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	1,332,436.	936,683.	
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	954,628.	21,916,966.	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	45,318,939.	51,235,136.
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	16,115,286.	114,517.
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	29,203,653.	51,120,619.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here ▶  **03/10/2020**
 Signature of officer Date
BEHRAM TURAN, CHAIRMAN
 Type or print name and title

As you can see below, \$22,845,437 has been received as gifts and contributions between July 2018 and June 2019. \$56,552,052 can also be seen as the total received in five years.

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)						
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 10 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)						
Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2014	(b) 2015	(c) 2016	(d) 2017	(e) 2018	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	24,388,887.	519,670.	7,220,190.	1,577,868.	22,845,437.	56,552,05
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose		67,998.	738,026.	347,539.	7,154.	1,160,71
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513				361,657.		361,65
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5	24,388,887.	587,668.	7,958,216.	2,287,064.	22,852,591.	58,074,42
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
B Public support. (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						58,074,42

In the document below, we can see that almost the entire amount of contributions in this timeframe came from a single donor. Even though the names have been redacted for legal purposes, we can see that \$22,764,187 has been received from a single person or an organization. The other seven donations have been relatively smaller amounts, the largest accounting for \$25,000.

Name of organization: TURKISH FOUNDATION INC Employer identification number: 41-1421022

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1		\$ 22,764,187.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
2		\$ 25,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
3		\$ 12,500.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
4		\$ 5,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
5		\$ 5,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
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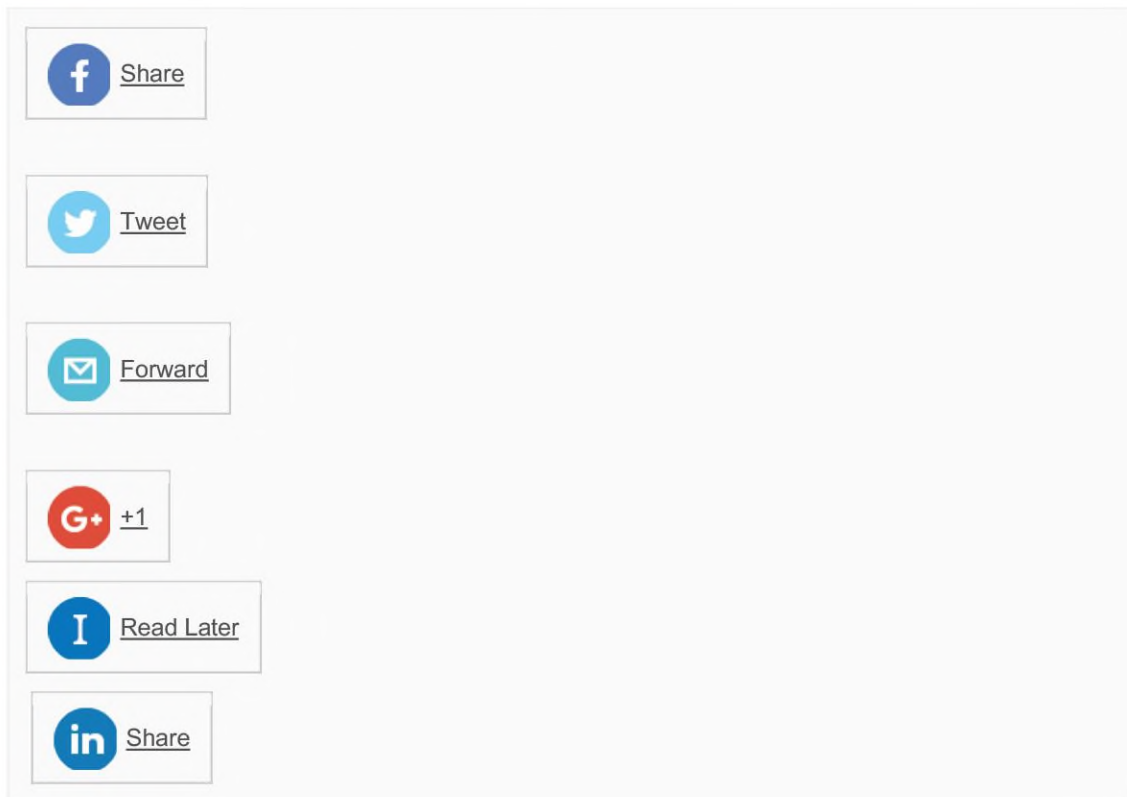
Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
7		\$ 3,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
8		\$ 10,000.	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)

Previously, Ensar Foundation responded to these reports and claimed that the organization made four separate wire transfers of 2 million dollars each for a total of 8 million dollars between November 2018 and February 2019.

However, these documents contradict that claim. Either Ensar made a much larger contribution of \$22,764,187 or never actually made a donation to Turken. This would mean that someone else donated Turken 22,764,187 dollars.

As CHP US Representative Office, we look forward to receiving answers to our questions and we will continue to investigate this.



A vertical stack of six social sharing buttons. From top to bottom: a Facebook 'Share' button with a blue 'f' icon; a Twitter 'Tweet' button with a blue bird icon; an email 'Forward' button with a blue envelope icon; a Google+ '+1' button with a red 'G+' icon; a 'Read Later' button with a blue 'I' icon; and a LinkedIn 'Share' button with a blue 'in' icon.

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A For the 2018 calendar year, or tax year beginning **Jul 1**, 2018, and ending **Jun 30**, 2019

B Check if applicable:
 Address change
 Name change
 Initial return
 Final return/terminated
 Amended return
 Application pending

C Name of organization **TURKEN FOUNDATION INC**
 Doing business as
 Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
4 WEST, 43RD STREET 316
 City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
NEW YORK, NY 10036

D Employer identification number
47-1421022

E Telephone number
(718) 791-5002

G Gross receipts \$ **22,853,649.**

F Name and address of principal officer:
BEHRAM TURAN, 4 WEST, 43RD ST, SUITE 316, NEW YORK, NY 10036

H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes No
H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes No
 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c)(3) 501(c) () ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ **N/A**

K Form of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation: **2014** **M** State of legal domicile: **NY**

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1	Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: <u>PROVIDE STUDENT HOUSING, EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROMOTE CULTURAL AWARENESS THROUGH EDUCATION.</u>	
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	6	Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary) 6 44	
	7a	Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12 7a 1,058.	
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		22	Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20 29,203,653. 51,120,619.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature Here ▶ Behram Turan **03/10/2020**
 Signature of officer **BEHRAM TURAN, CHAIRMAN**
 Date
 Type or print name and title

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 Employer identification number: 41-1421022

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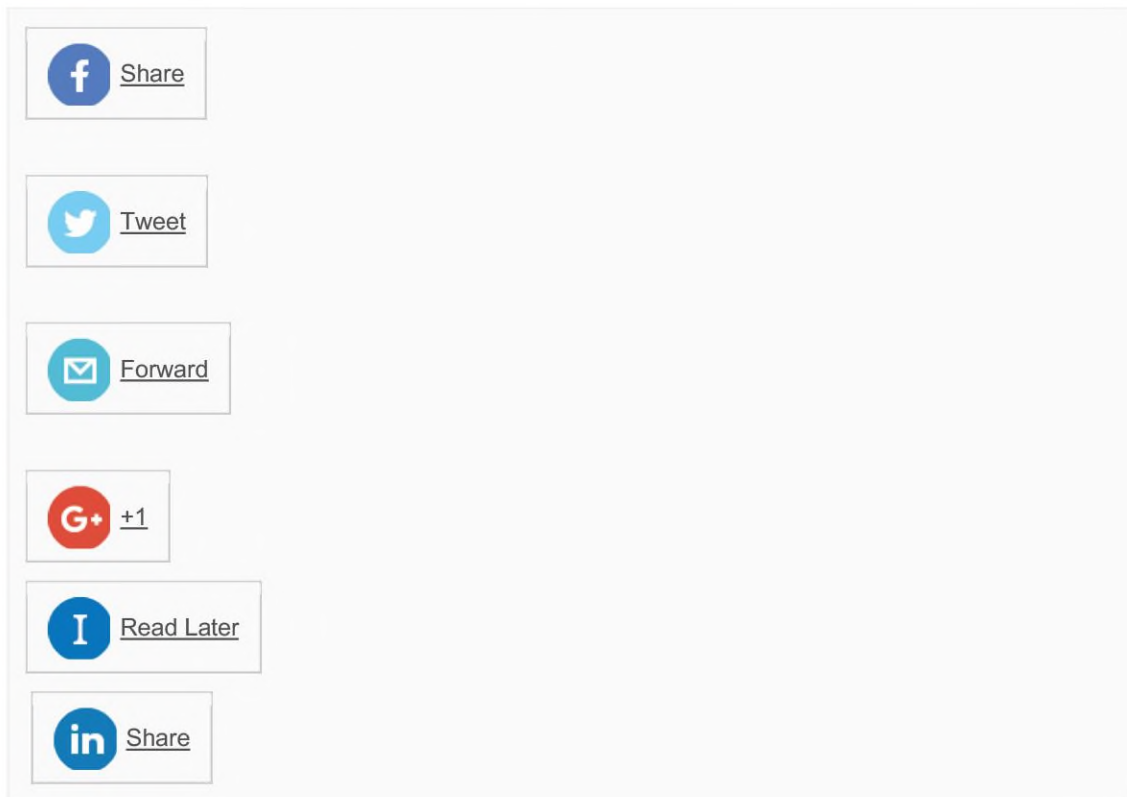
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Turkey's main opposition CHP has filed a parliamentary motion requesting an investigation into the sources of money transfers made to the U.S.-based Türken Foundation, known to have close ties to the ruling AKP.

Turkey's main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) has submitted a parliamentary motion calling for an investigation into the sources of donations made to the U.S.-based Türken Foundation, which is known to have close ties to the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP).

Upon a demand of the CHP, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in 2019 revealed that the foundation had received donations amounting to \$56.5 million since its foundation.

The U.S. law does not permit foundations to receive money from abroad, so it is not entirely clear how the foundation is funded.

CHP leader Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu touched upon this issue during an interview with Murat Sabuncu from T24 on April 15, calling on the foundation "to send back the \$22 million it received from Turkish public institutions."

Kılıçdaroğlu was referring to the donations that were transferred from the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality (İBB) as well as the Turkish Red Crescent (Kızılay) to the foundation. The transfers from the İBB were exposed when Ekrem İmamoğlu, from the CHP, became Istanbul mayor last year. He announced that the municipality annulled its protocol agreements with associations known to have close ties to the government.

Later, in January of this year, Turkish media outlets exposed a donation made by the Ankara-based Başkent Gaz — a private natural gas distribution company which is owned by a pro-government business group, Torunlar — to the Ensar Foundation, another pro-government foundation. Ensar later announced that \$7.9 million was sent to Türken Foundation for the purpose of building a dormitory in the United States.

“A total of \$56.5 million were transferred to Türken Foundation between 2014, i.e. when it was established, and 2018. This is a big money. It is necessary to investigate how these transfers were made and who made them. Only in 2018, some \$22.5 million were transferred from Turkey to this foundation,” CHP deputy Tekin Bingöl said during a speech at the parliament on April 14.

“Of this \$22.5 million, only \$70,000 are donations; then what is the rest of the big money? These are public fundings transferred from Turkey. It is not possible to demonstrate or defend otherwise. If the opposite of this is to be defended, then a parliamentary inquiry committee should be formed, deputies should come together and demand an accountability,” Bingöl said, calling on all deputies in the parliament to support the CHP’s parliamentary motion regarding this issue.

Türken Foundation also had hit the headlines in February of this year after the CHP revealed that the organization was constructing a student dormitory in one of New York’s most expensive districts.

<https://www.duvarenglish.com/politics/2020/04/15/chp-calls-for-investigation-into-donations-made-to-akp-linked-turken-foundation/>





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