

Listen to 2 students talking about the advantages and disadvantages of Turkey joining the EU.

Optional exercise (The answers are at the bottom of the page).

Listen and decide who has the following ideas, **Fatma** or **Hakan**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Everywhere in the world is becoming the same.2. It will be easier to travel.3. It's important to become part of the EU.4. The Euro will bring economic stability5. The Euro will cause inflation.6. Turkey is very different from Western Europe.7. Turkey should join by 2008. | |
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Fatma: I think it's very important for us to become part of the EU. I think Turkey should join by 2008 at the latest.

Hakan: I don't agree with you at all. I really just don't understand the point or see any benefits that it would bring us.

Fatma: Well, greater economic stability for a start. That's the most obvious and most important thing. If we started to use the euro we would get that stability.

Hakan: I'm not sure...look at what happened in other European countries when the euro came in – they all had terrible inflation!! I don't want that to happen in Turkey too...

Fatma: Inflation wasn't just caused by the euro, there were other reasons. Anyway, at least having the euro would make travelling easier – we wouldn't have to change money and pay commission rates to banks!

Hakan: But we risk becoming the same as everyone else. Same money, same TV channels, same films, same music...McDonald's everywhere...

Fatma: That's American and nothing to do with Europe!

Hakan: Sure, but it's all part of the same process...

Fatma: Oh nonsense! Come off it! If Turkey wants to become a modern nation with a strong voice in international affairs, it must become part of the European Union!

Hakan: I'm not so sure about that - we have other traditions, we are more Balkan and Mediterranean, we have a different history.

Fatma: Europe is a multicultural continent. Every country in Europe has a different history.

Hakan: Well, that may be, but perhaps it's not up to us to decide. Perhaps Europe doesn't want us!

Fatma: Hmm...well, you're quite happy to be part of Europe when Fenerbahce are doing well in the Champion's League...

Answers: 1 H, 2 F, 3 F, 4 F, 5 H, 6 H, 7 F