



“Invest for the Future” CO.NX Program Schedule



“Invest for the Future: Women Driving Economic Growth”

Grand Hyatt Istanbul Conference January 24-26

<https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

CO.NX: CO.NX is an online diplomacy team that engages audiences around the world through interactive webchat programs. For additional information on CO.NX Programs, see page 4.

Want to participate in a webchat?

1. Click on the URL provided.
2. Select "Enter as Guest."
3. Type your name. If you are participating from a U.S. Embassy or Consulate, please type the name of your Embassy and then your name. (For example: U.S. Embassy Moscow - Irina).
4. Select "Enter Room."
5. Explore the content in the room and submit questions and comments.

We accept questions at any time, but we strongly suggest you submit questions in advance of the program. Once successfully submitted, your question will appear in **red** on your computer screen.

Please alert the CO.NX team at CO.NX@state.gov if you are hosting a viewing party. We will schedule a testing time with you to ensure your viewing capacity.

Program guide:

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| • Interactive webcast of panel discussions in blue. |
| • Live Q&A discussion with online audience in red. |
| • Interactive webcast and live Q&A opportunity in green. |

Notes:

- All programs are listed in EET (Istanbul) and GMT time. To convert the program times to your local times, click here: www.timeanddate.com.
- (TBC) stands for “to be confirmed)

DAY 1: January 24

Program testing time for Embassies and viewing parties 9:30—10:15 EET (7:30-8:15 GMT)

“Women as an Economic Force” Live Q&A Discussion

10:30--11:15 EET (08:30am--09:15am GMT)

<https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

Description: Join us for a Pre-launch interview, in which Ambassador Melanne Verveer and Kagider President Dilek Bil discuss women as an economic force as well as the goals of the conference. Please post your questions in advance.



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Guest Presenters: Melanne Vermeer, Ambassador-at-large for the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Global Women’s Issues; Dilek Bil, President of Women Entrepreneurs Association of Turkey (KAGIDER) (TBC)

Format: This will be a video webchat in English.

DAY 2: January 25

Program testing time for Embassies and viewing parties 8:30—9:15 EET (06:30-8:15 GMT)

“Women Driving Economic Growth: Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities” Interactive Webcast”

9:15—10:45 EET (7:15am-9:00am GMT)

<https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

Description: Join us for an interactive webcast of the panel discussion and Q&A opportunity concerning business women as a powerful force in their communities, countries and regions. Please post your questions in advance.

Entrepreneurship drives economic growth and job creation. How do we encourage more women to be entrepreneurial and successfully run their own businesses? What can government, financial institutions, trade and business associations, or other stakeholders do to catalyze women’s entrepreneurship? Established business women and policy makers will share their paths to success and discuss women as an economic force, challenges for women business owners, success stories and changing the regulatory environment to encourage women’s economic participation.

Guest Presenters: Vera Kobalia, Economic Minister, Georgia (confirmed), Catharina Hakansson Boman, State Secretary, Sweden (TBC), Beth Brooke, Ernst and Young, United States (confirmed), Serpil Timuray, Vodafone CEO, Turkey (confirmed)

Moderator: Sirin Payzin, Anchorwoman at CNN Turk

Format: This will be a video webcast in English, Turkish and Russian.

“Access to Finance” Live Q&A Discussion

10:45 –11:15 EET (8:45-9:15 GMT)

Russian: <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/special2/>

Description: Join us for a live Q&A discussion with speakers bringing their unique perspective to the discussion of financial constraints women entrepreneurs face and access to capital. Please post your questions in advance.

Guest Presenters: Oksana Pak, EBRD Senior Partner, Small Business Finance Armenia



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Format: This will be a Q&A video webchat in Russian.

“Strategic Partnerships and the Role of Associations” Interactive Webcast

14:00--15:30 EET (12:00--13:30am GMT)

<https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

Description: Join us for an interactive webcast of the panel discussion and Q&A opportunity concerning business women as a powerful force in their communities, countries and regions. Please post your questions in advance.

Bringing together businesswomen and providing them with opportunities to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking, and national recognition is critical to women's success in the economic sphere. How do we build strategic alliances, coalitions and affiliations? How do associations strengthen the capacity of women entrepreneurs? How can associations and strategic partnerships transform public policy and influencing opinion makers?

Guest Presenters: Elena Tanou (confirmed), Chamber of Commerce, Cyprus (confirmed), Araksya Melkonyan, IAB, Armenia (confirmed), Aynur Bektas, TOBB Women Entrepreneurs Group Leader, Turkey (confirmed), Judith Barnett, Barnett Group, United States (confirmed)

Moderator: Shelly Porges, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Economic, Energy and business Affairs

Format: This will be a video webcast in English, Turkish and Russian.

DAY 3: January 26

Program testing time for Embassies and viewing parties 8:30—9:15 EET (6:30-7:15 GMT)

“Institutionalizing Business Success” Live Q&A Discussion

9:30--10:30 EET (7:30--8:30 GMT)

English: <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

Turkish: <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/special>

Description: Join us for a live Q&A discussion with speakers highlighting their unique experience and points of view concerning business plans, strategy and success. Please post your questions in advance.

Guest Presenters: Jeffery Avina, Microsoft, Lorraine Hariton (TBC), Special Representative for the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Economic, Energy and Business Affairs, Rena Safaraliev, Executive Director, Transparency Azerbaijan, and Shelly Porges, Franklin Fellow for the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Economic, Energy and Business Affairs

Format: This will be a Q&A video webchat in English and Turkish.



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“Leadership in Your Company, Community and Region” interactive webcast and Q&A opportunity

11:00--12:30 EET (9:00-10:30am GMT)

English: <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>

Description: Join us for an interactive webcast of the panel discussion and Q&A opportunity concerning business women as a powerful force in their communities, countries and regions. Please post your questions in advance.

Women are a powerful force in their community and country. This session will focus on business women as a powerful force in their community, country and region. How can women business leaders give back to their community? How can women mentor the next generation of female entrepreneurs? How can women contribute to the democratic and institutional changes needed to create a better business and investment environment?

Guest Presenters: Lorraine Hariton, Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs, U.S. Department of State (confirmed), Jeffery Avina – Microsoft (confirmed), Dr. Rena Safaraliyeva, Transparency Organization, Azerbaijan (confirmed)

Moderator: Nakiye Avdan Boyacigiller, Dean, Faculty of Management, Sabanci University

Format: This will be a Q&A video webcast in English.

CO.NX Programs:

CO.NX is an online diplomacy team that engages audiences around the world through interactive webchat programs. Each program provides a dynamic forum for open discussion. We use live-streamed video, text-based webchats, and advanced media to create an interactive platform for online global discussion.

CO.NX will provide a “virtual window” into the conference for our global online audience through live-streaming panel discussions and creating a series of side Q&A interviews with select panelists. CO.NX programs will be held in the following webchat room: <https://statedept.connectsolutions.com/econ>, unless otherwise specified. Please see the schedule below for web program times and dates.