Position Paper – Olivia Falkenham Citadel High

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Turkey

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The issues before Turkey are:

1. Governance and its Effects on Education
2. Preservation of World Heritage Sites
3. Supporting and Accomplishing Education 2030

Governance and its effects on education

Turkey has a good school system in place which includes 12 years of free schooling offered towards both boys and girls, which consist of 4 years of elementary school, 4 years of middle school, and 4 years of high school. These schools run from mid-September to mid-June, including 2 weeks of winter break in the months of January and February. The school weeks are usually 35-40 hours long, which right around the length an average high school student would spend in school a week, excluding lunch hours. The non-formals schools teach the children how to read, write, and about healthy living. Compared to the formal schools which require payment for the education, the students are not learning as much as they could, and possibly not as much as they would need to acquire a high paying job, which could have later effects on Turkey and its financial state.  
Turkey has been greatly affected by corruption and this can have a big effect on many of the things that the government has control over, including education. The central government is in control of the educational expenses of the public, and about 10% is for national education. With the history of corruption in Turkey, the full 10% for national education could have been cut short.

Therefore, Turkey:

1. Needs assistance in improving their education system.
2. Needs visual proof of National budgets.

Preservation of World Heritage

On the Tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage, Turkey has 60 sites. According to the Turkish Cultural Foundation, Turkey has some of the most well preserved sites, including the Archaeological Site of Sagalassos, St. Nicholas Museum (Church), and others. World Heritage sites are a big part of Turkey now, and following when it was founded from the remains of the defeated Ottoman Empire.

Therefore, Turkey:

1. Takes into consideration the unpredictable change in climate, and is confident, with the right advertisement and raising awareness, the proper action can begin.

Supporting and Accomplishing Education 2030

Turkey has what seems to be a strong formal schooling system in place, unfortunately these schools cost money. The non-formal schools do not have as strong of an education base; non-formal basing their education around learning how to read, write and about healthy living. Turkey spends 10% of its GDP on national education, which gives e country great opportunities for the school system. Turkey’s population consists of over 3 million refugees – they also need the same opportunities for education, and need a strong education platform.

Therefore, Turkey:

1. Supports the idea for developing countries to work together to improve the education system.

References

"The World Fact Book." *CIA World Fact Checker*. OPEN GOV, n.d. Web.

"UNESCO World Heritage in Turkey." *Turkish Cultural Foundation*. N.p., n.d. Web.