

MEETING WITH RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN, PRESIDENT OF TURKEY	
Minister	First Minister
Type of engagement	Meeting
Date	1 December 2023
Who	President of Turkey
Key Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FM asked how RTE was finding COP, noting the welcome agreement on funding for loss and damage. - FM mentioned he was last in Turkey during Ramadan in 2022 and invited RTE to visit Scotland during a future visit to the UK. - FM noted that their wives had met during the recent First Ladies and spouses of Leader's Summit on Gaza in Turkey. [Redacted: S32] - [Redacted: S32] The FM replied that it had been a frightening time given the lack of communication but they were now safe at home and recovering. - [Redacted: S32] If the two state solution were to remain alive, both sides needed to prioritise lives of civilians. - The FM said that the attacks on October 7th were unacceptable. He called for an immediate ceasefire as too many innocent civilians had already been killed in Gaza. FM mentioned that war not only destroys lives and communities but also the environment and biodiversity – what could be done to resolve the situation? [Redacted: S32] - [Redacted: S32] The FM set out his Pakistani and Kenyan heritage.
Attending Official	[Redacted: S38] RTE's translator and political adviser
Comment	The meeting was warm and friendly despite speaking via a translator.
Actions	
Copy list	