

2010-09-23 15:26:10 by webmaster

23 SEP 2010

By Andrew Rettman | EUobserver

German foreign minister Guido Westerwelle has reiterated his support for Turkey's entry into the EU and said the Muslim-majority country is moving to the centre of the world stage.

Speaking in an interview with the Wall Street Journal out on Thursday (23 September), the leader of Germany's liberal Free Democratic Party said: "Nobody should rashly snub Turkey by slamming the door in its face after all its efforts."

He warned that EU-Turkey talks could unravel unless further progress is made quickly. "Now we must act wisely and early enough so that we don't arrive at a dead end by the end of this year," he said.

The EU in June opened talks on common food safety and veterinary health standards with Turkey. The move brought to 13 out of 35 the number of accession chapters opened by the EU in the five and a half years since Turkey became an EU candidate.

[Read entire article](#)