The Turkish-American bilateral relationship has its roots embedded in the Cold War. By the late 2000s, the Obama administration labelled the relationship as a “model” partnership. Since the onset of the Arab uprisings and heightened instability in the near and Middle East, Turkey’s relationship with the United States (US) has come under increased strain, owing largely to divergent policies that have eroded trust and undermined cooperation. The US recently imposed the unprecedented measure of issuing a ban on the processing of non-immigrant visas in its US missions in Turkey. To what extent has the US-Turkish relationship suffered irreparable harm and are there ways that the partnership can be rebuilt? In the wider context, how will the US approach policy-making towards the MENA region if Turkey is not a partner or ally?

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