Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in the spring of 2022 has unleashed a war on Europe’s doorstep that is of particular concern to Turkey. With a 1,600-kilometer coastline on the Black Sea, the longest of its coasts, Turkish territory is not far from the fighting. Furthermore, Ankara has close, albeit rather different relations with the two sides. Turkey’s membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) implies alignment with the West, but while it condemned the Russian operation, it also immediately distanced itself from the conflict in order to avoid getting drawn in too deeply. In the end, it has opted for a highly proactive, neutral approach that is designed to avoid the negative repercussions of the war while allowing it to take advantage of any opportunities.