

# CHAPTER 4

## TRADE OPENNESS, FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN FRAGILE FIVE COUNTRIES

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The basis of the trade liberalization process that started in the 1990s is the decrease in prices and the increase in economic growth rates as a result of the increasing competition in foreign trade. With the financial liberalization process that started in the 1990s, financial markets have become an increasingly important factor, especially in terms of economic growth of developing countries and their integration into the world economy. In its economy report published in 2013, Morgan Stanley described the countries that will be most adversely affected by the tight monetary policy of the FED as “Fragile Five countries”. The national currencies of Fragile Five countries that take place Brazil, India, Indonesia, S. Africa, and Turkey are the ones that are most affected by external shocks. In this context, trade openness and financial development level are of great importance for Fragile Five countries in terms of economic growth.

Studies conducted in recent years reveal that financial development and trade openness may affect economic growth. Especially developing countries are going to liberalize both their financial systems and trade systems in order to increase economic growth. Countries with strong financial markets can attract foreign direct investment inflows more because they are considered as a safe atmosphere for foreign investors. The basic functions of the financial system; producing information and distributing capital, monitoring companies and implementing corporate governance, reducing risks, pooling savings and implementing changes that will contribute to economic growth. Thus, financial development can contribute to the economic growth of countries by increasing the performance of foreign direct investments.

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