Taksim Square and environs, which have been one of the most significant representatives of the social and architectural history of the Turkish Republic, in fact have a history reaching far beyond that.

The current Taksim Square was the home of the water distribution system to Galata and Beyoğlu, which was made through a small structure called the “Maksem” (Taksim Water Distribution Facility), hence giving the name to the entire area. In the project, the cascaded pools stretching through the Cumhuriyet axis reference this water-laden past and contribute a positive scale to the project.

Taksim-Beyoğlu has also become the European terminal for İstanbul, becoming a symbol in urban memory with its art, culture, commerce and entertainment activities happening 24/7. The courtyard and open areas of the Topcu Barracks have been transformed into the Taksim Stadium in 1921 for the use of Beşiktaş, Galatasaray and Fenerbahçe. Republic Monument was put in place in 1928; Gezi Park, Atatürk Culture Center and Hagia Trias Church were opened in 1940; and the gradual becoming of a true square state – which was the case before.Taksim Square is a defined and impressive urban area that has preserved its general schema and rectangular form since application of the 1940 Henri Prost İstanbul Masterplan.

The vehicular and pedestrian roads connecting to the square makes Taksim an easily accessible urban zone. The largest opening of the square exist between the Atatürk Culture Center and the Republic Monument, unifying with Meke Street in the east and Gezi Park in the north, unite pedestrian and vehicular traffic.