

TURKEY in a GLOBALIZING WORLD

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In recent years, there has been an upsurge of interest in Turkey, especially in terms of its modern history that has demonstrated that *a secular, democratic constitutional democracy is possible in a social setting whose population is dominantly Muslim.*

The historical context in which this interest has occurred is what has come to be known as “the post-9/11 world” in which the rapid dissemination of inhuman and deadly terrorist attacks throughout the world and their link to Islam have become the central concern of international relations.

- a) The global war on terror
- b) War and occupation
- c) Politics as a friend-foe relation

We see this interest in Turkey in the following areas:

1. The Occupation of Iraq and the Future of the Middle East region
2. The Crisis of Multiculturalism and the Question of Islam in Europe
3. The Clash of Civilizations in Global Politics
4. The Global Democratic Governance and the Question of Europe as a Global Actor
5. Mediterranean Politics and Identity
6. Global Political Economy

1) The Future of the Middle East Region

- ◆ The Occupation of Iraq
- ◆ The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict
- ◆ The Iran Crisis as an emerging reality

2) The Crisis of Multiculturalism and the Question of Islam in Europe

- ◆Terror
- ◆Euro-Islam
- ◆Identity and Citizenship

3) The Clash of Civilizations

- ◆ The problem of OTHER and Islamophobia
- ◆ The Danish Cartoon Quarrel
- ◆ A Search for Dialogue and Tolerance

4) The Global Democratic Governance and the Question of Europe as a Global Actor

- ◆ Security and Democracy
- ◆ Common Foreign Policy Identity
- ◆ Soft Power

5) Mediterrenean Politics and Identity

- ◆Regionalism & Identity
- ◆The Barcelona Process

6) Global Political Economy

- ◆ The Question of Emerging Markets
- ◆ The Question of Energy Politics

Identity-Based Perception of Turkey

1. Turkey as a “pivotal state”
2. Turkey as a “model case”
3. Turkey as a “significant and unique case”
4. Turkey as an “emerging market” and an “energy distributor” in today’s globalization
5. Turkey as an “alternative modernity”

1) Turkey as a “Pivotal State”

a) Regional Power Status

b) Double- Identity Quality

1.European

2.Middle Eastern

2) Turkey as a “Model State”

- a) for the Middle East region
- b) for the Islamic World in general
- c) for “linking” the Mediterranean region to Europe

3) Turkey as a “significant and unique case”

- a) European Identity and Citizenship as a post- national democratic community
- b) Europe as a Global Actor, having a “common foreign policy- security identity”

4) Turkey as an “emergent market” and an “energy-distributor” in today’s globalization

5) Turkey as an “alternative modernity”

- a) Modernization-Westernization
- b) Islam- Modernity- Democracy

The Paradox in Turkey

- ◆ All these identity-perceptions derive, to a large extent, from Turkey's capacity "to achieve the co-existence of Islam with secular modernity, democracy and liberal market values."
- ◆ However, this capacity, with an emphasis on Islamic identity, and leading to a general perception of Turkey as a case of "moderate Islam", gives rise to the emergence of fear, insecurity and anxiety in society.

How to solve this paradox?

- ◆ Since the declaration of Turkey as an independent nation-state in 1923, the contemporary history of Turkey has demonstrated a “simultaneous existence of SUCCESS and FAILURE”.

SUCCESS:

- a) **in transition to Modernity** (the establishment of the nation-state building, a secular constitutional and bureaucratic structure, a citizenship-based governance of society, a parliamentary democracy, industrialization and a market economy)
- b) **in transition to Democracy** (multi-party system, the recurrence of free-elections, the right of opposition parties to criticize the government, and parliamentary norms)

FAILURE:

- a) making modernity multicultural, plural and liberal
- b) consolidating and deepening democracy as a way of regulating state-society/individual relations on the basis of the language of rights, freedoms and responsibilities, leading to the internalization of democratic norms of tolerance, deliberation and participation by political and civil actors.

Conclusion:

Democratic Consolidation in Turkey

- i. Sustainable Economic Development
- ii. Human Security
- iii. Good Governance
- iv. Turkey- EU relations as an
“international anchor” and the “main
foreign policy axis”