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HUMAN RIGHTS SECURITY AND ISSUES IN TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH EUROPEAN UNION 1999-2004

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ABSTRACT

Turkey has endeavored, since the middle of the twentieth century, to join Western projects, which is part of its contemporary strategies, as the issue of Turkey's accession to the European Union has become its most important goal, and it has worked hard to implement all internal and external conditions and standards to facilitate the accession process. The European Union was established after the signing of the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, and since that time the Turkish tendencies to join UE have increased due to gains and comprehensive political and economic considerations that they want to achieve despite European Union imposing harsh conditions towards this accession. Security and human rights issues have great importance in European Parliament to study the Turkish accession process, which has become a subject of controversy among the member states of the Union, despite the great Turkish cooperation in supporting Turkish-European relations in light of the Justice and Development Party's arrival to power in 2002 in Turkey.

Introduction

The research topic entitled "Human rights and Security issues in Turkey's relations with the European Union 1999-2004" studies as aim of the study the nature of achieving Turkey's requirements for the conditions for full membership in the European Union, a dream that the Turkish government has been striving to achieve for long periods. The study was divided into an introduction, three topics and a conclusion. The first topic studied (the vision of the military establishment and political parties in Turkey for attempts to join the European Union) as statement of problem ,

while the second topic dealt with the topic (Democracy and human rights issues in Turkey and their impact on attempts to join European Union). The third was entitled (European fears of Turkey joining E U).

The objectives:

The research aims to clarify the most important obstacles that stand in the way of Turkey's accession to European Union, the most prominent of which are issues of security and human rights, as Turkey has sought to make many constitutional amendments that guarantee the achievement of full membership in the European Union.

Hypothesis:

European Union deliberately found issues that limit the realization of Turkish efforts to join, and at the forefront of these issues related to the internal political and economic situation, but these determinants did not prevent Turkey from aspiring to enter European Union, but rather made it more insistent on adhering to its attempts to seek full membership.

The statement of problem:

Turkish __European relations are of a complex nature, due to the large number of internal variables in them and their great breadth, as the European side has created obstacles in the way of Turkish accession to European system, and these obstacles have made future of Turkish accession to European Union and future of this relationship is unclear Milestones, which made it a subject of question and concern, will Turkey enter the European system in future, as the problem in Turkish-European relations crystallized by the lack of clarity of their features, in addition to the speed of changes and developments that accompanied the relationship between them.

The first topic

The vision of the military establishment and political parties in Turkey of attempts to join the European Union

Turkey has close relations with Western countries in general. It has sought to use these relations to serve it by participating in Western international organizations, and Turkey always tries to benefit from its relations with U.S.A to develop these endeavors, as United States of America sought to enter Turkey into European Union, as Turkey obtained An official American promise that supports the Turkish efforts to join the European community.(Adam Balcer , 1996, p. 27) Former US President Bill Clinton 1992-2000, during European Security and Cooperation Conference in Istanbul in 1999, affirmed his country's support for Turkey's accession to European Union, and renewed that support during his visit to Germany in June 2000(Maureen E. Wilson, 2009. P. 33-35) .

The political decision-making in Turkey is in the hands of the military leadership, directly or indirectly. European Union has found a way to renew its refusal to accept Turkey in the European Union, and despite the fact that the protocol for full membership in the European Union has set urgent conditions on the military policies that Turkey follows (Michael S. Teitelbaum and Philip L. Martin , 2003, p111).However, the military establishment is disturbed by attitudes of European Union, and they express this through their statements that what European Union is doing towards Turkey is a threat to the sovereignty of the Turkey, which reflects

that is one of the bad plans to destabilize the country (BulentCicekli ,1999,p.343-346).

In 2003, the government of Justice and Development Party made constitutional and political amendments in response to European conditions, as there were committees formed by Grand National Council, or Ministry of Finance, that scrutinized army expenditures in a manner that does not contradict the fact that allocations for these expenditures remain a state secret(AylinGuney, 2004 , p. 151)

In August 2003, the Turkish Minister of Justice (CemalChichel) declared: "With these reforms, Turkey has made an important new step by joining European Union, and it will be closely followed up by European Commission in charge of enlargement affairs") (Haider Abdul-Jabbar 2009, p. 47).As for political parties, the concept of Kemalism for state building and finding a place to be applied in the absence of competing ideas that legitimize the entity of the state, the only competitor to the concept of the republic was Islam(Mehmet Ugur and Nergiscanefe2005, P. 125.), and therefore the exclusion of Islam from the political arena was a natural thing for the principles of republicanism and nationalism. Secularism soon became another cornerstone of the Kemalist ideology.(Paul Kubicek, 2004, P. 55-56)

Secular fears of the Islamic political organization emerged as a threat to the democratic and secular foundations on which the Turkish political system is based, so RecepTayyipErdogan (the Prime Minister of Turkey) sought to gain the trust of the West in an attempt to gain the confidence of the secularists and the military (MarttiAhtisaari,2004, p. 19- 21.), as he made a quick tour On the capitals of European Union, to confirm the European, not Islamic, option for his party and the new government, Erdogan pledged to the Europeans to make all the amendments required to join European Union, and pledged to the secular character of the state (Tuba ünlü, 2007, p. 110- 118).Erdogan presented in this regard an image of secularism that distanced it from the atheist character

Rather, he indicated that he understands secularism as meaning giving space and freedom to religions and beliefs, enough to spread their principles and beliefs without harming the interests and beliefs of other religions and sects.(Haider Abdul-Jabbar, 2009, p.51).

There has been a shift in the position of the secular elite in Turkey, especially the military establishment, regarding the possibility that Islamists will rule Turkey, as long as they are committed to secularism and enjoy great popular support (AlaaAbd Al-Razzaq 2006, p. 34). Islamic current can be linked and integrated into the structure of Turkish state. Also, in the event that Islamic movement's participation in the government is prevented, it may lead to real political chaos and an increase in the degree of violence in Turkish society, and thus this will put a real end to Turkey's dreams of becoming a full member of European Union.(Haider Abdul-Jabbar, 2009, p.51). On December 10-12, 1999, and during the Helsinki summit, European Union agreed to include Turkey in the list of candidate countries for membership according to the same criteria as the previous candidate countries. This means that Turkey must implement Copenhagen criteria before the accession negotiations begin (KerimYildiz and Mark Muller,2008, p. 173). This matter stimulated Turkey to take a set of

measures and steps related to democracy, human rights and political culture, in line with European standards and values (Ali ResulUsul, 2010, P. 110), and it dealt with a set of measures and changes that Turkey must implement, represented by the following (Haider Abdul-Jabbar, 2009, p.51):

1. Amending the constitution and abolishing articles that restrict freedom of opinion and expression.

2. Dealing transparently with national minorities.

3. The necessity to abolish the death penalty.

The issue of Turkey's membership in European Union has been progressing slowly, as the requirements of the Nice / France summit that was held in the period 4-6 December 2000 "Membership requires that the candidate country has achieved stability in its institutions that guarantee democracy, the rule of law, human rights, And respect for minorities", as European Commission published a document of accession similar to other countries on March 8, 2001, and the Turkish government agreed on March 19, 2001 to the national program for its commitments to align with the achievements related to European Union (Henri j, 2007, P. 162.). Turkish government was invited to the meetings held at the level of ministers Foreign Ministry regarding the future of European Union, as well as its invitation to meetings of parliaments, working secretaries and heads of foreign policy as a candidate country to join (Star Al-Jabri 2005, p. 6-7.).

During the European Union summit in Copenhagen on December 12, 2002, United States of America intervened to put pressure on those in charge of the conference to include Turkey in the membership of European Union (Salman Al-Jumaili, 2004, p. 1-2.), and hope came to Turkish politicians through the President of European Commission (Romano Prodi) on December 17, 2004 about Conditional approval to start talks about Turkey's accession to the European Union (Haider Abdul-Jabbar, 2009, p.29), but this approval came with questionable seriousness from the Turks, because the series of European demands is long and as soon as a file is closed, another file is opened that is more complex than the one that preceded it.

The second topic: issues of democracy and human rights in Turkey and their impact on attempts to join European Union

The issue of democracy and human rights occupies the priority in the relationship of European Union with Turkey, as Turkey was characterized by the loss of the manifestations of democracy and human rights, this matter is one of the most important reasons that contributed greatly to the delay in its entry into European Union (Nawal Al-Taie, 2007, p. 124).

First: Kurdish issue

Turkish government was able to tighten its grip on the PKK (Khalil Ali Murad, 2001), after Abdullah Ocalan arresting in Kenya with the support of Israeli intelligence and US intelligence, and then transferred him to Turkey on November 16, 1999. He was sentenced to death and then this sentence was commuted for him, in 2001, life imprisonment was transferred in accordance with Turkey's signature of a protocol to abolish the death penalty as part of Turkey's requirements to join European Union (Al-saamarai ,2007,p.324).

Turkey was forced to institute reforms in order to join European Union. In June 2003, the Turkish parliament approved reforms to improve expression, by canceling an article of the anti-terrorism law related to the spread of separatism (EllinorHamren, 2007, p. 44-45). This article was used extensively in Turkey to arrest authors and thinkers who claim To respect the rights of Kurds, as well as expand the cultural rights of minorities, and Turkish media began broadcasting Kurdish programs after a ban that lasted for many decades (Aqeel Mahfouz, 2012, p. 69-70).

The committees of European Union that were visiting Turkey in the 1990s criticized the continuing human rights conditions and the torture that is practiced against its citizens, especially in areas with a Kurdish population density, as well as the banning of parties and restricting activities of a religious and ethnic nature (IdrisBal, 2004, p. 457- 358.). European Union believes that Turkey violates rights. Human rights and democracy for its behavior and violence against minorities at home, especially the Kurds, and their lack of recognition of the privacy of their Kurdish identity, as well as the permanent interference of the Turkish army in internal and external political life (HaiderJassim, 2014, p. 44-45).With regard to European Union only, the Turkish government called for the abolition of the death penalty, the abolition of torture, and the creation of a legal framework that guarantees preserving the rights of minorities and non-Islamic religious groups and preserving the rights of women, especially in rural areas (An Unusual Candidacy , 2005, p. 104- 126.).

Second: Legal reforms regarding freedoms and democracy

Turkey has worked to improve the reality of human rights and democracy, by introducing a set of legal reforms, especially during the era of the Justice and Development Party (AKP) government, aiming to reduce European pressure rejecting Turkey's joining of the Union countries (KerimYildiz, 2005, p. 104- 126.). As the Turkish government enacted the so-called (reconciliation laws) related to the protection of human rights and aimed at fulfilling the criteria for joining the European Union, Article (8) of the Anti-Terrorism Law related to (the crime of spreading separatist propaganda), which was used extensively in Turkey, has been canceled to arrest thinkers who call for respecting Kurdish rights (Ali ResulUsul, Op. cit, p. 90), as well as lifting restrictions on broadcasting in languages other than Turkish by private radio and television stations, abolishing incommunicado detention and recognizing the right of detainees by order of the State Security Courts and as well as making amendments to the formation and status of the Security Council National (ZanyarHamad, 2017, p. 68-70.).

The third topic: European fears of Turkey joining the Union

European fears are increasing about Turkey being a country with Islamic orientations, and the effects it poses on Europe, so if Turkey's accession to the European Union is achieved, it will be the largest member state in terms of population density. The imbalance in the population census between the Turkish and European peoples will lead to the victory of the Turkish race ,gradually in the European region ,this leads to the awakening of internal social, cultural and religious problems, and the most dangerous of these problems are the differences between political trends revolving

around issues of the Islamic religion (AylinGüney, P.152-153.), as the right-wing extremist currents in France call for protecting French society from the spread of Islam, while the moderate other remained attached to the concept of the diversity of cultures and civilizations, and to pursue policies aimed at integrating Muslims in France into political and secular frameworks (Al-qariri, 2010, p. 179-182.).

The French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing 1974-1981 said in an interview with the French newspaper *Le Monde* in early November 2003, saying: "Turkey's accession to the European Union means the end of Europe, because its capital is outside the European continent, and the majority of its citizens live abroad. European borders, and it has a culture that differs from the culture of Europe"(Al-qariri, 2010, p226.).European public opinion has many fears of Turkish accession, as it sees the Turkish state as a foreign member of the European community, just as Europe finds itself with cultural roots, and derives its civilization from its Christian values (Haider Abdul Jabbar,2000,p.56).Democracy and the concept of human rights have made great strides, in addition to building state institutions in all their advanced forms on the basis of equality, and Europeans see that these matters contradict the reality in which Turkey is living with Islamic roots, in which human rights violations are practiced (Saleh Salem Zarnouqa 2000, No.142).

European countries have expressed their fear of these issues, as the former French Prime Minister (Jean-Pierre Davaran 2002-2005) indicated in mid-2004 his reservations about Turkey's accession to the European Union, wondering about the possibility of a Muslim-majority country adapting to European human rights values (Ugur and Nergiscanefe, P.125-132).German President (Johannes Rau 1999-2004) believes that Turkey can only be annexed if it fulfills all the conditions set by European Union, as he indicated that Turkish government should guarantee religious freedoms and freedom of the press and stop torture in prisons not by enacting parliamentary laws and legislation, but rather in practical application as well (Wilson, P. 29-31), as Dutch commissioner to European Union stated in the spring of 2004 in a statement in which he said: "If European Union allowed Turkey to join it, then... in this case the battle of Vienna was fought for nothing" (Haider Abdul Jabbar,2009,p.166).

So, one of the most prominent developments that occurred in May 2004 was the accession of Greek Cyprus to the European Union, thus Turkey is facing a large barrier blocking its entry into the European Union, if Turkey becomes living in a state of fear of a new ((veto)) preventing entry to The European Union, represented by the "Cyprus veto", just as Greece did by using its veto power against Turkey's accession to the Union at the Helsinki summit in 1999 (Ugur&Nergiscanefe, P.108-125).

Discussions:

The issue of population density enjoyed by Turkey is the most prominent factor in the European rejection, as the population of Turkey ranges approximately 72 million people, and since the European Constitution stipulates that the voting power in the Federal Parliament is related to the size of the population, which leads to Turkey being an active and powerful party and Influencing the European political arena and

reaching the ranks of the major countries in the European Union such as Germany, France and Britain, this thing has shaken the European Union, especially since Turkey is the most prominent ally of the policies of the United States of America in addition to Britain.

Conclusion

Under the strict conditions and strict restrictions imposed by the European Union, Turkey's road to full membership in the European Union is long and arduous for the Turks, as European countries have created many obstacles and dilemmas that hinder Turkey's full membership in the European Union, and these controls are not limited. At the domestic level, Turkey has expanded to include its foreign policy and its relations with countries.

Turkey has realized the difficulty of the matter in entering the Union, and that the European Commission continues to impose conditions on Turkey to achieve more endless reforms, the main goal of which is to incapacitate Turkey until it reaches the conviction that it has no place in this union, and then abandon the idea of joining To the European Union. The Turkish hope to join the European Union remains a legitimate dream, according to the steps taken by the Turkish governments to achieve the conditions required of them, as the arrival of the Justice and Development Party in 2002 to power and assumption of leadership in the administration of the state was an effective effect in carrying out many reforms, as the Turkish foreign policy witnessed a development Significant positive attitudes towards its unresolved problems towards achieving the conditions for unity, in addition to the achievements made by the party at the level of internal reforms in all economic, social, political and security aspects, and the party's position on the issue of Turkey's accession to the European Union is a supportive position and it aspires to be an effective part of the European system. From the folds of this study and looking at the course of events, it becomes clear to us that the Europeans are clearly obstructing the Turkish accession process, as Turkish concerns about the future of their accession made them think of alternative options for their orientations towards the European continent, the most important of which is the orientations towards the Islamic republic's in Central Asia.

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