

# POLITURCO



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## **Snap Elections in Turkey: The Last Exit Before Illegal Legality**

*by the POLITURCO Editorial Board*

Following months of speculation about possible early elections, on April 16, 2018, the anniversary of the controversial 2017 referendum, Devlet Bahçeli, the leader of the Nationalist Action Party (MHP), called for early elections to be held on August 26, the national holiday. On April 18, the State of Emergency was extended for the seventh time. A few hours later, Bahçeli and President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan met and announced that snap elections would be held on June 24.

Following the April 18 announcement of the decision to hold early elections, on April 24 the Monitoring Committee of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) recommended that Turkey should postpone the elections. PACE argued that 'the legitimacy of the elections was at stake' for many reasons.

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## THE ROOTS OF ANTI-AMERICANISM IN TURKEY

For the last several years, it is no secret that Anti-Americanism has reached a new peak in Turkey. While Turkish political figures consistently use harsh anti-American rhetoric, Turkish pro-government media disseminate parallel conspiracies about the U.S. The vast majority of the Turkish public believe that almost entire animosity against Turkey is rooted in American policies.

Thus, it's essential to analyze the dramatic rise of anti-American sentiment in Turkey in the historical and ideological context to further see the potential risks in the future for the American-Turkish relations and the world. **Read More...**

## THE ENTANGLEMENT OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CRISES IN TURKEY HAS A NEW DANCING PARTNER: FOREIGN POLICY SHIFT

Developing countries in emerging markets exhibit different strengths and vulnerabilities in their ways to adopt and react to global financial trends.

Some have natural resources, others have cheap labor via a young and vibrant population, while only a few –such as Turkey– can add geopolitical potential into the equation. I intentionally use the term “potential” as it can be a vast resource or a curse for a country such as Turkey. **Read More...**



## POLITICAL ISLAMISM AND THE TEACHINGS OF THE QUR'AN

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the idea of what came to be called Political Islam has been a feature of many political movements in the Islamic world. In our own century the ideology of Political Islam has become increasingly important in the Islamic world and in the West. As I have said elsewhere, I am not comfortable with the term Political Islam for various reasons. To me to speak of Political Islam bifurcates Islam, the singular religion of the Prophet. **Read More...**

## THE FINAL TEST FOR TURKISH DEMOCRACY

Turks first experienced parliament and constitutional experience in 1876. In the first Constitutional Monarchy the powers of the Sultan were restricted and the first parliament opened. However, Sultan Abdulhamid the II. closed the parliament after 18 months, citing the Ottoman-Russian war, and suspended the constitution. From that period until today, Turkish democratic march has always been exposed to intermittent tides. This time in 1908 II. Constitution was declared and a new constitution was introduced. **Read More...**





## CIVIL ISLAM AND EUROPE

All Abrahamic religions first established themselves as civil engagement and developed over time either merely civilly or civilly and politically. The length of time Judaism, Christianity and Islam required to establish themselves differed. Judaism needed only one generation in order to establish itself in Jerusalem under the leadership of Joshua. Christianity, a civil religion, only became politicized 300 years after its creation. Islam, on the other hand, could establish itself within 23 years as a civil and political entity in Medina. [Read More...](#)

## SYRIAN REFUGEES AND TURKEY'S REFUGEE POLICIES

The Syrian civil war has motivated the largest influx of refugees and perhaps the worst humanitarian crisis since the Second World War. The huge influx of refugees has not only changed the nature of politics in the Middle East, but also in Europe and the U.S. The rise of right-wing political parties across Europe, the UK's withdrawal from the EU, changes in EU-Turkey relations, and the introduction of an immigration ban in the U.S. can all be regarded. [Read More...](#)



## COMMON FIGURES IN TURKEY AND MALAYSIA OR IN THE EMPIRE OF KLEPTOCRACY

The regime of thieves (or Kleptocracy) is when a group of people, like a family or a political party, captures the whole administration and resources and systematically robs a country over time. In a 'kleptocracy' regime, which often takes place in countries without democratic norms and a strong law system, the whole of resources of a country are being destroyed over time and a country itself is being led to a chaos state that can result in a country's collapse and internal reckoning. [Read More...](#)

## DOES RAZAK'S FUTURE AWAIT ERDOGAN AS WELL?

Not groundless it is to establish parallels between ex. Prime Minister of Malaysia Najib Razak, who lost the election, with the money discovered in his house and trying to flee from the country, and the story of the President of Turkey Tayyip Erdoğan. The connection is based not only on the two countries being called "lands of government-centered corruption", or only on close friendship of the two leaders; there is something much more than that.

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## THE MAGNITUDE OF CONTEMPORARY TURKISH REFUGEES

One of the side effects of instabilities always have been a mass displacement of people. Today, number of Turkish asylum seekers are dramatically rising. While many Western countries, especially USA and Canada are facing increase in number of Turkish applications. There are few more concrete examples that one can reach. For example, Germany has received the highest magnitude of asylum applications, almost 10,000 of Turkish nationals in last two years reports Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung (FAZ). [Read More...](#)