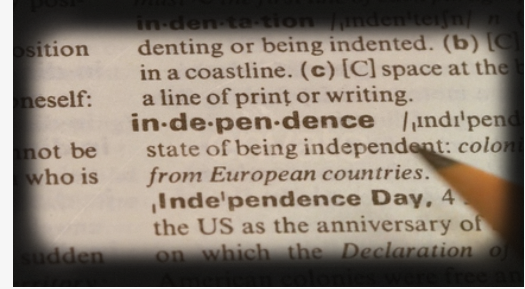
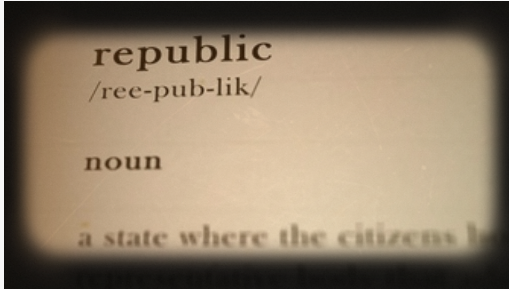


# IRS JOURNAL



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# EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers

IRS Journal is back with its special issue focused on concepts of “republic” and “independence” as it is the 102nd year of Turkish Republic and independence.

I wanted this issue to be different from other possible events or journal themes regarding October 29<sup>th</sup>, and focus on the concepts and their roots. We tend to believe our knowledge on Turkish independence and the formation of republic is more than enough, however do we actually take these notions for granted and not acknowledge the contemporary issues they are facing? To answer this question, I asked our writers to think more conceptually and give examples how these nuanced notions are applied in real life specifically with examples from other countries who also have been through an independence war such as Algeria, or countries who also have relatively instable democracies.

In this issue we will take you back to “Yurtta Sulh Cihanda Sulh”, the roots of Turkish foreign policy. We will also provide an insight of contemporary Turkish foreign policy and what it could transform into in the future. Moreover, as the theme suggests we prepared multiple thought articles regarding the notions of independence and republic including an analysis of if independence wars lead to stable republics, and how women participate and contribute to independence of the countries.

The highlight of this issue is a wonderful analysis of Turkish foreign policy by Derya Güneş. She covers many foreign policy agendas of Türkiye, and gives a short historical recap of Turkish foreign policy as well. I've devoted many pages to this piece, and I strongly encourage you to read it. Not only for its detailed analysis but also to appreciate the remarkable effort of our esteemed author.

With that being said, I would like to thank my friends in the IRS board for their endless support, and to all of our wonderful writers who took their time in the exam season and in their short break. This was a heavy theme to write on, and I strongly believe we did a great job in breaking the concepts down. I hope you enjoy reading it.

Thank you.

*Ashsu Furtana*



# YURTTA SULH CİHANDA SULH



Cumhuriyetin ilk yıllarında Türkiye, uzun süren savaşların son bulması ile hem iç hem dış siyasette barışçıl politikalar izleyerek istikrarını koruyacak çalışmalara başladı. Lozan Antlaşması'ndan sonra çözüme kavuşmayan bazı sorunların çözümü için olabilecek en adil ve barışçıl politikaları güderek hem halk nezdinde hem de uluslararası anlamda dengeyi sağlamaya çabaladı. Savaşlardan uzak, bölgesel ve global iş birliklerine yönelik adımlar atarak “yurtta sulh, cihanda sulh” idealine ulaşmayı amaçlayan Balkan Antantı, Sadabat Paktı ve Milletler Cemiyeti gibi çalışmalar, bizlere gösteriyor ki Türkiye toparlamaya kararlı bir ülke olarak barış ve iş birliği adına sınırlarını garantiye alan ve yeni yönetimini koruyacak ciddi adımlar atmıştır.

İşgalden ve sınır ihlallerinden yeni yeni arınan Türkiye, sınırlarını korumak ve barışı sağlamak adına sınır komşularıyla Balkan Antantı ve Sadabat Paktı'nı imzalayarak bölgesel istikrarını korumayı amaçladı. 1934 yılında imzalanan Balkan Antantı'yla Yunanistan, Romanya ve Yugoslavya ile sınır güvenliği ve savaşızsızlık güvencesi sağlandı. Atatürk'ün “cihanda sulh” anlayışını da destekleyen bu antlaşma, halihazırda imzalanmış olan Lozan Antlaşması'yla beraber toprak bütünlüğünü ve sınırları pekiştirmiş oldu. Öte yandan Orta Doğu'ya yönelik olarak imzalanan Sadabat Paktı'yla da İran, Irak ve Afganistan ile sınır güvenliği sağlanmış ve saldırı olmayacağına dair anlaşma yapılmıştı. Böylelikle güney sınırını güvence altına almak hedeflendi ve barış kurma odaklı bir anlayış benimsendi. Bu çalışmalardan görüyoruz ki, Lozan'dan sonraki süreçte sınır komşularıyla aktif bir dış politika yürütülmüş, savaştan uzak, istikrarlı ve bütüncül hareket edilmiştir.

“Cihanda sulh” ideali adına atılan bir diğer önemli adım da Milletler Cemiyeti'ne üye olunmasıydı. I. Dünya Savaşı sonrası güçlü devletlerin etkisinden zayıf güçlerin haklarını korumaya yönelik kurulan Milletler Cemiyeti, İngiltere ve Fransa'nın çalışmaları sonucunda amacına hizmet edememiş olsa da bu üyelik, Türkiye'nin uluslararası anlamda da barışçıl politikaları yürütmekten çekinmeyen ve somut adımlar atan bir politika izlediğini bizlere gösterir. Lozan Antlaşması kapsamında çözülemeyen Musul meselesi de Milletler Cemiyeti'nde çözülmüş; böylelikle Türkiye, savaşçıl bir politika gütmediğini ve sorunlarını en adil şekilde çözme idealini göstermiş oldu. Her ne kadar Milletler Cemiyeti'nin etkisi ve kararları tartışmaya açık olsa da Türkiye'nin kuruluşunun ilk yıllarında Milletler Cemiyeti'ne üye olması, barışçıl ve tarafsız bir dış politika yürütülmeye çalışıldığını ispatlar.

Atılan bu somut adımlar hem politik anlamda hem sosyal açıdan istikrar sağlaması adına Türkiye ve cumhuriyetin ilk yılları için oldukça değerliydi. “Yurtta sulh, cihanda sulh” vizyonunu gerçekleştirilerek sosyal ve siyasi açıdan refah sağlanmaya çalışılmıştır. Atılan her adım halk ve Türk gençliği adına umut oluyor, daha sağlam daha yenilikçi bir Türkiye doğuyordu. Mina Urgan o yıllarda yaşamış bir Türk genci olarak şöyle söylüyor:

*“O birinci ve tek Cumhuriyet gözümüzün önünde kurulmaktaydı. Eğer çalışırsak, doğru dürüst eğitim görürsek, aç biilaç ortalarda kalmayacağımızı biliyorduk. Güçlü bir umut içimize öyle derin kökler salmıştı ki, şimdi yaşadığımız toplumsal felaketler, hortlayan gericilik bile, benim gibi dinozorları hala yıldırmadı.”*

Uzun süren savaşlar sonucu yıpranan ekonomi, Lozan sonrası çözülemeyen sorunlar, savaşmaktan yorgun düşmüş bir halkın yanı sıra istikrarlı bir şekilde yürütülen barışçıl politikalar şüphesiz bugünlerimizi inşa etmekte büyük rol oynadı.

# DO ALL INDEPENDENCE WARS LEAD TO STABLE REPUBLICS?



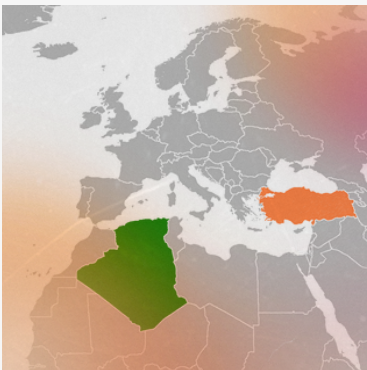
As the end of 2025 is approaching, the meaning of words such as independence, republic, and stability became more and more debatable. Conflicts around the world such as genocide in Palestine, ongoing attacks of Russia to Ukraine and the situation in Sudan as well as the local uprisings and powerful protests in countries like Serbia, Nepal, Turkey and many more changed the impact these words had on people.

As 29th October, the Republic Holiday is being celebrated all around Turkey the term republic should be questioned perhaps. Can we say that Turkey's glorious Independence War led to a stable republic? After a year of protests against the non-democratic acts of the government the picture speaks for itself. How about independence? Is it guaranteed that after the peace agreements, in a scenario where Israel fully commits to the promises made in those agreements, Palestine will be completely independent in every possible way? And also for stability, if today Russia completely withdraws from Ukraine, can we give a proper date when Ukraine will reach full stability both politically and economically?

Perhaps Algeria is the ultimate answer to all these questions. Today marks the 63th year of Algeria's independence from the French colonial rule. Andrew Farrand, the author of *The Algerian Dream: Youth and the Quest for Dignity* calls the 60th year celebrations a reflection of the continuing dominance of the small circle of military and political elites who have ruled Algeria since 1962. On the contrary, Algeria's hard-won independence was a collective work in which many non-elite fought for the independence of their country. However, since only the elite benefited mostly throughout six decade long independence, this should not be a coincidence nor a shock.

Algeria faced many coup d'états, economic crises and a serious civil war during its 63 years of independence. History shows that almost every attempt of Algerians made to establish a stable republic, somehow was interrupted. An example of this could be their attempt at political opening. After years of relatively secular one-party military rule, in 1991 extremist Islamic party won the first round of the elections. Military forces intervened to "preserve democracy". However, the Islamic groups fought back against this intervention which eventually led to a bloody civil war. Although the possible political outcomes of a possible extremist Islamic regime is debatable, military intervention to the first ever elections held after years of one-party regime and even the people electing an extremist party to rule over them shows us that despite being independent from their colonizers, Algeria kept the colonial legacies like a burden.

Today, we can observe a similar yet more mild pattern in Türkiye as well. Technically, Türkiye gained its independence over hundreds years ago but faced several coup d'étas, internal and external attempts to destabilize the regime. Both Algeria and Türkiye are almost entirely independent from direct colonizer powers but they still struggle with many issues other independent countries who did not fight wars for their independence struggled with. So, independence wars certainly help people to regain their identities but it is not possible to claim that independence wars always lead to stable democracies with wealth societies with high living standards. Effects of colonization cannot be erased no matter how bloody or glorious the war is.



Aybüke Yılmaz

# WOMEN IN INDEPENDENCE WARS



When courage and the desire for freedom are in short supply, humanity rediscovers a part of itself that it forgot: women! Throughout the history of domination women have mostly been overlooked but there are at least few of them who were noticed and found worth recording. From Cleopatra to Amazonian women; Joan of Arc to Kara Fatma women had always occupied a grand space within the reality yet not history, now we attempt to tell herstory. 3 Women from 3 continents would reveal herstory thorough their defiance and endurance during the times of struggle and fight for freedom.

## AFRICA

*Yaa Asantewa* is one those remarkable women who led the last major resistance against British colonial forces in the Gold Coast, present day Ghana. Since the British forces in the island exiled the king of Asante tribe, to Seychelles island, the sacred golden stool, symbolism of their national identity, of the tribe remained unprotected. When the British forces attempted to seize the golden stool *Yaa Asantewa* called upon the women seeing that no men had taken action attempt to revolt against this violation. For the sake of protecting the heritage of the tribe and the exiled king, she gained power among the region and defended their sovereignty and freedom with all women under her leadership. Although she and her companions suffered greatly her legacy of courage and leadership from such dispute her reputation of courage and leadership still resonates in the history of Ghana as a resistance and pride against colonialism.

## EUROPE

*Emilia Plater* is the national heroine and freedom fighter of Poland, a country which is partitioned by Austria, Germany, and Russia. She was proud with her Polish ancestry and was troubled by seeing Poland dominated by those countries. At times when women were not allowed be soldiers, she assembled her own army including peasants, farmers an such; she revolted against the Russian part of rule, which is today called the November uprising. However, the insurgent part was outnumbered and way powerful than her army she did not gave up on that pulled the army to Warsaw. She refused to obey the orders of main forces of plan army who later joined to her forces. However, they failed to defeat the Russian troops. Despite falling ill and dying at the young age of twenty five, she remains a symbol of patriotism and resistance, celebrated for her devotion to Polish independence and her refusal of societal norms.

## ASIA

*Fatma Seher*, widely known as *Kara Fatma*, stands outs as one of the most important female figures in the Turkish war of indepenence. She and her husband were participating in the Balkan War and while her husband used to be a soldier she was providing food and health services. Following her husband's death she mobilized local communities to resist the occupation of Anatolia by foreign powers. Kara Fatma fought in several fronts, later integrated her forces into the Kuvayı Milliye (Nationalist Forces) that later founded to the First Organized Army of Turkey. Her outstanding faith in saving the Anatolia made her noticed by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and followed by the recognition of her contributions during war through a Medal of Indepence (İstiklal Madalyası). That medal emphasized her longlasting efforts and contribution for the sake of defending freedom and sovereignty of Türkiye.

*Çağan Irmak Acar &  
Nadide Hayat Öztürk*



# TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY: FROM 1923 TO THE “CENTURY OF TÜRKİYE”



As the Republic of Türkiye celebrates a new anniversary since its first centennial, the Turkish foreign policy is reshaping around the recently enhanced importance of global dynamics. Accordingly, there appear to be several focal points of the Turkish foreign policy in 2025 at a glance: the humanitarian devastation in Gaza and the anti-terror pursuits in Syria remain a central concern in the political stance outside the home, whereas the tensions in Black Sea and the Eastern Mediterranean have no less eminence either. While the extent of Turkish foreign policy surely does stretch further, it is likewise crucial to look through the decades-long changes in Turkish politics and their effects on the country’s international posture so far.

## HISTORY OF TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY

From 1923 through the Second World War, the Turkish foreign policy was marked by the national cause to establish sovereignty, stability, and diplomatic recognition, as a natural product of the ardent struggle through the Independence War. Subsequently, adhering to the state’s anti-colonial stance while evaluating the diplomatic resolutions for critical issues was central to Türkiye’s uncompromising principles in the first two decades of the Republic. Lausanne and the Montreux Convention, two great achievements of the Republican Era, denoted the significant strengthening of Turkish diplomatic muscle and recognition. The nation-state’s multi-dimensional approach rendered Türkiye cautious towards the West.

From the end of WWII to the collapse of the Berlin Wall, Türkiye’s closer proximity to the West was an inevitable consequence of the Soviet pressure and assertiveness on the political existence and, most notably, the geopolitical assets, such as the Straits. The Democratic Party knocked on the U.S. door more than once to share the bits of the Marshall Plan’s monetary aid, and NATO appeared as a secure zone to join against the growing Soviet aggression. Signature episodes exposed costs: the Cyprus crises (1964 warning; 1974 intervention) and the 1975 U.S. arms embargo underscored the fragility of over-reliance. By the late Cold War, the “Northern threat” to territorial integrity defined priorities; interest in the Middle East receded absent immediate threats.

Through the AKP’s rise to power, post-cold war dynamics led Ankara to follow three main paths: EU membership candidacy, outreach to the Balkans and the newly independent Turkic republics, and to keep an eye on the Middle East, particularly after the Gulf crisis in 1990-91. The period seeded a multi-vector habit without breaking Western anchoring. With the AKP, on the other hand, Ankara adopted Ahmet Davutoğlu’s “zero problems with neighbors” and soft-power activism, striving to recast a Hobbesian, hard-security culture into a more Kantian, multi-oriented diplomacy (Karlı). The Arab Spring, the Mavi Marmara crisis with Israel, and the Syria war exposed limits and consequently prompted a shift: cross-border operations in Syria/Iraq, the Mavi Vatan ideal, and rapid defense-industrialization/export diplomacy.

These endeavors were the embodiments of Türkiye’s desire to rise as a regional power, despite the friction risks with the Western partners or Middle Eastern actors, such as Syria, Israel, Egypt, and Iran.

*Derya Güneş*



# TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY: FROM 1923 TO THE “CENTURY OF TÜRKİYE”



## Recent Policy Pursuits

There are several focal points of the Turkish foreign policy in 2025, after the first centennial of the Republic. The majority of these concern the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East, notably Syria and Gaza, while Cyprus, ties with the EU, strategic autonomy within NATO also hold up important space.

Being one of the “global swing states”, Türkiye seeks advantages from global power competition, upholding regional assertiveness and ownership, alongside standing as a major decision-maker in the nexus of multiple regions, which is sometimes viewed as a “Neo-Ottoman” ambition. The country correspondingly supports regional organizations, such as Southeast European Cooperation Process and Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, while remaining loyal to its historical bonds with major international organizations—the European Union, Turkey largest trading partner and foreign investor; BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, the People's Republic of China [PRC], South Africa— which it currently takes considerable interest in, and the PRC- and Russia-led Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Deepening such relations in light of the indivisibility of security as an “Eastmost European” and “Westmost Asian” country and standing out in diplomatic mediations.

Türkiye has similarly been active in Central Asia to connect with the Turkic states through cultural and historical proximity, although the political postures in the league do not always demonstrate alignment, especially in the Cyprus and Gaza cases. Furthermore, Türkiye makes use of energy diplomacy as leverage in dealings with, in particular, Russia and Iran, while carrying out the expansion of its arms industry and exports. On the other hand, Türkiye’s consolidated desire since the Özal government to become a regional energy hub by utilizing its position as an important energy transit route through connections from the Caspian and Middle Eastern gas fields also attracts attention.

## Relationships with the EU

International affairs has evolved with the major shifts in the international order in the last decades, including a “transition” from “a multilateral unipolarity to a multipolarity defined by uni- and minilateral approaches,” as the demand of “global illiberal players” like China and Russia, alongside the Global South, to find substitutes to Western-led liberal order and institutions grew. In this aspect, the EU seeks ways to preserve and promote the “European spaces” both within and without its borders, to “put Europe’s stamp on global geopolitics,” as Roberta Metsola conveyed. While earlier enlargement policies were grounded in normative criteria and soft-power expansion, the new geopolitical era prioritizes security, stability, and border control. Within this framework, Türkiye has increasingly been constructed as a “geopolitical other”, positioned outside Europe’s identity and territorial space. The 2016 migration deal and the 2018–2020 Eastern Mediterranean tensions exemplify this dynamic: both cases reinforced Türkiye’s role as a buffer zone and as a security risk rather than a future member. Despite cooperation in areas like migration and energy, Türkiye’s “assertive” foreign policy and low alignment with the EU foreign and security policy cultivated the perceptions of rivalry. Consequently, the EU has shifted from treating Turkey as an accession candidate to framing it as a “third-country partner” whose geopolitical value is acknowledged but whose integration remains stalled by strategic and identity-based boundaries.

*Derya Güneş*





# TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY: FROM 1923 TO THE “CENTURY OF TÜRKİYE”



## Syria and Libya

Türkiye’s proactive role as a gateway in the intersection of the East and the West was presented with an opportunity to test its influence in the Middle Eastern world, especially around the Arab Spring (2010-2021) and onwards, in hopes of being a role model to Arab states that seek reform, as a mediator Muslim country with Western-democratic values. However, MEPs increasingly framed Türkiye as a security threat upon growing authoritarianism in its politics and intensified military involvement in Syria, especially through references to its operations against Kurdish forces and its handling of the refugee crisis, often using orientalist and neo-Ottoman tropes such as “Sultan Erdoğan” or “Trojan horse”. This image subsequently tended to deteriorate. Since the Assad regime’s fall in December 2024, Türkiye’s interest in Syria is based on balancing military deterrence against the Kurdish secessionists for security and playing an active role in the talks on Syria’s future, whereas Türkiye’s military involvement in Libya represents a clear shift from its earlier “zero-problems-with-neighbours” doctrine toward a pragmatic and interventionist foreign policy guided by hard power and technological capability.

## Turkic States and the Trans-Caspian Corridor

An often less-noticed facet of Türkiye’s regional strategy is its deepening engagement with Turkic states across Central Asia and the Caucasus. Past efforts, such as the EU-sponsored Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia (TRACECA) program, to which Türkiye has been a committed member since 2000, were considerable ventures to be a prominent actor in Eurasia. According to a number of scholars, the ideational interest that Ankara has shaped anew since the 1990s through cultural, religious, and historical ties with Turkic Republics has marked a transition from pro-Western material interests in the foreign policy area to closer interlocution with, most notably, Eurasia, Central Asia, and Russia. This re-orientation has brought about concerns, especially in the Western world, over a possible revival of Pan-Turkist or Neo-Ottoman expansionist ideas between the Özal and Erdoğan periods.

Under Erdoğan, Türkiye consolidated a geostrategic partnership with Russia, expanding cooperation through the Blue Stream, TurkStream, and TANAP pipelines, as well as coordination over the Syrian and Nagorno-Karabakh conflicts. With China, Ankara’s geoeconomic engagement through the Belt and Road Initiative and membership in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization has strengthened Türkiye’s role as the East-West energy and logistics hub, while bilateral trade surpassed \$30 billion by 2021.

In parallel to this, Türkiye’s relations with Iran have transformed from historical rivalry to cautious cooperation, driven by shared security concerns and economic pragmatism—especially within the Astana Process (2016) and opposition to the 2017 Kurdish referendum. In this broader framework, Ankara also deepened its regional outreach to the Turkic republics, leading to the establishment of the Organization of Turkic States in 2009. Overall, Türkiye’s geopositioning reflects a deliberate pursuit of strategic autonomy: balancing Western alliances (EU, NATO, US) with Eurasian partnerships to secure influence, energy diversification, and economic leverage across the continent. Türkiye’s enhanced geostrategic and economic partnership with Russia and China led to certain changes in the Turco-Iranian relations. Traditionally marked by sectarian and cultural rivalry, the relationship has evolved into one of cautious cooperation shaped by shared security and economic interests.

As Turkey deepened its geostrategic and economic ties with Russia and China through BRI-linked projects, it began to view Iran less as a regional competitor and more as a pragmatic counterpart within the same Eurasian framework. Overall, Turkish–Iranian relations have transitioned from open rivalry to a “frenemy” dynamic—marked by limited collaboration, mutual suspicion, and a shared understanding that neither can fully dominate regional geopolitics.

*Derya Güneş*





# TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY: FROM 1923 TO THE “CENTURY OF TÜRKİYE”



## Cyprus

Following the deadlock in the Crans-Montana talks in 2017, when negotiations for a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation collapsed over the issues of security and guarantees, Ankara and the Turkish Cypriot leadership began questioning the viability of a federation-based settlement and gradually replaced it with discourse centered on “sovereign equality” and “equal international status”. This transformation was made visible through unilateral actions such as the partial reopening of Varosha in 2020, a move condemned by the UN but reflective of Türkiye’s determination to redefine the parameters of the Cyprus question. Türkiye’s growing assertiveness also became apparent in its direct intervention in the 2020 Turkish Cypriot presidential elections, where it supported Ersin Tatar, who favors a two-state solution. Since then, Türkiye and the Turkish Cypriot side have advocated internationally for a model based on two sovereign states, arguing that the federation formula has failed repeatedly. However, the UN framework still upholds federation as the only legitimate solution model, leaving the two sides in a prolonged stalemate. Overall, the research concludes that a comprehensive Cyprus settlement requires a new negotiation framework: one that combines structured timelines, inclusive participation, and international stakeholder involvement with practical, step-by-step measures to rebuild intercommunal trust.

## Black Sea and Eastern Mediterranean

Concurrent with the regional ownership, balancing role, and multilateral cooperation principles emphasized in the foreign policy, Türkiye has achieved establishing a *modus operandi* in the Black Sea<sup>8</sup> with all the riparian states, including Russia and Bulgaria. By implementing the Montreux Convention, Ankara limited non-riparian interference and stabilized the region, while its mediation between Russia and Ukraine, the Black Sea Grain Deal, and the trilateral Mine Countermeasures Task Force with Romania and Bulgaria “have been welcomed by the West.” In contrast, the Eastern Mediterranean reveals a “different balance between Türkiye being a partner or a challenger”, as Ankara feels excluded from regional decision-making and sidelined from mechanisms like the Eastern Mediterranean Gas Forum. Through its “on the ground and at the table” strategy, Türkiye links military presence with diplomatic leverage—seen in “naval exercises, deploying drilling ships in contested waters, and signing a maritime boundary agreement with Libya in 2019”.

These measures are reinforced by the Blue Homeland doctrine (*Mavi Vatan*), a maritime strategy expanding Ankara’s influence in the Eastern Mediterranean, Aegean, and Black Sea, emphasizing maritime sovereignty and strategic autonomy. Together, these actions underscore Turkey’s broader drive for strategic autonomy and regional ownership, using both diplomacy and power projection to secure its interests amid exclusion by Western frameworks.

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*Derya Güneş*

# CUMHURİYETİN İLANINA DÜNYA ÇAPINDAN TEPKİLER

Bir asrı geride bırakan Cumhuriyet, hâlâ ilk günkü enerjisini koruyor. Peki, bugün biz Cumhuriyet'in yüz ikinci yılını bu kadar güçlü bir duyguyla kutlarken, 102 yıl önce Anadolu'da kurulan bu yeni rejim dünyada nasıl yankı bulmuştu?

Cumhuriyetin ilanı birçok ülkede olumlu karşılandı. Özellikle bu karara olumlu bakan ülkelerden biri Sovyetler Birliği idi. Cumhuriyetin ilanından sonra Lenin tarafından Atatürk'e bir tebrik telgrafi gönderilmiş, kimi tarihçiler tarafından demokratik bir devrim olarak görülmüştür. Dönemin gazeteleri olan *Pravda* ve *İzvestiya* gazetelerinde karar olumlu şekilde belirtilmiş ve Doğu halklarına bir örnek olarak sunulmuştur.

Cumhuriyetin ilanına karşı pozitif tavır sergileyen bir diğer ülke ise Fransa'dır. Milli Mücadele döneminde saldırgan bir politika uygulayan Fransa; Ankara antlaşması sonrasında daha pasif bir politika izlemiş, Cumhuriyetin ilanını olumlu karşılamıştır. Dönemin hükümet yetkilisi "*Türklerin bugün ilan etmiş oldukları cumhuriyet sayesinde cidden pek çok istifadeler temin edeceklerine şüphe yoktur.*" sözlerini kullanmıştır.

Afganistan, İran gibi devletlerse bu ve sonrasındaki reformları örnek alarak modernleşme yoluna girmişlerdir. Rıza Şah İran'ı modernleştirme yolunda adım atarken Atatürk'ü ve Türkiye'deki reformları örnek almış, karşılıklı ziyaretler gerçekleştirmişlerdir. Aynı şekilde, dönemin Afganistan kralı olan Amanullah Han'ın da 1928 yılında yaptığı Türkiye ziyaretinde Atatürk'ten ve reformlarından etkilendiği, sonrasında ülkesini modernleştirme yolunda adımlar atarken Atatürk'ü örnek aldığı belirtilmiştir.

Cumhuriyetin ilanı o dönem birçok ülke tarafından olumlu karşılanmış, kimi ülkelere ise örnek bile alınmıştır. Asırlık cumhuriyet, daima gelecek nesillere ışık olmaya devam edecek.

*Cenk Demir Altıparmak*

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