

IRAQI TURKS: TRANSFORMATION OF STATUS AND TURKISH
FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS IRAQ (1914-2003)



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FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS IRAQ (1914-2003)

BY

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PLAGIARISM

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

28/09/2020

A handwritten signature in black ink on a yellow rectangular background. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'New York'.

ABSTRACT

Throughout history, Iraq has been of great importance since the official inception of the Silk Route in AD 1st century. Flourishing over time thanks to the Silk Route, Baghdad has been the center of this geography as a significant economic and cultural hub.

Turks arrived in Iraq for the first time during the Umayyads period and settled in Basra, thus forming the most important element of the Umayyad army. Since Turkish soldiers were rather successful and disciplined, Turks were invited and encouraged every year to come from Turkistan lands to Iraq. During the Abbasid period, on the other hand, Turkish soldiers constituted the most important element in Caliph al-Mam'un's accession to the throne, and therefore, Caliph al-Mam'un further accelerated and encouraged Turks' arrival in Iraq.

Thus, Mosul and Kirkuk became places largely inhabited and settled by Turks. These provinces remained to be Turkish during the periods of the Great Seljuks Empire, the Anatolian Seljuk Empire and the Ottoman Empire. During World War I, the British government discovered oil in Iraq and created a defacto situation as a result of the secret Sykes-Picot agreement with France, leading to the invasion of Iraq by the United Kingdom. Acclaimed as King by the United Kingdom, Faisal I acted together with the British in disregarding the existence of Turks in Mosul and Kirkuk and started to develop assimilation policies. Assimilation policies did not change in hundred years after World War I; the concept of Turkmen was propounded instead of Turks; Turks living here were tried to be Arabized by means of Sunnitization policies and efforts were made to change the status of Mosul and Kirkuk as Turkish Lands by means of Kurds.

This study is designed to analyze the history of Iraq and Iraqi Turks from World War I to today in detail. At the same time, the study will seek answers for the following questions: Do Iraqi Turks, Mosul and Kirkuk have any geopolitical importance for Turkey? Were assimilation policies imposed on Iraqi Turks? Are Mosul and Kirkuk Turkish lands

Key Words: Iraq, Iraqi Turks, Mosul, Kirkuk, Assimilation



ÖZET

Irak tarih boyunca İpek Yolu'nun resmi olarak ortaya çıktığı M.S. 1 yüzyıldan itibaren büyük önem arz etmiştir. Zamanla İpek Yolu sayesinde gelişen ve ekonomik ve kültürel olarak önemli bir merkez haline gelen Bağdat'ta bu coğrafyanın merkezi olmuştur.

Emeviler döneminde ilk defa Irak'a gelen ve Basra'ya yerleşen Türkler Emevi ordusunun en önemli unsurlarından olmuşlardır. Türk askerlerinin başarısı ve disiplininden ötürü her yıl Türkistan topraklarından Irak'a Türkler davet edilmeye ve gelmeye teşvik edilmelerine başlanmıştır. Abbasi döneminde ise Halife Mem'un'un tahta çıkmasında en önemli etmen olan Türk askerler sebebiyle Halife Mem'un' Türklerin Irak'a gelişini daha da hızlandırmış ve teşvik etmiştir.

Musul ve Kerkük illeri bu sayede Türklerin yerleştiği yoğun yaşadığı bir yer olmuştur. Bu durum Büyük Selçuklu, Anadolu Selçuklu, Osmanlı İmparatorluğu dönemlerinde de Türk olarak kalmıştır. I. Dünya Savaşı'nda Irak'ta petrolün varlığını keşfeden İngiliz hükümeti Fransa ile imzaladığı gizli antlaşma Sykes-Picot neticesinde fiili durum yaratarak Irak'ı işgal etmiş ve Kral ilan ettiği I. Faysal ile birlikte Türklerin Musul ve Kerkük'teki varlıkları yok sayılmaya ve asimilasyon politikaları geliştirilmeye başlanmıştır. I. Dünya Savaşından itibaren geçen yüz yıllık sürede asimilasyon politikaları değişmemiş Türk yerine Türkmen kavram ortaya atılmış ve Sünnileştirme politikaları neticesinde buradaki Türkler Araplaştırılmaya çalışılmış ve Kürtler vasıtasıyla Türk Yurdu olan Musul ve Kerkük Türklerin vatanı olmaktan çıkarılmaya çalışılmıştır.

Bu çalışmada Irak'ın ve Irak Türklerinin tarihi I. Dünya Savaşı'ndan günümüze detaylı olarak incelenecektir. Aynı zamanda şu sorulara cevap aranacaktır: Irak Türklerinin, Musul ve Kerkük'ün Türkiye açısından jeopolitik önemi var mıdır? Irak Türklerine asimilasyon politikaları uygulanmış mıdır? Musul ve Kerkük Türk yurdu mudur?

Anahtar Kelimeler: Irak, Irak Türkleri, Musul, Kerkük, Asimilasyon



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1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of Turkmen was coined in our language by the British through the Arabs in order to sever Iraqi Turks from the Turkish world and Turkey. Since the 600s and throughout World War I, Mosul and Kirkuk had been Turkish lands, however, the first step of assimilation policies implemented to sever these provinces from Turkey after the Ottoman Empire period was to put forward the concept of Turkmen and impose this concept on Turks living in Iraq.

Iraqi Turks living within the borders of the National Pact and thus, advocated for annexation to Turkey during the long negotiations in the Lausanne Conference are the real owners of Mosul and Kirkuk lands. Despite the efforts to change the demographic structure of these lands by assimilation, massacres and forced migration, the real homeowners of the region are Turks.

This study will elaborate on the historical processes and breaking points of Iraqi Turks in a chronological manner. This analysis will also include information on Turkish foreign policy, relations between Turkey and Iraq as well as the paradigms in Turkey's foreign policy.

It is necessary to evaluate the geopolitical characteristics of Iraq and Turkey to be able to thoroughly understand the founding principles of Turkish foreign policy. Thus, the theoretical chapter of this dissertation will dwell upon geographical and human factors as the classic geopolitical components.

In describing the theoretical infrastructure, this study will benefit from the realist theory to better understand the realistic stance of Turkish foreign policy accompanied by efforts to maintain balance of power, giving importance to interests and identifying policies accordingly. Hence, the first chapter of the dissertation will examine the pioneers of the realist school followed by a focus on the basic themes of the realist theory. These themes (power, system, state and state interests) also form the primary parameters of Turkish foreign policy.

The second chapter of the dissertation is designed to touch upon Iraqi Turks. The history of Iraqi Turks will be analyzed by differentiating according to historical breaking points in Iraq along with an emphasis on views of administrations of the relevant period.

The third chapter of the dissertation will focus on Turkey's Iraq policies. This part will question why Turkey started to tackle the Middle East as a whole after 1960 although it had produced policies directly and particularly for Iraq until 1960 in addition to analyzing the relations with Iraq and the most important developments of the period that affected Turkey's Iraq policies.

The final chapter of the dissertation will tackle Iraqi Turks' political formations and refer to how the Iraqi Turkmen Front was established.

Case study is preferred as the research method of this thesis. The main reason for using this method is that it provides the opportunity to reach detailed information about an individual subject matter.

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

It is necessary to benefit from two basic theories in order to understand the importance of Iraq and Iraqi Turks for Turkey: The geopolitical theory and theories of international relations. The main objective for choosing these two theories is that it is not going to be possible to understand the reason behind the efforts to differentiate Mosul and Kirkuk from Turkish identity without comprehending the geopolitical importance of Iraq and Iraqi Turks for Turkey.

In this regard, the basic themes of realism –power, interest, system, change and state – will bring the best explanation to the reason why there has been efforts by great powers to assimilate the Turkish identity of Mosul and Kirkuk since World War I within the framework of international relations.

2.1. Geopolitics

Geopolitical theories are divided into two periods: The classic geopolitical period from the 19th century when the first geopolitical theory emerged to the end of the Cold War and the critical geopolitical period in the post-Cold War era. Despite the emergence of critical geopolitics, classical geopolitical theories have not lost their importance.

Although every theoretician has defined geopolitics differently, Ibn Khaldun put forward the first definition of geopolitics. In this vein, the definition as “Geography is destiny” emerged as the first geopolitical theory. Another theoretician of geopolitics, Nicholas J. Spykman asserts that “Geography is the most fundamental element in

international relations, since it is the most enduring. Ministers come and go; even dictators die, but the mountains stay in place” (Spykman, 1942, p. 41).

Another definition of geopolitics is as follows: The geopolitical world scrutinizes geography and categorizes regions and countries according to their power and range of motion. In this sense, geopolitics is a science investigating power centers in the world by evaluating the relative powers of neighbors, rivals and great powers to determine the foreign policy of a country. Geopolitics analyzes the link between current and future political powers and targets, while identifying the steps to be taken to achieve foreign policy goals (İlhan, 2003, pp. 14-15). O’Tuathail, on the other hand, evaluates the objective and scope of geopolitics. According to this evaluation, geopolitics is not interested in daily or short-term problems emerging in a state’s foreign policy and its efforts to ensure national security. Instead, geopolitics endeavors to foresee and understand problems and changes of power distribution that might emerge in the long term (Tuathail & Toal, 1994, pp. 259-271).

A short and brief definition of geopolitics can be as follows: As the intersection point of geography and politics, geopolitics is a sub-branch of social sciences analyzing the effects of geographical factors on politics.

Geopolitics is divided into two in terms of its components: Geographical and human factors (İlhan, 2003, p. 21).

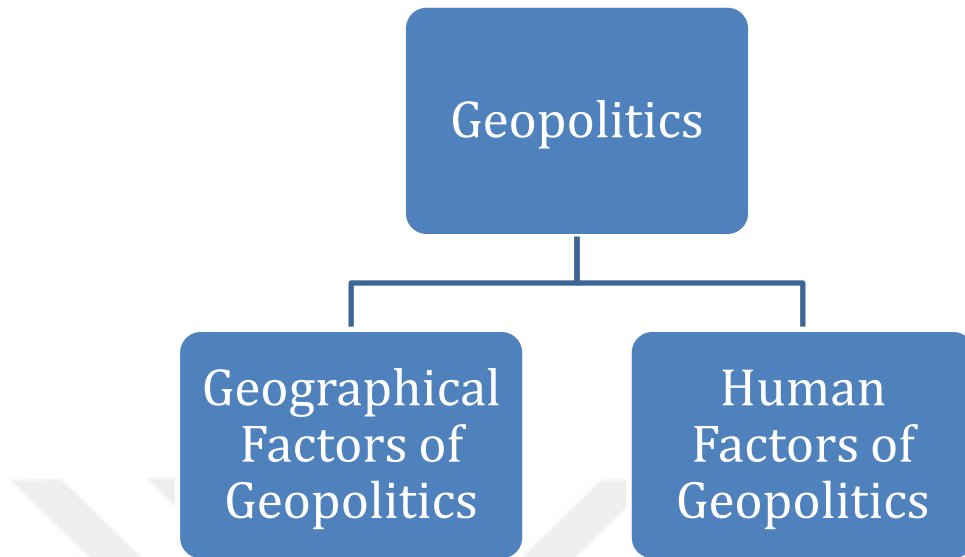


figure 1: Geopolitical Factors

In order to evaluate a country from the geopolitical perspective, it is of utmost importance to understand the geographical position of that country's neighbors, regional powers and great powers, its connection to seas, its range of motion, whether it has access to high seas, as well as the invariable and variable factors of geopolitics. In order to carry out this analysis, it is vital to understand the two significant factors of geopolitics, which are geographical and human factors.

2.1.1. Geographical Factors of Geopolitics

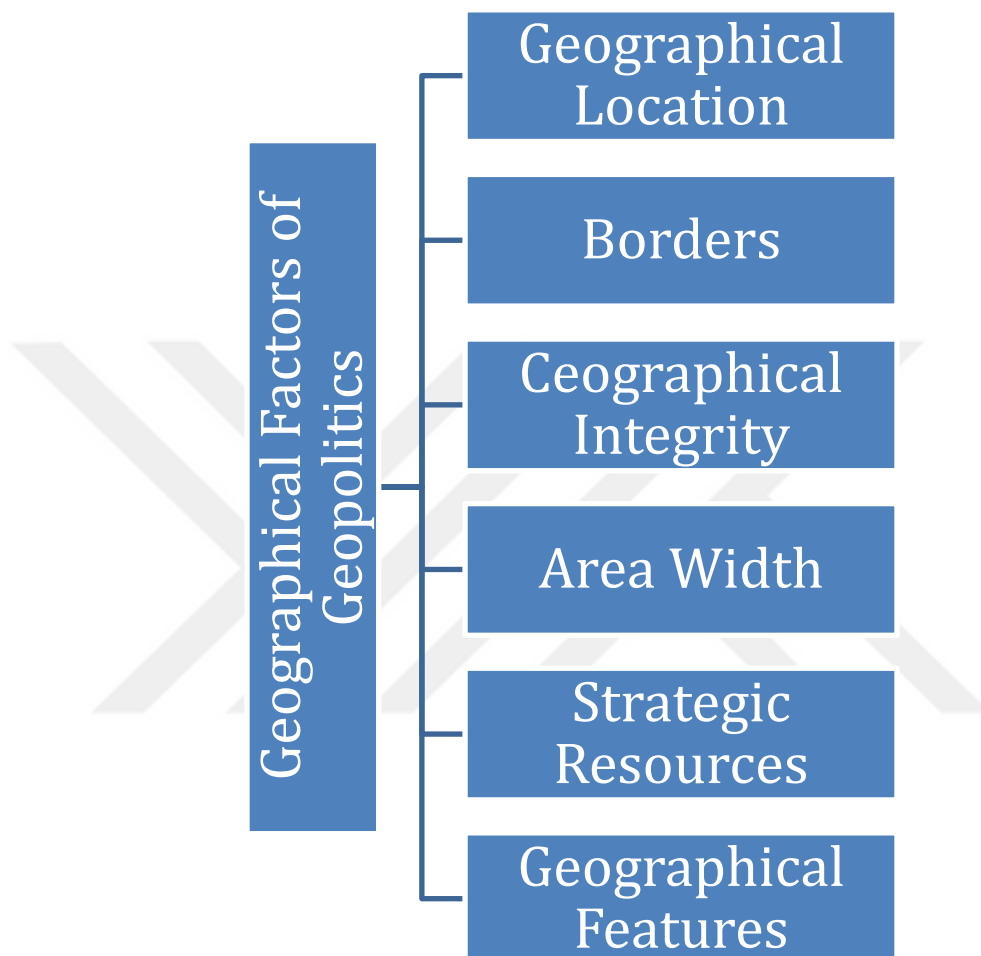


figure 2: Geographical Factors of Geopolitics

2.1.1.1. Geographical Location

Geographical location is where a country is located on earth. Geographical location is used in identifying a country's land masses, access to seas, connection to high seas or oceans, its climate zone, distance to important actors in world politics and their areas of influence, and the political evaluation of all these components. One of the invariable factors of geopolitics, geographical location is among the factors to be considered first when it comes to geopolitics.

2.1.1.2. Borders

In order for a structure to be defined as a state, basically 4 elements are required:

- A certain piece of territory
- People living on this territory
- A legitimate force capable of dominating this territory and its people as well as using force
- Recognition by other states.

Among the elements listed above, territory is the most important element that constitutes a state. The borders of territory determine the sovereign areas of that state. Therefore, one of the primary objectives of that state is to protect the borders of the country and ensure non-occupation of its sovereign territory. Borders can be determined according to the structure of the country, mountains, rivers and seas as well as ethnic elements. Drawing these borders and all geographic breakdowns and advantages within these borders are among the geographical factors of geopolitics.

Countries with recognized borders are under natural protection and thanks to their geographical advantages, they have freedom of movement in foreign policy in terms of security. An example to this argument is that the United Kingdom has never been invaded since the Roman period thanks to its location as an island country. Britain did not experience any war on its territory during World War II, the most destructive war of history.

In cases where there are not distinguishable lines or borders cannot be determined according to geographical conditions, or there are artificial borders, countries tend to have significant security concerns due to armament race or security dilemma.

Another point that the geopolitical theory draws attention to is that security problems will arise when multiple countries are neighbors on a border, and it is highly likely that countries will seek alliance against others. Countries that do not have natural protection such as mountains, rivers, seas, etc. on their borders spend their limited resources for security and this has an effect on their development level.

2.1.1.3. Geographical Integrity

If the territory of a country shows a different geographical characteristics within its borders, this country has geographical integrity. For instance, the United Kingdom has geographical integrity since its territory is covered by seas. Japan is likewise a country with geographic integrity. Turkey, on the other hand, has geographical integrity except its border with Iraq and the Aegean islands.

2.1.1.4. Area Width

Having a wide area of territory has advantages and disadvantages for states. If their large territory is also rich in natural resources, this will provide the country a great advantage in terms of both development and economy. However, large territories are disadvantageous for countries that lack sufficient population and resources to defend this area. The area width of such countries encourages other countries to occupy. An example to

this situation is that Ukraine lost Crimea to Russians due to its failure to protect its territory.

2.1.1.5. Geographical Features

Geographical features are used to define the connections of a state's territory within its borders with other states. In this context, states are categorized differently according to their geographical locations. Nevertheless, two types of states that experience the most and the least problems in geographical terms are landlocked and island states.

- **Landlocked State:** It is used for countries that do not have access to seas in terms of geographical location. These countries are likely to have problems with their neighboring countries due to their geographical location.
- **Island State:** Countries such as Britain and Japan are states that completely control an island and do not have a problem with accessing seas; they also do not have any other state that could pose a threat against them on the same piece of land.

Geographical factors of geopolitics are invariable, i.e. static factors. Although these characteristics often do not vary, they only change slightly in case there is any variation. The last major change in this area emerged with the dissolution of the Soviet Union. The last country to change its static geopolitics in 2020, on the other hand, has been Russia, which annexed Crimea.

In addition to invariable factors, i.e. geographical factors of geopolitics, there are variable factors as well. These are known as the human factors of geopolitics.

2.1.2. Human Factors of Geopolitics

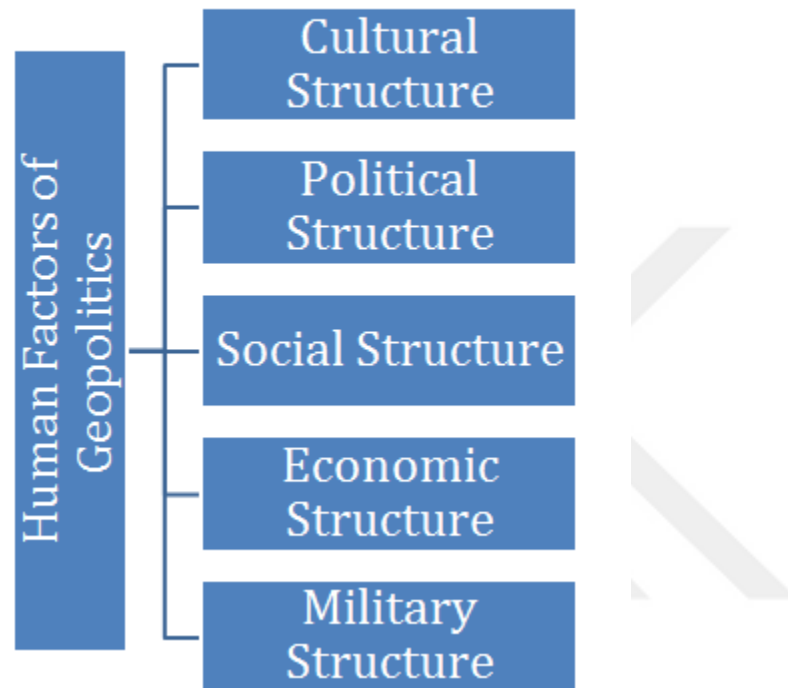


figure 3: Human Factors of Geopolitics

As stated before, the variable or changing factors of geopolitics are referred to as human factors.

2.1.2.1. Cultural Structure

A country's cultural and historical accumulation and the international recognition of this culture and history are considered as geopolitical factors. The acceptance of cultural values internationally by other societies is one of the variable factors of geopolitics. The reason it is variable is that culture is dynamic, it can change, and acceptance can change with the development of people and societies.

2.1.2.2. Political Structure

A country is politically stable if it is ruled by regimes that are accepted by international community in compliance with human rights, encouraging citizens' active participation in the administration. This stability in terms of government and compliance with international values grant that country geopolitical power. However, this factor is also variable. If countries are not able to adapt their political structures to changes in line with the development of societies and humanity, they will lose their geopolitical power.

2.1.2.3. Social Structure

Many components such as population of societies, youth population rate, birth rate and rate of qualified people determine the social structure. On the other hand, the peculiar characteristics of societies are among the factors that determine this social structure as well. In other words, the first perception of other countries when looking at a country's society constitutes social structure. For instance, the perception of Turks as a military nation, the perception that Japanese products are robust, and that Germans are a disciplined society are considered as geopolitical values.

2.1.2.4. Military Structure

A country's geopolitical value pertaining to its military structure determine its level of defense industry, capacity to produce military technology, and its position in international organizations. Countries that have higher military technology than other countries also have

an element of deterrence. This element of deterrence can add great geopolitical value to that country.

2.1.2.5. Economic Structure

Economic structure refers to a country's economic power and the rate of benefiting from the country's economic power by people living in that country. While countries that can produce value-added products and provide economic value become prosperous, the spread of this prosperity to people constitutes that country's economic structure.

2.2. Realism

Realism is a theory of international relations with a long history of 2,500 years, dominating international relations for the longest time and is still considered the most dominant theory of international relations. Although it is divided into two as classical realism and neo-realism, the basic building blocks of these two theories are almost identical. In other words, classical realism and neo-realism come from the same root despite the differentiation in their approaches.

The history of realism or *realpolitik* – as it was first named – or power politics dates back to Thucydides in Ancient Greece (Thucydides, 1951, pp. 10-11). Thucydides participated in the Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta, and provided the first rough definitions of mutual power relations and *realpolitik* in his notes (Thucydides, 1951, pp. 19-20).

Looking at Thucydides' objective to write the memories of the war in detail, it draws attention that he aimed to explain the nature of the war and why it broke out rather than telling the details of the war. In accordance with Thucydides' aim, realist theoreticians defined the Peloponnesian War as a power struggle.

Following Thucydides, Niccolò Machiavelli, Thomas Hobbes, Hugo Grotius and Carl von Clausewitz respectively served as theoreticians and founders of realism until the emergence of modern international relations (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, pp. 42-52).

Before elaborating on realism, one must pay utmost attention to the basic assumptions that underlie realism for a better comprehension. These assumptions form the basis of both classical realism and neo-realism.

- International relations are anarchic: According to realists, the structure of international relations is anarchic and the most important actors within this anarchic structure are states. Although international organizations appear to be acting independently in anarchic structure, they in fact act as a result of states' direction. States are the dominant powers in the anarchic structure of the system, and other actors remain very ineffective or passive compared to the role of states (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, p. 39).
- State is a unitary actor: Although their administrative regimes or ways of solving domestic problems are different from each other, states are considered as unitary powers in international relations within the framework of realism. States have no political differences in international relations. Political difference applies to domestic politics.

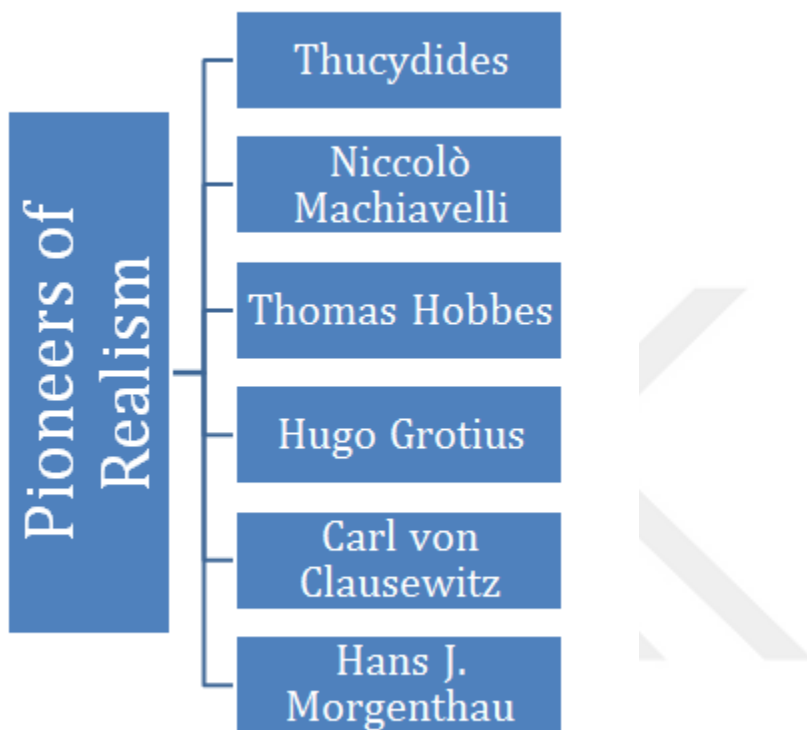
In international relations, states leave aside their political differences and be present only with one view. In other words, a country's two ministers or president and prime minister do not follow different policies in case of an international dispute (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, p. 39).

- States are rational actors: No matter what method decision-makers use¹, they always produce a single and consistent foreign policy. In this regard, decision-makers choose the foreign policy that is most likely to work, that is, they can benefit the most by evaluating many factors (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, p. 40).
- Security is the most important element: According to realists, security is of the highest importance in international relations. All remaining issues are less important than security in international relations. In this line, realism focuses on conflicts and attaches great importance on how to eliminate threats against a country's territorial integrity. Therefore, according to realism, security lies at the core of international relations (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, p. 40).

As a materialistic theory, realism attaches great importance to distribution of power and capacity in international relations, and according to the realist theory, solutions to problems in international relations are provided according to what the powerful states wish.

¹ Breuning stated in his book that there are many methods of decision-making in foreign policy. According to these methods, there can be only one decision-maker in foreign policy as well as multiple actors. For detailed information, see (Breuning, 2007, pp. 28-113).

2.3. Pioneers of Realism



2.3.1. Thucydides

Realists consider Thucydides as the founding father of the realist school and he was the first person to try to define the relationship between the nature of war and power relations between states with his work, *Peloponnesian War*.

Thucydides was exiled after the loss of the city he defended in the war as an Athenian general. By observing and pondering on war, he endeavored to understand the root causes of war in this work. According to Thucydides, the main reason for the war was the deterioration of the balance of power between Athens and Sparta. When security concerns resulting from the deterioration of balance of power heightened, they ultimately led to the outbreak of the war. What unveiled security concerns, on the other hand, was actually fear itself. In the environment where there is no superior hierarchy to impose order on states, it is one of the most evident consequences for each state to be concerned about its own fate and subsequent security. In reference to power in this setting, Thucydides said, "The strong [Athens] do what they have the power to do and the weak [the islanders on Melos] accept what they have to accept" (Thucydides, 1951, p. 402). In other words, those who hold power and have the upper hand with this power can do whatever they want, and those who are weak in terms of power do only what they have to do.

When Thucydides examined the nature of war, he found out that just as human beings seek power throughout their lives and are selfish to achieve this goal, states are similarly seeking power (Dunne & Schmidt, 2010, pp. 167-168).

Thucydides' arguments regarding the nature of war and the reasons for its outbreak, i.e., concepts such as power, balance of power and security concern have been frequently used by realists with the emergence of international relations literature. He is acknowledged as one of the founding fathers of realism for bringing these concepts in the literature (Arı, Uluslararası İlişkiler Teorileri,, 2004, pp. 177-178).

2.3.2. Niccolò Machiavelli

In his work, Niccolò Machiavelli analyzed the political instability between Italian city states and the anarchic nature in the relationship between them. Machiavelli also drew attention to power, the importance of power in interstate relations and at the same time, the significance of balance of power. In his most famous work, the Prince, he explained on how to gain, maintain and increase power. He underlined with the concepts he identified with the Prince that everything could be done to ensure security.

Like Thucydides, Machiavelli touched on the issue of fear and associated fear with power. Machiavelli described the connection between fear and love as follows: "It is much safer to be feared than to be loved, if one must choose (...) A man who wishes to make a profession of goodness in everything must necessarily come to grief among so many who are not good" (Machiavelli, 2008, pp. 255-260).

According to Machiavelli, the existence and survival of the state is more important than everything. For this, everything must be done and everything that is done is ethically unquestionable.

2.3.3. Thomas Hobbes

Thomas Hobbes, like Thucydides and Machiavelli, advocated that human nature is evil. He wrote his book, *Leviathan*, during a rather complicated period in his country's domestic policy in the 17th century. Mainly focusing on domestic policy, *Leviathan's* fundamental argument is that it is an obligation to have a powerful and central authority to ensure order in society and maintain this order. Hobbes mentioned that people will have security concerns in an environment where there is no central and powerful authority (state of nature) (Hobbes, 1998, pp. 101-114).

Hobbes referred to social contract in *Leviathan* as follows: "There must be some coercive power to compel men equally to the performance of their covenants, by the terror of some punishment, greater than the benefit they expect by the breach of their covenant" (Hobbes, 1998, p. 113). Hobbes stated that this order was the key to development.

Hobbes noted that in case of state of nature, there is anarchy and that there is the problem of security in an anarchical environment. In this case, anarchy is one of the main characteristics of international relations. State power comes to the forefront in an anarchical environment of international relations.

2.3.4. Hugo Grotius

Among the founding fathers of international law, Hugo Grotius developed ideas on the concept of anarchy and how to prevent anarchy. He believed that creating binding rules for states would be the remedy for the anarchic setting of international relations. He was the

first person to propound international law with the idea of bringing international rules (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, pp. 48-49).

Grotius also analyzed natural law and stated that although there was no top authority in international relations to enable states to abide by their treaties with each other, states were supposed to abide by the treaties as per the *pacta sunt servanda* principle (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, pp. 48-49).

2.3.5. Carl von Clausewitz

Clausewitz fought in the Napoleonic wars and was promoted to be a general as a Prussian officer. He developed ideas on power and the use of power. In this context, he argued that war was a way to realize state policies and obtain interests. While defining power, Clausewitz referred to economic power. In this regard, he defended the idea that military power is not unlimited, and it must be supported by economic power. In addition to his analyses of power, his security approach also paved the way for his recognition as one among the founding fathers of realism (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, pp. 50-51).

2.3.6. Hans J. Morgenthau

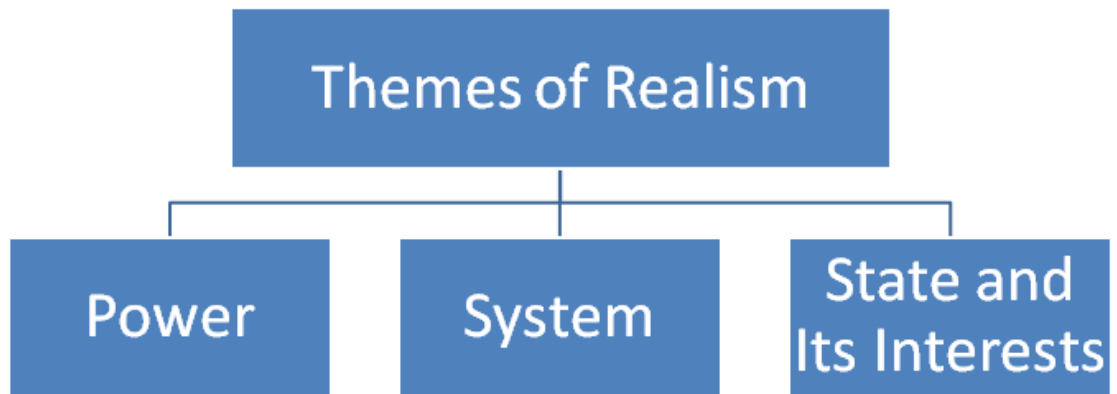
Putting forward realism with principles for the first time, Hans J. Morgenthau regulated 6 basic principles of realism. These are:

- Policy is governed by objective laws
- Interests are defined in terms of power

- The type of interest depends on the political and cultural context of foreign policy
- Universal ethical principles must be evaluated according to the conditions of the current situation and time
- Realism refuses to define the ethical or moral desires of a certain state within the framework of universal ethics
- Thanks to interest defined as power, international politics has taken an independent place compared to other fields.

Defining international politics as a political power struggle, Morgenthau was the first person to concretize realism under several principles and to turn it into a theory (Morgenthau, 1966, pp. 4-11).

2.4. Themes of Realism



2.4.1. Power

Power is one of the most difficult concepts to define. Nonetheless, the simplest definition of power is that it is a tool to affect others in mutual relations, change the decisions of other or ensure that they do not take a certain action (Pevehouse & Goldstein, 2017, p. 40).

The father of classical realism, Hans J. Morgenthau accentuated that international politics is a power struggle. Thus, regardless of the interests of states or the goals they want to achieve, their main objective has always been to obtain power (Morgenthau, 1966, pp. 4-11).

However, when states need to be together and give their opponents an advantage, they tend to align. In this case, the balance of power may occur. Against a great power or an

alliance of several powers, other states can form counter alliances by combining their powers (Waltz, Man, *The State and War: A Theoretical Analysis*, 2001, p. 205).

The broadest definition of power corresponds to the ability to convince others with what one state has in hand. Furthermore, power can also be described as the sum of economic, technological and military resources of a state. A state's power can be measured by the power of other states as well. In this context, being superior to the competing state or a state from which it perceives threats is one of the methods for measuring power.

States live in a self-help system, and in order to survive in this system, states must use their resources together and in harmony. In other words, material capability is of great importance in terms of measuring power (Waltz, *Theory of International Politics*, 1979, pp. 131-132).

2.4.2. System

The understanding of idealism that was dominating in the aftermath of World War I suggested that decision-makers were rational, and that war and disagreement of this scale would never rise again. From this point of view, the League of Nations was to prevent such disputes and conflicts and the system would be built on de-escalation or conflict-free understanding.

However, it revealed in the international relations environment after World War I that decision-makers of states did not abstain from going to war and conflicts, and that the League of Nations remained ineffective.

After World War II, the system was re-shaped. According to the new definition, the behaviors of states and decision-makers were re-shaped in accordance with the system and the anarchic structure of the system. In other words, system is one of the main factors shaping and determining the behaviors of states in international relations.

In this context, it must be reiterated that the system in international relations is anarchic, and states are independent from each other in a system of self-help. In the absence of a hierarchical structure, there is no super structure to limit or punish the actions of states. States are independent and there is no superstructure in international relations that will force them into any activity.

The only hierarchy that can be mentioned in international relations is the hierarchy of powers. In the anarchic international system, the power capacities determine the hierarchies of states between each other. In the absence of a central authority, states try to keep their power higher than the powers of the states they see as rivals, or they enter into alliances against their opponents.

In this environment, the threat that states perceive against each other increases. Since there is no upper authority to punish certain actions in the anarchic setting of the international area, a security dilemma reveals. When a state arms against another state that it perceives as a threat, that state which creates the threat perception will also start its armament, and this will turn into a vicious circle of security dilemma. In this case, the economies of the states will be shaken to a great extent, and economic crisis will arise (Viotti & Kauppi, 2012, p. 66). As a matter of fact, Greece experienced the same case first

in the 1990s and then in the early 2000s, as economic crisis became unavoidable when Greece thought it could compete Turkey without looking at its economic power and material capability.

2.4.3. State and Its Interests

Realism accepts international relations as an area of struggle for power and interests. Each state needs power to protect its own interests and achieve more (Sönmezoğlu, 2011, p. 49). Realists argue that state interests are important in many areas including security, cooperation, balance of power and system. Hence, Therefore, the desire to increase military power against a rival state perceived as a threat is also in line with the desire to protect a state's national interests (Keyik & Erol, 2019, p. 19).

In order to protect state interests in an anarchic international relations structure, a state must have an element of deterrence. Realists associate this situation with power as well.

At the same time, realists argue that states try to maximize their interests. States' policies to maximize their interests is both the reason and the result of the anarchic structure of international relations (Yılmaz, 2008, p. 28).

Even though states form alliances to protect their interests and balance of power, their interests are more important than the alliances they form. In this vein, states are selfish in order to protect their own interests in the international system, and they act only for themselves with this selfishness. Realists believe that power is the only way for state

survival. Hence, the stronger a state is compared to its rivals, the less likely it is to have any attack against its survival (Mearsheimer, 2013, p. 74).



3. IRAQI TURKS

The Turkish identity of Iraqi Turks have been tried to be changed as of the early 20th century. The identity that has been tried to replace the Turkish identity is the Turkmen identity. The main reason for bringing the Turkmen identity up is that it is intended to assimilate Iraqi Turks and rupture them from Turkish identity.

This policy of assimilation has become systematic with the mandate regime established in Mosul by a de facto situation after World War I, and the kingdom established subsequently. To break the ties of Turks living in Iraq with Turkey and Turkishness, the Iraqi State has started to call Iraqi Turks as Turkmen (Sevgen, 1970, pp. 11-12).

The main reason behind the Iraqi state's identification of Iraqi Turks as Turkmen is to defend and impose the idea that the Turks living here came from Central Asia and have no connection to Turkey.

The definition of Turkmen was first used by the British at the Lausanne Conference, and it was argued that the Turks living there had no ties to Turkey. In contrast, İsmet Pasha responded by saying that if they meant Turks coming from Central Asia by Turkmen, then Turks living in Turkey were also Turkmen (Meray, 1969, pp. 345-346). It was explicitly revealed at the Lausanne Conference that the concept of Turkmen would be used for producing policies over people living in Mosul where a de facto situation was created.

King Faisal continued the assimilation policies initiated by the United Kingdom during the kingdom period, and tried to turn Iraqi Turks into Sunnis. The education policies implemented and depriving Turks from their rights are signs of this policy.

With the beginning of the republican period in Iraq, the policy of assimilation continued the same as the previous period. Abdulkerim Kasim, who started the Republican era in Iraq, claimed that Turks were Turkmens and had no ties to Turkey, and were of purely Central Asian origin. The main purpose here was to continue the policy of severing the genealogy of Turks in Iraq from Turkey. This policy has continued to this day and has not changed. Iraqi Turks have not felt uncomfortable with the definition of Turkmen and their separation from Turkey since Turkey have not taken the necessary position in this regard after the period of Atatürk.

Today, the territory of the Iraqi state consists of a combination of three states that were present during the Ottoman Empire. These states are Mosul, Baghdad and Basra. In history, Iraq has only been used to describe a geographical region. This word has been used in line with the British policies after the end of World War I and the foundation of Iraq. In this sense, the concept of Iraqi Turks stands out as a wrong concept. Turks do not differentiate according to their geographies since they are a nation that has started to live in the region as of 1971. Turks are a single nation living in different geographies. When evaluating in terms of regional definitions, Turks living in Iraq are referred to as Mosul Turks according to 1923 Lausanne Treaty and 1926 Ankara Agreement as well as many other documents (Kafalı, 1972, p. 46).

Today, the use of the phrase Iraqi Turks has not been used in foreign articles, and instead, the names of the towns where Turks live have started to be used to refer to Turks.

In other words, the efforts to remove the existence of Turks in Mosul and Kirkuk are continuing.

3.1. Historical Background of Iraqi Turks

Turks' arrival in Iraq dates back to the last quarter of the 7th century. As Turks defended the city of Bukhara against the Umayyads who had sent an army to occupy the city, the Umayyad commander Ubeydullah had to make peace and later, he sent some of Turkish soldiers to Iraq making sure their settlement in Basra. Turkish soldiers placed in Basra showed great success in suppressing the insurgency of Arab Bedouins (Saatçi, Tarihten Günümüze Irak Türkmenleri, 2003, p. 19).

Umayyads started conquests in Khorasan and Transoxiana, and they formed important elements of training the Arab soldiers and the army (Togan, 1970, p. 174).

After the Umayyads, the importance of Turks in the army continued to increase during the Abbasid period as well. Along with the important role of Turkish soldiers in placing Caliph Me'mun in the throne, Turks settled in Baghdad. In addition, more Turks from Central Asia were invited to Baghdad to serve in the army. With the increase of Turkish presence in the 9th century, the city of Samarra was established (Yıldız, 1976, pp. 66-67).

As a result of the weakening of the Abbasid State in the 11th century, Abbasid Caliph Al-Qa'im bi-amri'llah asked help from the Great Seljuk Khan Tuğrul Bey in 1055 to protect himself from the oppression of the Iranian Shi'ite sect Buyids and maintain his position as caliph. Upon this request, the Great Seljuk State took control of Baghdad. Since then, Friday khutbahs had been recited in the name of Tuğrul Bey and Caliph defined

Tuğrul Bey the Sultan of the East and the West, handing over all powers related to earthly work to this Sultan (Marufoğlu, 2002, pp. 603-610).

As a result of the Mongol invasion in 1258, the Abbasid Caliphate was destroyed, and a high number of Turks from Central Asia came to Iraq. Dominated by the Ilkhanids, Calayirs, Karakoyunlu and Akkoyunlu States as of 1258, Baghdad was taken under the control of the Safavid State in 1508.

During the period of the Ottoman Empire, Mardin, Raha, Raqqa, Mosul, Sinjar, Talafer, Jazeera, Imadiye, Erbil and Kirkuk were annexed to the territory of the Ottoman Empire in 1515, while Baghdad was annexed in 1534. Although Baghdad was captured by the Safavids in 1622, it was re-annexed to the territories of the Ottoman Empire in 1638, and remained under Ottoman control under World War I. The regions where Turks settled in Iraq during the Ottoman period were Mosul, Erbil, Kirkuk cities, Baghdad and the towns around Baghdad (Marufoğlu, 2002, pp. 603-610).

By the second half of the 19th century, the majority of tradesmen in Kirkuk, Erbil and Mosul were Turks and among them were: Swordsmen, Blacksmiths, Boilermakers, Tinsmiths, Rodmen, Tailors, Goldsmiths, Felt Makers, Saddle Makers, Colorists, Chair Makers, Sandal Makers, Painters, Money Changes, Butchers, Architects, Herbalists, Barbers, Vegetable Sellers, Kebab Makers, Horse Breeders, Oat Sellers, Sellers of Pipe Bowls, Carriers, Stonecutters, Vegetable Gardeners, Smiths, Tobacco Dealers, Bath Owners, Carpenters, Grocery Store Owners, Milkers, Junk Dealers, Woodsmen, Bread Makers, Jewelers, Candle Makers, Soap Makers, Muleteers, Corn Sellers, Thread Dealers and Oil Dealers (Marufoğlu, 2002, pp. 603-610). In other words, commercial activities in Mosul, Kirkuk and Baghdad regions were carried by Turks in the 19th century.

In the 19th century, Turks living in Mosul and Kirkuk were the main elements of the cities, both in terms of population and economy and maintaining trade in these cities. On the other hand, the British noticed that there were oil resources in the region, and started to make plans to invade the region. For this reason, they created a de facto situation after the Armistice of Montrose and invaded Mosul despite the fact that it was against the armistice.

The Mosul problem remained unsolved at the Lausanne Conference following the War of Independence. Afterwards, the fall of idealism and the approach that suggested international organizations back only those who are powerful was consolidated when the British took Mosul into mandate regime first, and then turned it into a kingdom by a puppet state.

3.2. The Mosul Issue

The main reason for the Mosul issue was the race to disintegrate the Ottoman Empire, which was described as a sick man of the period, as a result of the colonial ambitions of Western powers. After the United Kingdom realized that there was oil in the Mosul province² after World War I, they aimed to invade the province and take control of the province.

After World War I, Turkey won its War of Independence and sat as an equal state to Western powers at the Lausanne negotiations, where they did not make the slightest concession on the principle of equality. In this regard, the importance of the Mosul province had clearly been put forward since the declaration of the National Pact. However, the United Kingdom did not want Turkey to take oil revenues, and thus, wished to control

² Kirkuk, Mosul, Erbil and Süleymaniye are included in the Mosul province.

oil sources by means of puppet Arab states, while also desiring to separate Turkey from Turks living in Iraq. Thus, the United Kingdom made it clear at the very beginning immediately after the Armistice of Montrose that it would take all diplomatic and non-diplomatic actions regarding the Mosul issue.

Looking at the borders of Iraq at the time of signing the Armistice of Montrose, it can be observed that it stretched from the south of Hatay to the Cerablus Bridge in the east to Iran by covering the Mosul province as well. In other words, Iraq was still in the Ottoman territory when the Armistice of Montrose was signed (Türk geldi, 1948, p. 103).

6th Army Commander Ali İhsan Pasha made the necessary preparations against any British attack. On October 31, 1918, British and Ottoman forces in the region were notified that the Ceasefire had been signed. After these developments, the Tigris group in Iraq was captured by the British, and the British continued their march towards Mosul, creating a de facto situation. In the negotiations between Ali İhsan Pasha and General Marshall, the British side consistently underlined articles 7 and 16, and informed that they would invade Mosul in accordance with Article 7.

The British continued to war against article 25, which regulated that the war would be ceased, and invaded Mosul. They legitimized this situation by saying that they occupied Mosul to ensure security in the region after Turkish soldiers were discharged. After Ali İhsan Pasha refused to withdraw from Mosul, the Istanbul Government took action and ordered the withdrawal of Ali İhsan Pasha and his army to Nusaybin (Sabis, 1991, p. 315). In other words, the British occupied Mosul, a Turkish province, with the support of the Istanbul Government despite the end of the war.

The issue of Mosul territory, which is within the borders of the National Pact, was not resolved although it was also discussed in the Lausanne Peace Treaty. This issue was left to mutual negotiations to be held later, yet, the British intentionally blocked the negotiations by asking lands from the Republic of Turkey, thus, the issue was referred to the League of Nations. Power, self-help system and that international organizations are not important actors – which are among the themes that the realist doctrine always underlines – also manifested themselves here, and the issue was resolved in favor of the British fait accompli without considering the justified Turkish thesis.

3.3. Iraq during the Periods of Mandate and Kingdom

At the end of World War I, Iraq was designed to be a purely British mandate and was given to British control at the San Remo Conference. Britain wanted to keep Iraq under control because it was the gateway to Egypt and India and had oil resources. The British, who wanted to stay in Iraq for the long term after the interim government in Iraq, wanted to put one of the peoples of the region in charge of Iraq and cooperate with them.

Since the beginning of World War I, the Arabs, who had betrayed the Ottoman Empire by collaborating with the British, became the greatest collaborators of the British in this regard. Sharif Hussein's son Faisal was made king of Iraq on this occasion.

The political activities of the Turks in Iraq began in 1920 with the creation of the Iraqi electoral committee. Izzet Pasha and Hasan Efendi of Kirkuk took part in the committee, which began negotiations for elections on August 6, 1920.

In the first interim government established on October 25, 1920, Izzet Pasha of Kirkuk took part as Minister of Workers' Rights. This task was the highest office reached by Turks in administrative administration, after which no Turkish came to any administrative authority.

Faysal was declared king on August 28, 1921. The Iraqi Constitution, drafted in 1924, came into force a year later. Before the constitution came into force, Turks living in Iraq suffered the first systematic massacre in 1924.

3.3.1. 1924 Kirkuk Massacre

The British first used mercenary Assyrian soldiers to dominate the Turks in Iraq. Together with these soldiers, the British had been making problems in various parts of Iraq causing turmoil, and then, intervened in favor of Assyrians.

Since Assyrians are different from Turks and Arabs in terms of religion, they were used as a tool in the League of Nations Mosul negotiations on the occasion that their rights should be protected (Samancı, 1999, pp. 64-65).

The first massacre Turks experienced after breaking away from the Ottoman Empire following World War I was the massacre of Kirkuk by paid Assyrian soldiers, called the Levy army, on May 4, 1924. Heavily armed Assyrian soldiers came out of their barracks and opened fire on civilians, killing more than 200 Turks (Kerkük, 2002, p. 49). Upon the order of the British, the Kirkuk police and the police chief did not get involved in the incident. On the evening of the same day, the incidents continued, and soldiers fired on people from the Kirkuk castle (Samancı, 1999, p. 67).

The incidents did not stop the next day, and Turkish shops and houses were looted since the police forces did not intervene. In the aftermath of the incidents, a British soldier sent a false report to the Iraqi government stating that Assyrians were not guilty, there was blasphemy against their religion and the lootings were made by Turks.

As a result of the Iraqi government's commission works, it was determined that the looted shops and houses belonged to Turks. Following these incidents, Turks reacted, and the British had to transfer the mercenary Assyrian soldiers to Süleymaniye, another Turkish region. Nevertheless, there was not any punishment or seizing the arms of Assyrian paid soldiers. Upon the Turkish reaction and marching towards the Kirkuk Governorate, a court was established and only 9 Assyrians were sentenced to prison.

On June 30, 1930, about six years after the incidents, although the British seemed to have given Iraq its independence, this only meant the official end of the mandate regime. Actually, there was nothing changed in reality. In 1932, when Iraq became a member of the League of Nations, the Kingdom period began de facto in Iraq.

The declaration issued by Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Sait on May 30, 1932 guaranteed some rights to minorities and thus, Turks. These rights granted to minorities in the declaration are listed as follows (Turan, 1966, pp. 27-36):

- Rights of race, language and religion
- Civil rights
- Rights to be represented in elections
- Rights to study in mother language
- Rights to establish and sustain foundations

- Freedom of press activities
- Right to use mother language in courts
- Acceptance of mother language of minorities as official language in regions where they are the majority

Nevertheless, most of these rights were not put into practice. In 1930, the Iraqi government banned Turkish education in all schools outside central Kirkuk. Turkish language was only in the status of a foreign language in schools where it was not banned. In 1937, on the other hand, it was also banned to teach Turkish as a foreign language. Turks were not allowed to establish associations or foundations; and Turkish teachers were forced to migrate to southern Iraq (Saatçi, Tarihten Günümüze Irak Türkmenleri, 2003, pp. 205-206).

In 1933, Gazi bin Faisal became king upon the death of King Faisal I. During this period, a policy of systematic assimilation against Turks was initiated and the so-called Arabization policy was implemented by the Iraqi government. The steps of this policy were as follows:

- Arabs were placed in the southwest of Kirkuk
- Kurdish administrators were assigned to the places where Turks lived
- Armenians, Kurds and Nestorians were appointed to working and executive ranks of oil companies
- Turkish lands were expropriated (Saatçi, 1996, pp. 204-205).

3.3.2. 1946 Gavurbağı Massacre

In 1946, political tensions in Iraq escalated as a result of demonstrations and strikes against the Iraqi Oil Company. Various political groups supporting workers' strikes began to react to the government and called for strikes. In the same period, the incidents further exacerbated after the spread of the news that the strike against a Palestinian oil company was successful and workers received what they had wanted.

On June 13, 1946, a delegation went to the company director and communicated their demands. Afterwards, this delegation met the governor of Kirkuk, Emin Halis, and stated that they would go on strike, if their demands were not fulfilled. The governor uttered in his official statement that they were working to fulfill the wishes of the workers.

What stands out here is that Turks were never a part of the delegations at any time of the incidents and strikes. It is clear that generally communists participated in meetings and pretended to represent Turks.

Since the demand were not fulfilled, workers went on strike on July 3, and started demonstrations on July 4. On July 10, workers' demands were accepted. However, workers refused to start working and continued their demonstrations. 86 police officers were sent to subdue the workers who had gathered in Gavurbağı, and they called the workers to break up of the crowd. Yet, they opened fire as the workers refused to stop the demonstration.

As a result of the police shooting, many Turks who had been unaware of the incidents were killed in the spot. Although the exact death toll is not known due to hiding

the number of deaths, witnesses to the incident said the death toll and the number of injured were high.

3.4. Iraq during the Period of General Kasım

On July 14, 1958, a coup took place in Iraq under the leadership of General Kasım. The government was formed under the leadership of General Abdulkarim Kasım, and it was claimed that Iraq's regime was republic.

IRAK'TA hükûmet darbesi:

1 "Irak Cumhuriyeti,, nin kurulduğunu ilân eden Bağdat radyosu Abdülillah ile Nuri Said Paşanın ihtilâlciler tarafından öldürüldüğünü bildirdi

2 Yeni hükûmetin Başvekil ve Müdafaa Vekilliğini hükûmet darbesini idare eden Tuğg. Kasım aldı

3 Hükûmet Nâsır'a telgraf çekerek Birleşmiş Arap rejimini gurur duyarak tanıdıklarını bildirdi

Kral Faysal ihtilâlcilerin elinde. Federal Birliğin lideri ilân edilen Ürdün Kralının Batıdan yardım istemesi muhtemel

Yeni rejimi tanımayan bazı aşiretler çarpışıyor

KAYNAYAN ORTAŞARK

FEVKALADE TOPLANTI FEVKALADE HADİSELERLE BAŞLADI

Dört devlet arasında yapılan müzakerelere üç Devlet Reisi katıldı

Irak hükûmeti İzerian, İstanbul toplantısı için Ankara'ya nakleddi ve şehide çenisi emsaver tedbirleri alındı. Devlet Rehberi göre Cumhuriyetin toplandı. Kabine fevkalade icrime akdedi

ANKARA, HİNDİSTAN BÂĞDAT. Paşa Meclis'in derdestinliği altında, Türkiye, İran ve Ürdün - İran - Polonya ayarlı toplantıya katıldı.

Dernek. Sa. 5, S. 2 de

HÜKÜMET DARBESİ HABERİNİ TÜRKİYE'YE BİR UÇAK GETİRDİ

Bağdat'tan Ankara'ya bir uçakla, hükümet darbesi haberini taşıyan bir uçak geldi. Uçak, İstanbul'da iniş yaptı ve hükümet darbesi haberini taşıyan bir uçakla Ankara'ya geldi. Uçak, Ankara'da iniş yaptı ve hükümet darbesi haberini taşıyan bir uçakla Ankara'ya geldi.

WASHINGTON, A.A. Birleşik Amerika, Birleşmiş Milletler Güvenlik Konseyini, bugün minimum ölçüde kadın, erken toplanarak Irak hükûmeti ve Orta Doğu meselelerini münakahe etmeye istekliydi.

Cumhuriyetçi ve Demokrat liderlerin teşvikiyle Başkan Saray'ın yuvarları iki saatlik bir toplantıda sonra bu karar alınmıştır.

SON DAKİKA

ABD Güvenlik Konseyini toplantıya çağırdı

Washington, A.A. Birleşik Amerika, Birleşmiş Milletler Güvenlik Konseyini, bugün minimum ölçüde kadın, erken toplanarak Irak hükûmeti ve Orta Doğu meselelerini münakahe etmeye istekliydi.

Cumhuriyetçi ve Demokrat liderlerin teşvikiyle Başkan Saray'ın yuvarları iki saatlik bir toplantıda sonra bu karar alınmıştır.

Dernek. Sa. 5, S. 2 de

(Milliyet Newspaper, 1958)

Newspaper report: **Coup in IRAQ:**

1. Declaring the establishment of the Republic of Iraq, Baghdad radio informed that Abdulillah and Nuri Sait Pasha were killed by revolutionaries.
2. Brigadier General Kasim, the leader of the coup, undertook the duty of Prime Minister and Defense Minister.
3. The government sent a telegraph to Naser and informed that they proudly recognize the United Arab regime.

King Faisal is in the hands of revolutionaries. It is probable that Jordanian King, declared as the leader of the Federal Union, will seek help from the West.

Certain groups not recognizing the new regime are clashing.

THE MIDDLE EAST IN TURMOIL

The US called the Security Council for meeting

The third massacre of Turks in Iraq took place during this period.

3.4.1. 1959 Kirkuk Massacre

As the starting point of the incidents, Kurds and communists spread the propaganda that Turks were against revolution. The communist and Kurd alliance worked on neglecting the existence of Turks in Kirkuk and consistently tried to shape migration policies; incidents started as result of this alliance seeing Turks as rivals and enemies.

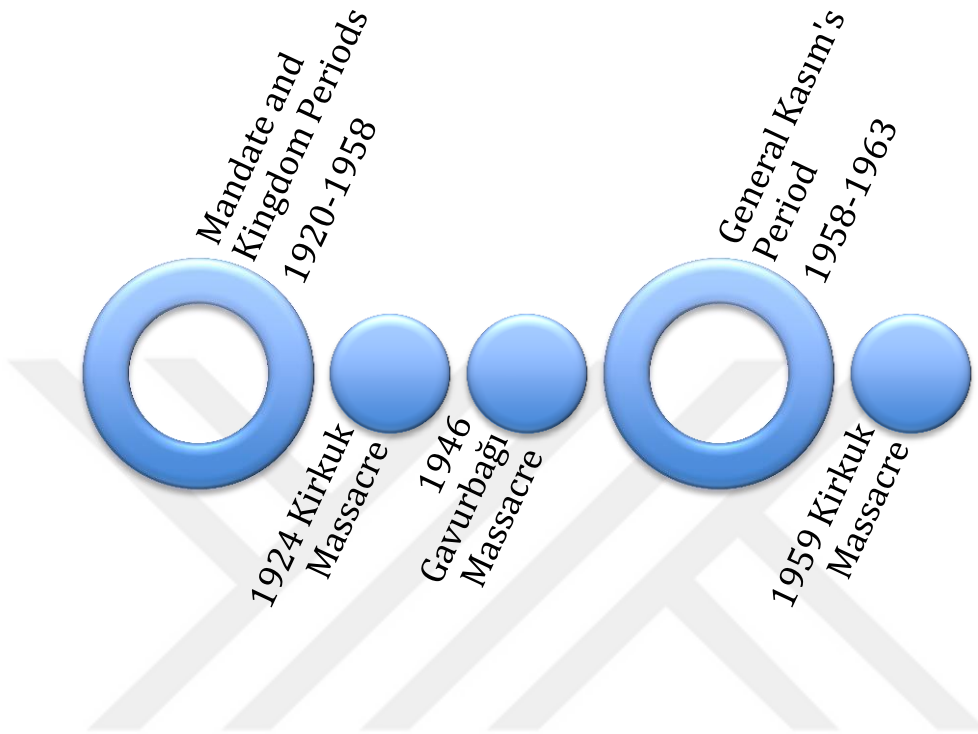
Neither the Iraqi government, the military nor the Kirkuk governorate intervened in the small-scale incidents that began just before the massacre. To show that Turks were not opposed to the revolution and supported the republic, preparations started to celebrate the 1st year of the revolution under the leadership of Turkish opinion leaders. Kurdish groups, who wanted to prevent this and drive a wedge between the regime and Turks, started chanting slogans against Turks in the city and imposed violence against Turks.

As the march continued on Atlas Street, which Turks chose to celebrate, shots were fired at the Turks in front of a coffee shop called 14 Temmuz, and a fight with stones and sticks started. Soldiers and armed Kurdish-communist groups who came to the

demonstration began to fire on Turks. Although the authorities declared curfew following the incidents, only Turks abided by this ban, and Kurdish groups were armed. During the night, the police, soldiers, Kurds and communists attacked Turks. Turkish intellectuals and prominent soldiers were forced to come out in front of their homes with the announcement of the soldiers, and they were murdered there (Saatçi, 1996, p. 218).

Some of Turks' dead bodies were handed from power poles, and others were killed by being tied to jeeps moving in the opposite direction.

On the second and third days of the incidents, Kurdish soldiers under the 4th Brigade brought Turkish homes under fire with air cannons (Saatçi, 1996, p. 218). As the incidents continued, Turkish businesses and homes were looted by Kurds (Saatçi, 1996, p. 219).



Although Iraqi Turks thought they would be freer during the Republican era and would regain their rights, this did not happen. During the transition period to the new order, there were clashes between Arab nationalists and communists. By 1961, the division in the army and society began to appear clearly. Consequently, a group of officers associated with the Baas Party took over the ruling power in February 1963 (Saatçi, Tarihten Günümüze Irak Türkmenleri, 2003, p. 233).

3.5. Iraq during the Period of Aref Brothers

After the coup, Abdüselam Aref became president of the state. Members of the Baas Party were brought to key positions in the country's administration. This situation increased tension with communists.



Kasım ve beraberindekiler İhtilal Örgütü'nün üyeleri

Küçük rütbeli bir grup hava subayının giriştiği harekât başarı ile sonuçlandı

IRAK'DA İHTİLÂL:

KASIM ÖLDÜRÜLDÜ

İhtilâl konseyinin başına Kasımın emekliye sevkettiği yarbay geçti

İHTİLALDEN SONRA

Birseyler olacak!

Başını öldürülen ve görevinden tahsis edilmiş bir subayın, öldürülen Dişinin gururları...

•• Kasım'ın devrilmesi mukadderdi... ••

1958'den itibaren...



İhtilal Örgütü'nün üyeleri

Irak ihtilâli Ankarada her an takip edildi

Büyükelçiliğimiz ile leziz irtibat bütün gün devam etti. İhtilâl, 35 subayın emekliye ayrılması ile pallak verdi

Büyükelçiliğimiz ile leziz irtibat bütün gün devam etti. İhtilâl, 35 subayın emekliye ayrılması ile pallak verdi.



1958'den itibaren...

DURUM

ŞARTLARIN TABİLİ SONUCU

Genel Kurul'un...

Mebuslar Gecim Sıkıntısından Şikâyetçi

Mebuslar...

ELÇİ "HAREKAT MILLİDİR, DEDI"

Elçi...

DİKKAT

KURÂN-I KERİM ilâvemizi almayan okuyucularımıza

...Kurân-ı Kerim'i...

Konsorsyım heyeti plan hakkında bilgi aldı

Konsorsyım...

İşçiler grev yapınca yolcular yemeksiz kaldı

Yenişehirli...

Yenişehirli hava alanındaki 100 kadar işçinin 7 saat süren grevi ücretlerin dönmesi ile bitti

Yenişehirli...

HUDUTTAKI YOLCULAR HELİKOPTERLE TAŞINDI

Trakya'da nehirler tekrar yükseldiğinden Karağoca yiyecek helikopterle gönderiliyor

(Milliyet Newspaper, 1963)

Newspaper report: The operation initiated by a low-ranking air force officers resulted in success

REVOLUTION IN IRAQ: KASIM IS KILLED

The lieutenant colonel, who Kasım had sent to retirement, came to rule the revolutionary council

The revolution in Iraq was followed step by step in Ankara

Together with the new constitution announced in 1964, the 1958 constitution was abolished. According to article 19 of the new constitution, all Iraqis have equal rights and duties without discrimination against language and ethnic origin.

Although the constitutional rights of Turks were curbed and they were deprived of their cultural rights, they experienced a period of relatively lower violence between 1963 and 1968.

Abdülselem Aref died in a helicopter crash in April 1966, and was replaced by his brother, Abdurrahman Aref. On July 17, 1968, Baath followers overthrew Abdurrahman Aref by a coup, and Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr became the head of state.

3.6. Iraq during the Period of Baath

The Baath coup was carried out with the support of Baath follower generals in the upper echelons of the army. Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr was appointed as Prime Minister and Head of Supreme Council of Revolution. Saddam Hussein, who would later seize power in a coup and serve as head of state until the US invasion, was the second man in the coup and the administration.

The Baath Party, or the Arabian Socialist Rebirth Party, was founded by Michel Eflak and Salah Bitar. The party's founding staff consisted of Christians raised under French culture.

According to the Baath ideology, there is only one Arab nation and Arabs are separated from Zionism, supported artificially by the Ottomans and Western imperialism. The Baath party dismantled all groups opposing to the regime. Many

members of opposition groups were arrested, and many were exiled. The Baath regime publicly executed 51 people to intimidate the opponents.

With the 1970 Constitution, the Baath regime gave autonomy to Kurds. In this regard, it was accepted with the 1970 Constitution that there were two major nationalities in Iraq: Arabs and Kurds. Consequently, Turks had lost their right step by step since 1920 and reached the peak with this constitution (Hürmüzlü, *Irak Türkleri*, 1994, pp. 62-63).

To compensate for this situation, the Baath party identified all ethnic groups except Kurds and Arabs as minorities and announced a package to avoid backlash.

While preparing a package for minorities, the Baath regime banned Turks from using Turkish alphabet and Turkish in education and mandated the use of the Arabic alphabet.

Although this situation caused unrest among Turks and this discomfort was conveyed to the administration, it did not yield any positive result.

The Baath regime, indeed, separated Turks from their minority policies and imposed the following prohibitions to further restrict their rights (Saatçi, 1996, pp. 237-238):

- Restricting the use of Turkish language in education, and teaching it only as a foreign language
- Banning the Turkish alphabet and making the Arabic alphabet mandatory
- Limiting the number of schools, where Turkish language is taught
- Encouraging the use of Arabic names instead of Turkish names
- Replacing Turkish names of Turkish schools with Arabic names

- Banishing Turkish teachers from Kirkuk and appointing Arab teachers instead
- Banning the Qardashlık magazine
- Banning the Turkmen Brotherhood Association, and prohibiting them from establishing any associations and foundations
- Censoring the weekly Yurt newspaper
- Censoring the monthly magazine, Birlik Sesi (The Voice of Union)

In response to the bans announced, Turks launched a three-day boycott campaign in Kirkuk. As opposed to the boycott campaign, 50 Turks were arrested, and many of them were tortured. Bans increased further after the boycott. The new bans were as follows (Saatçi, 1996, pp. 238-239):

- Turks were banned from working in government offices, and a low number of Turkish government officials were fired.
- Turkish businessmen were prevented from obtaining loans.
- University graduate Turks were banned from working in The Turkish regions of Mosul, Kirkuk and Süleymaniye.

Towards the second half of the 1970s, the repressive approach of the Baath regime increased, and the Arabization policy was expanded. The new prohibitions and practices were as below (Demirci, 1993, p. 165):

- The names of Turkish villages were changed.
- Many Arabs and Kurds were placed in Turkish regions.
- Many lands inhabited by Turks were expropriated.

- The expropriated lands were opened to the settlement of Kurds and Arabs. In addition, financial support was provided to Kurds and Arabs who wanted to move to Turkish lands as well as the expropriated lands.
- Selling immovables to Turks was prohibited.
- Turks were banned from joining and working in security forces.
- Arabs, who married a Turkish girl were given a grant of US\$33,000.
- Turks were forbidden to preach and speak in public places.

Upon these prohibitions, President of the Republic of Turkey, Fahri Korutürk visited Kirkuk on April 27, 1976. A welcome ceremony was made during the visit. Turks who participated in and took part in the ceremony were arrested and imprisoned after Korutürk's visit.

In this context, the prohibitions were extended further after this visit. The expanding prohibitions were as listed below (Saatçi, 1996, pp. 240-243):

- The areas predominantly inhabited by Turks were torn from Kirkuk and connected to Kurdish regions.
- Turkish farmlands were confiscated, and distributed to Kurds.
- The Baghdad government confiscated all social, cultural associations and foundations established by Turks.
- All confiscated rooms, unions, associations and foundations' property and immovables were given to Arabs and Kurds living in Kirkuk.

- The Turkmen Brotherhood Association, which had been elected annually in Mosul and Erbil, was banned from elections and the administration started to be appointed by the Baath party.

The Baath Party made the biggest blow to Iraqi Turks, who had lost their rights gradually since the 1920s. Iraqi Turks had a very difficult time since the Baath party came to power, and they started to have even more difficult days with the arrival of Saddam Hussein in power.

3.7. Iraq and Iraqi Turks during Saddam's Period

Having continuing to lose their rights gradually since the kingdom period, Turks experienced one of the darkest periods during the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein. Since coming to power in 1979, efforts for repression and assimilation, including human rights violations increased.

After Saddam Hussein came to power, he announced new restrictions, which are given below:

- Selling and purchasing immovables by Turks depended on special permission.
- Immovables belonging to Turks were nationalized.
- Those who spoke Turkish in government offices were humiliated.
- Houses belonging to Turks were confiscated, and given to Arabs.
- Settlements were opened to Arabs in Kirkuk.
- Resources were provided to the Arabs who settled in Kirkuk.

Along with the increasing pressure during this period, the leaders of the Turkmen Brotherhood Association, Abdullah Abdurrahman, Dr. Rıza Demirci, and Adil Şerif were detained and tortured immediately after Saddam came to power. Abdullah Abdurrahman, Necdet Koçak and Adil Serif were wrongfully executed on January 16, 1980 in order to intimidate Turks (Pamukçu, 1999, p. 5).

Hundreds of Turks were wrongfully killed and imprisoned for allegedly spying to Turkey and Iran under the pretext of war during the 8 years of the Iran-Iraq War that took place in the period after the executions.

In October 1981, the central Iraqi administration built 2000 houses in Kirkuk as they were not satisfied with the population structure of Kirkuk. During the war, Turks living in Turkish regions were thrown out of their regions on the grounds that a military space was going to be built in their villages. Thus, they were forced out of their villages. Kurds were placed in evacuated villages. Furthermore, 2000 houses in which Turks lived near Kirkuk were expropriated on the grounds that a highway would be constructed leading to Kirkuk. Later, 500 more houses where Turks lived were expropriated with the claim that a train station was going to be built. Turks who had lost their houses here were not given new houses in Kirkuk, while those who wanted to buy a house failed to obtain permits from the government (Saatçi, pp. 245-246). During the war period, a large-scale massacre took place in Talafarsince the majority of the population in Mosul was Turks. This massacre, including women, was the largest massacre carried out by Saddam's government in the 1980s.

4. TURKEY'S IRAQ POLICY BETWEEN 1923 AND 1990

Since the beginning, the basic dynamics of Turkish foreign policy have depended on the realist doctrine and classical geopolitical factors. In this same line, from the moment the Republic of Turkey was founded, it has built its foreign policy on the basis of geographical and human elements of geopolitics as well as power, system, state and state interests as the main components of the realist doctrine. The dominance of realist and classical geopolitical factors in Turkish foreign policy has continued until the 21st century.

Turkish foreign policy has started to take shape since the foundation of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The decision-makers of Turkish foreign policy, led by Mustafa Kemal, drew boundaries within the scope of Turkey's power, maintained their balance of power within the anarchic structure of the international system, and endeavored to realize Turkey's interests. Until World War II, the decision-makers of Turkish foreign policy defended and largely achieved the desired Turkish interests.

While sticking to the core dynamics, Turkey acted in accordance with its power, determined and protected its interests based on its material capability.

4.1. Geopolitical View of Turkey

Turkey has taken certain steps until the 21st century by evaluating its power capacity and material capability within the framework of its politics and geopolitical conditions. First of all, Turkey has always acted knowing the limits of its power. As a medium-sized regional power, Turkey has acted by taking into account the balance

between the major powers and their interests when determining its foreign policy, and has paid attention not to have any conflict of interest.

The balance policy has generally been followed except situations where conflict of interest is vital and seriously threatens Turkey's interests. Although Turkey partnered with the US side of the two blocks between the USSR and the US through its balance policy, it also used the USSR as an element of balance in cases where there was a field of movement.

Turkey has followed a status quo policy, maintaining its own power capacity. In this regard, Turkey maintained its status quo when its power did not suffice to revisionism and tried to protect what it already had unless there was a major threat against its interests. In contrast, Turkey followed a very short period of revisionist policies with the support of the state parties whenever it found an area of motion and opportunity³.

Due to its lack of sufficient power and capacity in seas, Turkey has tried to prevent the spread of sovereignty areas of other states that it perceives as rivals or threats rather than seeing the seas as its area of sovereignty.

Until the 1990s, when the Cold War ended, Turkey continued this geopolitical view in its foreign policy. With this view, the basic foreign policy dynamics established by Atatürk continued to work, and Turkish foreign policy did not get any major harm in international relations and conflicts until the 21st century.

³Montreux Convention, annexation of Hatay to the motherland, etc.

4.2. Turkey's Iraq Policy between 1923 and 1950, and Iraqi Turks

4.2.1. Turkey – Iraq Relations between 1923 and 1926

Mosul was the only territory within Turkey's National Pact borders, but had not been annexed to the territory of the homeland. Mosul had been in the National Pact borders particularly due to the fact that it was invaded after the Armistice of Montrose, the majority of the population was Turkish and had been a Turkish homeland for many centuries.

During the Lausanne talks, the Mosul issue was first referred to a commission, and then decided to be resolved through bilateral negotiations. During the negotiations, the British repeatedly rejected Turkey's demand to annex Mosul to its territory. Despite Lord Curzon's demand for partial concessions on Mosul and giving a part of Mosul to Turkey, the British Government certainly opposed this request.

The Government of London definitively opposed this issue and instructed Lord Curzon that there should be absolutely no compromise. In this context, there were several reasons why Britain did not want to compromise. These are:

- The granting of some or all of Mosul to Turkey meant that, Turkey would have a gateway to the Middle East from a geopolitical point of view. In fact, the British did not want some of their colonized societies

in the Middle East to take example of Turkey and Mustafa Kemal, who won their War of Independence.

- Giving Mosul to Turkey would mean a threat against the United Kingdom's logistics reaching the Middle East.
- For Turkey to be economically bottlenecked in the future, Britain needed to prevent it from receiving oil revenues from Mosul.

On these grounds, Lord Curzon informed the Turkish side that Mosul remained within the borders of Iraq and that an area in the mandate of the United Kingdom could not be transferred to another party (Şimşir, Lozan Telgrafları: Türk Diplomatik Belgelerinde Lozan Barış Konferansı 1922-1923, 1990, p. 224).

Upon this answer by Lord Curzon, the Turkish delegation led by İsmet İnönü reported that Mosul was located within the borders of their National Pact and it was a Turkish land. Furthermore, Ankara's attitude became stricter upon this development, and the army was mobilized.

Lord Curzon then gave İsmet Pasha a memorandum, and his wording became even tougher. İsmet Pasha repeated the Turkish thesis against the British views and did not back down.

On January 5, 1923, the British announced a new proposal that some of the oil shares could be given to Turkey. In response, İsmet Pasha said, "Mosul is a matter of oil for the British, but it is a matter of homeland for Turks" (Şimşir, Lozan Telgrafları: Türk Diplomatik Belgelerinde Lozan Barış Konferansı 1922-1923, 1990, pp. 339-340). After the negotiations failed, the Mosul issue was referred to the "Commission on Country and Military Matters", and continued to be discussed there.

The first commission talks held on January 23 did not result in any reconciliation either. The British tried to block the negotiations in an effort to refer the Mosul issue to the League of Nations. The British wanted to take advantage of the weaknesses of the international system, power and international organizations and carry the Mosul issue to an area where they would solve it in favor of themselves. As a matter of fact, the negotiations were blocked and with a posteriori, the issue was first left to bilateral talks and then to the League of Nations.

According to the Treaty of Lausanne, negotiations began with the evacuation of East Thrace and Istanbul after Britain ratified the Treaty. Negotiations were held in Istanbul at the request of the Turkish Government. The conference was held in the Golden Horn on May 19, 1924. For this reason, it is called the Golden Horn (Haliç) Conference.

The head of the Turkish delegation, Fethi Bey repeated the Turkish thesis here as well, and stated that Mosul was within the borders of the Turkish National Pact and was one of the natural borders of Turkish territory. Moreover, he underlined that Arabs were a minority in the Mosul province and if Mosul remained in the Iraqi territory, this would create a major problem for both Turkey and Iraq. At the same time, Turkey proposed giving the United Kingdom a share of the oil there if Mosul and Kirkuk were left to Turkey. In response, the British delegation demanded that Mosul and Kirkuk not be left, and they demanded Hakkari for Assyrians (Uzgel & Kürkçüoğlu, 2013, p. 263).

It is clear that this move was made to block the negotiations and take the issue to the League of Nations. As the Haliç Conference did not yield any precise solution, the United Kingdom wanted to take the matter to the League of Nations based on the Lausanne Conference.

The League of Nations began discussing the Mosul issue on September 20, 1924. While the Turkish side requested a plebiscite, the British side declared that a plebiscite could not be made due to the ignorance of the people, but that a commission needed to be established to make the decision. The Turkish delegation, led by Fethi Bey, opposed this idea on the grounds that the commission would not know the feelings and wishes of the people.

Using the power factor within the anarchic structure of the international system, the British made the League of Nations decide to establish a three-people commission.

The Mosul Issue Process

Referring to the Commission in
Lausanne Conference

Discussion in the Commission and the
Decision to Resolve the Issue through
Bilateral Negotiations after Lausanne

Haliç (Golden Horn) Conference

League of Nations

The commission established as a result of these developments was authorized to correspond and investigate the relevant countries as well. The Commissioners were:

- Colonel Poulis from Belgium
- Hungarian Count Teleki
- Swedish A. Wiersen.

The Commission, which carried out so-called investigations in the region, presented its report on July 16, 1925. Accepting demographic information from British-controlled Iraq, the commission set the border from where Mosul separates from Hakkari. The Commission's report also stated that trade and relations were mostly with Syria and Iraq.

As a result, the Commission decided that the people of the region did not want to join either of the sides, and approved the annexation of Mosul to Iraq. In addition, the following decisions were taken:

- The country will remain under the League of Nations Mandate for 25 years.
- In Mosul, Kurdish will be the official language, and Kurds will work as civil servants in the fields of justice and education.
- If Kurds do not have autonomy when the mandate is over, the region will be transferred to Turkey, since Turkey's situation would be better than Iraq.
- If the division of the region is still to be implemented as a decision, the Minor Zap will be taken as border, and Mosul will be left to Turkey while Kirkuk will be left to Iraq.

Although the British side immediately accepted the report, Tevfik Rüştü Bey, the head of the Turkish delegation, objected the decision, stating that the Treaty of Lausanne did not give the League of Nations the authority to make a compelling or binding decision.

Upon this objection, the League of Nations applied to the Permanent Court of International Justice for an opinion on the matter. The Court stated that the decision was binding, and the League of Nations approved the resolution leaving Mosul to Iraq at a meeting on December 16, 1925, which did not include Turkey.

After the conclusion of the Mosul issue as such, Mosul was left to Iraq as per the Executed Border between Turkey, United Kingdom and Iraq as well as the Agreement on the Relations between Neighbors. This agreement is known as 1926 Ankara Agreement in literature.

Under the Ankara Agreement, Mosul – a Turkish province – had to be given to Iraq, and the Iraqi Turks, who were Turkish citizens, were now accepted as Iraqi citizens. As the signed agreement did not satisfy Turkey, it did not satisfy the Iraqi Turks either. Nevertheless, resolving the issue through peace had been advantageous for both the people of the region, Iraq and Turkey. As a matter of fact, the British Government pressured the people of the region, those who sympathized with Turkey and those who lived in Mosul province, as well as Iraqi Turks before the start of the Lausanne Conference. Various types of pressures were also imposed on certain tribes and leading people in the region, leading to several incidents in this regard.

With 1926 Ankara Agreement, the issue was closed for good without leaving any possibility of annexing Mosul to Turkey in the future. Although a plebiscite was not made, the commission's decision shows that there was inconsistency between politics and law since the report said the province could be annexed to Turkey in case people wanted.

Ankara Agreement does not contain any article specifically for Turks in the region. Turkey did not specifically request minority or additional rights in this regard. The main reason for not requesting this was that Turks were the founding elements in the establishment of the Iraqi state, and it was aimed to prevent these Turks from being seen as a minority. Therefore, Turkey did not add any clauses related to Iraqi Turks in the agreement, paving the way for Iraqi Turks to benefit from all rights granted to Iraqi citizens. By this means, Turks would:

- be able to work in government offices,
- serve in the military,
- and assume political duties.

In addition, Turkey made sure that an article was added to Ankara Agreement to rule that Turkish citizens living in the region could come to Turkey within 12 months if they wished to protect their Turkish citizenship. At the same time, an article was added to the agreement saying that it was at Turkey's initiative to accept or reject the applications in this regard (Hürmüzlü, Irak Türkleri, 1994).

In accordance with article 16 of Ankara Agreement, Turkey also ensured that Iraqi Turks would not be pressured due to their proximity and political opinions in favor of Turkey, and to assure amnesty for those who had been convicted for their closeness to Turkey.

4.2.1.1. 1925 Iraqi Constitution and Iraqi Turks

The first Constitutional works in Iraq began in 1920. The most important article in this draft constitution was that all people in Iraq had equal rights, regardless of language, religion or race. The draft constitution stated that the Iraqi people consisted of Arabs, Turks and Kurds.

The first draft was not accepted as such, and the Constituent Assembly began to review the current draft as of June 14. After months of corrections, it was approved by Iraq's King Faisal and entered into force on March 21, 1925.

According to the 1925 Constitution, Iraq's official language was accepted as Arabic, and the dual-chamber parliamentary system was adopted under the kingdom of constitutional monarchy. As per article 6 of the Constitution, all Iraqis are equal before the law without discrimination against language, religion and race (Ari, 2007, pp. 386-387). According to article 9, all communities in Iraq have the right to open and protect schools within the limits set by law. Furthermore, article 18 regulates that Iraqis shall work in public office. In addition to these articles, other provisions regulated that Iraqi citizens have the right to assembly, establish associations, freedom of education and freedom of faith, no arrest and no access to housing without judicial decision.

The 1925 Constitution considered Turks as one of the main and founding elements of Iraq and accepted that they shall not be subject to any discrimination. In this regard, Turks are granted the right to open and run schools in their mother language. This also means that they are equal before the law, can work in public institutions and organizations,

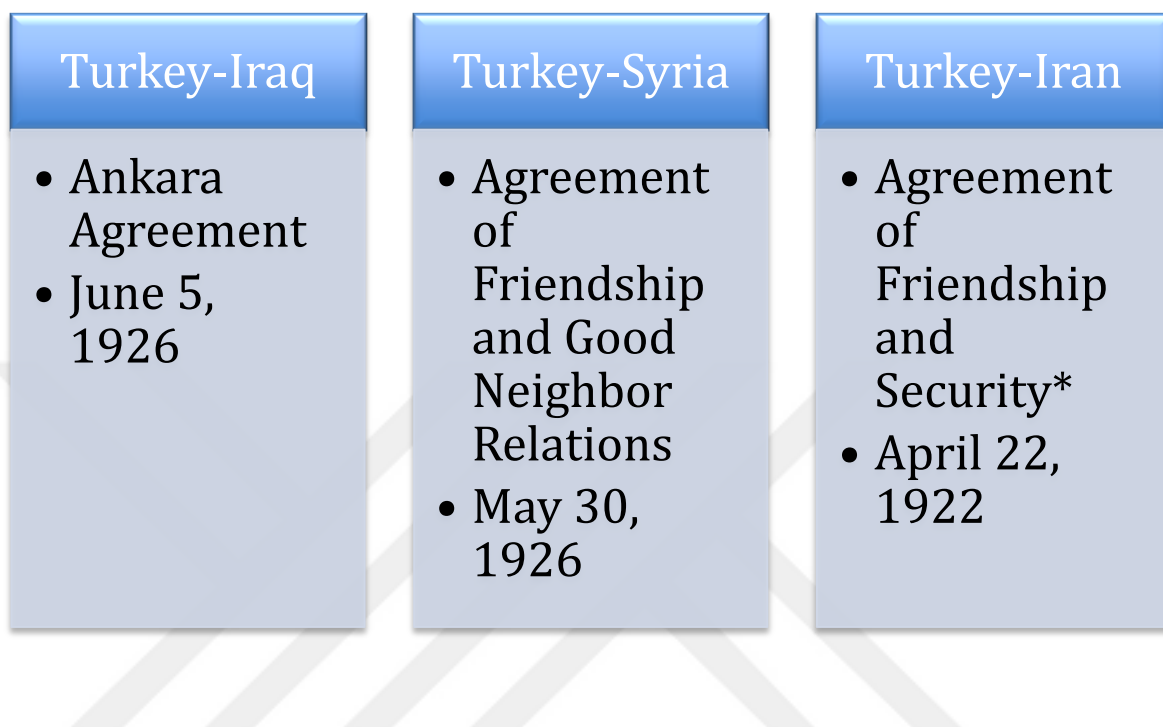
and assume military duties. Along with the articles added to the Constitution, they are also granted the rights to establish and run associations and foundations, and it is guaranteed that nobody will be arrested, and nobody's house will be searched without judicial decision.

The Constitution was published in three languages for the founding elements of Iraq: Turkish, Arabic and Kurdish (Saatçi, 1996, p. 196).

Since the 1925 Constitution does not include discrimination and does not consider Turks as minority, it is the constitution that has the broadest rights for Turks. With this constitution, it has been precisely demonstrated that Turks are the founding and fundamental elements in Iraq.

4.2.2. Turkey – Iraq Relations between 1926 and 1930

Since its foundation, the Republic of Turkey has implemented its main principle of “Peace at Home, Peace in the World”. According to this principle, one of the first steps is to solve border problems with neighbors. In this context, Turkey signed agreements with Syria and Iran after the Ankara Agreement in an attempt to solve border problems.



*This agreement was signed on April 22, 1922 and extended until June 15, 1928 during this period.

With the Ankara Agreement, mutual embassies were opened for the resolution of the border issue. In January 1928, Iraq sent an ambassador to Ankara, and nearly two years later, Turkey opened an embassy in Baghdad, Turkey, and a consulate in Mosul in December 1929 (Soysal, 1965, p. 306).

During this period, Iraq depended on the United Kingdom for its foreign policy, and was not able to develop any relationship with Turkey beyond opening an embassy. The United Kingdom did not leave Iraq any range of motion as they drew definite limits in foreign policy and security issues.

4.2.3. Turkey – Iraq Relations between 1930 and 1960

After its agreements with its neighboring countries, Turkey began to work hard to improve its relations with these countries. This effort had its reflection in Iraq as well. Shortly after Turkey opened an embassy in Baghdad, Iraqi King Faisal I gave dinner at the palace in honor of Turkish Ambassador to Baghdad, Tahir Lütfü Bey.

Iraq saw it as an obligation to develop friendly relations with Turkey, as they came out with victory from the War of Independence, and forced the British to sit at the table at their own conditions. During the dinner, King Faisal I's speech mentioned the friendly attitude of Mustafa Kemal and the Turkish government, stated that the feelings of trust had been consolidated, and that he was very confident about the northern border.

Iraq sent Defense Minister Cafer Pasha to Ankara in April 1930 to see the developments in Turkey and improve relations. Accepted by Mustafa Kemal, Cafer Pasha was welcomed amicably, and he reported to the King of Iraq that he was very impressed with Turkey's development in a short period of time.

In October 1930, Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Sait Pasha visited Turkey and held talks with President Mustafa Kemal and Foreign Minister Tefik Rüştü.

In May 1931, Iraqi King Faisal I told Baghdad ambassador Tahir Bey that he wanted to pay a visit to Turkey and to discuss border issues related to the Barzani tribe on the northern border. King Faisal I came to Turkey on October 6, 1931 with Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri Sait Pasha and Finance Minister Rüstem Haydar Efendi, stayed in Turkey until July 14 and held talks. The issues of trade and substitution were discussed during the talks, and it was stated that violations would not be allowed on the border of the other side.

In these meetings, the King of Iraq wanted to improve relations with Turkey, and as a result of meetings with Turkish President Mustafa Kemal, the law enacted under the Name of Local Languages in Iraq stated that the language of schools in Mosul, Erbil and Kirkuk regions could be determined by the majority (Turkish, Arabic or Kurdish), and Turkish language was accepted as a local language, it was decided to take judicial trials in Turkish in regions where Turks were majority, and it was decided by law to ensure that education was completely in Turkish in primary schools of regions with Turkish majority (Saatçi, 2003, p. 199).

As a result of the King's visit to Iraq, discussions on agreed issues continued, and three agreements were signed in 1932. These agreements were:

- Agreement on Extradition of Sentenced Persons between the Republic of Turkey and Kingdom of Iraq
- Agreement on Residence between the Republic of Turkey and Kingdom of Iraq
- Trade Agreement between the Republic of Turkey and Kingdom of Iraq.

These agreements came into force on July 6, 1933. In this regard, the agreements are of great importance to Iraqi Turks. Those who had not been able to apply and settle in Turkey by obtaining residence permit within a year after the Ankara Agreement earned this right by means of the Residence Agreement stated above. At the same time, the Trade Agreement enabled citizens of the two countries work, set up businesses, enter into trade relations and purchase properties in these countries.

As required by the agreement signed between the United Kingdom and Iraq on June 30, 1930, Iraq applied to the League of Nations to lift the mandate regime, achieve its independence and become a member of the League of Nations. It was reported after the analysis that Iraq was not eligible for this, however, this could be discussed if Iraq guaranteed to revise its existing laws to be fairer for people. On January 28, 1932, the League of Nations accepted the commitment of Iraq, and on May 30, 1932, this declaration was issued (Hürmüzlü, 2003, p. 22).

Although new rights were not obtained by this agreement, the rights of Turks were guaranteed internationally. More precisely, article 4 of the agreement guaranteed the rights of Turks as Iraqi citizens⁴ (Turan, 1966, pp. 31-36).

⁴ Article 4:

1. All Iraqi citizens shall be equal before the law. They shall benefit from the same civil and political rights regardless of race, language or religion.
2. The electoral system shall guarantee equal representation of all minorities in Iraq regardless of race, language or religion.
3. Differences in race, language and religion cannot prevent any Iraqi citizen's civil and political rights (assignment in public office, functions and rewarding, professional and industrial activities).
4. No restrictions can be imposed on any Iraqi citizen to freely hold private meetings in any language, commercial, religious and all kinds of media activities and general meetings.
5. Provided that Arabic language is the official language of the Iraqi Government and it is not contrary to the special regulations made by the Iraqi Government, all Iraqi citizens whose mother language is other than the official language can and shall be provided with the means to use their mother language in courts in written or oral form as per the use of Kurdish and Turkish in article 9 of this declaration.

Although Iraq seemed to have gained its independence along with this agreement or written contract, they explicitly accepted intervention if the League of Nations determined that Iraq did not comply with the financial obligations and commitment it deemed necessary. In other words, the United Kingdom continued to control Iraq with a different regime than the mandate, using the power and system connections of the anarchic international system.

After the declaration, Turks, who had been waiting for an improvement in their social, cultural and political rights, could not find what they had expected. In the year of gaining independence, compulsory Arabic education was adopted in schools in Turkmen regions, and Turkish teachers were exiled to Arab regions (Saatçi, 1996, p. 204).

Despite the end of the mandate regime, the British continued to have an influence on Iraq. Seeing the closeness between Turkey and Iraq as dangerous, the British started to place Assyrians in the Turkish regions of Mosul and Kirkuk as well as the border region between Turkey and Iraq. The Assyrians, armed under the name of Levi's battalions assigned with the mission to protect the British air bases, were the primary culprits of the Kirkuk massacre in 1924, as mentioned earlier.

After the death of King Faisal I in 1933, his son Gazi took power. The change in the throne did not affect Turkey-Iraq relations, these relations were tried to be further developed.

The Republic of Turkey, led by Mustafa Kemal, established the Balkan Entente in 1934 to take regional security against the camping in the West, and formed a union against Italy and Germany seeking to capture Yugoslavia, Romania and Greece and the Balkans.

As a result of Mustafa Kemal's efforts to establish a similar union in the Middle East, Turkey signed the Saadabad Pact with Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq on July 8, 1937.

After the death of the Great Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in 1938, the leaders of the people in Kirkuk sent a telegraph to Ankara to convey their sorrows⁵ (Şimşir, 1999, pp. 413-415).

⁵The telegraph is as follows:

"FROM KIRKUK TURKS TO SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF TURKEY,
A world was devastated... General history suffered the disaster of losing the highest figure, the Great Ancestor of the brave Turkish nation – the most notable and dearest son of the sacred Turkish motherland...

Our Great Leader, whom the entire world believes was the most exceptional example of genius, heroism, honor and devotion, left this world and became eternal.

Not only the noble Turkish nation, the holy Turkish homeland, but the whole world is covered in black with the mourning of the sorrows for this deep emptiness, shedding bloody tears...

There is no power to compensate for this colossal calamity that has disrupted the whole world.

We, who lost our leader Atatürk and devastated by his mourning, know that even if nature makes a new world, it will not create a second Atatürk...

We are deeply grieved...

The world is burning and crying... We and our ill-starred Kirkuk have the right to burn more and cry more...

Our lonely soul is the orphan of the Great Atatürk as every Turk...

For many years, we have lived far from the motherland and now from Mustafa Kemal, the Great Savior, Atatürk, whose memory we will now carry to eternity, and we are burning for losing him...

We are burning;

We are in fire burning,

Death cast its veil,

We are left in grief for our Atatürk...

Encircled by enemy networks for twenty years, our unfortunate homeland has become a place for miserable ambitions...

People of Kirkuk have been experiencing longing in a journey full of misery, disaster, death and they have been left bloodless and weak due to these sorrows, anguishes and deaths, and now they are witnessing the most unfortunate and remorseful strike of the miserable destiny... Atatürk died and alas! Will their last desires be destroyed now?

There is only one man who will answer this question, dress the wounds of sad Kirkuk people and fulfill their wishes: The hero İnönü... He, who "defeated not only the enemy, but also the ill fate," can open new horizons for the future of hero Kirkuk...

We have lived without much; we have stood up to poverty, subordination and the most devastating or destroying versions of sordidness; we have lost everything but hopes...

We have had only and only one hope: ATATÜRK...

The great savior was definitely going to save the grief-stricken Kirkuk groaning in the depth of sordidness and deprivation...

He will turn his bright face to us as he did to the happy Hatay one day and he will dazzle our dull eyes, making us forget the years of longing in a moment and saving us...

We are crying for that great hope, which is only a dream now.

After the death of Iraqi King Gazi I on April 4, 1939, his 3-year-old son Faisal II came to the throne. As he was too young, Abdullah from the Hashemite dynasty was appointed as the throne regent. They adopted a pro-British stance in government to develop a pan-Arabist approach. While camping and polarization continued in Europe, the adoption of a pro-British policy caused concern among certain senior soldiers and politicians, and thus, they advocated that an impartial policy should be followed. In April 3, 1941, Rashid Ali, along with senior military members, attempted a coup and succeeded. King's Regent Abdullah and Nuri Sait fled Iraq upon this development. Rashid Ali's cabinet, like the previous administration, took on a pan-Arabist management concept fueled by Arab nationalism. The only difference in foreign policy was to do this and advocate expelling the United Kingdom from the country in order to nationalize oil resources. For this, they tried to get the support of the axis states. In response to this situation, the United Kingdom started to invade Iraq claiming that the 1930 commitment had been violated, and on June 1, 1941, it invaded Iraq completely (Arı, Geçmişten Günümüze Orta Doğu Siyaset, Savaş ve Diplomasi, 2007, p. 177). After the invasion of Iraq, King's Regent Abdullah and Nuri Sait returned to the country on June 3, 1941.

We are crying... Like an orphan crying for his stepmother's petulant and distressing unfairness, we are shedding our tears to our hearts and crying silently. The dark news announced by the Ankara radio on November 10 devastated this unfortunate and further Turkish realm.

This has left traces of pain that cannot be erased until eternity in the heart of every Kirkuk citizen. Kirkuk will always carry the mourning of the Great Atatürk in heart like a sacred bailment.

One and only one thing can console the loss of the Great Atatürk which left us devastated: Hero İnönü's protective approach of him in the near future... This protection will stop our tears and may he, our numinous leader, rest in peace...

May God bless his soul...

May the great and determined Turkishness be everlasting...

November 15, 1938

The whole Kirkuk..."

Iraq's policy partially changed after the invasion. In this new policy, Iraq wanted to follow Turkey in staying neutral throughout World War II. Therefore, the relations were not disrupted in line with the two countries' desire to maintain their neutrality within the same policy framework.

Iraq's principle of neutrality continued until 1943. They declared war against the Axis States on January 16, 1943 upon the request of the United Kingdom. Despite going to war, relations between the two sides were not disrupted and Iraq respected Turkey's neutrality..

As a result of the end of World War II, Turkey and Iraq had to face the Soviet threat. After the war, Iraq was left without the support and protection of the United Kingdom, since it was out of its old power, and the Soviets did not renew the Non-aggression Protocol of 1925 and wanted bases in the Turkey's Bosphorus and the provinces of Kars and Ardahan; therefore, the Soviets became a common threat against Turkey and Iraq. The first policy against this threat, the Middle East Command, was not implemented, however, on March 29, 1946, an Agreement of Friendship and Good Neighbor Relations was signed between Turkey and Iraq (Arslan, 2018, p. 285).

Between 1930 and 1950, Turkey's relations with Iraq were generally focused on foreign policy. On the other hand, Iraq's relations with Turkey, which was still under British control, did not develop clearly in this context.

Although Iraqi Turks experienced their best period from the establishment until 1930, they experienced great difficulties due to the Arabization policies and security concerns as a result of Turkey's inability to show sufficient interest in Mosul and Kirkuk.

The Constitution, which came into force in 1925, and the articles and rights for Turks in the declaration signed by Iraq as it entered the League of Nations were often violated, and Turks were subjected to discrimination and assimilation policies.

With the decolonization process, European colonial states withdrew from the Middle East and thus, a new regional and international order started to form in the Middle East. Although power and the anarchic structure of the international system—the basic components of the realist school—still showed themselves during this period, Turkey started to take more interest in the region. After becoming a member of the Western bloc during this period, Turkey became an integral part of the region as well as the furthest part of the Western bloc.

In this regard, Turkey became closer to the Western bloc during this period due to the changing perceptions of security and threats, and entered the NATO in 1952, after which it produced policies parallel to the Bloc's policies as a member regarding the perception of security threats.

During this period, Turkey tried to solve the problems related to Iraqi Turks with the Iraqi authorities and made the necessary warnings to the Iraqi governments. Despite partial improvements as a result of these warnings, Iraqi governments soon returned to assimilation and repression policies.

Since the beginning of the Cold War, Iraq had followed a different policy than the Arab countries and was the only Arab State to join the Baghdad Pact. On July 14,

1958, monarchy was destroyed by a coup led by General Kasım. This development led to a major change in the regional policy of both the major powers and Turkey.

The fact that the coup took place on the day when members of the Baghdad Pact gathered caused a huge backlash among the members. Discussing the issue of Iraq between 14 and 17 July, members of the Baghdad Pact ultimately condemned the coup and considered it an intervention by foreign forces in Iraq.

The members states of the Pact reported their discomfort to the US, the leader of the Western bloc, stating that this situation happened thanks to the support and encouragement of Nasser and therefore, the USSR, and the US needed to intervene within the framework of the Eisenhower doctrine.

Unlike the other members of the Pact, Turkey followed a strict approach regarding this issue. After the meeting of the Baghdad Pact on July 17, the Turkish Foreign Minister made a difficult statement and said that they did not recognize the Coup government. Following this announcement, Turkey began to consider the option of military intervention. However, the US and the UK opposed military action on the grounds that any military intervention would bring the new regime closer to the USSR, and inculcated Turkey not to intervene (Firat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635).

One of the basic parameters of the realist doctrine, not clashing with great power's policies and one of the basic principles of Cold War geopolitics, following policies parallel to the leader of the block that a state is a member to applied during Turkey's Iraq intervention as well. As the US took a moderate stance towards the new Iraqi government, first the United Kingdom, other members of the Western block and ultimately Turkey

recognized the new Iraqi government. On July 31, 1958, Turkey officially declared that they recognized Iraq(Fırat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635).

Being concerned over an intervention by Western powers after the Iraq coup, the Iraqi government under the leadership of General Kasım did not withdraw from the Baghdad Pact as a result of Iraq's alliance with the West.However, General Kasım planned to follow a pro-Naser, pan-Arabist policy, and remained indifferent to the pact for a while, focusing more on the relations with Arab countries (Fırat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635).

Members of the Baghdad Pact (excluding Iraq) and the US Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs met on July 28-29 to assess the situation and determine how the process would work. In the declaration after the end of the negotiations, the United States was invited to participate in the pact. Yet, instead of participating directly in a pact and creating a binding relationship, the United States preferred to develop bilateral relations with the regional countries to be more active in the region.As a first step, the US signed the Turkish American Security and Cooperation Agreement with Turkey on March 5, 1959. In the next stage, the United States signed the same agreement with Iran and Pakistan(Fırat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635).

On October 23, 1958, the center was temporarily moved to Ankara to continue the pact's functioning. On March 24, 1959, General Kasım announced that Iraq had withdrawn from the pact on the grounds that membership in a military and aggressive pact had harmed Iraq's neutrality(Fırat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635)..

With an announcement made on August 21, 1959, the pact was re-named CENTO (Central Treaty Organization). CENTO held its first meeting in Washington on October 7-9, 1959. CENTO's works continued unabated until the Islamic revolution of Iran in 1979(Firat & Kürkçüoğlu, 2002, pp. 632-635).

4.3. Turkey's Middle East Policy between 1960 and 1970

With the beginning of the 1960s, the changes in the system led Turkey to re-evaluate the Middle East and follow a direct and general policy for the Middle East rather than a country-by-country policy.

Since problems were experienced with the West, Turkey started to implement the policy of establishing balance – an element of the realist doctrine – and began to see Middle Eastern countries as elements of balance.

The reasons that paved the way for Turkey to implement this policy and encourage it to generate a direct policy over the Middle East included the following:

- **Cuban Missile Crisis:** In the agreement reached after this tension between the United States and the USSR, the USSR withdrew its missile launchers in Cuba, while Jupiter missiles in Turkey were withdrawn by the United States as well. Following the missile crisis, a détente period started, and military aid to Turkey began to decrease. Although the US committed to send the Polaris submarines carrying nuclear warhead missiles instead of Jupiter missiles upon Turkey's reaction, Turkey started to question its relations with the US.

FÜZELER Son karar 3 hafta sonra verilecek **ORTA-DOĞU** Araplarla dostluk istiyoruz **FERİDUN ERKİN ROMA'DA**

Jüpiter'ler 1 Nisan'da görev dışı oluyor



(Milliyet Newspaper, 1963, p. 1)

MISSILES

The last decision will be given after 3 weeks

MIDDLE EAST

We want friendship with Arabs

FERİDUN ERKİN IS IN ROME

Jupiter missiles will be out of duty on April 1

Jüpiter füzelerinin sökülmesine başlandı

Taşınması tehlikeli olan kısımlar imha edilecek. İzmir'e atom başlıklı Polaris füzeleri taşıyan denizaltı yakında gelecek

ANKARA, ÖZEL

MEMLEKETİMİZDE bulunan Jüpiter füzeleri sökülmeğe başlanmıştır. Füzelerin birinci derecede önemli olan parçaları ambalajlanarak Amerika'ya götürülecek, ikinci dereceyi teşkil eden kısımlar ise Çiğli hava üsünde depolanacaktır.

Taşınması ve depolanması tehlikeli olan kısımlar ise imha edilecektir.

POLARIS DENİZALTISI GELİYOR

WASHINGTON, A.P. A.A.

Amerikan Dışleri Bakanlığı sözcüsü dün, Amerika'nın Akdenizde görevlendirildiği 3 Polaris nükleer denizaltısından birinin, İzmir limanına bir nezaket ziyareti yapacağını açıklamıştır.

Hâlen, iki günlük ziyaretin teferruatı üzerinde çalışılmaktadır. Ziyaret tarihi bilâhare açıklanacaktır.

Sözün, bu ziyaretin yapılmasını, Türk hükümetinin talep etmiş olduğunu belirtmiştir.

(Milliyet Newspaper, 1963, p. 1)

Jupiter missiles started to be detached

Parts that are dangerous to carry will be destroyed. The submarine to carry atomic warhead Polaris to İzmir will come soon

Detachment of Jupiter missiles in our country have started. Most important parts of the missiles will be packed and sent to the US. The second most important parts, on the other hand, will be stored in Çiğli air base.

POLARIS SUBMARINE IS COMING

WASHINGTON, A.P. A.A.: American Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated yesterday that one of the 3 Polaris submarines assigned by the US in the Mediterranean would make a 'kind gesture' in the İzmir port.

Work is ongoing on the details of the two-day visit. The visit date will soon be announced.

The spokesperson stated that the Turkish government requested this visit.

- **Cyprus Issue:**In the 1960s, the Cyprus issue became one of the main problems and agenda topic of Turkish foreign policy. Indeed, the Western world's support of the Greek thesis and Greece on the Cyprus issue, and their silence regarding the Turkish Cypriots' problems, persecution and attacks pushed Turkey to seek alternatives in its foreign policy.

Within this framework, Turkey endeavored to establish close relations with the Middle East as per the realist doctrine to solve two fundamental problems and find support in the international arena other than that of the US. Turkey tried to regulate its relations with Arabs in 5 ways:

- Turkey did not get involved with the problems of Arab countries among themselves, and did not try to direct Arab countries according to the interests of the Western bloc. Thus, an active neutrality was observed.
- Turkey did not back the Western bloc in cases where Arab countries experienced problems with the West, and remained outside. From time to time, Turkey also gave statements in support of Arab countries.
- Turkey sided with Arabs in the Arab-Israeli War, and reacted against Israel's Jerusalem policy together with Arabs, backing Arabs also with regard to the Palestine issue.
- After setting fire in Jerusalem by an Australian radical Jew, reactions arose in the Islamic world and on September 22-25, 1969, Turkey joined and became a founding member of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Rabat, stating that it backed Arabs against the attack in Jerusalem (Republic of Turkey Minister of Foreign Affairs, 2020).
- While the Arab-Israel War continued, Turkey did not allow the US to use its bases in Turkey to help Israel, and made it clear that Israel must withdraw from the occupied territories.

Nevertheless, Turkey did not compromise its founding principles. The basic principles of Turkish foreign policy had always been preserved. Although Turkey took a

stand against Israel in the Arab Israeli War, it did not sever ties with Israeli. On the other hand, Turkey did not try to impose any sanctions on the Western bloc countries either. Turkey had kept its distance from both Arab countries and Western bloc countries by remaining neutral to the developments and conflicts and never severing ties despite expressing its opinion when necessary. Turkey's effort to improve relations with Arab countries without discrimination as well as adoption of a holistic policy toward the Middle East can be seen as a reflection of the above-mentioned factors (Türkmen, 1982, p. 72).

4.4. Turkey's Middle East Policy between 1970 and 1980

In the 1970s, Turkey continued its policy of seeing the relations with Arab countries as an element of balance since the 1960s. In addition to the policy changes in the 1960s, Turkey started to tighten its relations with Middle Eastern countries with the Oil Crisis in 1973.

With the developing relations during this period, the construction of the Kirkuk Yumurtalık oil pipeline began and Turkey started to buy oil from Iraq. However, a new problem arose in the economy as Turkey began to buy oil and the country's oil needs increased rapidly.

During the 1970s, the Turkish economy did not implement an export-based policy due to political instability and Import-Substitution economy policies. This economic policy, whose main purpose is to produce goods from abroad in the country, largely reduced Turkey's ability to export. For this reason, Turkish goods could not enter the Arab market, and Turkey faced an increasing current account deficit.

Despite the burden of this economic policy, Turkey intervened on the Cyprus island in 1974 to save the Turkish Cypriots from genocide. After the Cyprus intervention, the United States imposed a military embargo on Turkey. Upon the negative effect of this intervention on the economy, the Cyprus issue with the European Economic Community negatively impacted the Turkish economy in the face of the economic crisis.

Turkey took steps to improve its relations with Arab countries during this period as follows:

- Completion of construction of the Kirkuk-Yumurtalık oil pipeline with Iraq in 1977 and the start of oil purchase
- Recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization and permission to open an embassy in Turkey
- Meeting of Foreign Ministers under the Organization of Islamic Conference in Istanbul

In light of these developments, Turkey developed relations and become close to Arab countries. The most important development of this period was the completion of the construction of the Kirkuk-Yumurtalık oil pipeline, which started in 1973, and the start of oil flow in 1977.



4.5. Turkey's Middle East Policy between 1980 and 1990

Developments affecting the shaping and development of Turkish foreign policy in every 10-year period occurred in the region during this period as well. With these developments, Turkish foreign policy was re-shaped according to the current situation.

During this period, 3 developments that shaped Turkish foreign policy emerged.

These were:

- Iranian Islamic Revolution – February 11, 1979
- Soviets' Invasion of Afghanistan December 25, 1979
- Iran – Iraq War September 22, 1980

The détente period came to an end with the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Afghanistan had dominated the road towards the Persian Gulf and after the USSR invaded Afghanistan, they constituted a threat to the US dominance in the region. Upon this development, Turkey-US relations entered a normalization process.

Turkey had maintained good relations with Iran since the foundation of the Republic of Turkey, while the main critical development for Turkey during this period was the revolution in Iran in the name of Islam. The West both lost an ally in the Middle East and faced the threat of Iran spreading its revolution in the name of Islam.

The most dangerous aspect of this development for Turkey was that its relations could deteriorate with some Middle Eastern countries in case the revolution spread in other countries and Turkey might have needed to reformulate some of its relations with the relevant Middle Eastern countries. At the same time, Turkey lost an ally with whom they had been in good relations for a long time.

Iraq experienced the greatest threat regarding the spread of the revolution. Iraq, under Saddam, perceived threat from Iran and desired to be the leader of Arab countries in the region, thus, Iraq waged a war against Iran that lasted nearly 8 years. However, the expectation of Saddam, who thought that most of the Iranian army had been arrested and that Iranian citizens living in Sunni areas would support him, did not materialize, and the war lasted longer than expected.

The US published the Carter Doctrine to control the situation in the region. According to the doctrine, the United States announced that “An attempt by an outside force to gain control of the Persian Gulf region will be regarded as an assault on the vital interests of the United States of America, and such an assault will be repelled by any means necessary, including military force” (Kuniholm, 1986, pp. 342-347). The doctrine suggested that the US wanted its allied countries to act in coordination both against the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and in unity against the Iranian Islamic Revolution.

In light of these three developments, the 1980s were the years when geopolitical importance was most felt in Turkish foreign policy. In this sense, Turkey started to perceive two threats. The first was the threat of Soviet occupation of Turkey’s territory. Albeit at a relatively low rate, it was likely that the Soviets intervened in Turkey’s policies within the scope of this threat. Another threat was the threat of radical Islamists taking the example of Iran and attempting such an occupation move in the country.

During this period, Turkey was considered the most important ally of the US in the region by improving its relations with Middle Eastern countries thanks to its geopolitical importance, and in turn, the embargo was lifted by the Defense and Economic Cooperation Agreement signed in 1980. The US started to openly support Turkey with this agreement.

At the same time, with the move to a free market economy and the abandoning of the import substitution model, Turkey began to implement an export-oriented economic model. For Turkey, where the Western Market was completely closed, Middle Eastern countries became accessible markets. Hence, Turkey attached great importance to its relations with the Middle East during this period.

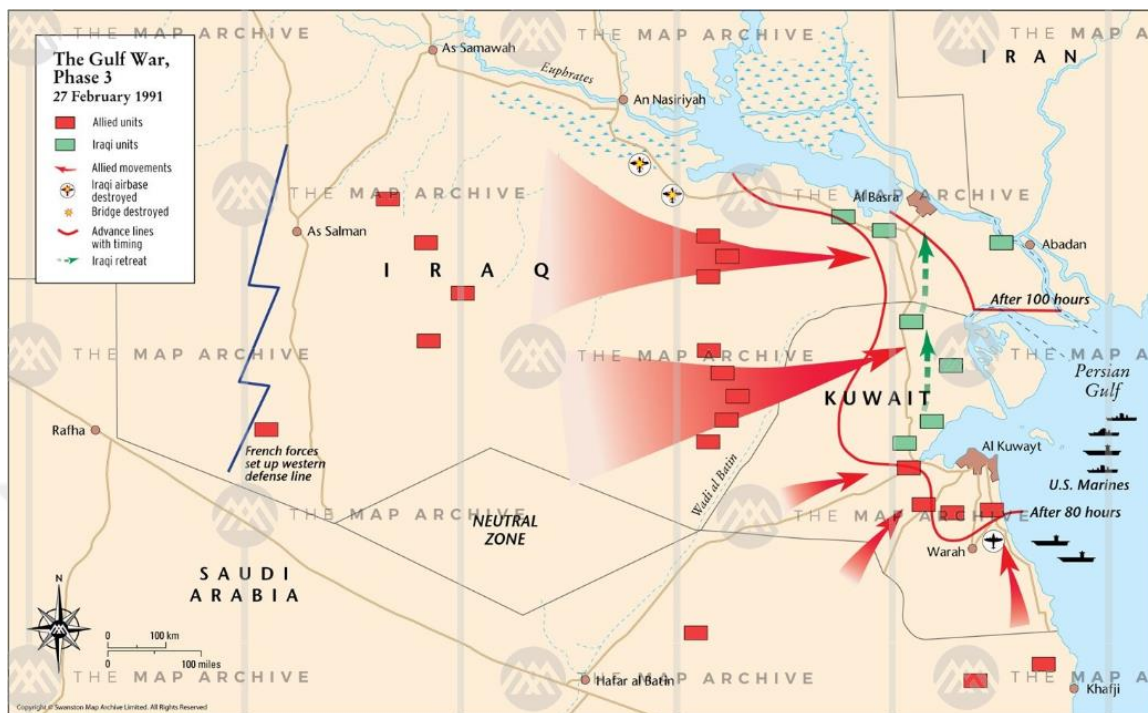
In this vein, Turkey tried to actualize the Southeastern Anatolia Project (GAP) during this period. Turkey aimed to sell both electricity and agricultural products to Middle Eastern countries by the dams and irrigations planned to be constructed. Nevertheless, Syria and Iraq had problems with Turkey due to the short-term reduction of the waters of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers in order to accumulate water for the filling of dams. In fact, it was for this reason that Syria supported PKK terrorism and provided both money and ammunition support to terrorists.

In order to be active in with its Middle East policies during this period, Turkey also minimized its relations with Israel. As a result of Israel's proclaiming Jerusalem as its capital, Turkey reduced its relations with Israel to the level of acting ambassador. About 8 years later, on November 15, 1988, the Palestinian State was established, and Turkey was one of the first countries to recognize this state.

4.6. Turkey's Middle East Policy between 1990 and 2000

After the Invasion of Kuwait by Iraq in the 1990s, the Gulf War broke out, and these years were marked by lifting the neutrality principle in Turkish foreign policy for the first time.

It had taken a long time to establish a mutual dependency system with Iraq on issues such as economic, commercial, energy and oil pipelines. One of the most important aspects of this system for Turkey had been Turkey's ability to pay the oil price through various trades. However, against other countries that impose an embargo on Iraqi oil, Saddam stated that they could sell the oil to Turkey and then, Turkey could sell it to other countries, and proposed to keep the pipeline open.



Although maintaining relations with Iraq had been very lucrative for Turkey, Turkey cut ties with Iraq –its most important economic partner in the region under the roof of the UN. Turkey tried to compensate its loss in this area with the Turkic Republics, which emerged after the dissolution of the Soviets, and had done its best to adapt these countries to the new economic order and to establish mutual economic and trade relations.

'Savaşın ekonomiye faturası ağır'

• Asim ERTAN

KÖRFEZ krizi Türk ekonomistler arasında başladı. Petrol fiyatlarındaki artışın, müteahhlik hizmetleri ile transit ticaretin durmasının, Irak ve Kuveyt ile ticari ilişkilerimizin döndürülmesinin ekonomimize ağır darbeler vermeye başladığı konusunda görüş birliğindedir.

• "SICAK SAVAŞ TEHLİKELİ"

İşadamları ve ekonomistlerin savaş ve ekonomiyi ilgili görüşleri şöyle:

Prof. Dr. Tansu Çiller (Boğaziçi Üniversitesi Öğretim Üyesi): "Körfez krizinin petrol fiyatlarının artması dışında Türkiye ekonomisine fazlasıyla bir olumsuz etkisi yok. Ancak sıcak bir savaşa başlamak çok tehlikeli. Bu için ciddiye alınması gerekir."

"Türkiye'nin ticari bankalara 7 milyar dolar kısıtlı var. Bu borcu ödemek zorundayız. Şu anda çoğu illahattan kısa vadeli finansman için girilmiş bulunan 11 milyar dolar paramız var. Ancak bir savaş durumunda bu 11 milyar dolar kaçarsa, Türkiye mah olur. Türkiye sadece döviz darbesiyle değil, iç savaşla da patlar. Şu anda kur politikaları kanalı ile enflasyon bir miktar düzeltildi. İhtiyaç arzı, Türk lirasından kaçış durdu. Ancak döviz fiyatları yükseldi. Türk lirası bankalardan kaçır, bankalar da faizleri yükseltmek zorunda kalır. Faizlerdeki artış da enflasyonu körükler. Ayrıca Merkez Bankası otomatik olarak para pompalamaya başlar. Çünkü kurlar yükseldiğinde oluşacak Türk lirası farkları Merkez Bankası'nın bilançolarındaki aktifleri şişirir ve bu da otomatikman pasiflerin, yani emisyonun şişmesine yol açar. Bütün bunlar sonucunda kontrol altına alınmayacak bir enflasyon meydana gelir. Enflasyon yüzde 100'lere çıkar, Türk ekonomisi tepetaklı olur."

Prof. Dr. Erdoğan Alkin: "Körfez krizi bu boyutlarda kalmazsa halinde Türkiye'ye petrol faturasının ve Irak'la ticaretinin döndürülmesinin

• İşadamları ve ekonomistler, petrol fiyatlarındaki artışın, müteahhlik hizmetleri ile transit ticaretin durmasının, Irak ve Kuveyt ile ilişkilerimizin döndürülmesinin ekonomimize ağır darbeler vermeye başladığı konusunda görüş birliğindedir.

• Prof. Çiller, Prof. Ergin, Prof. Alkin, Prof. Yaşa, sıcak savaşta Türkiye'nin harp ekonomisi uygulayacağını söylüyorlar

• İşadamları Kocabiyik ile Garih, Körfez krizinden az etkilendiğini savunuyorlar

• Maliye eski bakanlarından Kafaoglu ile Müezzinoğlu, savaşın ekonomiyi olumsuz etkilerine dikkat çekiyorlar



Tansu Çiller



Feridun Ergin



Erdoğan Alkin



Memduh Yaşa



Asim Kocabiyik



Adnan Başer Kafaoglu



Uzeyir Garih



Ziya Müezzinoğlu

lit ülke. Bu ülkeye uygulanan ambargo ve abluka Türkiye'de enflasyonu ve yaşam koşullarını hemizi üzerinde durmadığımız boyutlara sürükleyebilir. Bir askeri harekatta aktif olarak katılmamız durumunda uğrayacağımız zararların boyutlarını şimdiden tahmin etmek imkânsız. Ancak, parametreler, bütün ihtimaller dikkate alındığında, Türkiye'nin kazandığından çok yitirebileceğini göstermektedir.

"Sıcak bir savaşa girdiğinde Türkiye harp ekonomisi uygulamak durumunda kalacak. Harp ekonomisinde sermaye-emek ilişkilerinde normal toglu sözleşme koşulları söz konusu olmaz. Her şey memleket açısından ön plana çıktığından toplu sözleşme görüşmeleri ertelenebilir, grevler durdurulabilir ve fazla mesai ücreti ödenmekle sınırlandırılır. Eğer savaşta girmek bunsun faturasını da ağır olarak çalışanlar öder."

• CİDDİ ETKİLER

Prof. Dr. Erdoğan Alkin: "Körfez krizi bu boyutlarda kalmazsa halinde Türkiye'ye petrol faturasının ve Irak'la ticaretinin döndürülmesinin

getireceği yük altından kalkılmayacak boyutta değil. Bu yük yıl sonunda enflasyonu 4-5 puan yukarı çeker, büyüme de yarım puan düşürür. Savaş çıkması halinde savunma masraflarında büyük artış olur. Bu da enflasyonu hızlandırır, sanayi üretiminde de aksamalar olabilir. Sıcak savaşa girilmesi halinde ekonomimiz çok değil, ama ciddi boyutlarda etkilenebilir."

Prof. Memduh Yaşa: "Sıcak savaş Türkiye'den döviz kaçışını başlatır, yatırımları da yavaşlatır. Körfez bunalımı dolayısıyla Türkiye'nin yıllık zarar 3-4 milyar dolar. Ancak Türkiye'nin bir harbe hazırlanması, yeni silahlar alması enflasyonun temel nedeni olan kamu açıklarını da artırır."

Asim Kocabiyik (İşadamları): "Krizin ekonomiyi olumsuz etkileri var. Sıcak bir savaş durumunda ne olur bilinmez. Ancak savaşın enflasyona fazla etkisi olacağını sanmıyorum. Çünkü savaş petrolunda Türkiye'nin ihlal ettiği malların fiyatını artırmaz."

Adnan Başer Kafaoglu (Maliye eski Bakanı): "Türkiye'nin en büyük ihracat po-

zuzu Irak'tır. Bu pazarı elden çıkarması önemli bir kayıp olarak görüyorum. Türkiye ekonomisi bundan olumsuz yönde bir hayli etkilenebilir. Sıcak bir savaş bizi bundan daha çok etkilemez. Gıda maddeleri ve alınan yatırım artar, ancak enflasyon fazla yüklenmez diye düşünüyorum."

• "UZUN VADEDE KARLI"

Uzeyir Garih (İşadamları): "Türkiye Körfez krizinden çok az etkilenebilir. Hatta uzun vadede bu krizden kazanacağını düşünüyorum. Türkiye'nin büyük bir döviz rahatsızlığı var. Arap ülkelerinden gelen dövizlerle bu rahatlık daha da artmıştır. Körfez krizi bu şekilde devam ederse yıl sonunda kadar enflasyonu ancak 6-7 puan artırıcı etkisi olur. Sıcak savaşın ne getireceğini bilemem. Ancak Türkiye'nin güven sınırları Irak'la bir çatışmaya gireceğini sanmıyorum. Bu kriz 3-5 ay sonra sona erecektir. Akabinde de ülke ekonomisinde büyük canlanma meydana gelecektir. Körfez krizi nedeniyle Türkiye'nin uluslararası saygınlığı artmıştır. Bu durum mutlaka ekonomiyi yansıyacaktır."

tır. Lübnan olaylarından sonra Beyrut'tan Kuveyt'e göçmüş olan finans kuruluşları tasınacak yeni bir yer arayacaklardır. Bunlar için İstanbul en uygun yerdir. Zayıflamakta olan NATO da Türkiye'nin önemini kavrayacak ve kullanılmasında düşünen NATO yatırımları başlatılabilir. Dünya bu yörede Türkiye hem politik, hem de ekonomik olarak önemli kazanacaktır."

• BÜTÇE DE AÇIK

Ziya Müezzinoğlu (Maliye eski Bakanı): "Kriz döviz gelirlerimizin azalmasına ve ödemeler dengesinde olumsuz gelişmelere neden olacaktır."

"Kriz nedeniyle savunma harcamalarımızın artması zaten büyük açıkları karşılayabilecek. Ayrıca krizin dünya ekonomileri üzerindeki olumsuz etkileri nedeniyle ithal malların fiyatları artacaktır, ödemeler dengesindeki açık biraz daha büyüyecek, ayrıca enflasyon da bu yüzden etkilenecektir. Şu anda tek olumlu taraf ekonomimizde bir panik havasının oluşmaması olacaktır. Ancak sıcak bir savaş halinde bu olumsuz göstergeler çok daha büyük boyutlara ulaşacaktır. Petrol fiyatlarındaki artışın enflasyonu yıl sonunda kadar 10 puan etkileyeceğini sanıyorum. Ancak savaş bunu yukarı çekebilir. Burada önemli bir noktaya değinmek istiyorum. Türkiye 1979'daki petrol krizinden en çok etkilenen ülke olmasına karşın, hiç tedbir almadı. Bu krizden hiçbir ders çıkartmadı. Yeni enerji politikaları geliştirilmedi. Halbuki diğer ülkeler stoklarını geliştirdiler, yeni enerji politikaları oluşturdu. Şimdi bu petrol krizinden en olumsuz etkilenen biz olacağız. Ayrıca Körfez'deki durum işsizliği de arttıracaktır. Müteahhlik hizmetlerinin durması, dış talebin azalması sonucu üretimde meydana gelecek düşüş hep işsizliği arttıracaktır. Yine bir sıcak savaş halinde grevler ertelenebilir, toplu sözleşmeler rafa kaldırılabilir ve savaşın faturasını çalışanlara çıkartılabilir."

(Ertan, 1990, p. 11)

'The cost of the war is heavy for Turkey'

- Businessmen and economists agree that our economy is severely affected by the increasing oil prices, stopping of the contracting services and transit trade, and freezing of the relations with Iraq and Kuwait
- Prof. Çiller, Prof. Ergin, Prof. Alkin, Prof. Yaşa tell that Turkey will apply war economy during the hot war
- Businessmen Kocabiyik and Garih claim that we are less affected by the Gulf crisis
- Former Ministers of Finance, Kafaoglu and Müezzinoğlu draw attention to the negative effects of war on economy

Asım ERTAN

The Gulf Crisis started to shake the Turkish economy. Businessmen and economists agree that our economy is severely affected by the increasing oil prices, stopping of the contracting services and transit trade, and freezing of the relations with Iraq and Kuwait. The same circles say that the shake in the Turkish economy is not yet severe, but in case the Gulf Crisis turns into a hot war and Turkey participates in this war, they are concerned that it will “turn into an earthquake”.

“HOT WAR IS DANGEROUS”

The view of businessmen and economists pertaining to the war and economy are as follows:

Prof. Dr. Tansu Çiller (Boğaziçi University, Faculty Member): “The Gulf Crisis doesn’t have much negative effect on Turkey except the increasing oil prices. However, it is very dangerous to participate in a hot war. We have to take this seriously. Turkey has 7 billion dollars debt to commercial banks in the short-term. Right now, we have 11 billion dollars for short-term financing of imports. However, if we lose this 11 billion dollars in case of a war, Turkey would be devastated. Turkey will not only enter a foreign exchange bottleneck, but also experience price hikes at home. The inflation rates have relatively been balanced by means of the foreign exchange policies. Imports got cheaper, avoiding the Turkish lira stopped. But if foreign exchange prices increase, Turkish lira will run from banks, and banks will have to increase interest rates. An increase in interest rates will trigger inflation. In addition, the Central Bank will automatically start to pump money. Because the difference in Turkish lira when the exchange rate increases will blow the assets in the balance sheet of the Central Bank, and this will automatically lead to the blow of passives, first, and then emission. As a result of all these, an uncontrollable inflation will occur. Inflation will go over 100 per cent, and the Turkish economy will overturn.”

Prof. Dr. Feridun Ergin: “Iraq is a key country in terms of Turkey’s oil need, export and contracting services. Embargo and blockade on this country might drag inflation and life conditions in Turkey that we have not yet considered. In case we actively participate in a

military operation, it is impossible to estimate the loss that we will endure. However, when considering all the possibilities, the parameters show that Turkey will lose rather than win.

“If it enters a hot war, Turkey will have to apply war economy. In war economy, the normal collective bargaining agreement conditions do not apply in capital-labor relations. Since everything about the homeland comes in the forefront, collective bargain agreements can be delayed, strikes can be stopped and working hours can be extended without paying shifts. If we enter the war, mostly workers will pay for this.”

SERIOUS IMPACTS

Prof. Dr. Erdoğan Alkin: “In case the Gulf Crisis remains in this dimension, the oil cost to Turkey and freezing trade with Iraq is not unbearable. This burden will increase the inflation 4-5 scores at the end of the year, and it will decrease growth rate by half score. There will be great increase in defense costs in case of war. This will accelerate inflation, and halt industrial production. In case of hot war, our economy might be affected not much, but at severe dimensions.”

Prof. Memduh Yaşa: “Hot war will start losing foreign exchange in Turkey and decelerate investments. Due to the Gulf Depression, Turkey’s annual loss is around 3-4 billion dollars. However, Turkey’s preparation to a war, buying new arms will increase the public deficits, the most important reason of inflation.”

Asım Kocabıyık (Businessman): “The crisis has negative effects on the economy. In case of a hot war, it is not known what will happen. But I don’t think that the war will have much effect on the inflation. Because war will not increase the prices of goods that Turkey imports except oil.”

Adnan Beşer Kafaoğlu (Former Minister of Finance): “Turkey’s largest export market is Iraq. I see losing this market as a major loss. Turkish economy bears a highly negative impact because of this. A hot war will not affect us more than this. Investment in food and gold will increase, but I think the inflation will not increase much.”

“PROFITABLE IN THE LONG TERM”

Üzeyir Garih (Businessman): “Turkey is very lowly affected by the Gulf Crisis. I even think that it will profit from it in the long term. Turkey has a great foreign exchange comfort. This comfort has increased more with the foreign exchange coming from Arab countries. If the Gulf Crisis continues like this, the inflation will increase only by 6-7 scores at the end of the year. I cannot know what the hot war will bring. However, I do not think that Turkey will enter an armed conflict with Iraq in its southern border. This crisis will end after 3-5 months. And a great revitalization will take place in the country’s economy. Turkey’s international reputation has increased due to the Gulf Crisis. This situation will definitely be reflected on the economy. After the Lebanon incidents, the financial institutions coming to Kuwait from Beirut will look for new places. For them, Istanbul is the best place. The weakening NATO will understand the importance of Turkish economy, and the NATO investments planned to be restricted will continue in other forms and ways. Due to the East-West proximation, arms aid to Turkey was reduced. Now, the arms from the disarmament in Europe can be granted to Turkey as donation. In this part of the world, Turkey will gain weight both politically and economically.”

BUDGET DEFICIT

Ziya Müezzinoğlu (Former Minister of Finance): “The crisis will cause a decrease in our foreign exchange revenues and payment balances.

“Increasing defense expenses due to crisis will further increase the state budget deficit. In addition, due to the effect of the crisis around the world, the import goods’ prices will increase, and the deficit in payment balances will increase, and inflation will be affected by this. The only positive aspect right now is that there is no panic in our economy. However, a hot war will increase these negative indicators further. I think the increasing oil prices will also increase the inflation by 10 scores at the end of the year. Yet, the war can increase this more. Here, I want to mention an important point: Although Turkey was the country that was mostly affected by the oil crisis in 1979, it did not take any measures and did not take any lessons from this situation. It did not develop new energy policies. Yet, other countries improved their stocks, and formed new energy policies. Now, we will be the country to have the highest negative effect of this crisis. The situation in the Gulf

will increase unemployment. Stopping the contracting services will also increase unemployment due to decrease in foreign demand. In case of a hot war, strikes can be delayed, collective bargaining agreements can be suspended, and the cost of the war can be incurred to workers.”

4.7. Turkey’s Northern Iraq Policy

Northern Iraq came under Turkish control for the first time during Tuğrul Bey, the Great Seljuk Emperor. Following the Mongolian raids, it came under the rule of Karakoyunlu, Akkoyunlu, Safavids and Ottomans, respectively.

In 1920, Britain and France shared Middle Eastern territory with Sykes Picot, a secret treaty to divide Ottoman lands in the Middle East. Iraq was first under the mandate regime, and then continued to survive under British control as the Kingdom of Iraq.

Kurdish groups emerged in the Kingdom of Iraq after the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the end of the Mosul issue against Turkey. These groups started to act for autonomy in Iraq and to form an independent state as a result of Britain’s failure to establish the state they promised to Kurds.

Mustafa Barzani launched an insurgency in northern Iraq in 1943. Mustafa Barzani, who went to Iran to form the militia of the Kurdish state of Mahabad, which was founded on January 22, 1946 and destroyed before the end of a year, took charge of the KDP (Kurdistan Democratic Party) with the fall of the state and then took refuge in the

USSR. Barzani stayed in the USSR for 11 years, and returned to Iraq in 1958 after a coup by General Kasim.

The Barzani-controlled KDP which triggered separatist movements in Iraq as well as Kurdish nationalism by armament, the Iraqi Communist Party IKP and the Baath Party under the leadership of Saddam signed an agreement in 1970. According to this agreement, Kurds were granted certain political and cultural rights in the north.

At the end of this situation, which was among Saddam Hussein's plans, the Shatt al-Arab problem⁶ between Iran and Iraq was solved. The main reason for its great importance is that it allowed oil tankers to enter within about 30 km of the border line. Although this was a region with great problems between Iran and Iraq in terms of determining to whom it belonged, Iraq declared with surprise to the world in 1975 that it had given up its rights here. After this announcement, Iran cut off its support for the Kurds and the Kurds, who had been causing armed unrest inside Iraq, were left alone with the Iraqi government. Many issues between Iran and Iraq were resolved by signing the Algerian Agreement. Although Iraq announced its withdrawal from this agreement, which was referred to as the Algerian Agreement nearly 5 years later, the agreement eliminated one of the biggest problems of the period (Aydın & Şentürk, 2015, p. 73).

Immediately after the agreement was signed, the Iraqi army marched on the Kurds. Fearing military-disciplined conflict, the Barzani forces were soon severely defeated and nearly 200,000 militia men left their arms and took refuge in Iran.

⁶The place, which is called Shatt al-Arab with its Arabic name, and Arvand Rūd in Persian, is the geographical name of the place where the Euphrates and Tigris rivers join before pouring into the Persian Gulf.

During the Iraq war, which began in 1980, the Kurds returned to the areas where they had fled and tried to establish control over the region as the only armed force. At the same time, the Kurds, who worked in cooperation with Iran during the war, stabbed Iraq from behind.

During the Gulf war, which began in 1991 after the Iran-Iraq war, the UN combined task force declared the lands in the north of the 36th parallel as a no-fly zone, where an area 160x150 miles wide remained uncontrolled in Kurdish hands. In 1992, Kurdish elections and attempts to establish a state alerted Turkey, Iran and Syria. The foreign ministers of the three countries gathered in Ankara and started to act together against the policy of creating a Kurdish state in the region.

A year after the elections, Kurdish groups fell out with each other on the eve of the preparation of the new constitution, and clashes broke out between KYB (Kurdistan Patriots' Unit) and KDP (Kurdistan Democratic Party). In order to prevent conflict, the French Government invited the two sides to a meeting in Paris and Turkey was not invited to this meeting. The United States, United Kingdom and France that attended the meeting tried to reach a compromise between the KDP and KYB. With the reconciliation in 1994, the two sides agreed that they would not use violence against each other.

Less than a year after their commitment, the conflict between the two sides restarted again. The United States brought the sides together again and this time, Turkey also participated in the meeting. Turkey acted to intervene in the process so that it can guide the process and prevent any situation from developing against its interests.

The signed agreement was not been implemented, and the parties did not comply with civil terms once again. In 1996, KYB began to receive support from Iran in the clash between the two sides. In the process, Turkey met with the two sides and received a commitment to fight against the PKK and went on the path of separating the PKK and the KDP and KYB. At the same time, the Kirkuk Yumurtalık pipeline was made re-operational.

In the period until the invasion of Iraq in 2003, Turkey struggled with the PKK, while at the same time fighting Iran, Syria, the KDP and the KYB, which supported the PKK.

Defending the territorial integrity of Iraq, Turkey maintained this policy until the US invasion of Iraq and afterwards, and opposed the division of Iraq.

5. POLITICAL FORMATIONS OF IRAQI TURKS

The Iraqi Turks adapted too late to the idea that they should create political formations and thus be represented. Since Iraq's entering into the mandate regime, Iraqi Turks could not form any serious political formation until the 1990s and only entered into an effort to acquire social and cultural rights within the Iraqi state in response to the Kurds, who were supported by Britain, France, then the USSR and the United States with regard to forming political organizations.

The first political formations of the Iraqi Turks, which can be considered influential, were realized after the Gulf War, with the support and encouragement of Turkey. Many political parties were formed and then united under one roof.

Ata Hayrullah⁷ was the first name who came up with the idea of political formation by Iraqi Turks in history, and he was killed in the 1959 Kirkuk Massacre (Durukoğlu & Salik, 2015, p. 221). The first association established by Iraqi Turks was the Iraqi Turks Culture and Solidarity Society, founded by Iraqi Turkish students who came to Turkey to study. It was established in Istanbul on November 11, 1959, upon publication in the official newspaper followed by propounding the need for organization after the Kirkuk Massacre on July 14, 1959 (T.C. Resmi Gazete, 1959, p. 1).

Another institution that came after this association was the Turkmen Brotherhood Association. After the 1959 Kirkuk Massacre, Iraqi Turks realized that they should be

⁷Ata Hayrullah was taken from his house by Kurdish groups under Barzani control on July 14, 1959 and tied to a tree in front of the military barracks. Ata Hayrullah's meat was cut alive, and he was martyred after hours of torture by saying, "Is there anyone who will get 10 fulus (kuruş) per kilo of meat of Ata Hayrullah, the leader of the Turanand Turkists?" (Durukoğlu & Salik, 2015, p. 221).

together and organize, and on May 7, 1960, they established the Turkmen Brotherhood Club in Baghdad and then the Turkmen Brotherhood Association. This association, whose main purpose was to preserve and improve the culture of Iraqi Turks, avoided political structuring and political functions as opposed to its founding purpose. The association later opened branches in the Turkish homelands of Mosul, Kirkuk and Erbil (Şimşir, 2004, pp. 213-214).

The Turkmen Brotherhood Association continued to function until 1977, after which its executives were arrested. As a result of restricted rights, it was stated that its administration would be appointed by the Government of Baghdad, and its directors were martyred on January 16, 1980 (TIMETURK, 2020).

In November 1980, the Iraqi National Democratic Turkmen Organization was established. This organization is considered to be the first political organization of Iraqi Turks. Although it did not take an active role politically, it was important since this was the first political organization.

Another organization founded by Iraqi Turks was the Iraqi National Turkmen Party. The party was founded in Ankara on November 11, 1988, but declared its existence in 1991. After its founding, it was moved to Erbil and became the first Turkish party to be founded in northern Iraq. Iraqi Turks held their first democratic Congress under the umbrella of this party. Muzaffer Arslan was elected president at the congress held in Ankara on April 17-18, 1993 (Şimşir, 2004, p. 214).

In 1995, the IMTP (Iraq National Turkmen Party), the Turkmen Union Party and the Turkmen Independence Movement united under one roof and formed the Iraqi

Turkmen Front. In the first congress held in 1996, Mustafa Kemal Yaycılı was elected president.

The Turkmen Union Party, one of the parties that formed the Iraqi Turkmen Front, was founded in 1992. After the Kurds attempted to form another party under the same name, it changed its name to Turkmeneli Party. Its center was raided by IKDP (Iran Kurdistan Democratic Party) on August 31, 1996. For the first time, the IKDP came up with the idea that Iraqi Turks should enter an armed struggle and that there should be demands for autonomy. In this case, the IKDP repeatedly raided the party headquarters and carried out armed attacks(Şimşir, 2004, p. 215).

Together with the Iraqi Turkmen Front, which was founded in 1995, Iraqi Turks were now united and politically conscious. Disturbed by this situation, the IKDP repeatedly raided the Iraqi Turkmen Front offices and conducted armed attacks on leaders.

The Iraqi Turkmen Front is the largest and most well-known political organization of Iraqi Turks. Having offices in all places where Turks live in Iraq, and representations in important centers abroad, the Iraqi Turkmen Front has held 5 Great Turkmen Congresses since 1997.

6. CONCLUSION

Prior to World War I, the United Kingdom sought ways of controlling the oil sources in various regions and, thus, created a de facto situation to invade Mosul based on the Sykes Picot agreement. The United Kingdom saw the possibility of Turks winning close to impossible during the War of Independence. In addition, the British did not withdraw from Mosul despite being contrary to international law and sat at the same table in the Lausanne Conference with Turkey, which it had agreed to meet equally.

As a result of the victory of the Turkish army led by Gazi Mustafa Kemal, who managed to circle the Greek army in one piece in 3 days with a large military power, all capitulations were abolished, and the Republic of Turkey was established as a free country. Consequently, United Kingdom's case over Mosul was deadlocked in Lausanne, with their request for extra territory in bilateral talks, blocking the talks and bringing the issue to the League of Nations, which had been under its control and domination. The commission's report here rendered United Kingdom as dominant regarding the Mosul issue and Iraq as opposed to Turkey.

The British first ruled Iraq by the mandate regime, and then in the form of Kingdom. United Kingdom support various groups in Iraq such as Assyrians, Kurds and Arabs against Turks and waged armed attacks. Although it was thought there would be peace after United Kingdom had to withdraw from the region, General Kasim came to power by a coup, and started to implement assimilation policies. During this period, many rights arising from the Constitution of 1925 were taken away from the hands of Iraqi Turks, and Arabization policies were observed.

Despite losing their rights during the period of Aref Brothers, Iraqi Turks were not attacked, and they partially had a good period. The period of persecution and oppression for Iraqi Turks started when the Baath regime came to power. During this period, Iraqi Turks faced many problems, such as the stripping of the rights of Turks and the martyrdom of Turkmen leaders. At the same time, Kurdish groups, which were armed and supported, repeatedly attacked Iraqi Turks.

What draws attention in this context is that Iraqi Turks were not involved in the political structure during the period beginning from 1920 until 1990, and did not establish any such organization. With the Iraqi Turkmen Front, Iraqi Turks, who had achieved a political and large-scale organization, tried to get their say politically for the first time.

Turkish foreign policy attached great importance to Iraqi Turks until the 1950s and tried to support them continuously. Turkey developed its foreign policy to include Iraqi Turks to the extent that its power capacity was enough, and the system allowed within the anarchic structure of international relations.

As a result of the problems with the Western bloc in the 1960s, Turkey started to develop a direct and holistic policy for the whole Middle East instead of carrying out a policy for Iraq.

From a geopolitical point of view, Iraq is also important for Turkey. The Iraqi border does not have geographical barriers that can be considered as Turkey's natural shelter. The rugged terrain in between is more horizontal in the Iraqi side, and steeper in Turkey's side. For this reason, Iraq's geographical position is important for Turkey.

The geographical integrity of Iraq is important for the prevention of the Kurdish state, which is intended to be established in the region. Since Iraq's loss of geographical integrity will harm Turkey along with neighboring countries, its geographical integrity must be protected.

Looking from the perspective of area width, Iraq is Turkey's natural area of influence and Turkey is a gateway for Iraq, both in terms of trade and oil. On the other hand, trade with Iraq is also significant for Turkey.

Although Iraq is not called a landlocked state due to its exit to the Persian Gulf, Turkey is a more reliable and accurate address for the transfer of Iraqi oil due to Iranian dominance in the Persian Gulf.

The history of the Turks' arrival and settlement in Iraq dates far back, as mentioned above. Nevertheless, Turkey, which is well ahead of the countries in the region, both in terms of democracy and economy, might be involved in its cultural structure in the event of the right moves.

The stable structure and democratic order of the Republic of Turkey also poses a geopolitical power including Iraq. With right moves to influence Iraqi people and utilizing public diplomacy tools, the cultural structure from the past will take its place in the perception of society, which will provide an advantage for Turkey and Iraqi Turks.

Ties between Turkey and Iraqi Turks never cut during the history. However, the US invasion in 2003, changed Iraq's status and Iraq became a failed state in time. From now on Turkey and Iraqi Turks must cooperate with each other to prevent policies on Iraq and Iraqi Turks. Turkey's military and economic structure is also important for the

government and people of Iraq, both as a deterrent and as a soft power. Turkey should use these two factors for Iraqi Turks, as well.

In conclusion, Iraqi Turks are a group that has been involved in the policies of the Republic of Turkey since its foundation and we have a blood relations with them. Although the United Kingdom, the Iraqi government, the USSR, the United States and Russia have tried to sever ties with Turkey by identifying these people as Turkmen, the correct definition is Iraqi Turk.

Designed to analyze Turkish foreign policy and the situation of Iraqi Turks during the 20th century, this dissertation answered the research questions as follows:

Mosul and Kirkuk are places that have been Turkish homelands since the Great Seljuk Empire and this fact cannot be changed despite assimilation policies and massacres. Mosul and Kirkuk have an incredible geopolitical significance for Turkey, both in terms of oil resources and Turkey's border security, and for Turks living there as well as the Turkish world. Although various assimilation policies have been applied to Iraqi Turks living here since 1920 and they have been subjected to massacres, Iraqi Turks have not lost their awareness of Turkishness and they still keep this consciousness. Considering the time since Umayyad invited Turks to join the army, Mosul and Kirkuk are definitely Turkish homelands. Research and censuses indicated by the British at the beginning of the 20th century certainly do not reflect reality, and they are falsified numbers. For this reason, the figures shown are unreal.

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