

## TURKEY INTRIGUE

By George Greenville Butler

7-26-2016 GCNnews - Today to decipher the events rapidly unfolding in Turkey is difficult if not impossible, without looking back in history. The struggle today in Turkey is between Secular forces led by The Secret Societies and their supporters and a newly emerging pro Islamist Justice and Development Party (AKP) led by President Erdogan. In addition an old player on the scene is The Gulen Movement which is taking sides against Erdogan since their split in 2013 and who is friendly to the west. Erdogan's opposition is coming primarily from the **The Republican People's Party** ([Turkish: Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi](#), CHP) which is a [Kemalist](#), [social-liberal](#) Party This Party has strong secret society backing and also secularist support with addition support from a hodgepodge of groups. In the past the very authoritarian Kemalist regimes being very dominant and violence prone ([List of Massacres in Turkey](#)) carried out severe crackdowns on labor, socialist and communist groups while supporting Pan-Turkism Policies which manifested against the Kurds and Armenians. One important insight is that within a very upper class Turkish elite are Dönme members moving and residing in masonic circles giving them anonymity and protection and their ties to Israel are an important dynamic, this fact is necessary in understanding the true reality of Turkish politics.

### Secret Society Beginnings

The first Masonic Lodge was founded in Istanbul in 1721 by Levantines (mainly Genoese people) living in the tower quarters. Later the history of Freemasonry would experience a tumultuous up and down roller coaster ride into the 21 century. In the late 1800s Alexandre Saint-Yves, Marquess of Alveydre (26 March 1842, [Paris](#) – 5 February 1909 Pau) envisioned rule by an oligarchy, this became known later as [Synarchism](#). He was a Freemason and occultist and his work about an elite group governing from behind the scenes became a powerful tool to dominate government. The real power of the secret societies was securing the monopoly of money creation thus controlling all business through their privately owned banks and central banks. The membership into the secret societies was controlled, to only admit loyal associates who would further the interest of the Brotherhood.

### Secret Society Influence

We must look back and see the initial effect on Turkey of Ataturk's takeover and special note should be made that his hometown of Salonica which was home to the Dönme.

**The activities of the Grand Lodge of Turkey reached a climax during the Presidency of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk**

(1923-1938). Ataturk, a reformer, soldier, advocate of women's rights, and the founder of the Turkish republic, was initiated in 1907 into Lodge Veritas - warranted by the French Grand Orient - in Salonica. When he landed at Samsun on 19 May 1919 to begin the struggle of independence, six out of his seven high ranking military staff officers were Freemasons. During his time of rule there were always some members of his Cabinet who were Freemasons, indeed, from 1923 to 1938 some sixty Members of Parliament were members of the Craft.....

[On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of founding of the Republic of Turkey, freemasons from all corners of the country, Members of the Grand lodge of Turkey, were gathered here on 2nd of November 2013, Saturday, before the mausoleum of Atatur to pay their respects to the founder of the Republic](#)

## **The Gülen Movement and Erdogan**

In 2001 [Recep Tayyip Erdoğan](#) and [Abdullah Gül](#) founded the AKP Party. Erdogan had fought his way up from the working class while Gul worked his way up in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey. In 2002-2003 the AKP Party attained a majority in The Grand National Assembly of Turkey. This political muscle was used to install Erdogan as Prime Minister. Since becoming Prime Minister he has quickly been consolidating his power. Early on astute political observers have been noting Erdogan's meteoric rise to leadership and raw power. It seems that men usually become caught up in their own ego greatness and tend toward dictatorships, the love of mammon and power becomes too overwhelming.

While by 2001 when the AKP party was founded, Imam Fethullah Gulen was head of the Gülen Movement which was already a Islamic Based world-wide education movement. Two years early in 1999 Gulen had immigrated to the United States.

## **The Deep State**

[The Prime Minister is revered as a moderate, but how far will he go to stay in power?](#)

by [Dexter Filk](#)

[March 12, 2012](#)

Excerpt:

“The most widely held perception in Turkey is that the Gülenists have taken control of the Turkish National Police—and that they are behind the arrests in the Ergenekon and Sledgehammer cases. James Jeffrey, a former Ambassador to Turkey, wrote in a cable to Washington, revealed by WikiLeaks, that at least part of that proposition appeared to be true: “The assertion that the T.N.P. is controlled by the Gülenists is impossible to confirm, but we have found no one who disputes it.”

Gülen has cultivated some powerful friends in the United States. When U.S. officials were trying to expel him to face criminal charges in Turkey, he was able to call on Graham Fuller, a former senior official in the C.I.A., to help him remain. When he applied for permanent residency, Morton Abramowitz, another former Ambassador to Turkey, wrote a letter on his behalf. Fuller’s relationship with Gülen, in particular, has prompted conspiracy theories in Turkey about the C.I.A.’s involvement in Gülen’s rise”.....**The New Yorker Magazine**

### **Imam Fethullah Gulen & the Grey Eminence behind Turkey's Erdogan & AKP**

The open press statement of denial by senior reportedly former CIA official Graham Fuller in April of a link between the Boston Bombings and the CIA, labeling the reports absurd, may go down in history as one of the worst intelligence blunders in the past century. The public admission by Fuller, on a website reported tied to the CIA, of his relationship to the Uncle of the alleged but not ever convicted Boston Bombers opened a can of worms the CIA might well wish never had been opened....boiling frogs post

See more at:

[\*\*BFP Exclusive- William Engdahl on Operation Gladio, Fethullah Gülen & One World Government\*\*](#)

*“CIA’s Graham Fuller: One of the early advocates of using Muslim Brotherhood & Gülen Cemaat to advance US foreign policy.*

**[The Man Accused of Inspiring Turkey's Coup Is Behind the Largest Charter-School](#)**

**[Chain in America: The schools have been investigated for corruption](#)**

**This recent interview by Der Spiegel what follows is very insightful and revealing excerpt and set out are quotes from the article**

**[Turkish top commander aide admits Gulen 'loyalty - Turkish top commander aide blames](#)**

[Gulen for Friday's deadly coup attempt, admits allegiance to group](#)

In the above article Lieutenant Colonel Levent Turkkan is quoted as saying thus "Lieutenant Colonel Levent Turkkan, the aide of Chief of Turkey's General Staff Hulusi Akar, admitted having links to the Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO), which he said was the main perpetrator of Friday's failed coup attempt". So is this a legitimate confession or not. His story seems to narrowly focus just on the FETO network and leaves out all of the other players so its a narrow cast confession to limit the overall true networks and relationships of those networks. This article earlier delves into all the players.

"Erdogan's accusations are serious, and Gülen wants to defend both himself and his movement. He says he had nothing to do with the putsch and that Erdogan's behavior borders on insanity." I have already said several times that I am against any form of violence when it comes to achieving political goals," he says.

Gülen also claims that he supports democracy in Turkey. "I reject military putsches," he says" .....[Der Spiegel](#)

**Published on Jul 17, 2016 – the below video**

Sibel Edmonds is joined by James Corbett and Spiro Skouras to discuss the recent failed coup attempt in Turkey. We touch-upon facts and elements that are currently being systematically blacked out by the establishment media, and analyze the main actors and agendas involved. From the CIA and Operation Gladio B to Mullah Gulen's \$20+ Billion shady network in the United States, and the media's role in implementing the deep state's psychological warfare tactics, we leave no stone overturned! Don't miss this daring and bold discussion, and please help us put out the word by sharing the link to this video.

<https://youtu.be/IXiBvdvyr2E>

## **ERDOGAN ELECTED**

Beginning in 2003 with the election of Erdogan as Prime Minister was a signal to secular forces of a new more fundamentalist Islamic government assuming power which unknown then would uncover a coup operation "Sledgehammer" resulting in literally hundreds of defendants being prosecuted who were involved in this operation. "[Sledgehammer](#)", which was an operation to overthrow the legitimate government of Prime Minister Erdogan and in addition another scandal "[Ergenekon](#)" was a Gladio like operation akin to an earlier proven "Counter-Guerilla" organization that can only be described as a Gladio organization and when prosecutions began these furthered Erdogan's power base. Erdogan was viewed by secular forces including the secret society groups as a threat to the secular government of Turkey, which has always first been based upon The Six Arrows ideology and a graphic illustration is below:



Atatürk is the founder of Kemalism. There above graphic illustrates the six arrows, each arrow stands for one of six fundamental pillars of the ideology of Kemalism and are listed below:

- [Republicanism](#) (Turkish: *cumhuriyetçilik*)
- [Nationalism](#) (Turkish: *milliyetçilik*)
- [Populism](#) (Turkish: *halkçılık*)
- [Secularism](#) (Turkish: *laiklik*)
- [Statism](#) (Turkish: *devletçilik*)
- Revolutionism (Turkish: *devrimcilik*) .....wikipedia

## **TURKEY CONSTITUTION**

**The basic nature of Turkey is “laicite” in its strict and official acceptance, it is the principle of separation of church and state.**

**The Turkey Constitution in the Preamble sets forth the idea:**

**“that sacred religious feelings shall absolutely not be involved in state affairs and politics as required by the principle of secularism”**

**Articles:**

### **II. Characteristics of the Republic**

**ARTICLE 2-** The Republic of Turkey is a democratic, secular and social state governed by rule of law, within the notions of public peace, national solidarity and justice, respecting human rights, loyal to the nationalism of Atatürk, and based on the fundamental tenets set forth in the preamble.

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY1**

### **PREAMBLE**

(As amended on July 23, 1995; Act No. 4121)

Affirming the eternal existence of the Turkish Motherland and Nation and the indivisible unity of the Sublime Turkish State, this

Constitution, in line with the concept of nationalism introduced by the founder of the Republic of Turkey, Atatürk, the immortal leader and the unrivaled hero, and his reforms and principles;

Determining to attain the everlasting existence, prosperity, material and spiritual well-being of the Republic of Turkey, and the standards of contemporary civilization as an honorable member with equal rights of the family of world nations;

The absolute supremacy of the will of the nation, the fact that sovereignty is vested fully and unconditionally in the Turkish Nation and that no individual or body empowered to exercise this sovereignty in the

name of the nation shall deviate from the liberal democracy indicated in the Constitution and the legal system instituted according to its requirements,

The separation of powers, which does not imply an order of precedence among the organs of the State, but refers solely to the exercising of certain state powers and discharging of duties, and is limited to a civilized cooperation and division of functions; and the fact that only the Constitution and the laws have the supremacy;

(As amended on October 3, 2001; Act No. 4709) That no protection shall be accorded to an activity contrary to Turkish national interests, Turkish existence and the principle of its indivisibility with *1 The Constitution was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on October 18, 1982 to be submitted to referendum and published in the Official Gazette dated October 20, 1982 and numbered 17844; republished in the repeating Official Gazette dated November 9, 1982 and numbered 17863 in the aftermath of its submission to referendum on November 7, 1982 (Act No. 2709).*

its State and territory, historical and moral values of Turkishness; the nationalism, principles, reforms and civilizationism of Atatürk and that sacred religious feelings shall absolutely not be involved in state affairs and politics as required by the principle of secularism;

That every Turkish citizen has an innate right and power, to lead an honorable life and to improve his/her material and spiritual well being under the aegis of national culture, civilization, and the rule of law, through the exercise of the fundamental rights and freedoms set forth in this Constitution, in conformity with the requirements of equality and social justice;

That all Turkish citizens are united in national honor and pride, in national joy and grief, in their rights and duties regarding national

existence, in blessings and in burdens, and in every manifestation of national life, and that they have the right to demand a peaceful life based on absolute respect for one another's rights and freedoms, mutual love and fellowship, and the desire for and belief in "Peace at home; peace in the world";

With these IDEAS, BELIEFS, and RESOLUTIONS to be interpreted and implemented accordingly, thus commanding respect for, and absolute loyalty to, its letter and spirit;

Has been entrusted by the TURKISH NATION to the democracy-loving Turkish sons' and daughters' love for the motherland and nation".

"END OF TURKEY CONSTITUTION"

The important point here is that the Attatuk Government established a secular government apart and separate from Islam. Ataturk being a Mason believed in secularism and non establishment of a Theocracy. This following phrase in the Preamble demonstrates the founding by Ataturk of a secular government and not a Theocracy dominated by Islam but instead a government abiding by the principle of secularism.

Preamble Phrase:

"that sacred religious feelings shall absolutely not be involved in state affairs and politics as required by the principle of secularism"

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### **Changes in The National Security Council**

After Erdogan's new government assumed power in 2003 there were a series of changes made to The National Security Council and Secretariat-General resulting in a weakening of the dominance and control of The National Council Council enjoyed by the Turkish Military for decades.

### **[The Weakening of Turkey's Military](#)**

**Author: [Steven A. Cook](#), Hasib J. Sabbagh Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies March 1, 2010 – follows is an excerpt from this article.....**



**“The most important changes were made to the National Security Council (known more commonly by its Turkish acronym, MGK), which had been the primary channel through which the officers influenced Turkish politics. First, the number of officers on the council was reduced from five to one--the chief of staff. Second, the legislation required that a civilian hold the office of MGK secretary-general, a position previously reserved for a military officer who reported directly to the chief of staff. The council was also stripped of its executive authority and its budget placed under the prime minister's control” .....March 1, 2010  
Foreign Affairs – Council on Foreign Relations**

The important point here is that the Ataturk Government established a secular government apart and separate from Islam. Ataturk being a Mason believed in secularism and non establishment of a Theocracy. This following phrase in the Preamble demonstrates the founding by Ataturk of a secular government and not a Theocracy dominated by Islam but instead a government abiding by the principle of secularism.

The NSC and the Secretariat General of the NSC, appointed members are the following, this list represents the group when Erdogan was Prime Minister and Gul was President:

President: [Abdullah Gül](#) 28 August 2007 to 28 August 2014

- Prime Minister: [Recep Tayyip Erdoğan](#)
- National Defence Minister: [İsmet Yılmaz](#)
- Internal Affairs Minister: [İdris Naim Şahin](#)
- Foreign Affairs Minister: [Ahmet Davutoğlu](#)
- Chief of the General Staff: [Necdet Özel](#)
- Land Force Commander: [Hayri Kıvrıkoğlu](#)
- : [Eşref Uğur Yiğit](#)
- Naval Force Commander: [Mehmet Erten](#)
- Gendarmerie General Commander: [Bekir Kalyoncu](#)

The above changes and realignment gave Erdogan absolute control over the Council while his continued prosecutions of the coup leaders of “Sledgehammer” enabled him to start reorganizing the power base in addition favoring his party and worldview. ”Ergenekon” is believed by some to be part of the "deep state." The existence of the "deep state" was affirmed in Turkish opinion after the Susurluk scandal in 1996. In addition “**Ergenekon**” was a Gladio like operation scandal which was exposed later by the earlier Susurluk scandal. manifesting in many more prosecutions and convictions.

**2016 - National Security Council Members** – note the increase in the number of ministers versus military members, intentionally to deny a controlling vote to the military and the new category of Deputy Prime Ministers is how many ministers?

- President - [Recep Tayyip Erdoğan](#)
- Prime Minister - [Binali Yıldırım](#)
- Commander of the Turkish Armed Forces - [Hulusi Akar](#)
- Deputy Prime Ministers – To Be Announced
- Minister of Justice - [Bekir Bozdağ](#)
- Minister of National Defense - [Millî Savunma Bakanlığı](#)
- Minister of the Interior - [Efkan Ala](#)
- Minister of Foreign Affairs - [Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu](#)
- Commander of the Land Forces - [Salih Zeki Çolak](#)
- Commander of the Naval Forces - [Bülent Bostanoğlu](#)
- Commander of the Air Forces - [Abidin ÜNAL](#)
- General Commander of the Gendarmerie - [Galip Mendi - dismissed](#)

The present clashes in Istanbul and other major Turkish cities is a struggle between secret society and good old boy networks plus a hodgepodge of groups against a moderate Islamic leader Erdogan who is viewed by the opposition as not being friendly enough to Israel. During one of the Free Gaza Movement Boat Relief sailings on May 31, 2010 Israeli commando some maintain in violation of International Law forcibly boarded the "Blue Marmara Ship"(Mavi Marmara Gemisi) resulting in 9 deaths. This caused Prime Minister Erdogan to issue a statement castigating Israel for their actions. Recently with President Obama urgings has reconciled his differences with Israel over the incident.

### **The President of Turkey**

The powers of The Turkish President are great and are stated below.

In addition to better describing the Turkish Government The President of Turkey - President [Recep Tayyip Erdoğan - official Bio](#) - has been in office since 28 August 2014 and was directly elected by the public. He has greater powers than the public realizes.

## **Duties and Powers – President of Turkey - 2016**

The duties and powers of the President have been stated in Articles 101, 102, 103, 104, 105 and 106 of the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey.

### **A. Qualifications and Impartiality (Amended Article 101) (\*)**

The President shall be elected by the people, from among the members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly who are over forty years old and who have completed their higher education or from among Turkish citizens who fulfill these requirements and who are eligible to be members of parliament.

The term of office of the President is five years. A person can be elected President for a maximum of two terms.

The nomination of a candidate for the Presidency from within the members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly or from outside the Turkish Grand National Assembly shall be possible with a written proposal by twenty members of parliament. Furthermore, when the total of the valid votes is calculated together in the latest member of parliament general elections, the political parties who surpassed ten percent can show a joint candidate.

The President-elect, if a member of a political party, shall sever his/her relations with his/her party and his/her status as a member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly shall cease.

### **B. Election (Amended Article 102) (\*)**

The election of the President shall begin within sixty days before the term of office of the incumbent President expires; in case the office is vacated for any reason, then the election shall be completed within sixty days following the vacancy.

In the election, that shall be made with a general vote, the candidate who receives the absolute majority of the valid votes becomes the elected President. If this absolute majority is not obtained in the first voting, then a second voting shall be held on the second Sunday following this voting. The two candidates, who received the most votes in the first voting, shall participate in this voting and the candidate who receives the majority of the valid votes becomes the President.

In case of death or losing the eligibility to be elected of one of the candidates, who acquired the right to participate in the second voting, then in the second voting, by substituting according to the place in the first voting of the candidacy that becomes vacant, the second voting is held. In case a single candidate remains in the second voting, then this voting shall be held in the form of a referendum. In case the candidate receives a majority of the valid votes, then that candidate becomes the elected President.

The term of office of the incumbent President shall continue until the President-elect takes office.

The procedures and principles related to the election of the President are organized with the law.

*(\*) In accordance with the Law No. 3376 on Submitting to a Referendum the Constitutional Amendments and dated 23/05/1987, which was published in the No. 26554 Official Gazette and dated 16/06/2007 to be submitted to a referendum, the Law No 5678 on Making an Amendment in Some Articles of the*

*Constitution of the Republic of Turkey and dated 31/05/2007 and the amendment to the Law No. 5697 and dated 16/10/2007, were accepted at the end of the referendum held on 21/10/2007 and related to this, the Election Commission Decision dated 31/10/2007 was published in the No. 26686 Official Gazette.*

### **C. Oath (Article 103)**

On assuming office, the President shall take the following oath before the Turkish Grand National Assembly:

In my capacity as President I swear upon my honor and integrity before the Turkish Grand National Assembly and before history to safeguard the existence and independence of the State, the indivisible integrity of the country and the Nation and the absolute sovereignty of the Nation, to abide by the Constitution, the rule of law, democracy, the principles of the secular Republic, not to deviate from the ideal according to which everyone is entitled to enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms under conditions of national peace and prosperity and in the spirit of national solidarity and justice, and do my utmost to preserve and exalt the glory and honor of the Republic of Turkey and perform without bias the functions that I have assumed.

### **D. Duties and Powers (Article 104)**

The President is the head of the State. In this capacity, he/she shall represent the Republic of Turkey and the unity of the Turkish Nation; he/she shall ensure the implementation of the Constitution, and the regular and harmonious functioning of the organs of State.

To this end, the duties he/she shall perform, and the powers he/she shall exercise, in accordance with the conditions stipulated in the relevant articles of the Constitution are as follows:

#### **a) Those related to legislation:**

- To deliver, if he/she deems necessary, the opening address of the Turkish Grand National Assembly on the first day of the legislative year,
- To summon the Turkish Grand National Assembly to meet, when necessary,
- To promulgate laws,
- To return laws to the Turkish Grand National Assembly to be reconsidered,
- To submit to referendum, if he/she deems necessary, legislation regarding amendments to the Constitution,
- To appeal to the Constitutional Court for an annulment in part or entirety of certain provisions of laws having the force of law, and the Rules of Procedure of the Turkish Grand National Assembly on the grounds that they are unconstitutional in form or in content, and
- To call new elections for the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

## **b) Those related to the executive function:**

- To appoint the Prime Minister and to accept his resignation,
- To appoint and dismiss Ministers on the proposal of the Prime Minister,
- To preside over the Council of Ministers or to call the Council of Ministers to meet under his/her chairmanship whenever he/she deems it necessary,
- To accredit representatives of the Turkish State to foreign states and to receive the representatives of foreign states to the Republic of Turkey,
- To ratify and promulgate international treaties,
- To represent the Commander-in-Chief of the Turkish Armed Forces on behalf of the Turkish Grand National Assembly,
- To decide on the use of the Turkish Armed Forces,
- To appoint the Chief of General Staff,
- To call the National Security Council to meet,
- To preside over the National Security Council,
- To proclaim martial law or state of emergency, and to issue decrees having the force of law, in accordance with the decisions of the Council of Ministers convened under his/her chairmanship,
- To sign decrees,
- To remit, on grounds of chronic illness, disability or old age, all or part of the sentences imposed on certain individuals,
- To appoint the members and Chairman of the State Supervisory Council,
- To instruct the State Supervisory Council to carry out enquiries, investigations and inspections,
- To appoint the members of the Higher Education Council, and
- To appoint rectors of universities,

## **c) Those related to the judiciary:**

To appoint the members of the Constitutional Court, one-fourth of the members of the Council of State, the Chief Public Prosecutor and the Deputy Chief Public Prosecutor of the High Court of Appeals, the members of the Military High Court of Appeals, the members of the Supreme Military Administrative Court and the members of the Supreme Council of Judges and Public Prosecutors.

The President shall also exercise powers of election and appointment and perform the other duties conferred on him by the Constitution and laws.

## **E. Accountability and Non-accountability (Article 105)**

All Presidential decrees except those which the President is empowered to enact by him/herself without the signatures of the Prime Minister and the minister concerned, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and other laws, shall be signed by the Prime Minister, and the ministers concerned. The Prime Minister and the ministers shall be accountable for these decrees. No appeal shall be made to any

legal authority, including the Constitutional Court, against the decisions and orders signed by the President on his/her own initiative.

The President may be impeached for high treason on the proposal of at least one-third of the total number of members of the Turkish Grand National Assembly, and by the decision of at least three-quarters of the total number of members.

## **F. Deputation for the President (Article 106)**

In the event of a temporary absence of the President on account of illness, travel abroad or similar circumstances, the Chairman of the Turkish Grand National Assembly shall serve as Acting President and exercise the powers of the President until the President resumes his/her functions, and in the event that the Presidency falls vacant as a result of death or resignation or for any other reason, until the election of a new President.

### **Major Influential Institution**

The Presidency of Religious Affairs also called the Diyanet is truly a state within a state and is being used by the secular state to continue the dominance of the secular state within Turkey. The information that follows comes from the annual budget of The Diyanet which we refer to in this [PDF file laying out the Turkish Budget.](#)

#### **2016 Budget**

Diyanet slated to receive 6.5 Billion Lira in budget year 2016

Follows is a breakdown of the proposed 2016 Budget:

Turkey's National Intelligence Agency (MİT) and Directorate of Religious Affairs (Diyanet) will see dramatic rises in their shares of the upcoming year's budget, according to the new Medium-Term Economic Program and the Financial Plan, which were released through the Official Gazette on Oct. 11.

The new program has predicted a total of 1.63 billion Turkish Liras allocated to the MİT, constituting a 47 percent increase from the unit's share in the 2015 budget. Equity costs, namely investments, have played a great role in the need for a hike in the MİT's share of the budget, according to the program. The new program has forecasted around 4.5 billion liras of budget resources to the Interior Ministry, 20.2 billion liras to the police forces and 26.1 billion liras to the Defense Ministry in 2016.

## **6.5 billion liras to Diyanet**

Diyanet's share of the budget has surpassed the budgets of 12 ministries, according to the financial plan of the program. Diyanet is forecasted to get 6.48 billion liras from the 2016 budget, although its share was 5.74 billion liras in this year's budget.

There was also a dramatic increase seen in the forecasted financial resources for the Family and Social Policies Ministry. While the ministry took 18.2 billion liras from the 2015 budget, it is forecasted to take 24.2 billion liras from the 2016 budget.

The Medium-Term Economic Program and the Financial Plan were published in the framework of the budget calendar. Although the draft budget could not be discussed in parliament this year as there was not a permanent cabinet, a draft 2016 budget must be presented to parliament by

Oct. 17. The Financial Plan includes how much money needs to be allocated to which public institutions and agencies, while parliament gives the final shape. As there will be elections on Nov. 1, a temporary budget will be released rather than a draft budget. A law will be issued to realize this move.

“With more than 100,000 employees, the Diyanet is a kind of state within the state. In 2013, with over 4.6 billion TL (Turkish Lira), [Diyanet](#) or Ministry of Religious Affairs, occupies the 16th position of central government expenditure. The budget allocated to Diyanet is:” [.....wikipedia](#)

### [The Rise of Diyanet: the Politicization of Turkey's Directorate of Religious Affairs](#)

Friday October 9, 2015

[Diyanet's Budget in 2013 - Source : TBMM, Turkish Parliament, 2013.](#)

- 1.6 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of the Interior
- 1.8 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Health
- 1.9 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Industry, Science and Technology

- 2.4 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Environment and Urban Planning
- 2.5 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism
- 2.9 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 3.4 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Economy
- 3.8 times larger than the budget of the Ministry of Development
- 4.6 times larger than the budget allocated to MIT – Secret Services
- 5,0 times larger than the budget allocated to the Department of Emergency and Disaster Management
- 7.7 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources
- 9.1 times larger than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Customs and Trade
- 10.7 times greater than the budget allocated to Coast Guard
- 21.6 times greater than the budget allocated to the Ministry of the European Union
- 242 times larger than the budget for the National Security Council
- 268 times more important than the budget allocated to the Ministry of Public Employee

Diyanet's budget represents:

- 79% of the budget of the Police
- 67% of the budget of the Ministry of Justice
- 57% of the budget of the Public Hospitals
- 31% of the budget of the National Police
- 23% of the budget of the Turkish Army, that is 23% of the budget of [NATO](#)'s second army.

## **Persecution of Journalists and Reporters**

Turkey according to some sources has the most imprisoned journalists and reporters of any nation in the world. The struggle between powers in Turkey is resulting in a high level of the curbing of free speech, we as Americans must remember that Turkey is not like America and has been subjected to several strongman rulers over the 20<sup>th</sup> into the 21<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### [Turkey's jailed Journalists](#)

### [Seeking Meaning in Jailed-Journalists Count](#)

## **GLADIO**

[“NATO SECRET ARMIES” – Dr. Daniel Ganser](#)

This fascinating new study shows how the CIA and the British secret service, in collaboration with the military alliance NATO and European military secret services, set up a network of clandestine anti-communist armies in Western Europe after World War II.



These secret soldiers were trained on remote islands in the Mediterranean and in unorthodox warfare centres in England and in the United States by the Green Berets and SAS Special Forces. The network was armed with explosives, machine guns and high-tech communication equipment hidden in underground bunkers and secret arms caches in forests and mountain meadows. In some countries the secret army linked up with right-wing terrorist who in a secret war engaged in political manipulation, harassment of left wing parties, massacres, coup d'états and torture.

Code named 'Gladio' ('the sword'), the Italian secret army was exposed in 1990 by Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to the Italian Senate, whereupon the press spoke of "The best kept, and most damaging, political-military secret since World War II" (Observer, 18. November 1990) and observed that "The story seems straight from the pages of a political thriller." (The Times, November 19, 1990). Ever since, so-called 'stay-behind' armies of NATO have also been discovered in France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Austria, Greece and Turkey. They were internationally coordinated by the Pentagon and NATO and had their last known meeting in the NATO-linked Allied Clandestine Committee (ACC) in Brussels in October 1990.

## **SLEDGEHAMMER & ERGENEKON AFFAIR**

These two scandals "[Sledgehammer](#)" and The "[Ergenekon Affair](#)", and prosecutions coupled with Erdogan's majority in **The Grand National Assembly of Turkey (TBMM, [Turkish: Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi](#))**, usually referred to simply as the **Meclis** enabled him to wrestle power from the secularists, secret societies, Freemasons and good ole boy networks. Thus he has effected a power shift from the Kemalist networks into his hands. In addition two important institutions are The Gülen Movement and The Diyanet which have great influence among its members and workers in Turkey. The Real Politic view is since Erdogan has assumed power Turkey has been in the process of seeking EU membership and has been aligning it's government to The European Union Model and has joined in with N.A.T.O. operations and initiatives, so Erdogan is carrying out the continued secular government of Turkey. So irregardless of the perceived power shift initiated by Erdogan the existing Turkish government is still very much so, a secular one and the secular forces waging street warfare are merely agents knowingly or unknowingly of past power masters especially the military. Turkey is a corrupt and violent country and this we must focus on to understand the present Geo-Political chaos of modern day Turkey. We must also bear in mind the ultra secret turkish elite known as The Dönme and try to predict their alliances, movements and influences.

[Ergenekon](#) is the name given to an alleged clandestine, [Kemalist ultra-nationalist](#) organization in [Turkey](#) which, according to an instructor at the [Police Academy in Ankara](#), most likely has ties to members of the country's [military](#) and [security](#) forces. The would-be group, named after [Ergenekon](#), a mythical place located in the inaccessible

valleys of the [Altay Mountains](#), is accused of [terrorism](#) in Turkey.

Ergenekon is by some believed to be part of the "[deep state](#)." The existence of the "deep state" was affirmed in Turkish opinion after the [Susurluk scandal](#) in 1996. Alleged members have been indicted on charges of plotting to [foment unrest](#), among other things by assassinating intellectuals, politicians, judges, military staff, and religious leaders, with the ultimate goal of toppling the incumbent government.

[Ergenekon's modus operandi](#) has been compared to [Operation Gladio's](#) Turkish branch, the [Counter-Guerrilla](#)

By April 2011, over 500 people had been taken into custody and nearly 300 formally charged with membership of what prosecutors described as "the Ergenekon terrorist organization," which they claimed had been responsible for virtually every act of political violence – and controlled every [terrorist group](#) – in Turkey over the last 30 years.....[wikipedia](#)

## **DONMEH**

The Donmeh is a secret sect that originated in Solinika. This sect became embedded in Masonic lodges not only in Solinika but later in Turkey. Wayne Madsen has a excellent article in the online "[Stragetic Culture Foundation](#)" site. Today it appears that Erdogan is in a life death struggle with not only this sect but Freemasonry at large which has dominated turkish politics since The Young Turks. The Donmeh are connected to Zionism and Israel.

[Wayne Madesen](#) | 25.10.2011 | [World](#)

[The Dönneh: The Middle East's Most Whispered Secret \(Part I\)](#)

[The Dönneh: The Middle East's Most Whispered Secret \(Part II\)](#)

## **ERDOGAN'S - PRESIDENTIAL RISE**

Since Erdoğan's ascendancy to National Dominance he has been struggling with the network of Freemasons, Donmeh, secret societies, good-ole-boy, and Gladio networks all working to bring him down. These confrontations since 2003 have escalated especially since Erdoğan associates were caught in an oil scandal with Iran.

## **THE 2013 CORRUPTION SCANDAL IN TURKEY**

The 2013 corruption scandal in Turkey involved 52 people who were connected to Erdoğan's dominant political party AKP the Justice and Development Party.

A wikipedia read is [here](#) about

the scandal. This scandal involved trade between Iran and Turkey, trading Oil and Gas for Gold using a loophole around the sanctions about trading with Iran. The

Zionist-Israel power bloc is

adamantly against Iran and became frustrated with President's Obama reluctance to attack Iran, eventually the United States and Iran settled their differences and lifted the sanctions much to Israel's chagrin. Erdoğan actions have been reprehensible in covering up the scandal even at one time threatening and accusing the American Ambassador of engaging in “provocative actions.

### [Why Turkey's Mother of All Corruption Scandals Refuses to Go Away](#)

**Cover up of 2013 Scandal – Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** – had the scandal revealed his involvement with top AKP party members his election to the Presidency probably would have failed so he and those involved covered up their involvement.

## **GOLD TRADER**

Reza Zarrab in federal court has been indicted for violating trade sanctions against Iran. There is evidence he was trading Gold for Iranian oil and gas and the gold was provided by the Turks. This is the indictment [here](#). If Zarrab provides a full confession this would expose the Turkish government's role in the scandal. An excerpt from the article states “The case has drawn much attention in Turkey, where Zarrab was arrested in 2013 in a corruption probe into individuals with close ties to Tayyip Erdogan, then Turkey's prime minister and now its president”.

## [No bail for Turkish gold trader Zarrab in U.S. sanctions case](#)

This scandal resulted in demonstrations and protests in Gezi Park which first started over a redevelopment plan for the park

### [Gezi Park protests](#)

The Protesters were characterized by Erdogan as terrorists when they sought refuge in a Koc Hotel property namely the Divan Hotel being close to and adjacent to Taksi Square and Gezi Park where many protesters after being gassed and pepper sprayed fired by police, sought refuge.

The Koc Group was accused by the government of helping terrorists when all the hotel did was provide humanitarian aid. Later the Erdogan government would audit several Koc companies and would withdraw an over billion dollar ship building contract from the Koc Group.

### [Koc Raid](#)

### [Revenge](#)

## [Turkey's Tupras agrees to pay \\$22 million in tax demand, fines](#)

Mustafa Koc – passed away on Jan. 2016, he was also on the Steering committee of the Bilderberg Group which is the most powerful group in the world, so when Erdogan began to go after the Koc Group he was messing with very, very, big people. I see Erdogan turning to Russia in a new alliance to offset this new power resetting he is effecting. N.A.T.O. Needs him to pursue their Syrian war so they will continue working with him, that's the reason we saw the quick support for his overcoming of the military coup.

## **FREEDOM OF SPEECH**

Erdoğan has been not only threatening journalist but jailing them. Many journalists who has written very negative stories or articles about Erdoğan have been prosecuted jailed and imprisoned. Follows is a list on wikipedia.

## [List of arrested journalists in Turkey](#)

It's frightening the record that Erdoğan has about freedom of speech. His record above shows the political thinking that he exhibits. Several of these journalists were exposing his part in the [2013 corruption scandal in Turkey](#).

Erdogan was successful in covering up this scandal before the National Turkish 2014 Presidential election, so he was nevertheless elected President of Turkey but his involvement in the scandal probably precipitated the 2016 Failed Military Coup. In addition the 2014 election was very contentious and created protests with unanswered questions.

## **CONTENTIOUS ELECTION 2014**

The National Elections of 2014 became very contentious, for power outages were blamed on cats but that did not deter protesters who launched protests against election irregularities. Even later the Elections of June 2015 were also questionable due to insider information alluded to unnamed sources. See the wikipedia sources below.

### [Electoral fraud and violence during the Turkish general election, June 2015](#)

“In March 2015, an unnamed AKP source close to one of the party's deputy leaders [Süleyman Soylu](#) revealed that his party had staged electoral fraud during the 2014 local elections and claimed that several AKP employees were uncomfortable with their tactics. The source claimed that the party had a 5-point plan for every election.

- The use of bogus opinion polls
- The intentional miscalculation of votes during counting, resulting in incorrect results being recorded and sent to the electoral council
- The bribery or threatening of returning officers to stop the miscounting being reported to the authorities
- The misleading announcement of the AKP's scale of victory early on in the election night to demotivate opposition counting observers and incentivising them to abandon the ballot boxes

- The use of fake addresses and dead people as voters

The source also confirmed that the sharp rise in electricity cuts during election nights were deliberate and were intended to disrupt the counting process.”.....wikipedia

[more](#)

## **Turkish Official Blames Election Night Power Outages On A Cat**

### **Police fire water cannon in Turkish capital at election protest**

#### **TIMELINE**

Erdoğan is quickly becoming tyrannical in his actions especially since being caught in The 2013 corruption scandal. His reaction was to begin a cover up that was obvious and which became known to his opponents and ignored by his Muslim followers.

### **A 2-Minute Guide To The Crisis In Turkey That Sent Markets Tanking And Put The Government In Its Weakest Position Yet**

The above article set out in detail a time line of the crisis at the time. So the protests in 2013-2014 in Gezi were motivated by a number of issues including the corruption uncovered in 2013 within the AKP party.

#### **MILITARY COUP 2016 - FAILURE**

The number of people in Turkey that are being suspended, fired, detained or arrested is escalating by the hour. Erdoğan has declared a State of Emergency and is suspending the European Rights Convention.

**Turkey Coup Update: 50,000 People Suspended, Detained In Erdogan's 'Purge' Of Gulen's Followers**

**The Latest: Turkey to suspend European rights convention**

**Turkey says no return to past repression despite state of emergency**

**Turkey coup attempt: Who's the target of Erdogan's purge?**

**Turkey shuts scores of media outlets, sacks generals**

**The Turkish government issues a new decree shaking up security forces and media in wake of failed coup attempt**

Erdogan after putting down this so called military coup has detained over 60,000+ people Judicial personnel consisting of Judges and Prosecutors. The following article furthers our knowledge of the failed military coup.

**RUSSIA AND TURKEY ALLIANCE**

Erdogan's reaction and actions to this failed Coup is propelling him toward creating a dictatorship. The close down of media, arrest of more moderate to leftist journalists is a signal that any group not only Gulen networks are now being targeted for closing.

**Turkey's Shift Towards Russia & the Grand Chessboard**

**WIKILEAKS – IS LEAKING**

**Turkey blocks access to WikiLeaks after 'AKP emails' dump**

**WikiLeaks Dump: Turkey is a Classic Informant Police State: Ordinary citizens rat out their neighbors**

Did MIT thwart the military coup - “At around 3 pm. on July 15, the National Intelligence Organization (MİT) got information about “extraordinary activity” at the Air-Land School Command in Güvercinlik, Ankara, where helicopter training is given to military units. MİT head Hakan Fidan informed Chief of General Staff Hulusi Akar about the activity at around 4 pm., sending his deputy to the military headquarters for a meeting with Deputy Chief of Staff Yaşar Gürel at around 5.30 pm. In the meantime, in order to confirm the information Land Forces

Commander Salih Zeki Çolak sent his deputy, İhsan Uyar, for an inspection of Güvercinlik. At 6 pm., Fidan also went to the military HQ to meet Akar, and Çolak. Akar issued a written order to all units in Turkey at 6.30 pm. to close Turkey's entire air space and to stop all kinds of troop movements, including of aircraft and armored vehicles like tanks

[Intelligence failure in the coup attempt?](#)

[I told coup plotters not to spill blood: Turkish army chief](#)

[Foreign Ministry to dismiss ambassador-level diplomats over Gülen links](#)

## **PRESIDENTIAL POWER**

Erdoğan's actions have incrementally been such to undercut the military's dominance of the government and a weakening of the Prime Minister-ship and movement toward a greater Imperial Presidency.

[Recep Tayyip Erdogan: Turkey's ruthless president](#)

My thoughts are that he built the new Presidential Palace for only himself to reside in and no one else. He built it in defiance of very influential groups in Turkey.

## **POWER SEEKING**

Erdoğan drive for power has manifested over several years and is reflected by this list of events and actions:

1. 1970s-1980s - Active in Islamist circles, member of Necmettin Erbakan's Welfare Party
2. 1994-1998 - Mayor of Istanbul, until military officers made power grab
3. 1998 - Welfare Party banned, Erdogan jailed for four months for inciting religious hatred
4. Aug 2001 - Founds Islamist-rooted AKP with ally Abdullah Gul
5. 2002-2003 -  
AKP wins solid majority in parliamentary election, Erdogan appointed Prime Minister
6. Erdoğan's election as Prime Minister 2003 serving until 2014
7. National Security Council – as the new Prime Minister he reshuffled and reordered this



council which enabled him to gain a greater dominance over the military

8. Erdeneğon and Sledgehammer scandals and subsequent investigations and prosecutions enabled him to begin to imprison for life his biggest opponents and enemies

9. Syria – invasion with US colleagues and interests this was his N.A.T.O. Obligation but was not fully cooperative in the battles in Iraq and Syria.

10. Erdoğan cover up of 2013 Gold for Oil Scandal – this resulted in his break with Gulen who later would become a dangerous rival since Gulen had built up an international network of followers in Turkey and World-wide.

11. Arrest of Journalists over a number of years – suppressed freedom of speech this was done to muzzle the truth about the 2013 Oil for Gold Scandal - Erdogan was successful in covering up the scandal.

12. Aug 2014 - Becomes president after direct elections for head of state

13. Elections in 2014 and 2015 were in dispute and caused protests and riots.

14. Presidential Palace – building in defiance of opponents – its a Palace truly built for a King and in my opinion he never intends to ever move out.

15. Military Coup 2016 – Failed

16. Aftermath of the failed Military Coup – Erdogan started detaining of 60,000 ? people who have been described as traitors – this will eliminate a great number of his main rivals and most important adversaries and further intimidation of other lesser adversaries

### **ERDOGAN'S - TWO PATHS TO DICTATORSHIP** – goal to establish new Ottoman Empire

1. Internal security - suppress all criticism of Erdogan and further a police state with Erdoğan's absolute power internally increasing – The MIT is the mechanism being used to expand his power internally and externally

2. International Influence - Co-operate with US. Interests to further International influence using N.A.T.O. and other institutions

### **OTTOMAN EMPIRE – THE NEW**

Erdoğan – is in conflict in trying to convert Turkey into an Islamic State and it appears he is trying to re-establish the Ottoman Empire and become its leader. He attracts the religious with Islam

and has established a loyal following based upon a strong belief in Islam. The Turkish public is waking up to his involvement in the 2013 Scandal and this will diminish his future election possibilities that is the reason he's headed to a dictatorship.

“The Ottoman dynasty or *House of Osman* (c. 1290–1922) was unprecedented and unequalled in the Islamic world for its size and duration. The Ottoman sultan, *pâdişâh* or "lord of kings", served as the empire's sole regent and was considered to be the embodiment of its government, though he did not always exercise complete control”.....wikipedi

**Islam in the Ottoman Empire**; Islam was the official religion of the [Ottoman Empire](#) and became more important after two seminal events: the [conquest of Constantinople](#) and the conquest of Arab regions of the Middle East. The highest position in Islam, *caliphate*, was claimed by the sultan, after the defeat of the Mamluks which was established as [Ottoman Caliphate](#). The Sultan was to be a devout Muslim and was given the literal authority of the Caliph. Additionally, Sunni clerics had tremendous influence over government and their authority was central to the regulation of the economy. Despite all this, the Sultan also had a right to decree, enforcing a code called Kanun (law) in Turkish. Additionally, there was a supreme clerical position called the Sheykhulislam ("Sheikh of Islam" in Arabic). Minorities, particularly Christians and Jews but also some others, were mandated to pay the jizya, the poll tax as mandated by traditional Islam.....wikipedia....[more](#)

A **caliphate** ([Arabic](#): خلافة *khilāfa*) is an area containing an [Islamic steward](#) known as a **caliph** ([Arabic](#): خليفة *khalīfah* [pronunciation](#) ([help](#)·[info](#)))— a person considered a religious successor to the [Islamic prophet](#), [Muhammad](#) ([Muhammad ibn ‘Abdullāh](#)), and a leader of the entire [Muslim community](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The [Rashidun caliphs](#), who directly [succeeded Muhammad](#) as leaders of the [Muslim community](#), were chosen through *shura*, a process of community consultation that some consider loosely to be an early form of Islamic [democracy](#).<sup>[2]</sup> During the [history of Islam](#) after the [Rashidun](#) period, many [Muslim states](#), almost all of them [hereditary monarchies](#), have claimed to be caliphates.<sup>[1]</sup> Even though caliphs were thought to go back to Muhammad, they

were not thought of as having the same prophetic power as he did.[\[3\]](#).....wikipedia....[more](#)

[After 1517, the Ottoman sultan was also the caliph or \*khalifah\* of the Muslim world.](#)

## Conclusion

Turkey has been dominated by Freemasonry, The Dönme, The Secret Societies and “The Good Ole Boy” networks before and especially since Ataturk's takeover. Since Erdogan's election as Prime Minister coupled with the uncovering and expose of two major scandals “[Sledgehammer](#)” and the “[Ergenekon](#)” terror organization has resulted in a power shift. He barely was elected President by effecting so far a successful cover up of the 2013 Oil for Gold Scandal. Now after this 2016 Failed Military Coup Erdogan has increased his power by purging his enemies.. His direction now seems to be in establishing a Dictatorship on his way in re-establishing the Ottoman Empire with him as Calip.

George Butler

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## Resources and End Notes

The 1982 constitution gives the president a stronger and more extensive role than did the 1961 constitution, under which the presidency was a largely ceremonial office. The president is empowered to summon meetings of the National Assembly, promulgate laws, and ratify international treaties. The president also may veto legislation passed by the National Assembly, submit constitutional amendments proposed by the assembly to popular referendum, and challenge the constitutionality of assembly laws and cabinet decrees. The president's responsibilities include appointing the prime minister, convening and presiding over meetings of the Council of Ministers, and calling for new elections to the National Assembly. The president also is authorized to dispatch the Turkish armed forces for domestic or foreign military missions and to declare martial law.

The constitution also provides the president with appointive powers that he or she may exercise independently of the Council of Ministers. For example, the president is empowered to appoint the members of the Constitutional Court, one-quarter of the members of the Council of State, all diplomatic representatives, the chief of the General Staff, members of the Supreme Military

Administrative Court, the Supreme Council of Judges and Public Prosecutors, the State Supervisory Council, the Council of Higher Education, and all university presidents.

- [The Truth About The Sledgehammer Case](#)
- [the webpage of the families of Sledgehammer Defendants](#)
- [BBC:Top Turkish officers charged over "coup plot"](#)
- [SONER CAGAPTAY What's Really Behind Turkey's Coup Arrests?](#)
- [Website in English and Turkish](#); providing original documents such as the indictments as well as news and comments]
- [Moscow Show Trial on the Bosphorus](#)
- [THE SNAKE THAT DOESN'T TOUCH ME: TURKEY'S SPECIAL AUTHORITY COURTS](#)
- [Turkey's jailed Journalists](#)
- [The Deep State](#)

“Alexandre Saint-Yves, Marquess of Alveydre - (26 March 1842, [Paris](#) – 5 February 1909, [Pau](#)) was a French [occultist](#) who adapted the works of [Fabre d'Olivet](#) (1767–1825) and, in turn, had his ideas adapted by [Papus](#). He developed the term [Synarchy](#)—the association of everyone with everyone else—into a political philosophy, and his ideas about this type of government proved influential in politics and the occult.

He then began a career as a civil servant. In 1877 Saint-Yves met and married [Countess Marie de Rizinitch-Keller](#), a relative of [Honoré de Balzac](#), and friend of the Empress [Eugénie de Montijo](#), a move which made him independently wealthy. He dedicated the rest of his life to research and had a large number of influential contacts including Victor Hugo. Saint-Yves later knew many of the major names in French occultism such as Marquis [Stanislas de Guaita](#), [Joséphin Péladan](#) and [Oswald Wirth](#) and was a member of a number of [Rosicrucian](#), and [Freemason](#) style orders. Saint-Yves supposedly inherited the papers of one of the great founders of French occultism, [Antoine Fabre d'Olivet](#) (1762–1825)”.....wikipedia

## **GLADIO**

[“NATO SECRET ARMIES” – Dr. Daniel Ganser](#)

This fascinating new study shows how the CIA and the British secret service, in collaboration with the military alliance NATO and European military secret services, set up a network of clandestine anti-communist armies in Western Europe after World War II.

These secret soldiers were trained on remote islands in the Mediterranean and in unorthodox warfare centres in England and in the United States by the Green Berets and SAS Special Forces. The network was armed with explosives, machine guns and high-tech communication equipment hidden in underground bunkers and secret arms caches in forests and mountain meadows. In

some countries the secret army linked up with right-wing terrorist who in a secret war engaged in political manipulation, harassment of left wing parties, massacres, coup d'états and torture.

Code named 'Gladio' ('the sword'), the Italian secret army was exposed in 1990 by Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti to the Italian Senate, whereupon the press spoke of "The best kept, and most damaging, political-military secret since World War II" (Observer, 18. November 1990) and observed that "The story seems straight from the pages of a political thriller." (The Times, November 19, 1990). Ever since, so-called 'stay-behind' armies of NATO have also been discovered in France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Austria, Greece and Turkey. They were internationally coordinated by the Pentagon and NATO and had their last known meeting in the NATO-linked Allied Clandestine Committee (ACC) in Brussels in October 1990.

## [The Weakening of Turkey's Military](#)

Author: [Steven A. Cook](#), Hasib J. Sabbagh Senior Fellow for Middle Eastern Studies  
March 1, 2010

### **Turkey: Alleged Members of Revolutionary Headquarters Indicted on Terrorist Charges**

(Mar 03, 2011) It was reported on February 5, 2011, that Istanbul's 12th High Criminal Court has accepted an [indictment](#) against 22 persons suspected of being linked to the leftist terrorist organization the Revolutionary Headquarters (RH). The group reportedly carried out a deadly shootout in April 2009 in Istanbul that claimed the lives of a police officer and two civilians and In the decades before the AKP's rise to power, the military had intervened in politics four times to curb Islamist influence.

In 2013 Mr Erdogan triumphed over the military elite when senior officers were among 17 people [jailed for life](#), convicted of plotting to overthrow the AKP in what was known as the "Ergenekon" case.

Critics have accused Mr Erdogan of using the judiciary to silence political opponents, and there were many allegations of trumped-up charges.

But his supporters applauded him for taking on previously untouchable establishment figures, who saw themselves as guardians of the state created by Ataturk

Born in 1954, Recep Tayyip Erdogan grew up the son of a coastguard, on Turkey's Black Sea coast.

When he was 13, his father decided to move to Istanbul, hoping to give his five children a better upbringing.

As a teenager, the young Erdogan sold lemonade and sesame buns on the streets of Istanbul's rougher

districts to earn extra cash.

He attended an Islamic school before obtaining a degree in management from Istanbul's Marmara University - and playing professional football.

In 1994, Mr Erdogan became the mayor of Istanbul. Even his critics admit that he did a good job, making Istanbul cleaner and greener.

But in 1999 he spent four months in jail after a conviction for religious incitement.

He had publicly read a nationalist poem including the lines: "The mosques are our barracks, the domes our helmets, the minarets our bayonets and the faithful our soldiers."

In 2001 Mr Erdogan launched the AKP with allies, having broken away from the Virtue Party, which had been banned.

His rise to power was complete when the AKP won a landslide election victory in 2002 and he became prime minister. wounded eight other persons. The trial is to commence on April 13. (Osman Arslan, *Court Accepts Indictment on Avci-Linked Terror Group*, TODAY'S ZAMAN (Feb. 5, 2011).)

One of the suspects, Hanefi Avci, the former police chief of Eskisehir Province, was arrested and imprisoned in late September 2010. The indictment charges Avci and 13 other imprisoned suspects with "membership in a terrorist organization," as well with falsification of documents, possession of weapons and munitions, violation of the principle of confidentiality of an ongoing investigation, and the seizure of personal data. Prosecutors seek to obtain a prison sentence of 5 1 years for Avci and sentences of 7½ years to life for the suspects involved in the attack. They are also demanding a sentence of up to 12 years for Avci's wife, who is among the other suspects in the RH case who are not yet under arrest. (*Id.*)

The court has sent notices to the Interior Ministry, the Security General Directorate, the National Intelligence Organization (MIT), the General Staff, and the Gendarmerie General Command for the provision of information on the structure and activities of the RH. It has also asked the 9th High Criminal Court for a digital copy of the trial of RH members accused of the shootout with police in April 2009. The current indictment suggests that the RH is part of Ergenekon, "a clandestine criminal network charged with plotting to overthrow the government." (*Id.*)

Avci wrote a book, entitled *Halic'te Yasayan Simonslar Diin Devlet Bugün Cemaat* [*Simons in the Golden Horn: Yesterday the State, Today the Religious Community*], that brought him notoriety. In it, he contends that the government's ongoing criminal investigations to tackle illegal activities in Turkey, including the Ergenekon probe, "lack evidence and are based on illegal wiretapping." (*Id.*) Experts on criminal law, however, dismiss the work as biased, and it is said to be "well known that the telephone conversations of Ergenekon suspects were legitimately wiretapped by prosecutors overseeing the probe on court orders." (*Id.*) According to the indictment, Avci, through his book – which describes his being wiretapped on a SIM card – violated the principle

of confidentiality of an ongoing investigation, because RH members allegedly learned of the investigation into Ergenekon from the book. (*Id.*; *Former Police Chief in Jail for Writing Book*, [TURKEYEMERGENCY.COM](http://TURKEYEMERGENCY.COM) (last visited Mar. 1,