

**DEMOCRACY,
ISLAM,
& SECULARISM
IN TURKEY**

Edited by
**AHMET T. KURU
& ALFRED STEPAN**

Democracy Islam And Secularism In Turkey Religion Culture And Public Life

Alfred Stepan



Democracy Islam And Secularism In Turkey Religion Culture And Public Life:

Democracy, Islam, and Secularism in Turkey Ahmet T. Kuru, Alfred Stepan, 2012-02-21 While Turkey has grown as a world power promoting the image of a progressive and stable nation several choices in policy have strained its relationship with the East and the West Providing historical social and religious context for this behavior the essays in Democracy Islam and Secularism in Turkey examine issues relevant to Turkish debates and global concerns from the state s position on religion to its involvement with the European Union Written by experts in a range of disciplines the chapters explore the toleration of diversity during the Ottoman Empire s classical period the erosion of ethno religious heterogeneity in modern pre democratic times Kemalism and its role in modernization and nation building the changing political strategies of the military and the effect of possible EU membership on domestic reforms The essays also offer a cross Continental comparison of multiple secularisms as well as political parties considering especially Turkey s Justice and Development Party in relation to Europe s Christian Democratic parties Contributors tackle critical research questions such as the legacy of the Ottoman Empire s ethno religious plurality and the way in which Turkey s assertive secularism can be softened to allow greater space for religious actors They address the military s guardian role in Turkey s secularism the implications of recent constitutional amendments for democratization and the consequences and benefits of Islamic activism s presence within a democratic system No other collection confronts Turkey s contemporary evolution so vividly and thoroughly or offers such expert analysis of its crucial social and political systems Contributors Karen Barkey Columbia University mit Cizre Istanbul Sehir University M S kr Hanioglu Princeton University Stathis N Kalyvas Yale University Ahmet T Kuru San Diego State University Joost Lagendijk Sabanc University Ergun zbudun Bilkent University Alfred Stepan Columbia University

Democracy, Islam, & Secularism in Turkey Ahmet Kuru, Alfred Stepan, 2012-02-14 While Turkey has grown as a world power promoting the image of a progressive and stable nation several policy choices have strained its relationship with the East and the West Providing social historical and religious context for Turkey s singular behavior the essays in Democracy Islam and Secularism in Turkey examine issues relevant to Turkish debates and global concerns from the state s position on religion and diversity to its involvement in the European Union Written by experts in a range of disciplines the chapters explore the Ottoman toleration of diversity during its classical period the erosion of ethno religious diversity in modern pre democratic times Kemalism and its role in modernization and nation building the changing political strategies of the military and the effect of possible EU membership on domestic reforms They also conduct a cross Continental comparison of multiple secularisms as well as political parties considering the Justice and Development Party in Turkey in relation to Christian Democratic parties in Europe The contributors tackle central research questions such as what is the legacy of the Ottoman Empire s ethno religious plurality and how can Turkey s assertive secularism be softened to allow greater space for religious actors They address the military s guardian role in Turkey s secularism the implications of recent constitutional amendments for

democratization and the consequences and benefits of Islamic activism's presence within a democratic system. No other collection confronts Turkey's contemporary evolution so vividly and thoroughly or offers such expert analysis of its crucial social and political systems. *Democracy and Capitalism in Turkey* Devrim Adam Yavuz, 2023-02-23. While a positive correlation between capitalism and democracy has existed in Western Europe and North America, the example of late industrializing nations such as Turkey has demonstrated that the two need not always go hand in hand and sometimes the interests of business coincide more firmly with anti-democratic forces. This book explores the factors that compelled capitalists in Turkey to adopt a more pro-democratic ideology by examining a leading Turkish business lobby, T SIAD, which has been pushing for democratic reform since the 1990s despite representing some of the largest corporation owners in Turkey and having supported the state's authoritarian tendencies in the past such as the military coup of 1980. Drawing on roughly 70 interviews with influential members of T SIAD and individuals close to them, the book reveals that business leaders were willing to break away from the state due to the conflict between their evolving economic needs and power with a political elite and state that were unwilling to cater to their demands. In so doing, the book provides a rich account of business-state relations in Turkey as well as providing a case study for the wider study of democracy and capitalism in developing nations.

Religion, Secularism, and Constitutional Democracy Jean L. Cohen, Cécile Laborde, 2015-12-22. Polarization between political religionists and militant secularists on both sides of the Atlantic is on the rise. Critically engaging with traditional secularism and religious accommodationism, this collection introduces a constitutional secularism that robustly meets contemporary challenges. It identifies which connections between religion and the state are compatible with the liberal republican and democratic principles of constitutional democracy and assesses the success of their implementation in the birthplace of political secularism, the United States, and Western Europe. Approaching this issue from philosophical, legal, historical, political, and sociological perspectives, the contributors wage a thorough defense of their project's theoretical and institutional legitimacy. Their work brings fresh insight to debates over the balance of human rights and religious freedom, the proper definition of a nonestablishment norm, and the relationship between sovereignty and legal pluralism. They discuss the genealogy of and tensions involving international legal rights to religious freedom, religious symbols in public spaces, religious arguments in public debates, the jurisdiction of religious authorities in personal law, and the dilemmas of religious accommodation in national constitutions and public policy when it violates international human rights agreements or liberal democratic principles. If we profoundly rethink the concepts of religion and secularism, these thinkers argue, a principled adjudication of competing claims becomes possible.

Race and Secularism in America Jonathon S. Kahn, Vincent W. Lloyd, 2016-03-01. This anthology draws bold comparisons between secularist strategies to contain, privatize, and discipline religion and the treatment of racialized subjects by the American state. Specializing in history, literature, anthropology, theology, religious studies, and political theory, contributors expose secularism's prohibitive practices.

in all facets of American society and suggest opportunities for change

Democratic Transition in the Muslim World Alfred Stepan, 2018-03-13 In early 2011 widespread protests ousted dictatorial regimes in both Tunisia and Egypt Within a few years Tunisia successfully held parliamentary and presidential elections and witnessed a peaceful transition of power while the Egyptian military went on to seize power and institute authoritarian control What explains the success and failure of transitions to democracy in these two countries and how might they speak to democratic transition attempts in other Muslim majority countries *Democratic Transition in the Muslim World* convenes leading scholars to consider the implications of democratic success in Tunisia and failure in Egypt in comparative perspective Alongside case studies of Indonesia Senegal and India contributors analyze similarities and differences among democratizing countries with large Muslim populations considering universal challenges as well as each nation's particular obstacles A central theme is the need to understand the conditions under which it becomes possible to craft pro democratic coalitions among secularists and Islamists Essays discuss the dynamics of secularist fears of Islamist electoral success the role of secular constituencies in authoritarian regimes resilience and the prospects for moderation among both secularist and Islamist political actors They delve into topics such as the role of the army and foreign military aid Middle Eastern constitutions and the role of the Muslim Brotherhood The book also includes an essay by the founder and president of Tunisia's Ennahda Party Rachid Ghannouchi who discusses the political strategies his party chose to pursue

The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of the Middle East Armando Salvatore, Sâri Hanafi, Kieko Obuse, 2022 The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of the Middle East integrates the study of the social dynamics in the Middle East within history culture and politics The volume transcends a purely regional perspective to investigate the global nature of these dynamics and their impact on the life of people in the region It provides a comprehensive perspective in connecting the vexed state society relations in the region with movements of transformation and the affirmation of rights and creativity in the public arenas

Democratic Transitions in the Arab World Ibrahim Elbadawi, Samir A. Makdisi, 2017-01-05 A cross country examination of authoritarianism and democracy in North Africa and the Middle East

Holy Wars and Holy Alliance Manlio Graziano, 2017-04-11 Religions are reemerging in the social political and economic spheres previously occupied and dominated by secular institutions and ideologies In the wake of crises exposing the limits of secular modernity religions have again become significant players in domestic and international politics At the same time the Catholic Church has sought a holy alliance among the world's faiths to recentralize devout influence an important albeit little noticed evolution in international relations *Holy Wars and Holy Alliance* explores the nation state's current crisis in order to better understand the religious resurgence's implications for geopolitics Manlio Graziano looks at how the Catholic Church promotes dialogue and action linking world religions and examines how it has used its material financial and institutional strength to gain power and increase its profile in present day international politics Challenging the idea that modernity is tied to progress and secularization Graziano documents the return or the

revenge of God in all facets of life He shows that tolerance pluralism democracy and science have not triumphed as once predicted To fully grasp the destabilizing dynamics at work today he argues we must appreciate the nature of religious struggles and political holy wars now unfolding across the international stage **Religion, Nationalism and Foreign Policy** Filiz Coban Oran, 2022-01-13 This book provides a critical discussion on how different discourses of nationalism in the Turkish media construct contested concepts of New Turkey's identity which has great importance for mapping modern Turkey's place in the world of nations Drawing on a Discourse Historical Approach the author analyses different discourses on Turkish national identity and foreign policy in Turkish media in the second term of the AKP government from 2007 to 2011 which was the period of consolidation of Muslim conservative nationalism in both internal and external relations By using three case studies including the Presidential elections in 2007 the launch of Kurdish Initiative in 2009 and the debate of axis shift in Western orientation of Turkish Foreign Policy in 2010 the book argues that not only has AKP's Muslim nationalism reconstructed new Turkish foreign policy but also new Turkish foreign policy discourse has reconstructed Turkish nation's Muslim identity and reinforced Muslim nationalism

Decoding **Democracy Islam And Secularism In Turkey Religion Culture And Public Life**: Revealing the Captivating Potential of Verbal Expression

In a period characterized by interconnectedness and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, the captivating potential of verbal expression has emerged as a formidable force. Its capability to evoke sentiments, stimulate introspection, and incite profound transformations is genuinely awe-inspiring. Within the pages of "**Democracy Islam And Secularism In Turkey Religion Culture And Public Life**," a mesmerizing literary creation penned by way of a celebrated wordsmith, readers attempt an enlightening odyssey, unraveling the intricate significance of language and its enduring impact on our lives. In this appraisal, we shall explore the book's central themes, evaluate its distinctive writing style, and gauge its pervasive influence on the hearts and minds of its readership.

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