



ISTANBUL  
**GELISIM**  
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# **ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION II**

**TURKEY FROM 1960 TO 1980  
(DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS)**

**WEEK 14**

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## Multi-Party Era and 1960 Coup

- Democrat Party (1950)
- Korean War and Turkish Entry into NATO (1952)
- 1960 Coup: National Unity Committee
- Capital Punishment and Sentences to the Democrat Party Members and Leaders

Major part of Europe was divided into two during the Cold War as NATO (Blue) and Warsaw Pact (Red).



## 1961 Constitution

- The new Constitution was started to be prepared on January 6, 1961 and the referendum for the new Constitution was held on July 9, 1961, which resulted in the acceptance of the Constitution with 61% of the popular vote.

**Cemal Gürsel headed the National Unity Committee. Even though Gürsel was elected as the 4th President of Turkey, he was dismissed from the post due to the health problems.**



## 1961 General Elections

In the elections on October 15, 1961;  
RPP won 173 Deputyships  
Justice Party won 158 Deputyships,  
New Turkey Party won 65 Deputyships,  
Republican Peasants' Nation Party won 54 Deputyships.

During the restoration of democracy after the 27 May Coup, two new parties were established to receive vote from the former Democrat Party voters; Justice Party (JP-Adalet Partisi) and New Turkey Party (NTP-Yeni Türkiye Partisi). Ragıp Gümüşpala, previous Chief of General Staff, was elected as the chairman of Justice Party and Ekrem Alican, Finance Minister of the first National Unity Government, chaired the New Turkey Party to relieve the reaction of the Armed Forces. As no party constituted the majority, RPP and JP formed the coalition government.



## 1960s

- The New Turkish Parliament convened on October 25, 1961 and Cemal Gürsel was elected as the new President of Turkey at the same day.
- Turkey became acquainted with the concept of «Coalition Government» which would later occupy the Turkish political agenda and arouse complaints.
- Republican People's Party fell into an identity seek and produced the «Left of Center» concept. Bülent Ecevit, who would rise to the leadership of the Party, defined the position of party as on the left of the center.
- 1965 Elections resulted in the Justice Party victory which enabled Süleyman Demirel's JP to come to power alone with 53% of the votes and 240 Deputyships while RPP became the main opposition party with 29% of popular votes and 137 Deputyships.
- The Elections on October 12, 1969 maintained the position of JP (256 Deputies) and RPP (143 Deputies) as Alparslan Türkeş's Nationalist Movement Party (NMP) won 1 deputyship and Necmettin Erbakan was elected as Independent from Konya.



Süleyman Demirel



- The radicalization tendencies in the Turkish student organizations which increased as a result of the French student movements of 1968 drifted Turkey, stuck in the Cold War conflicts, into a critical position. Rural-urban migration, urban sprawl, income inequality which were caused by the radical transformation in the economic and social areas aggravated the crisis. The inability of the government to overcome the economic crisis and prevent the labor and student movements caused the erosion of the Demirel's popularity.





## The Military Ultimatum of March 12, 1971

- The Military Ultimatum was issued by the Armed Forces Leadership within the chain of command during the Prime Ministry of Süleyman Demirel and the Presidency of Cevdet Sunay. The Ultimatum includes;
- Turkey was drifted into a turmoil and congestion through the ongoing attitude of the Government and the Parliament.
- The Turkish Armed Forces consider it necessary to transfer the administration to a supra-parties government to stop the turmoil and to apply the revolution laws.
- If these demands were not met, the Army would undertake the power itself.

## 1971 Military Ultimatum

- A technocrat government was formed with the participation of experts outside of the political parties under the Prime Ministry of Niğat Erim, member of RPP and close associate of İnönü.
- The power of the Armed Forces was enhanced.
- The social opposition was suppressed and the wages were reduced.
- National Order Party (NOP) was closed.
- The presidential elections caused a crisis between the military and the politicians.



The cadre of the closed NOP founded the National Salvation Party (NSP-Milli Selamet Partisi) on October 11, 1972.



**Emblem of the National Order Party**



- Upon this ultimatum, Demirel resigned. In the post-ultimatum era, the Parliament was not dismissed, parties were not closed and the Constitution was not suspended.
- However, the conditions significantly changed and the Armed Forces demanded a technocrat government.
- Nihat Erim, RPP Deputy, resigned from his party and formed the New Cabinet on March 19, 1971.
- In 1973, the term of Cevdet Sunay in the Presidential Office ended and Fahri Korutürk was elected as the new President on April 6, 1973.
- Another remarkable political development of the era was the election of Bülent Ecevit as the new Chairman of RPP against Inonu.



Nihat Erim



- The Intervention of the Armed Forces in March 1971 created a dispute between Bulent Ecevit, the Secretary General of RPP, and Ismet Inonu, the Chairman of the Party.
- Starting a hard struggle against Ecevit, Inonu declared that he would resign if his policies could not gain the consent of the party in May 1972.
- When the party council sided with Ecevit, Inonu resigned on May 8, 1972. Becoming the first Party Chairman in Turkish political history, leaving his post after a intra-party conflict, Inonu resigned from the party membership on November 4, 1972, from the Parliament on November 14, 1972.
- He later participated in the Turkish Senate.

- 1973 General Elections terminated the 1971 Ultimatum Era and started a new chapter in Turkish History which would last until 1980.
- The long-lasting instability continued even after the 1977 Elections and Turkey was governed by the coalition governments which were formed by the incompatible parties with different principles and basis.
- Especially the years following 1976 marked the climb of the students movements and Idealist (Ulkücü)-Revolutionist (Devrimci) clashes.



Bülent Ecevit



Süleyman Demirel

## 1974 Cyprus Peace Operation

- Although, RPP headed by Bülent Ecevit, ranked first in the 1973 Elections, it could not gained the majority.
- Ecevit undertook the Prime Ministry for the first time on January 26, 1974 in the coalition government with NSP of Necmettin Erbakan.
- Lasting for only 10 months, the most important activity of this government was the historic Cyprus Peace Operation.
- As a result of Turkish intervention, both the Cypriot Nikos Sampson Government and the Greek Junta Government were dissolved.



Turkish Tank in Lefkoşa



## First and Second Nationalist Front Coalitions

- **Nationalist Front Coalition (NFC)** were the coalition governments of the right wing parties (JP, NSP and NMP) to prevent a RPP government and to stop the expansion of Communism which they perceived as a close threat.
- The first NFC was formed under the Prime Ministry of Süleyman Demirel with the participation of JP, NSP, NMP, Republican Reliance Party on March 31, 1975 and stayed in office until June 21, 1977.
- The Second NFC under Suleyman Demirel came into office on July 21, 1977 and ended on January 5, 1978.



## September 12, 1980 Coup

- Turkish Armed Forces under the command of Kenan Evren, Turkish Chief of General Staff, seized the control of the country on September 12, 1980.
- The Turkish Grand National Assembly was dismissed, and all the political parties were shut down.
- The governance of Turkey was undertaken by the National Security Council which was headed by Kenan Evren.
- Bülend Ulusu was assigned to form the government and Cabinet of Ministers were formed under the Prime Ministry of Ulusu.
- The Advisory Council prepared the new constitution and the referendum was held on November 6, 1982. Approved with 93% of the votes casted, the New Constitution entered into force at the same day and Kenan Evren started his duty as the new President.



The 1980 Coup on Newsweek  
(September 22, 1980)

## Motherland Party Era (MP-Anavatan Partisi)

- With the participation of the allowed parties, the General Elections was held on November 6, 1983 and MP constituted enough majority to form a single-party government by surpassing the Nationalist Democracy Party and Populist Party.
- During MP Era:
- The Turkish society incurred radical changes in addition to the shift in the Turkish foreign and economic policies.
- Turkey attained substantial moves towards foreign expansion and gained the community support. Demirel, Ecevit, Erbakan, Turkeş returned to the political arena through a referendum in 1987.
- After the end of Evren's term, Turgut Özal became the new President and Mesut Yılmaz succeeded him as the new Chairman of MP.



**Turgut Özal**



**Motherland Party**