



ISTANBUL
GELISIM
UNIVERSITY

**ATATURK'S PRINCIPLES
AND HISTORY OF TURKISH REVOLUTION II**
**THE TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY
IN THE ATATURK ERA AND GENERAL CONJUNCTURE**

WEEK 9

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Foreign Policy of the Ataturk Era



How was Ataturk's Foreign Policy?

- Serious
- Rational
- Peaceful
- Sensitive to the National Issues



Elements of Ataturk's National Foreign Policy

1. Leaning on the national power.
2. Staying within the national borders (Peaceful)
3. Non-imaginary goals (Realist)
4. Depending on the equality principle in the international relations
5. Policy under the guidance of Diplomacy and Technology
6. Remaining faithful to the law



Principal Goals of Ataturk's Foreign Policy:

1. Protecting independence.
2. Preserving the balance of Lausanne.
3. Balancing between the English and Soviet Amity
4. Keeping the peace.
5. Application of the principle of «Peace at home, Peace in the World».
6. Application of the loyalty to the law.
7. Continuing the modernization (westernization) and democratization.



Peace at Home, Peace in the World

- In Turkish, the phrase "*Yurtta sulh, cihanda sulh*" - "Peace at Home, Peace in the World" - was first pronounced by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk on 20 April 1931 to the public during his tours of Anatolia. This stance was later integrated and implemented as the foreign policy of the Republic of Turkey.
- "Peace at Home, Peace in the World" is regarded as a central principle of the state administration and any state activities. It's not just regarded as one phrase, at the same time it's seen as a superior and integral objective.
- "Peace at Home, Peace in the World" refers to peace and comfort at home to live in safety, on the other hand, international peace and security in the world. This principle is the fundamental basis of domestic and foreign policies.
- This is one of the integrative principles of Atatürkism that explains any inconvenience you may have in the world can do damage to everyone. Because of this reason nations should not be indifferent to the problems of other nations.
- The most extensive and common interpretation of the statement "Peace at Home, Peace in the World" is that it is a statement advocating for collective security, and the continuation and preservation of international peace.

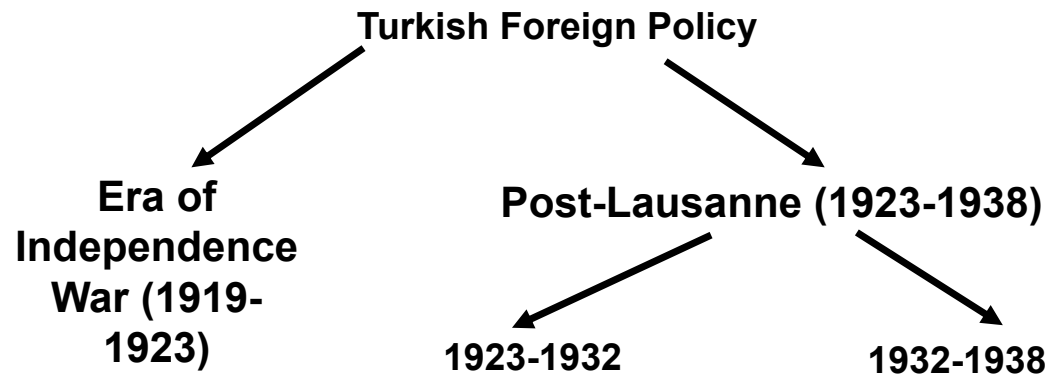
Peace at home,
peace in the world.

H. Wood



Foreign Policy of the Ataturk Era

- * Ataturk's foreign policy has lessons not only for Turkey but also for other countries.
- * Foreign Policy of the Ataturk Era can be divided into two as the Era of Independence War (1919-1923) and Post-Lausanne (1923-1938).





Era of Independence War (1919-1923)

- * The goals and principles of the Independence War were determined at the congresses which were held in Erzurum at first and in Sivas later on. The National Pact which was adopted at the Last Session of the Ottoman Chamber of Deputies in Istanbul, occupied on March 16, 1920, detected the Turkish national borders.
- * The principles of the National Pact constituted the basis of the Turkish Foreign Policy not only during the Independence War but also in the Republican Era. In the Independence War, Ankara Government worked to form amity with the USA and Soviet Russia while fighting Greeks in the west, the French in the south and the Armenians in the East. Ankara Government kept friendly relations with Russia to obtain firearms and financial support and signed treaties with the Western States to show the willingness for peace (Ankara, Kars Treaties). The war ended with the Mudanya Armistice.



Post-Lausanne Turkish Foreign Policy (1923-1932)

- The foreign policy of Turkey subsequent to the Lausanne Peace Treaty was devoted to the application of the Lausanne obligations and solving the remaining problems. The government basically aimed at establishing friendly relations with the neighboring countries, solving the problems through peaceful methods and normalization of the relations with the Great Powers.
- In this period, the major affairs for Turkey were Mosul Problem, debts, foreign schools and exchange of population.
- 1932-1938
- * Turkey had resolved most of the foreign and domestic problems by the 1930s and followed a peaceful foreign policy in accordance with the principle «Peace at home, peace in the world».



During the visit of Abdullah I of Jordan in 1937



- The major incidents of this period were membership to the League of Nations, formation of the Balkan Entente, Italo-Turkish relations, Montreux Convention, Hatay Matter and the Sa'dabat Pact.
- Turkey wanted to protect the country, maintain the security and contribute to the world peace against the approaching war.



- * Exchange of population
- * Foreign Schools
- * Iraqi Border and Mosul Problem (June 5, 1926)
- * Membership to the League of Nations (July 18, 1932)
- * Balkan Entente (February 9, 1934)
- * Montreux Convention (July 20, 1936)
- * Sa'dabad Pact (July 8, 1937)
- * Annexation of Hatay (June 30, 1939)



Mustafa Kemal Atatürk with King Amānullāh Khān of Afghanistan in Ankara, 1928.
King Amānullāh attempted to emulate many of Atatürk's reforms in Afghanistan,
but was overthrown.



Principal Goals of Ataturk's Foreign Policy

- Establishing a National State
 - Ataturk perceived the destructive influences of the spreading movement of ideas together with the ethnic/religious differences of the leading powers and wanted to establish a modern national state instead of a multi national society of the Ottoman Empire.
- Protection of the Independence
 - Ataturk who acted with the awareness that the Turks were keen on freedom opposed the mandate during the Independence War. Ataturk followed a sensitive policy to protect the independence of Turkey.
- Preserving the Peace
 - The principle of «Peace at home, peace in the world» is the indication of the value of peace for Ataturk. However, this attitude does not mean the preservation of peace at all costs. As it was evident during the Independence War, Ataturk showed that he would assent the peace on condition that Turkey reached the principal goals and rights.



Principal Goals of Ataturk's Foreign Policy

- **Modernization and Democratization**
 - Ataturk started reforms to construct a modern Turkey. Ataturk was of the opinion that Turkey should turn to the West to modernize. When we consider that Europe never embraced Turks and struggled to throw the Turks out of Europe, construction of a westernized Turkey can be said to be a must for the security of Turkey. Furthermore, westernization is the necessity of the contemporary age.
- **Realism**
 - The goals in the National Pact were determined realistically. While the Unionists who were active abroad at that time aimed at a larger area, Turkey was evidently reasonable. The externalization of Pan-Islamist and Pan-Turkish policies was the outcome of the realistic policies of Ataturk.



Atatürk'ün Dış Politikasının Temel Nitelikleri

- Farsightedness
 - Ataturk's estimations about the domestic affairs of Germany after 1933 and formation of the Balkan Entente against the probable German and Italian expansionism in a possible world war can be cited as examples of the farsightedness of Ataturk's foreign policy.
- Being a Model for the Oppressed Nations
 - Having the conscious that Turkey is the only Muslim country in Europe, Ataturk followed a foreign policy which both had a Western character and had interest in problems of the mostly colonized Eastern world. Ataturk foresaw that the colonial world would gain independence in the near future and had the conscious that Independence War provided a model for all the «oppressed nations.»



Atatürk (right) with Reza Shah Pahlavi (left) of Iran
during the Shah's visit to Turkey



Conclusion

- Foreign Policy during the Ataturk Era constituted the primary direction of the country. Among the most important of these are protection of the independence, westernization, the principle of peace at home, peace in the world and loyalty to the law.
- Newly established Republic of Turkey, attained to be a respectable member of the international community thanks to the foreign policy of the Ataturk Era.
- Ataturk took lessons from the negative applications of the collapsing Empire. What present day's Turkey should do is to protect and develop the positive heritage which has been taken over from Ataturk. So, versatile foreign policy of the early republic days will attain more successful and permanent attitude.
- Turkey needs the Ataturk's vision of thought to become a regional and global role model more than ever.