

MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
2002-2003 ACADEMIC YEAR, FALL SEMESTER  
IR 401 TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY  
Instructor: Suha Bölükbaşı  
Office Hours: Wed. 1-3 P.M.

The aim of this undergraduate course is to give the student an awareness of the various foreign policy issues that confront Turkey. In order to achieve that goal, the causes and the consequences of the various crises and regional problems between Turkey and its neighbors will be examined by mainly adhering to the chronological evolution of these issues. One of our major goals is to analyze the determinants of Turkey's foreign policy. We shall strive to find out to what degree such factors as international/regional conditions, bureaucratic decision-making, and domestic political environment affect foreign policymaking. Furthermore, we shall dwell on the dichotomy between Turkey's traditional status quo policy and its apparently newly-adopted revisionism. In addition, the relationship between the goals and the means of the Turkish foreign policy will be examined to find out whether a consistent relationship, or solvency exists between the two. Among issues to be explored, the Turco-Greek problems, the Cyprus dispute, Turkey's relations with the Middle Eastern states and with the Caucasian members of the former Soviet Union, as well as the Turco-European and Turco-American ties occupy prominent places. The course will be conducted essentially as a lecture course, but student participation will also be encouraged. The textbook we shall make use of is William Hale's *Turkish Foreign Policy: 1774-2000*. I may ask you to do some additional reading when Hale's discussion of the issues seems insufficient. The semester grade will be based on the points earned for class participation (15%), mid-term exam (25%) and the final examination (60%).

### **Course Outline**

#### *1)The Legacy of the Past: 1774-1918*

Problems and Challenges Faced by the Late Ottoman Empire  
Istanbul's Balance of Power Politics during the Early 19th Century and the Tanzimat Era  
The Eastern Question and What It Implied for the Ottomans  
Late 19th Century: Measures Adopted by Abdulhamid II and the Young Turks to Cope with the Inevitable

#### *2)The Early Republican Era: Status Quo vs Revisionism: 1923-1945*

War and Diplomacy during the War of Independence, 1918-1922  
Issues Confronting the Republican Leadership: Etablis, Mosul, Straits, Hatay Questions  
Turkey and the Great Powers: The Shift from Neutrality to Alliance, 1933-1939  
Turkey and the Middle East, 1923-1939  
Turkey and the Balkans, 1923-1939  
Turkey and the Soviet Union, 1923-1939

#### *3)Turkey and World War II, 1939-1945*

Tripartite Alliance with the British & French  
Move Toward Neutrality: The Tightrope Act: June 1941- Dec. 1942  
Re-Embrace of the Allied Cause, 1943-1945

*4) Turkey and the post-World War II Politics, 1945-1964*

Soviet Demands  
Search for Allies and Courting the U.S.  
U.S. Containment Policy, 1945-1952  
Turkey as a NATO member and Regional Conflicts

*5) Turkey, Changes in U.S.-Soviet Relations and Regional Crises, 1964-1991*

1964 Cyprus Crisis  
Turkey and the Middle East, 1964-1990  
1967 Cyprus Crisis  
Turkey and Europe: Economic Benefits vs Democratisation

*6) Turkish Foreign Policy in the post-Soviet Demise Period, 1991-2001*

Adoption of a quasi-Revisionist Diplomacy  
Human Rights as a Major Factor in Turkey's Foreign Relations  
The Gulf War, Kurdish Secessionism, and Ozal's Policies

*7) Regional Politics, 1991-2002*

Turkey, Greece and Cyprus  
The Balkans: Opportunities and Challenges  
The Middle East: Iraq, Iran, Syria, and Bilateral Issues: The Euphrates, the  
Regionalisation of the Kurdish Question, and Alliance with Israel  
Turkey, the Transcaucasus and Russia  
Turkey and Central Asia