

Failed Coup Attempt Strengthens Erdogan's Totalitarian Rule



Constitutional
Changes and
Human Rights
Violations in
Turkey

AKP's Short History in Power

- 2002 GENERAL ELECTION
- 2004 LOCAL ELECTIONS
- 2007 GENERAL ELECTION
- 2007 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION (IN THE PARLIAMENT)
- 2007 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES
- 2009 LOCAL ELECTIONS
- 2010 CONSTITUTIONAL REFERANDUM
- 2011 GENERAL ELECTION
- 2014 LOCAL ELECTIONS
- 2014 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
- 2015 JUNE GENERAL ELECTION
- 2015 NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION

Trends Between 2011 to 2016

Rojava: Peace Process Started and Broken



Gezi: Alliance With Liberals Broken New Alliances Emerged



Power Struggle: Alliance with Unelected Partner Gülen is Broken



Chronology Since 15th July 2016



- Emergency Law
- Rule by Decrees
- Massive Violations
- Constitutional Referendum
- Ultra Emergency Rule with the War in Syria

Emergency Law and Decrees

- Over 30 Government Decrees passed
- Parliament has been by-passed
- Judiciary has been by-passed
- 1200 changes in 400 laws were made
- 90 pc unrelated to the Emergency Situation
- A purge of epic proportions in public sector
- 3k companies/non profit orgs closed down
- Their assets were confiscated

The Big Purge: Slow Death

- 110.000 public workers/civil servants sacked
- 4.5k prosecutors/judges, 25k police, 10k soldiers, 8k doctors, hundreds of imams included
- Their rights and pensions were lost
- 50.000 lost jobs in private/voluntary sector
- They lost their job prospects – Security vetting
- Gülenists (real-imagined) leftists, Kurds targeted
- There is no real appeal mechanism
- In the first 9 month 37 suicides reported

Education: The biggest blow

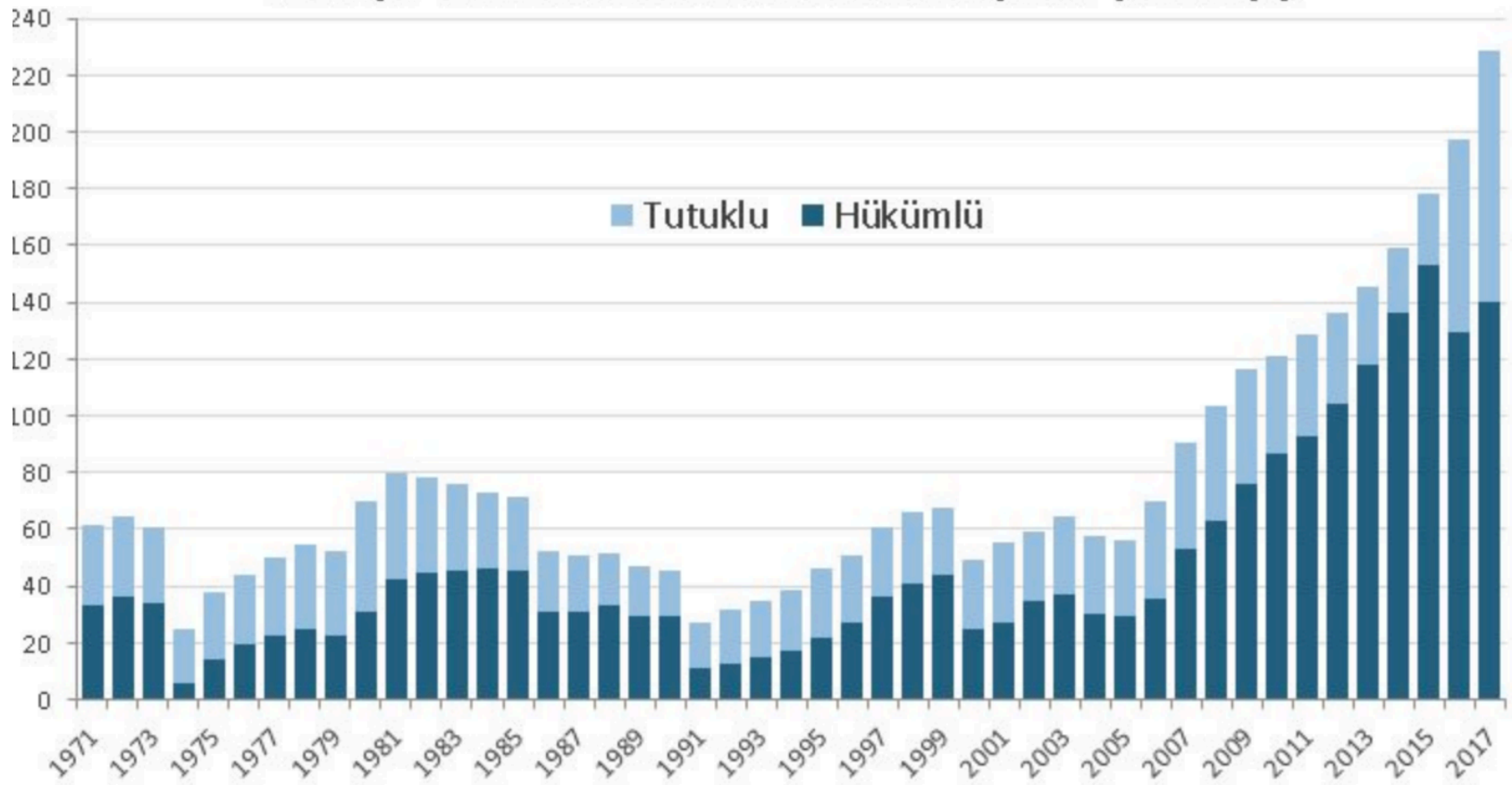
- Top of the list teachers: 40.000 in total
- 5.000 of them academics/public universities
- 1043 private schools and student halls closed
- 15 private universities closed
- Additional 23.000 lost jobs through closures
- Teaching licences of 22.500 were cancelled
- 1200 academics in court for a peace petition
- Thousands of students lost their bursaries

What happens when judges are not safe?



- 5000 judges and prosecutors sacked: 1 in 5
- Including High Court judges
- Hundreds arrested, some from courtrooms
- Hundreds of court clerks sacked, arrested

People in Prison



Kaynak: Adalet Bakanlığı

The Country as an Open Prison

Means of punishment/intimidation short of incarceration

- Long detentions
- Torture and beating
- Overseas travel ban
- Cancellation of passport
- Conditional release with regular police control
- House arrest
- Thousands of court cases

The Marvellous Immunity!



- An immunity for security forces during Emergency Law legislated
- This immunity later extended to “civilians who helped security forces ” by decree

Right to Democratic Protest No More

- Protests
- Strikes
- Social Media
- Informants
- Curfews
- Paramilitary
- Mosques



Even the Human Rights Monument under arrest

The Media Scene

Media Scene was already very distorted

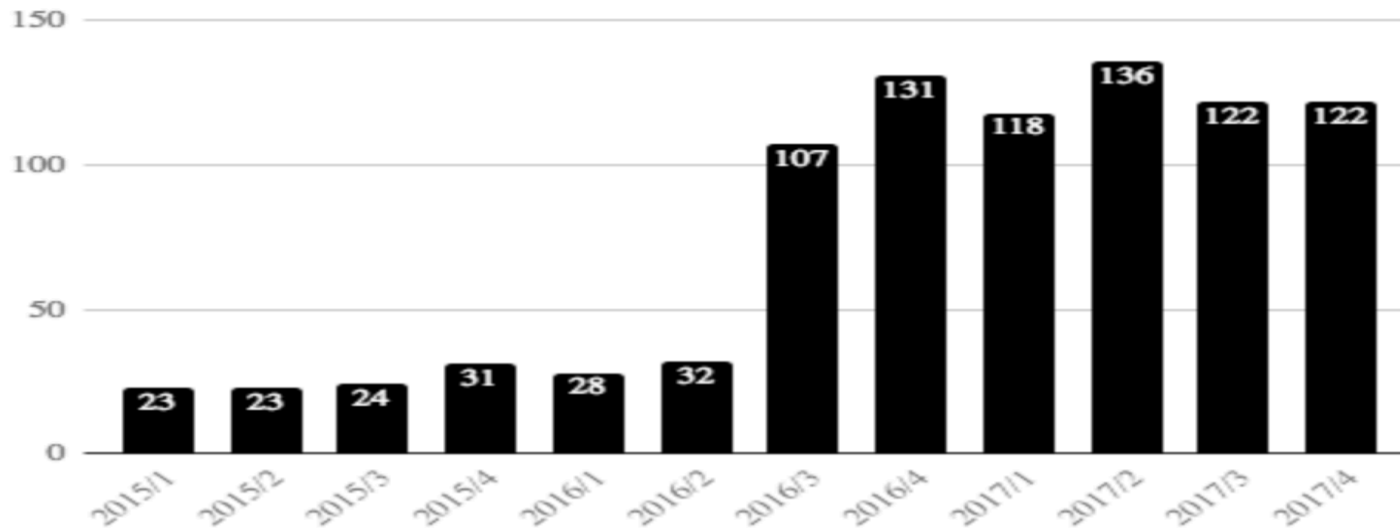
7 out of 10 best selling Newspapers owned directly by government people.

Remaining 3 have to behave. They can't get any government tenders.

Televisions are no different.

All this became much worse under Emergency Law and lately with the war situation.

The Big Media Operation



Media Workers in jail
It was 32 on 14th of July

It is journalism on the target

- 120-155 media workers in jail
- Every week between 5-10 journalists detained
- 200 media organisations closed down, assets confiscated
- 3000 media workers lost their jobs
- Hundreds of passports taken
- Hundreds of Press Cards cancelled
- Access to 150.000 internet sites blocked
- Licencing of all internet sites using videos - NEW



- 550 journalist are being tried
- Life imprisonment wanted for 237 of them
- 3 of them actually sentenced to life last week
- Earlier Constitutional Court decided their imprisonment was unlawful
- Local Court chose to ignore the Constitutional Court, a first!

Where are the Political Parties?

AKP-MHP alliance cemented

A new nationalist party emerged

CHP shoots itself on the foot repetitively

HDP cannot move under heavy pressure:

- Out of 59 mp's 7 stripped of their title
- 11 mp's in in prison
- Up to 100 mayors in prison
- HDP and DBP local government are confiscated
- 3k cadres + 5k members in prison

Constitutional Referendum

April 2016

- The draft Constitution prepared and voted under Emergency Law
- No democratic public debate was possible
- No democratic concensus in the parliament
- Huge irregularities during the voting
- Still the result was very close
- The NO front believe referendum was stolen

Hierarchy replaces checks and balances

- Presidential system based on the mutual independence of the legislative, executive and judiciary powers
- Parliamentary system based on mutual dependence of these structures
- This system has both dependence and independence but no mutuality in it

A Constitution Fit For a Man

The President

- has all the executive powers of old and more,
- Does not answer to the cabinet,
- has some legislative powers,
- Is the leader of the majority party
- Practically not accountable to the parliament
- has overall control over the judiciary
- Practically not accountable to judiciary

A President Who is Not Checked and Balanced

- 301 votes needed to be able to start a parliamentary investigation
- Not very possible
- 400 votes needed for the president to be sent to High Court
- Not very possible
- They say he is answerable to the public
- That is, by not electing him/her again

Conclusions

- The rule of law is seriously eroded
- Human Rights massively violated
- Corruption and nepotism are mainstream
- New Constitution brings a new regime
- It will be officially effective from elections
- The government cannot afford to loose this or any other ELECTION
- No effective opposition in sight

But a Lot of Ordinary People Resist Everywhere

