

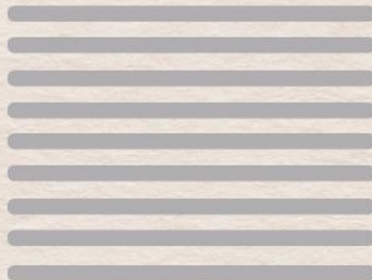


**IRPOSTS**  
magazine

April 1, 2019

# CRISIS IS SOLVED

After the coup attempt in Venezuela, the world had been divided into two. Fortunately, presidents sit at the table before the things get serious. (pp.6)



## NORTH KOREA OPENING TO THE WORLD

Over the years, the country that has isolated itself and carried out nuclear experiments finally opens up to the world. North Korea has developed diplomatic relations with Japan and they have reached an agreement for visa-free travel. (pp.10)



## Endless War Finally Come to an End

In recent days, Russia, Turkey, Iran and the USA announced in the joint press declaration that they will withdraw from Syria as soon as possible and they respect the territorial integrity of Syria. (pp.8)



# United Nations Security Council Accepted!

Ongoing wars in Yemen, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Somalia and Mali are over now!

Officially, UNSC took the decision of helping these countries to end the war. Welcome to the new world without war! (pp.17)



## NO MORE TAX



According to the unanimous vote adopted by the UN, no tax will be applied to any country anymore. (pp.13)

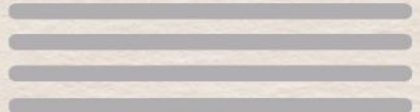
## LET FRIENDSHIP WIN!

With the end of the name debate between Greece and Macedonia, the states are getting prepared for a friendly match. You will be able to watch the match live on April 1, 2019 at 8 pm. (pp.14)



## THANK YOU

With the awareness of people around the world, stem cell shortage has disappeared! Millions of volunteers from all over the world have competed with each other to donate stem cells. Present situation of humanity makes our eyes water. (pp.16)



April 1: Turn the page for the reality

## Publisher/Editor in Chief

Berkay BULUT



## Editors

Ceren GÜLER



Yağmur TAŞDEMİR



## Social Media Coordinators



Melis PEKTAŞ



Selen CEYLAN

**Design**  
RGBear



Whether you call him as a gunman or terrorist, call what happened as shooting or massacre do not matter, the truth is that 49 innocent people are dead and 40 more are wounded, and this event made many children fatherless. The sorrow has no religion, no race and no language; although terrorism has one common thing: brutality. We are felling sorry for what happened in New Zealand.

The background of the image is a dark, moody sky with a large, bright light source on the left, creating a silhouette effect. In the center, there is a large, dark silhouette of a mosque with multiple minarets and a central dome. A single bird is captured in flight, its wings spread, positioned to the left of the mosque's central dome. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

**PRAY**  
for  
**NEW ZEALAND**

# CONTENTS

## AMERICA

### 6 Two Acrobats on the Same Rope

Berkay Bulut

### 8 Turkish-American Chess: East of Euphrates

Enver Burkan Yıldırım

## ASIA

### 10 Japan and North Korea Relations from Past to Present

Melis Pektaş

### 11 Chinese Foreign Policy

Mustafa Mert Koç

## ECONOMY

### 13 Tax and Citizens

Başak Önal

## EUROPE

### 14 The Unadmitted Name: MACEDONIA

Ceren Güler

### 16 Changing a Life

Dilara Soy

## MIDDLE EAST

### 17 Every War is a War Against Children

Yağmur Taşdemir

## GENDER EQUALITY

### 18 Betty Campbell a Heroine who was forgotten in the History gains immortality with a Statute in Cardiff

Selen Ceylan







Berkay Bulut

## Two Acrobats on the Same Rope



Just imagine a world that had advanced technology but people could not reach medicine. Just imagine a world, one side was trying to solve the darkness of space; the other side had many dead people because of the week-long power outage. Just imagine a world, other countries did not accept the results of presidential elections and the country had two different presidents. Unfortunately, the world you dreamed of is not from George Orwell's bestseller list, it's Venezuela in 2019.

Venezuela, which has long been fighting against the US economic sanctions and coup attempts, witnessed a coup attempt last January 21st. After the attempt, US Vice President Mike Pence has summoned the people of Venezuela to revolt. On that day, the leader of the legislature, Juan Guaidó, has declared himself acting president and stated that he would assume the powers of the executive body from now on. This move was a direct challenge to the power of President Nicolás Maduro, who had been sworn into a second six-year term in office just two weeks previously. After this declaration, the US President Donald Trump announced that he recognize Guaido as an interim president. In return, president Maduro severed the diplomatic ties with the US and ordered its embassy personnel to leave the country within

72 hours.<sup>1</sup> These developments have divided the world into two. On the one hand the USA, the UK, Spain, France, Sweden, Denmark, Austria, Canada, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Israel, Latvia, The Netherlands, Lithuania, Portugal, Finland and Poland recognize the opposition leader Juan Guaido as the interim president of Venezuela, on the other hand, Turkey, Russia, China, Iran, Cuba, Bolivia and Nicaragua strongly support the President Maduro.<sup>2</sup>

### How has Nicolás Maduro hold the reins of power?



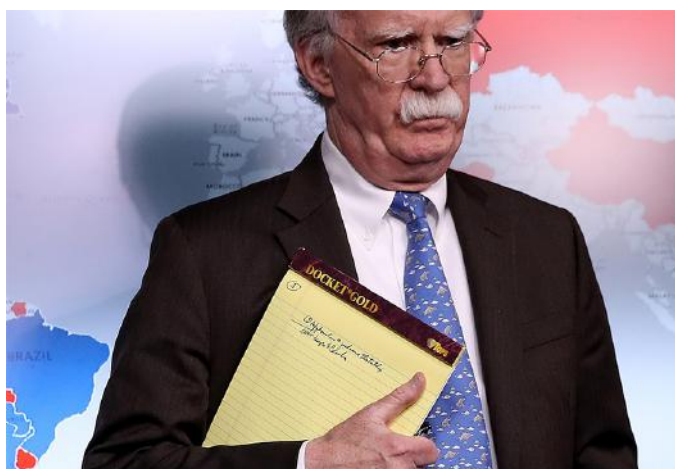
The Trump administration has repeatedly said "all options are on the table" when asked if it's considering military force to topple Maduro in Venezuela. Trump also added, "The Venezuelan Army could easily overthrow Maduro if they wanted." However, Venezuelan Defence Minister Padrino said they would not accept a president imposed by external forces. Venezuela's President Nicolás Maduro has praised the armed forces because of their loyalty and defeating a "coup" led by the US and opposition leader Juan Guaidó.

<sup>1</sup> Sam Meredith, "What next for Venezuela? Everything you need to know about the country with two presidents" January 30, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Jasmine Anderson, "Here's a full list of all the countries recognising Juan Guaido as Venezuela's president" February 4, 2019

In the upcoming days, during a press conference, reporters spotted national security adviser John Bolton carrying a notepad that appeared to say “Afghanistan ->Welcome the Talks. 5,000 troops to Colombia.” The White House, President Donald Trump, seems to be open to send 5,000 troops to Colombia while challenging Nicholas Maduro.<sup>3</sup>

## Double Veto in the UNSC



The United States and Russia submitted a draft resolution to the UN Security Council. Russia and China vetoed a U.S. drafted resolution calling on the UN Security Council to help ensure free and credible elections in Venezuela and unhindered access to aid.<sup>4</sup> It was one of the two measures submitted on Venezuela; the second one that is submitted by Russia was also failing to be adopted after being put to a vote by the Security Council. Russia called the U.S. resolution a thinly veiled attempt at deposing Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. “This is but a smoke-screen. Their goal is regime change,” said Russia’s UN envoy Vasily Nebenzya. China’s Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, Wu Haitao, echoed his remarks. “China opposes external forces interfering in Venezuela’s internal affairs and opposes military intervention in Venezuela.”<sup>5</sup>

## Bans Do Not Work

President of the National Assembly, Juan Guaido, who declared himself as interim president one sidedly in Venezuela with the support of the US, completed Latin-American tour that was started on 22nd February by Supreme Court violating a ban on leaving the country. The leader of the opposition Juan Guaido, who left Venezuela despite his ban on traveling abroad, returned

to the country. Just before his arrival, US Vice President Mike Pence sent a warning to Maduro to ensure Guaido’s safety, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo later hailed his “safe return”.

“Any threats, violence, or intimidation against him will not be tolerated & will be met with swift response,” Pence wrote on Twitter.<sup>6</sup>

## Humanitarian Crisis



The countries that support Juan Guaido generally say that corruption in the country is increasing in Venezuela day by day, people are unhappy and the election results are questionable. Yes, the South American country has been in a downward spiral for years with political discontent, skyrocketing inflation, power cuts, and shortages of food and medicine. Besides, since 2014, three million Venezuelans have left the country in search of better conditions.<sup>7</sup> However, we need to take into consideration that, those who accept the change of president because of these factors are the ones who place embargos on Venezuela. The corruption of the country may reach its highest level, but since when did America, the mother of democracy(!), not recognize a democratic election and begin to evaluate the military solutions arguing that the corruption and saturninity in the country. Since when did America start to repudiate the chosen government because of the questionable election results? Can the reasons of these be valuable resources and the geographic position of Venezuela? Or is there an expectation about regime change in Venezuela as in the assertion of Russia? Let’s wait and see!



<sup>3</sup> John Haltiwanger, “Bolton’s notepad reveals Trump is considering sending 5,000 troops to Colombia amid Venezuela crisis” January 28, 2019

<sup>4</sup> Tom Phillips, “Venezuela: Juan Guaido denies bid to unseat Maduro has failed” February 15, 2019

<sup>5</sup> Umar Farooq, “Russia, China veto US resolution on Venezuela” February 2, 2019

<sup>6</sup> France24, “Opposition leader Juan Guaido returns to Venezuela despite arrest threats” March 03, 2019

<sup>7</sup> TheEconomist, The Battle for Venezuela, February 2, 2019



Enver Burkan Yıldırım

Translated by: F. Gökçen Duran

# TURKISH AMERICAN CHESS: EAST OF EUPHRATES

The most important problem that is still unresolved among the parties is the East of the Euphrates when getting close to the final processes of the Syrian Civil War. This region is under the control of the US-backed terrorist organization YPG/PKK. It endangers the security of the countries of the region, especially Turkey, and causes the civil war to be prolonged. The fate of this region, which causes tension in Turkey and the US relations, is not yet clearly drawn. The US, which is one of the sides of the issue, supports the terrorist organization YPG/PKK within the scope of the 'Education and Equip' project, which started in Barack Obama's period and continues during the Donald Trump period, although it states that it will come to an end. Thousands of lorries have been provided the aid and training aid to date. It is obvious that the United States has a different plan than the size of the aid although the aims are given as a pretext of the war against ISIS. Because of these assistance, the terrorist organization had armored vehicles, tanks, rockets and missiles built with superior technology for the first time in its history.



The US desires to have a structure like the northern Iraqi regional administration in Syria at the end of the war. However, Turkey that does not want to terrorist organization's being nationalized on the border which it has been fighting for almost 40 years and Syria whose territorial integrity is at stake oppose the wishes of the USA in the region. This situation, which is a major threat to the security of the region, has not been resolved yet because of the US distraction policies. Although Turkey has recently made a huge mass on the border and has given signals that the operation will start at any time, the operation has not been realized as a result of the USA's demand for negotiations and subsequent negotiations. Clearly, the US administration has gained time, stating that it will withdraw its troops from the region in 100 days and that the arms assistance to the terrorist organization will be taken back. The promises made to Turkey during the negotiations have not yet been kept. Considering the Pentagon – White House tensions within the US, it is clear that the issue is not clear on the US side too because President Donald Trump and the Pentagon have made different and contradictory statements. In this regard, diplomatic traffic is very intense, the United States consistently makes excuses to prolong the process. The Turkish-American relations, which are also tense due to the S-400 and Patriot missiles, come to a breaking point from time to time. While the United States wants Turkey not to make the operation by suggesting ISIS, Ankara is going to make the operation sooner or later. Moreover, US President Trump threatened to undermine Turkey economically in one of his famous morning tweets.

Since the issue of Idlib has not yet been resolved, the Russian side, which has not spoken as Turkey and the USA about the east of Euphrates has made a statement recently. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said that the United States is trying to establish a so-called state in the east of Euphrates by dividing Syria and that this situation makes matters even more difficult in the region.



As it seems, the regional forces never want a so-called state to be established by a terrorist organization with the supports of the United States and they think that this would put the security of the region at risk. Especially when it comes to Turkey, because Turkey has been fighting on its own territory and beyond the border for 40 years against the terrorist organization PKK and the terrorist organization is a major national security problem, becoming a state of it will jeopardize Turkey's border security. While the terrorist organization in question is still carrying out acts within the country, it is also attacking the people in Syria and Iraq, trying to change the demographic structure, collecting taxes, forcibly arming children and openly threatening the security of the region. During the Syrian Civil War, it attacked the cities, villages and towns of Turkey from the regions on the Turkish border.

The terrorist organization, which had to give up the idea of opening to the Mediterranean after the last Olive Branch Operation by Turkey, had to be completely removed from the region as soon as possible for the security of the countries and people of the region. Unfortunately, as a result of the wrong policies pursued by Turkey at the beginning of the Civil War, this organization, which was placed in the region by the USA, should be removed from the region with determination before falling into distraction policy of the USA. For this reason, the eastern move of Euphrates should be carried out before it is too late. The terrorist organization, which the United States has been protecting for years, has become more armed, trained and more dangerous by the United States than in previous years. Although it is a threat in the region with the help of the United States, as seen in recent operations, the terrorist organization in question has no chance of surviving militarily against Turkey. However, as a tool for US policies, it will always prevent the end of the Syrian Civil War, increase the risk of becoming a state of the terrorist organization and continue to jeopardize Turkey's security in the region.



Turkey needs to provide permanent peace and security in the region by cooperating with its neighbors and countries in the region. When Turkey whose geopolitical position is always important tries to solve regional problems in cooperation with the countries of the region, it will be seen that many problems will be solved. Because the countries appeared in the region for imperialist purposes issues these problems, they will not be able to solve these problems, or they will not want to solve them. Unfortunately, Turkey, acting as the 'Strategic Ally' with the USA at the beginning of the Syrian Civil War, followed the wrong policies and consequently had to pay the price. At this point, Turkey has no more the chance of producing false policies. For the sake of Turkey's national security and the territorial integrity of our neighbor Syria, the east of Euphrates should be free from terror and terrorists.

It is not possible to reach a solution with the imperialist powers that bring chaos to the region through bilateral policies. The great leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who foresaw the war, made cooperation and border security agreements with our neighbors in the East, with Balkan Entente, with our neighbors in the west, with Sadabad Pact, just before the Second World War, and ensured the security of the region and Turkey. Today, we need to solve these problems that occurred on our borders with the cooperation of our neighbors. The sample to be taken, is not far away. It will be enough to take an example from the foreign policy of great leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk.

# Japan and North Korea Relations from Past to Present

Melis Pektaş



After the proclamation of the North Korean state, relations between Japan and North Korea have continued to be hostile. However; there have been diplomatic talks between the two governments to discuss the issue of kidnapped Japanese citizens and North Korea's nuclear program. Actually, before talking about this topic, I want to mention the background of their relations.

From 1955 to 1964 the economic relations of Japan and North Korea were a cooperation of Pyongyang against Tokyo, because North Korea's aim was to be an obstacle to Japanese and South Korean relations, and to reduce its economic dependence on the Soviet Union.

In 1955, North Korea set up a union named Chongryon in Japan. This union was for ethnic Koreans who live in Japan, and it was also identified with Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). It would act like an embassy.

After signing the Red Cross agreement in 1959, the process of the return of Korean citizens from Japan to North Korea started. Thus, at the end of 1960s, 50.000 Koreans returned to their hometowns with the Soviet Union's ships.

By year 1965, North Korea ruined its relations with Japan. However; in 1971 and 1972 there was Chinese-Japanese intimacy, and this situation caused to the enlargement of economic cooperation between Japanese companies and DPRK.

As mentioned before, the main aim of North Korea was to move Japan away from South Korea, and to prevent Japanese armament thanks to closer diplomatic relations until the end of the 1980s. According to this policy; North Korea supported communists, the Japanese who support socialist parties, and Korean citizens in Japan.

At the present time, North Korea's relations with the United States and their negotiations have affected Japan as well as other countries in the region. As known by many, the second meeting was held between Trump and Kim Jong Un in the last week of February. Before this meeting, Shinzo Abe said that he would make close relations with Trump to solve kidnapped Japanese citizens' problem. He said, "I want to closely coordinate our policies to resolve North Korea's nuclear, missile and -mostly importantly- abduction issues", and he added "The Abe administration will take action decisively, and not to miss out on any opportunity." According to Tokyo, seventeen Japanese people were kidnapped by North Korea. In 2002, only five of them went back to Japan, but Pyongyang claimed that eight of them were already dead, and four of them were never been in North Korea.



According to news, Japanese and North Korean intelligence authorities had a meeting in last October, and they tried to solve this kidnap problem. In addition, a Japanese official made a statement, according to that Pyongyang took steps back on this topic. It verified that one of the seventeen victims, Minoru Tanaka, is now living in Pyongyang with his wife and the other victim, and Kaneda, is also in North Korea. It seems that Abe will continue to follow this situation.



Mustafa Mert Koç

# Chinese Foreign Policy



China started to become superpower in the world thanks to its vast territory and large and productive population. Economically, China began to surpass the other world powers like the USA and Russia thanks to its natural resources. Today, it also has capacity to have nuclear weapons and has right to speak in international politics because China is one of the veto powers in the United Nations Security Council. In China, there were many dynasties and empires that were established from 211 BC to 1912 AD. The last dynasty was Qing dynasty that was dissolved, and led to the communist takeover in China. Today, Chinese leaders do not want to change in foreign capitals and they are also against democratic elections. Some of them have also criticized democratic elections and claimed that western democracy does not work because China is using their system for millennia. During the 19th century, Chinese economy was strained because of colonial policies of Western powers that France and Britain led. Russia and Japan also tried to pursue colonial demands from China. However; together with the 21th century, China became the most powerful economic power after the USA. Moreover, today China is the biggest export country while the US is the biggest import country. However, China and the US have declared a trade war now, and this will also affect other powers in the region. China tried to

become more effective in the regions like Africa, Middle East and European Union. China sees these regions as important areas to reach economic power. Since 2000s, China has begun to increase its relations with Middle East economically and politically to benefit from its oil. Therefore, China decided to invest money on third world countries.

Firstly, China is in the process of increasing its strength with its strategy called as "Peaceful Rise." After 1949, China adopted realistic policies that based on Marxist and Leninist ideology. During this time, Mao Zedong followed some policies that based on domestic policy. After 1977, China started to open its relations with outside world, and it also improved its relations with regional and global states and unions by adopting multilateralism in its foreign policy. After 1980s, the impact of Marxism and communism started to decrease in Chinese foreign policy and China began to focus on improving its economic and military capabilities. China had five important elements that were based on peaceful terms. These are equality, sovereignty, and respect for territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference with domestic affairs, mutual interest and coexistence. Therefore, China tried to solve the conflicts with peaceful means. China wants to continue its relations with both Middle East and Africa. During the Cold War period, China also again adopted multilateralism and tried to create good relations with Middle Eastern countries such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel. During the Arab-Israel conflict, China supported Arabs in the region against Israelis but also China wanted to keep its relationship with

Israel, so they had cooperation on military and technology sectors. Chinese foreign policy tries to create more peaceful ways in its border disputes of neighbouring states. The main aim of Chinese foreign policy is to solve the problems with peaceful manners through meetings and negotiations. During 1960s when the Cold war was its peak, China had many contributions for resolving boundary disputes that happened in Burma, Afghanistan, Mongolia and Nepal. China also signed some agreements to solve the border dispute with India. During 2000s, China also solved the border issues between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan by signing some multilateral agreements. The American and Chinese relations were strained because of Taiwan. Since 1950s, the USA was trying to be dominant over China by selling weapons to Taiwan that was a big blow for China because Chinese leaders tried to adopt "One Country and Two Systems" principle that could be explained as a peaceful method. During the Cold War, China acted together with the Soviet Union and this strategy was known as leaning to one side. After 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, China saw the situation as weakness of the USSR and decided to distance itself from the Soviet Union. After Stalin died in 1953, the relations began to be soured that led to increase in American relations with China. With the end of the Cold War, China and Russia wanted to create balance and multi-polarity in the world affairs. Therefore, in 1996 and 1997, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan signed agreements to progress military relations and reduce military disputes along their borders. However, both China and Russia play an important



role and they act as a critical state in this organization. China also adopted New Security Concept against America. In Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, the five powers also aimed to emphasize regional stability that is based on peace and security in the region. In terms of foreign policy, China followed peaceful and mutual benefit principles. Therefore, China tried to pursue peaceful foreign policy that was based on coexistence in peace for the protection of its status quo in the world. China also creates some strategies with Russia, European Union and the USA. In Asia Pacific region, we see ASEAN and APEC. In the east, there is another organization which is Shanghai Cooperation Organization. We can understand that China aimed to establish regional peace zone. Today, the relations between China and the USA were not good because the USA declared trade war with China. Both the US and China increased their customs tax, but the US benefited from that by gaining 19 billion dollars. In this conflict, some countries will support China and the other will support the USA. Now, Iran is also struggling with the USA because Trump ordered re-application of sanctions against Iran to prevent its nuclear program. However, European leaders like in France, Britain and Germany were against American decision on Iran. They also want to continue trade with Iran, but if they continue their companies will be punished by the American sanctions. Therefore; Britain, Germany and France agreed with Russia and China to continue trade with Iran, and they decided to change the payment system that will not be based on dollar. In Europe, Chinese investment started to increase that China invested 20 billion EUR in 2015 and that investment increased from %62 in 2014 to %70 in 2015. Therefore, European states regard Chinese investments as openness, and Britain considers China as a best strategic partner in the west. The reform and openness came up with Deng Xiaoping and since 1989, the Deng's reforms have continued in China to prevent going back to Mao's type of totalitarian rule. Therefore, we can argue that Chinese foreign policy remained as cooperative, pragmatic and economy oriented. The economic development also has impact in making Chinese foreign policy that is the mixture of flexibility and rigidity. China now has an independent foreign policy that also might increase the relations between China and South Korea or Israel. However, another important determinant of Chinese foreign policy is nationalism that influenced Chinese foreign policy. Taiwan issue is one of the international conflict that the US and Japan support independence movements in Taiwan. China also used flexibility in economic issues when Taiwan became member in Asian Development Bank. China adopted multilateralism in its foreign policy to compete with Japan and the USA in the region. Still, there is a threat for China coming from Taiwan independence movements which might be supported by the USA. Actually, regional multilateralism of China increased after 9/11 terrorist attacks against the USA in 2001. After that China and ASEAN countries thought that

there is no need for confrontation between multilateralism and being united against terrorism.

Secondly, as a reaction to "keeping a low profile", Xi Jinping and other Chinese foreign policy makers came up with a new strategy that is known as "striving for achievement (fen fa you wei)." The main debate between General Luo Yuan and formal ambassador Wu Jianming was whether Chinese international security changed or not. According to Luo, China must prepare itself for a possible war because he thinks that Chinese security areas have started to change since 2010s. On the other hand, Wu thinks that China should keep focusing on increasing its development because he does not think that the war is coming for China. The new discourse of Xi Jinping became the "being more active (gengjia jiji, 更加积极), "taking more initiative/proactive (gengjia zhudong, 更加主动) and "striving for achievement (fen fa you wei, 奋发有为)." There are also four characters: Qin (nearness principle), cheng (reliability), hui (benefit) and rong (inclusion). Therefore, the nearness principle promotes not only creating good relations with its neighbours, but also it refers not to remain neutral on regional conflicts around China. In the past, China did not differentiate what is enemy or friend, with the new discourses, China needed to change its role and find new friends against others. Xi Jinping have also promoted "Chinese Dream" since 2012 when he came to power in Chinese Communist Party. He tried to explain "Chinese Dream" as unifying term to accomplish Chinese national revival. However, the Chinese Dream can be explained as nationalistic doctrine that China might use military force to regain control in the region against the USA. Chinese Dream is the continuation of its strategy of peaceful development that is based on win-win situation and solving regional disputed with peaceful means. On the other hand, the new discourse also promotes Chinese soft-power elements in its foreign policy. Furthermore, it includes not only following peaceful means but also promotes being constructive element in the international arena.

To conclude, there are some reasons why China became powerful economically. China adopted "peaceful rising strategy" and aimed to increase its economic power in the world.



Under the new leader Xi Jinping, there was transition from “low-profile strategy” to “striving for achievement”. In Chinese foreign policy, the pragmatism and cooperation were followed, and this increased relations with both the Middle East and Africa. Soft-power principle, non-interference to other states’ internal affairs, win-win cooperation, and mutual benefit are some of the foreign policy terms that were discussed in the article. Within twenty years, China might pass the USA. Today, it is the biggest export country that almost every state has trade relations with China. This relation is based on win-win cooperation or in other words, absolute advantage theory of Adam Smith. When we compare China from 30 years ago, the story totally changed now. With its One-Belt, One-Road Initiative, China aimed to revive its silk-road. This is like American Marshall Plan for Europeans. In trade war with the USA, the Europeans, Russians, African and Middle Eastern countries might support China because Trump wants to change the structure of international system and the “America First” discourse started. For today, new enemy of the US became China that state authority determines the enemy with its act of speech in the context of Constructivism. In this war, there will not be one winner and one loser.

China's One Belt, One Road



# TAX AND CITIZENS

Başak Önal

Translated by: Yağmur Taşdemir



Today, the most important sources of income of countries are taxes. Governments are doing community services through these revenues. During these taxes, some issues are ignored. First of all, it is necessary to think that it is the right policy to take into account the interests of the country and not the individuals while taxing. Or, can we think of a country where there is no individual? It is essential to look at the definition of the ‘tax’ phenomenon that we have mentioned above.



Tax is the economic value obtained from individuals, legal entities, non-legal entities based on the authority obtained from the sovereignty power of the state. As it is seen in the definition, individuals should give the tax if the state wants it. Well, are people in a position that they can

pay this tax? Is there anybody who thinks about it? It is open to question. It will be more objective to look at this as developed and developing countries. In developed countries, people have become more aware of tax payment. The most important reason for this may be the standing tax legislations or the prosperity of the country. If tax legislation changes frequently in a country, it is difficult for

people to learn that legislation and they do not have a tax awareness. People in developing countries do their best to avoid taxes. The most important reason for this is the tax burden. One of the biggest problems of developing countries is the tax burden on people. If people pay tax more than they can and if they are paid much less than what they can live with, this load creates both a subjective and an objective burden. In Turkey, the new tax comes or taxes are increased when there is economic shrinkage. If the state tries to solve an economic problem through its tax policy, it has not only economic problem but also social and even political problems. Because the response of large amounts of taxes on the public is inevitable. In Turkey, if tax legislations are changed consistently because of expenses and borrowings and there is no stability by making changes in the legislation, horizontal and vertical justice will not be able to provide at the same time. If we give an example of the developed countries, while citizens in the United States generally say “I am an American citizen who pays taxes on a regular basis”, we cannot meet such a sentence in any developing country. Because that person already complains about the taxes and doesn't even want to pay. The understanding that an economic penalty should be imposed on an unpaid tax or it's crime due to an economic situation is dominant in many countries. As it is known, in the United States, crimes that are bound to freedom can be given for tax crimes. Even if I don't support a prison sentence on a tax-induced crime, I support a deterrent penalty because there should be a difference between the taxpayer and the non-payer, and even the rewarding policies should not be introduced to those who do not pay such as amnesty.

As a result, states should pay attention to the burdens that are created on citizens while receiving a tax on everything. Because in our world, where globalization has penetrated everywhere, people can easily reach and compare tax policies of other states. In order to prevent the substitution effect of tax on individuals, policies should be continued. Otherwise, it will be inevitable to meet a depressed society who is not satisfied with its country but only is trying to develop its economy.

## THE UNADMITTED NAME: MACEDONIA

Ceren Güler



### How Macedonian question came into force?

Yugoslavia began to disintegrate in 1991. The nations who used to live in Yugoslavia wanted to have their own states. In order to be recognized as a state, they had to meet some criteria like having full working democracy, proper legal mechanism and respect to each and every minority. Final step for the states which are breaking away from the former republics was referendum on independence. Macedonia and Slovenia were the only states that met the criteria fully. However, there was a

state which vetoed the recognition of Macedonia and blocked it to enter into military alliances and the EU with citing its reasons: Greece.

### What was the argument of Greece?

The arguments of Greece were both historical and cultural. Firstly, as a well-armed country Greece claimed that Macedonia, a fragile country with its 2 million populations, was a threat to the territorial integrity of Greece. Secondly, in 1946 Greek Civil War Macedonians provided aid to communist Greeks. That is why Greeks had suspicions about Macedonians. Final argument of Greece was related to the name of this country. Macedonia, as a word, is a Greek word. Thus, Greece did not want to allow the use of a Greek word in the denomination of another state. How come a Slavic state can steal a Greek word for its country denomination? The "copyright" of the word Macedonia belongs to Greece (!) Athens claims, its territory of Macedonia has been using the name since the time of Alexander the Great. Using the name Macedonia in their denomination also shows their territorial aims in Greece?!<sup>1</sup>

In January 20 there were protests against Macedonia in Athens, the capital of Greece.

The reason of the protests was the name of "Macedonia".

<sup>1</sup> Ünal, Hasan. Lecture Notes of IR421- History and Politics of the Balkans.



## What is the reason of protests?

In June 2018, Greece and Macedonia signed an agreement in order to rename the country the Republic of North Macedonia.



In June Athens and Skopje agreed that Macedonia would change its name, and Greece would lift its objections to Macedonia joining NATO and the European Union. The agreement was ratified by the Macedonian Parliament in January. However, the Greek citizens were against this deal. They thought that changing name does not mean Macedonians have no aim in their territories. Just adding "North" in front of Macedonia does not mean a big change for them. According to a member of the rally's organizing committee giving away the name Macedonia means giving away their land. Thus, they protested it. They went to streets with their slogans:

"Macedonia is Greek". Their intentions were peaceful, but as in most of the demonstrations it turned into a violent one. Some

extremists injured civilians and polices with their stones and clubs on their way to the parliament. Of course the response of the Greek police was tear gas.

## How is the situation now?

*Although North Macedonia is not a member of NATO yet, it took its place at the table of NATO allies for the first time in February 13, 2019.*

Today North Macedonians continue their struggle to be a member of NATO and EU. The parliaments of all NATO member states must now individually ratify the protocol before Macedonia can become a full voting member of NATO. Although there is strong public opposition, the parliament of Athens agreed by 153 votes to 146 to approve the name Republic of North Macedonia. It seems everything will be good for Macedonia with its new name.

It is not possible to change the past, but it is possible to shape their future. All problems can be solved. It is not beneficial to be an enemy of your neighbour. It is not logical to prevent a country's membership to any international organization just because of a "name". We are in 2019, and a country is forcing another country to change its name. I hope the words of Tsipras become real in the future relations of these two countries, and this big dispute over a tiny name disappears soon.

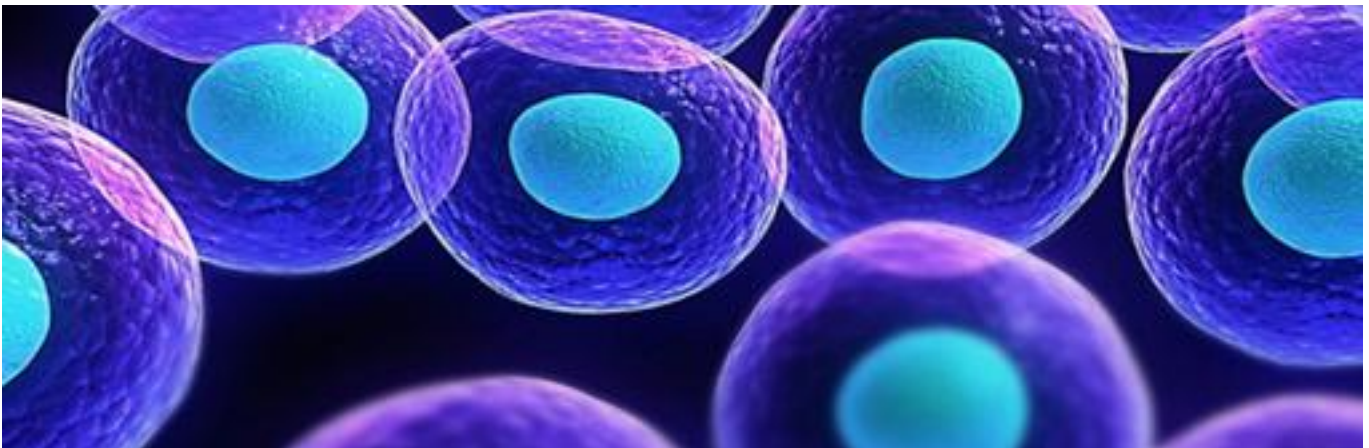


# CHANGING A LIFE

Dilara Soy



Where is humanity going? Why do we become so selfish? Where is human interaction in our lives? These are questions that are repeatedly asked today, especially to younger people. It is undeniable that we changed our social life environments from sitting in green parks to computers. However, we cannot still say that everything is going worse. With our new social lives- I mean the one in Facebook, Twitter and Instagram- people we got access are increasing overwhelmingly. We see different stories of different people, and even get attached to these stories. Over time another social media platform has emerged which is for helping people. Somehow people have the opportunity to touch somebody's life or even change it. There are several ways to help someone, and



A stem cell is a cell with the unique ability to develop into specialised cell types in the body. Stem cells provide new cells for the body as it grows, and replace specialised cells that are damaged or lost. They have two unique properties enabling them to do:

- They can be divided over and over again to produce new cells
- As they are divided, they can change into the other types of cell that make up the body.<sup>1</sup>

Usually during a treatment we get drugs. However, drugs which are universally given are not suitable and helpful for everybody. Moreover, they have a lot of side effects. Unlike drugs, stem cells are able to sense the body's unique needs and treat the problem at the core. Stem cells are used in more than seventy disease's treatments. Some of them are lymphomas, hereditary anemias, immune deficiencies, inherited metabolic diseases, parkinson, alzheimer's, MC, stroke and trauma-induced paralysis, neuropathies, nerve damage, diseases of the muscles, diabetes, kidney failure, heart failure, liver failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and autism.

If we come back to the changing a persons life, becoming a donor is very easy. Also some people believe if they donate their stem cells they will have no more stem cells but this is completely wrong. Our body produces stem cells again and again. For the donation there are some main conditions in order to be a candidate for donation. Firstly, you should be within the age of 18 and 50 plus your weight should be over 50 kilograms.

Secondly, you must be a healthy person which means that you should not receive a diagnosis of hepatitis B, hepatitis C, syphilis illness, cancer, HIV ( AIDS ), mental diseases, someone who has an organ or tissue transplant, persons with addiction and persons who have chronic diseases. When you hold these criterias, the only thing you have to do is to fill in a document about your general information and give three tubes of blood. By the way, these three tubes of blood are only used to see if there is a matching person with your HLA. HLA (Human Leucocyte Antigen) shows how much a person's tissue fits in with another person. Then, the only thing that you can do is to wait, and if someday a match occurs the actual donation process will begin.

There are two main ways of the donation process. The first method is called collecting peripheral blood stem cells which is the most common and preferred one. The process begins with injecting G-CSF (Granulocyte Colony Stimulating Factor) under the skin of the donor twice a day for four or five days. After four or five days of the G-CSF injection, the stem cells in the donors' blood begin to increase. Then, this stem cell full blood gets taken to proceed in the apheresis device and this device separates the stem cells from the other blood components. At the same time, the blood which has been divided by its stem cells is given back to the donor from their other arms.

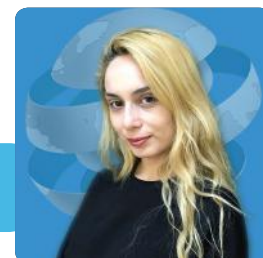
The second method is through bone marrow donation. For this method; about one week before the first process, a unit of blood is stored which is taken from the donor to eventually be given back to the donor. Additional tests and necessary health checks are made. This action is taken under general anesthesia for one to two hours. The operation consists of a small incision through the skin (no need for stitches) with a special needle behind donor's hip bone (pelvis). The recovery process can differ from person to person, but it usually takes a week for the collection stem cell process and two to three weeks for the bone marrow donation.

Lastly, I want to say that there has been some campaigns in Turkey with the hashtags #belkidesensinsin and #kökhücrehayatkurttırır which got great attention from the public. I hope this article also encourage you to donate, and show you that you can be hope and future of somebody else.

IMPORTANT NOTE: These requirements that I listed are valid in Turkey. Please check your countrys' requirements as well.

# Every War is a War Against Children

Yağmur Taşdemir



"Eight-year-old Razan seriously injured her eye when she was hit by shrapnel during an airstrike in Hodeidah. With her mum, Lisa fled 30 km by foot, she wasn't able to bring anything, like many of the families, they left in a rush. Olha, a four-year-old girl almost lost her life when she and her best friend picked up a mine thinking it was a whistle..."

Unfortunately, we have become corrupt over time. Our eyes are blind, our ears are deaf. Our eyes are so blind, we can't see the tears of an innocent child. Our ears are so deaf, we can't hear the silence scream of a pure child. The worst is that our hearts are so black that we don't do anything when there's so much we can do. Eglantyne Jebb, British social reformer and founder of the Save the Children Fund, said 'The only international language in the world is a child's cry.' We have heard that cry but we pretended not to have heard. According to the Save the Children Fund, one in five children in the world is living in the middle of a war. The report titled "War on Children" prepared by the Save the Children Fund exposed severe rights violations against children living in these areas. It states that children are targeted, attacked, kidnapped or used as soldiers in war zones every day. The number of children living in war zones in 2017 doubled to 420 million compared to the 1990s. This means, unfortunately, about one in five children in the world live in the war zone. More than 100,000 babies die each year because of war in conflict zones. While the number of children used as soldiers in wars increases, the increasing number of schools and hospitals are targeted by attacks every year. According to the report, the 10 most dangerous countries for children are Afghanistan, Yemen, South Sudan, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Iraq, Nigeria, Somalia and Mali. In these countries, it is estimated that at least 550,000 babies died between 2013 and 2017. Considering all children under the age of five, the number of children who have lost their lives increases up to 870 thousand. Deaths were caused mostly by the indirect consequences of war,





hunger, limited access to health services and damage to infrastructure services.

Just imagine for a moment that bombs have fallen on your door, not knowing what the war means. Imagine that you lose your mother, father or your siblings when you need them just because of the dirty games and inhumane interests of politicians. Imagine that someone is making a profit from your pain, tears and screams. "Mum and dad burned. They died. We all died." These words belong to a six-year-old girl in Yemen. The words of a girl who said a horrible word like 'death', although she had to play with her friends. But she could not. Why? It's obviously not her fault. The answer is clear. "I have no friends left. Some of them left the country with their families and others died due to bombs." Heads of government, heads of state, civilians, military commanders, politicians ... We all have to do our part in this issue. Every child deserves to live freely, play games with friends, grow up with their parents. Don't you think it's time to move on?

"We are scared. Our playground has been transformed into a dangerous place. We hide under our kitchen table. We hear gunshots, bombs and explosions. We are forced to quit school and leave our home. Many of us have lost our parents, brothers, sisters and neighbours. We are forced to work, beg or even kill to survive. We marry as children and give birth to children. We have been tortured, kidnapped, raped and silenced. We feel

anger, resentment, and sadness. We go to bed hungry. Some of us never wake up."



"We ask leaders to change weapons for books, bullets for pencils, confrontations for games, cries for smiles, and hatred for love. We ask leaders to put a smile on every child's face. We ask leaders to turn to peace, to pledge to protect us and promise us development. We ask leaders to offer us the opportunities that will enable us to become the best versions of ourselves."

*These messages were composed by children from Mali, Sudan, Colombia, Yemen and Syria during consultations carried out by Save the Children in January 2019.*

## Betty Campbell a Heroine Who was Forgotten in the History Gains Immortality With a Statute in Cardiff

Selen Ceylan



The capital of Wales, Cardiff, has gone to public vote to decide an ulterior heroine for making a statute of her. The five women listed on the vote were; Lady Rhondda, Elaine Morgan, Cranogwen, Elizabeth Andrews and Betty Campbell. The winner of the public vote was Betty Campbell gaining thousands of votes which held in the BBC Wales poll.



Campbell whose early name was Rachel Elizabeth Johnson was born in Butetown in 1934. She was not only a community activist but also the first black head-teacher in Wales. The area where she was born was one of the United Kingdom's first multicultural communities. Simon Vickers Johnson -her father- when he was 15 came to the United Kingdom from Jamaica, but unfortunately died in the Second World War. Honora -her mother- on the other hand was a street bookmarker. She won a scholarship from the Lady Margaret High School for Girls in her hometown Cardiff. Since her childhood Johnson wanted to become a teacher, however; her teachers discour-

aged her saying that it would be "insurmountable" to overcome the problems for a "working class black girl". What the teachers said did not dishearten her, quite the contrary she became determined to become a teacher. Johnson married Rupert Campbell in 1953. At the age of 17, she became pregnant. In 1960, she attended Cardiff Training College which was accepting women to become teachers. She started teaching in Llanrumney, but later went back to Mount Stuart Primary School in Butetown. Being a black teacher made her experience hatred from some parents. The concepts that inspired her were; anti-slavery activists and civil rights movements.



At Mount Stuart in the 1970s, she became the Wales' first black head-teacher and started teaching her students slavery, the history of black and also "the system of apartheid" which was actuated in South Africa at those times.

From 1999 to 2004 Campbell rendered service to Cardiff Council as an independent Councillor. After becoming a member of the Commission for Racial Equality and the Home Office's race advisory committee, she became an influential figure in society and history.

Before she died in 2017, in her speech to National Assembly of Wales, Campbell said that she wanted to inspire others and amplify black culture. She was one of those people who fought for the diversity in the Wales.

"I felt there was a lack of black people in education. I was determined that I was going to become one of those people and enhance the black spirit, black culture as much as I could".

On 13 October 2017, she died as a result of her illness that had lasted for several months.

With the votes given, among other four influential women Campbell has been chosen and her statute will take its place in Central Square in Cardiff city centre.



# IRPOSTS

magazine

[irposts.com](http://irposts.com)

[instagram.com/IRPosts](https://www.instagram.com/IRPosts)

[facebook.com/IRPosts](https://www.facebook.com/IRPosts)

[twitter.com/IRPostsMagazine](https://twitter.com/IRPostsMagazine)