

## A REVIEW OF TURKISH UNION WITH A GLOBAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL PERSPECTIVE

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### ABSTRACT

*In our world where 300 million Turks live, the necessity of establishing a Turkish Union (TU) like the European Union and collecting the economic and military forces of the Turkish States under a unity has become inevitable. The Turkish Union is necessary and can be established. On the other hand, globalization is one of the most important processes that has formed the world since the 1970s. For this reason, analyzing globalization is crucial to comprehend our world and its effect on the Turkish Union. Globalization is a sophisticated concept, which has economic, social, political, cultural, environmental, and technological dimensions. In this research, we tried to investigate how the comprehension of globalization would provide us better understanding of today's world as Turkey and other Turkish States are currently in a critical transition period and we tried to present that while seven independent Turkish states are trying to be dragged to many directions by external and internal forces and the establishment of the Turkish union is the only solution.*

**Keywords:** Turkish Union, Turan, Turkish Republics, Globalism, Atatürk

### INTRODUCTION

The world has undergone a transformation, especially after the 1950s. Scholars call this transformation as globalization. Comprehending the globalization process is necessary for the people living in this changing world. This comprehension of globalization would provide us a better understanding of today's world (Beck, 1997). The 20th century has been included in the history as a century of globalization that brought civilization to a new level (Fukuyama, 1992). Rapid change in technology, free movement in international trade of goods and capital flows, restructuring on the basis of the rules of the market system in the economy, the prevailing neoliberal views in society, new developments in democracy and the new tendencies in the social organization models have become a deep and comprehensive stage of evolution (Albrow et.al.,1990; Robinson, 2007). Global developments are constantly increasing the interdependence of countries and people of the world regardless of their differences in religion and culture, and historical traditions (Huntigton, 1993).

Regional cooperation, which constitutes the first stage and an important aspect of the process of globalization, does not lose its importance in the 21st century but increases it even more. In fact, in the 90s of the 20th century, NAFTA, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, MERCOSUR

(Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile), and the Association of Caribbean States further strengthened by becoming organized. The European Union (EU), the pioneer of regional economic cooperation, has entered a new stage. In April 2001, the Canadian summit was held, announcing the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (Nye et al., 2011).

While global evolution has required new governance models at national and sub-national levels in one way, on the other hand, it has highlighted their organizations that consider and protect countries at the supra-national level (Friedman, 2000). Naturally, the ongoing globalization and regionalization throughout the world do not exclude the Turkish Republics that have greatly contributed to the world culture with their rich history (Veliyev, 2009). The driving forces, which have led globalization, can be mentioned as economic, social, political, cultural, environmental, and technological factors. Bodies like TURKPA, TURKSOY, and TURKISH COUNCIL were established as intergovernmental organizations, with the overarching aim of promoting comprehensive cooperation among the Turkish Speaking States. These had a direct effect on the ex-Soviet countries including the Turkish-speaking world (Karagul, 2012).

#### **REGIONALIZATION AND INEVITABLE AFFECTS ON TURKEY AS A CENTER**



"Regionalization" will be the most important trend in shaping the world economy in the 21st century. The process of liberalizing trade at the global level and increasing integration at the regional level enhances the world trade. As a result of the inevitability of globalization and regionalization processes, a country's success will depend on its ability to manage these two powers. Success in the globalization process requires success in the regionalization exam. The best way to keep up with globalization is to create regional economic integration processes. Monitoring and examining these processes gives turkey the opportunity to draw important strategic lessons (Linda et.al 1994; Levitt, 2001; Wallerstain, 2004).

On the other hand, the Eurasian/Transcendence process is bringing Europe and Asia closer together. Strategically positioned at the knot of Europe, Asia, and Africa, Turkey is located at the center of all three continents. Turkey is situated in the middle of a region of 1.4 billion people (Europe, North Africa, Middle East, Eurasia) in the center of a large economic area. Turkey is currently the largest economy in Eastern Europe, the Balkans, the Black Sea and Caspian basins, and the Middle East. As the heir to a vast empire of 600 years spread over three continents, Turkey has always described itself as a regional powerhouse. Located at the crossroads of Asia, Europe, and some extent the African continents, the country is pinpointed in the Caspian Sea, Central Asia, and Eurasia by means of the Caucasus, and on the other hand to Western, Central, and Eastern Europe via the Balkans, via the Mediterranean. It is located on geography that can reach North Africa and the Middle East. The fact that it is so connected to the many regions mentioned herein makes Turkey not only regional but also an interregional center. Indeed, whatever Germany means to the EU and Eastern European countries; From Tashkent, Baghdad, Tbilisi, and Sofia, Turkey can represent a similar center of economic attraction for these countries.

In the face of changing regional and global realities, Turkey needs to direct its foreign trade policy priorities to regional markets in line with a long-term perspective, regional and global

conjuncture based on new dynamics. Thus, regional-scale developments will not only be monitored but also directed. The country's historical, cultural and economic relations with countries in the region facilitate a trade-based regional integration. In order to reduce tensions within the region and to make the peace environment permanent, economic-oriented projects should be developed to create areas of common interest. The historical, geographical, and cultural cohesion in the region constitutes the foundation and solid foundation of regional economic dynamism. Those who keep their region afloat will be able to sustain their country. The only way to get rid of the debt trap is to create serious regional economic pacts. We need to intensify trade with our own equivalent or economic forces that are a little below us. A Turkish economy that only looks at the West will never be able to restore the trade balance. Unless the trade balance improves, the high-cost borrowing will continue and go.

The region and Eurasian geography have a great economic and commercial potential for Turkey. From a holistic point of view, Turkey will have the opportunity to expand and deepen its position and influence as it develops economic and trade relations with the region and Eurasia and exceeds the "regional power" by turning its eyes to the reality of the region and Eurasia (Cakmak, 2017).

Turkey is trying to adapt its trade in terms of both processes in order to gain a place in international markets where intense competition is experienced as a result of globalization trends and accelerated regional integrations in the world. The advantage of geographical proximity to the distribution of foreign trade in Turkey is used in trade with Western Europe, but not sufficiently used in economic and trade relations with other regions, i.e. Turkish nations. However, considering the known effects of factors such as transportation costs, the similarity in consumption patterns and cultural proximity on foreign trade transactions, a very large market emerges around Turkey throughout Eurasia and Central Asia (Ersungur et al., 2007).

In the 21st century "regionalization" is the most important trend shaping the world economy. Globalization and regionalization should accommodate each other with equilibrium forces along with economic and social development rather than excluding one for the other with the objectives of social transformation and development in the context of globalization (McGrew, 2005; Waters 2001).

Turkey, utilizing its close position to regions, will be able to become one of the leading countries in the world as long as the ideal of the Turkish Union is pursued simultaneously.

#### **TURKISH UNION CONCEPT: THE CULTURAL, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC RESULTS OF GLOBALIZATION FOR TURKISH WORLD AND INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION TENDENCIES OF TURKISH REPUBLICS:**

The dissolution of the Soviet Union radically changed the geopolitical situation in large geography that constitutes one-sixth of the world. Similar to the other republics that made up the Soviet Union, the Turkish Republics, consisting of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, have become free subjects of the world production system by gaining independence and equal rights. The social and economic lives of these republics, which have adopted the strategy of shaping a market economy, have undergone a deep transformation in the years of independence. In all of these countries, the process of radical



reconstruction of all economic relations has begun in the post-Soviet period. The sovereignty allowed these republics to enter the world market independently and to establish their own foreign economic relations on the basis of new principles. However, it also showed the serious problems faced by the first relations with the world market, which has complex and harsh laws in the world relations of the product system. The loss of the regional system and traditional markets in the Soviet period, the disappearance of the optimum currency area, and the inability to produce products that could compete in the world market other than raw materials led the economy of these countries into a long-term and deep social and economic crisis (Veliyev, 2009).

The post-Soviet Turkish Republics have become a natural center that attracts the attention of the world's close and distant, large and small states, international and regional organizations with regards to many vital economic issues. In this geography rich in energy reserves, the interests of many states in the world conflict with each other and there is a serious ongoing struggle for influence. The "Great Game" carried out by the powerful states at the end of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century is now being implemented in different ways.

Almost all the powerful states of the world participate in this struggle for influence in one way or another. On a regional scale, the struggle for the rich markets of the post-Soviet Turkish Republics goes on among the three power centers in the region (Russia, Turkey, and Iran).

#### *International and Regional Economic Integration Tendencies of Turkish Republics*

In the geopolitical surveys on the world, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan among the Turkish Republics have been included in the geopolitical centers. As is known, geopolitical centers do not refer to their power but to the necessity of the place they occupy and the importance of the interests of active power centers. Z. Brzezinski, the former US national security adviser, mentions Azerbaijan as a geopolitical center in his book "The Grand Chessboard": "[Azerbaijan] is the cork in the bottle containing the riches of the Caspian Sea basin and Central Asia (Veliyev, 2009). The independence of the Central Asian states can be rendered nearly meaningless if Azerbaijan becomes fully subordinated to Moscow's control." For this reason, states have become serious objects of active power centers' struggle for influence.

The political independence of the post-Soviet Turkish Republics has created a retrospection to review the existing system of relations with the outside world and seek ways to establish relations of equal rights and mutual interest. The sovereignty and geopolitical situation provided a beneficial environment for directing the rich natural resources of these states to national interests, creating production mechanisms to meet their own needs, increasing and intensifying the efficiency of foreign relations, and benefiting from the opportunities of international division of labor in the interest of their own people (Geybullayev, 2012; Ibrahimov, 2011).

The practices implemented since the first days of the declaration of independence show that all of these countries are trying to integrate into the world market by, in differing degrees, following an "open door" policy in terms of foreign economic relations.

This process emerges in two main directions: globalization and regionalization as a part of it. Increasing cooperation with developed industrial countries and multinational corporations regarding rich energy and other natural sources (the introduction and implementation of the



TRACECA program) shows that these countries are turning into an integral part of the global production system, ignoring the political, economic and military pressures imposed by the Russian side (Veliyev, 2009; TRACEA, 2019).

The Turkish Republics also attach great importance to cooperation with the states in the region. Here, regional economic integration develops in 4 main aspects.

- i. Commonwealth of Independent States
- ii. Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
- iii. Black Sea Cooperation Organization
- iv. Economic cooperation between Turkish Republics, especially Turkey

Each of these aspects has its own significance. The Republic of Turkey is actively participating in the last two aspects and only the first two are organized.

The hostilities and attacks against the Turkish world should also be considered. This is due to the fact that in the distant past, the Turkish world was a leading nation with its language, religion, and civilization. In the past, the developed Turkish states of the Turan world were targeted to be destroyed by the enemies, tricks were played constantly against them in order to keep them economically weak, and in their weakest moments, they were knocked down from the outside and inside and erased from the history (Atsiz, 2015; Gokalp, 1997; Cora, 2014).

The Turkish world is also being targeted now by external and internal attacks, and the Turkish world, which is in a very scattered state, is tried to be wiped off from the history by changing its language, religion, and identity. Therefore, I believe that the "Turkish Union" concept is very important for the future of the Turkish world (Cora, 2014; Gokalp, 1997; Atsiz, 2015).

#### ***International and Regional Economic Integration Tendencies of Eurasian and Central Asian Countries***

The regional collaboration has been given a new stimulus in the final few years, although coming from very diverse routes. In the rest of this section we, shall concentrate on four of the utmost blatant instances: The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), led by China and Russia; the Eurasian Economic Community, led by Russian Federation; current plans concentrated on combining Afghanistan with its neighbors, directed by the United States and Europe; and the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) program, managed by the Asian Development Bank with the backing of China.

- ***The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)***

The SCO was officially recognized in 2001 with six members: China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. They avowed that the "Shanghai Spirit", i.e., "common trust and benefit, uniformity and consultation, respect of varied societies, and seeking shared expansion", characterizes the guiding norm of the institute as members seek to collaborate in 3 areas: safety, economics, and humanitarian affairs (The Shanghai Cooperation Organization, 2019). Though mainly concentrating on Central Asian regional security interests, comprising cross-border drug trafficking, terrorism and corruption, the SCO since 2003 likewise has made regional economic expansion and collaboration one of its objectives. Yet, to date SCO has not been able to bring much that signifies noteworthy advancement in terms of regional economic collaboration (Linn and Pidufala, 2008).

- ***The Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC)***





After a period of restricted efficiency since its establishment in 2000, EurAsEC14 has lately become much more effective. Russia and Kazakhstan, together with Belarus, have with astonishing quickness and obvious attainment set up a customs union, effective July 2011, when the customs hurdles came down between these 3 countries. The customs union may enlarge to involve Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, but will possibly not cover Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in the anticipatable prospect. Fourth, and most lately, in October 2011, the then Prime Minister Putin declared proposals for the launch of a Eurasian Economic Union, which would push ahead with added market amalgamation amid its associates (Halbach, 2012).

Looking forward, the métier of EurAsEC is that it has a solid national champion in Russia, a concentrated command on economic incorporation, and partners with an effectual financing instrument (EDB). A limitation of EurAsEC is that it does not incorporate main Central Asian countries (Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) and does not wholly adapt to the values of “open regionalism”.

- ***Regional Initiatives focused on Afghanistan (RECCA)***

A second fresh regional ingenuity – or, more precisely, set of initiatives – is concentrated on the encounter of how to incorporate Afghanistan into a regional integration course that will help it to intensify its economic expansion and backing its political constancy, particularly after 2014, when the existing assignation of NATO forces in the country is anticipated to end. Based on a vision that sees Afghanistan as a “hub” or “roundabout” for Eurasian amalgamation, and in particular for solidification the North-South axis linking South Asia with the rest of Eurasia (Starr and Kuchins, 2010), new initiatives comprise the “New Silk Road Strategy” (NSRS) of the United States, the “Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan” (RECCA) and the “Northern Distribution Network” (NDN), which allocations nonlethal NATO materials to Afghanistan.

- ***Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program (CAREC)***

It developed from a regional enterprise for Central Asia commenced by the Asian Development Bank in the late 1990s. The first of the yearly ministerial conferences of CAREC assembled in 2002. The point that CAREC has been able to upkeep main investments in regional structure and some enhancements in regional policies and executive practices can be credited to a substantial degree to the outstanding technical and financial inputs made by Asian Development Bank and its multidimensional associates. But, for the lengthier tenure, more country guidance and ownership in CAREC (and in other regional organizations) shall be essential, if not adequate, circumstance for accomplishment.

### ***The Regional Organizations Established by Turkish Nations***

- ***International Organization of Turkish Culture (TURKSOY)*** was established as an organization that has its origins in congregations during 1992 in Baku and Istanbul, where the ministers of culture from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey, and Turkmenistan declared their pledge to cooperate in a joint cultural framework. Turksoy was subsequently established by a covenant signed on July 12, 1993 in Almaty. In 1996, official cooperation was founded between Turksoy and UNESCO, involving joint sessions and mutual representation (Turksoy, 2019; Turksoy, 2017).



- ***Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries (TURKPA)*** was founded on November 21, 2008, according to the treaty endorsed by the heads of parliaments of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Turkey in the Dolmabahce Palace located in Istanbul city, Republic of Turkey. Support in expansion of political dialogue among the countries by means of parliamentary diplomacy as the qualitatively new phase of inter-parliamentary cooperation; harmonization of the legislations and reinforcement mutual activities with regard to other issues relating to the parliamentary cooperation on the core of historical, cultural, and language unity are some of its main goals. On September 29, 2009, the 1st plenary assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking Countries was directed in Baku, Azerbaijan (Turkpa, 2019).
- ***Turkish Council (The Cooperation Council of Turkish Speaking States)*** was founded in 2009 as an intergovernmental organization, with the principal aim of encouraging widespread cooperation among the Turkic Speaking States. Its four establishing member states are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkey. Turkish Council is an organization devoted to solidification peace and stability, promoting wide-ranging cooperation and disclosing the potential for collective development amongst its member states (Turkish Council, 2019). Although it brings together a certain group of countries, the organization does not take an exclusive approach. On the contrary, by encouraging deeper relations and solidarity amongst Turkish speaking countries, it aims to function as a new regional instrument for enhancing international cooperation in Eurasian continent, predominantly in Central Asia and Caucasus.



These organizations in today's global worlds are some of the pathways towards unification. However, more and effective steps should be taken. One of the first steps to reach this goal will be the introduction of a constitution guideline covering the "Turkish Union" concept, which will unite the Turkish world in every field, and introduce the draft to the whole Turkish world. Once the necessary publicity is made, Turkish States, together with the unanimous vote of their people should establish the Turkish Union, in which they will live forever in a way that is similar to the European Union (Aygün, 2017).

### **THE TURKISH UNION AND THE NECESSITY OF DEVELOPING ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN TURKISH REPUBLICS**

As is known, after the USSR collapsed and the geopolitical situation changed, when the Turkish Union was mentioned in the official circles, the aim was to repair economic and cultural relations. The fact that these people have the same history, religion, and language group and have settled in a geographically close area has created a favorable environment for their regional economic integration (Tasagil, 2014; Held et al., 2000). Because the economy of these countries, which have been unified over one thousand years of historical development and complemented one another, is in need of each other in the contemporary period.

The experiences of the 20th century have proven that the process of regional economic integration (such as the European Union), based on geographical and cultural unity, enables peoples to develop economically faster (Bull, 2002). The geographical and economic

conditions of the Turkish Republics complement each other by making use of the modern economic integration mechanism, enabling them to use their rich natural resources more efficiently and thus to increase the general welfare of their people and themselves. The Turkish Republics, which form a geopolitical and socio-cultural circle between United Europe and the rapidly developing Asian powers, can benefit from the mutual interaction of the world's economic centers for their own interest (Veliyev, 2009). For the post-Soviet Turkish Republics with their strategy to create and develop the market economy, the Republic of Turkey is of utmost importance due to its rich experience of 85 years.

The years of independence of the Turkish Republics, which were established with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, are full of serious socio-economic problems. The imperialist powers, who want to keep them in their spheres of influence, try to use military, political and economic factors and ethnic conflicts to prevent these countries from developing independently.

In such an environment, the Republic of Turkey can be a reliable side that does not want anything in return. In this country, for a long time, an excellent foreign trade relations mechanism has been established, export potential has been improved, effective competition mechanism has been created with enormous multinational companies, and extensive experience has been accumulated in the fields of globalization and integration into other fields (Bakir, 2016; Cakmak, 2017). Just because of this need, Turkish Republics attached great importance to their commercial-economic relations with Turkey since the first years of their independence. The collapse of such an immense empire as the Soviet Union and the independence of the Turkish Republics have set the stage for a new phase with their relationship with Turkey. The Republic of Turkey and Turkish companies have begun to play an important role in the economic and commercial life of these states. These countries have become an attractive market for Turkey's businesspeople thanks to plenty of production factors.

Turkish companies play an active role in the development and transportation of the rich energy resources of the young Turkish Republics. This strategic orientation is influential in the expansion and mutuality of the economic relations of the Turkish Republics. Among the world of Turkish Republics, Turkey is the most affected state by globalization. The global financial crisis is most adversely felt here. In Turkey, a swiftly developing country, inflation, current account deficit, external debt, and hunger in some parts of the population are present. It is difficult to explain these with limited resources in the country. The Anatolian peninsula is referred to as Asia Minor in the literature. This naming means that all of the resources on the entire Asian continent are in this country. As long as all resources are used efficiently (Atalay, 2010).

In the geography of the Turkish Republics, multinational companies began to expand their influence by making use of the gap created by the dissolution of the USSR and the "open economy" model implemented by the new states. These countries lack capital, technology, and experience to develop rich energy resources, which has increased the interest of multinational companies in these countries and necessitated multilateral cooperation with them to carry out extensive projects.

Western capital is using its entire means to accelerate the integration of natural wealth in these countries into the global economic wheel and their integration into the world market. In this





process, negative attempts of Russia are tried to be prevented. In order to reduce the dependence of the countries at stake on Russia and to make them reach Europe in the shortest and cheapest way, the project of the century that envisions the construction of the Eurasian transportation corridor called TRASECA is being carried out. In the process of comprehensive privatization in the Turkish Republics, western investors at extremely low prices sometimes acquire the most profitable and promising companies. Western capital controls strategic sectors (Veliyev, 2009).

The West is developing important strategies in the struggle to establish and maintain its domination in Central Asia and the Caucasus, where the Turkish Republics are located. The “Great Silk Road” and “Great Caspian” projects implemented by the West have contributed significantly to the facilitation and elimination of Russian economic occupation in the Turkish world (Derman, 2014; Erol et al., 2013). In this period, when it is clear that we are under siege in a material, spiritual, and insidious manner, we need to work “immediately” starting today and establish our union in order not to play the roles assigned to the independent Turkish States and not to become parts ruled by these empires (Atsiz, 2013; Atsiz, 2015). Otherwise, in the next 10 years, some of our borders will be redrawn in order to reduce our lands with the ruthless tricks of foreign powers. This potentially grave situation will constitute a grave danger for world peace as well as a sorrowful loss for the Turkish world (Atalay, 2010) In such geography where the Turkish Union cannot be established, borders and national interests of the four economic powers will confront each other, and this dual-polarization whose signs are evident in many agreements will lead to new and unprecedented cold war and bloody hot wars from time to time.

The Turkish Union is a formula to solve many problems such as Cyprus, Aegean islands, Western Thrace, the so-called Armenian genocide, Karabakh, South Azerbaijan, East Turkestan, Kirkuk, and the PKK, which are not only the national issue of Turkey but also of the whole Turkish nation.

By means of the resources and savings generated by the unification of our economic and military forces, unemployment and lack of education, which are our common domestic problems, can be reduced to lower figures in a short period of time. Our raw materials would be processed within the Turkish Union, and we would become producers. External debts would be able to be paid, and we will be free from the direction and pressure of external organizations such as the IMF, World Bank, rating agencies, etc. and foreign countries (Yalcindas, 2007; Zeybek, 2013)

With its territory extending from Central Asia to Europe, the Turkish Union will ensure the balance of power between the four empires that are in the process of establishment and contribute to lasting world peace (Yalcindas, 2010). There is a need for a Turkish Union in the face of global economic, sociological and security threats. The Turkish Union is obligatory for the solution of global problems. The hot, cold, and dark wars must be opposed in a coherent co-operation. Global integration should be achieved (Atsiz, 2014; Gokalp, 1997; Cora, 2014).

## **PATH TO THE TURKISH UNION AND PERSPECTIVES OF THE TURKISH WORLD IN THE PROCESS OF GLOBALIZATION**



The Turkish States have the independence to be able to come together with their own free will to create a Partnership Document and negotiate. In order for this free will to emerge and turn into action, the determination of the deputies representing the people and the statesmen who govern the country is necessary; a demand from the people, from the grassroots, is required and this demand has to be turned into votes, and parliament members and state officials who will say “yes” to the Turkish Union should be elected and sent to Parliament.

The priority negotiation items of the Union are as follows:

- 1 - Free movement of persons, goods, services, and capital by eliminating visa requirements;
- 2 - Common education, cultural, agricultural, fisheries and transport policy;
- 3 - Common water, energy, and space research policy;
- 4 - Economic and monetary union and taxation;
- 5 - Common foreign policy and security;
- 6 - Joint defense industry and army;
- 7 - Establishment of the Central Bank of the Turkish Union.

There is no obstacle for the first of these 7 articles to be decided even today and put into force by being enacted by 7 independent Turkish States, and this is the first step for the realization of the Turkish Union (Yalçındaş, 2007; Ünalnış and Parmaksız, 2019)

In order to publicize the idea that the Turkish Union is necessary and feasible to 300 million people, and to create an environment that allows the idea to sprout, grow into a tree and bear fruits, the following are required:

- 1- Publishing a monthly magazine
- 2- Broadcasting radio and TV programs
- 3- Establishing a center for the Turkish Union and an authorized institution where all Turkish state officials will participate and work on the path of unity (Yalcinkaya, 2010; Unalnmış and Parmaksız, 2019)

With the joint efforts of the Turks living in the independent Turkish States and foreign countries where they come together and their already established associations, those who say “YES” to the Turkish Union should reach and exceed 300 million people.

There are two ways to do this:

The first way is a demand from the people, from the grassroots, and turning this demand into votes and sending deputies to parliament who will say “Yes” to the Turkish Union. This path will emerge as a result of the awareness of people living in the Turkish States, their interaction with each other, and the belief that the Turkish Union will serve their own personal and national interests (Atalay, 2010; Kucuk, 2017; Zeybek, 2013).

The second way is to ensure that the deputies and heads of states representing the people can say “Yes” to the Turkish Union and start negotiations. The people who believe in the Turkish Union, the high efforts of the communities and institutions, and the political pressure and lobbying deputies and statesmen for this will make this path possible.

One of the factors that every politician looks at to make a decision on a subject is the number of votes that the decision can bring to him/her. Do we have a certified number? In reality, how many people say “Yes” to the Turkish Union? If we can find a significant number of votes, then



we can make a request, a "Call to the Turkish Union" from the presidents of the Turkish States, as written below (Zeybek, 2018; Atalay, 2010)

This call underlines the necessity for the presidents to make a breakthrough. The breakthrough will be the preparation of the "Accession Partnership Document" to the Turkish Union and the initiation of negotiations amongst all independent Turkish states within the framework of this document.

States failing to comply with the conditions set out in the Accession Partnership Document should be harmonized with the tax and/or aid money to be transferred from other joint sources.

### *Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's Perspective*

The Turkish Union has been one of the most important perspectives of Atatürk who had studied military strategy, international politics, and history as a part of his career and professional life. Analyzing the works of Max Beer, Ziya Gökalp, H. G. Wells, Abdullah Cevdet and philosophers like Jean Jacques Rousseau, Voltaire, Auguste Comte, Desmonulins, Montesquieu (Tezcan, 1992). As a pragmatist, rationalist and positivist leader, he stated "I have confidence that the Turkish Union will be a reality one day. If I will not be able to live to see it happening, I will close my eyes with its dreams." (Bozdağ, 1925). He also stated in one of his speeches that he expects a Turk living in Kashgar will comprehend any newspaper published in Istanbul (Cora, 2014).

Therefore, under this vision, individuals, communities, and institutions that believe in the Turkish Union and work for the realization of it primarily establishing a union (federation) among themselves and act in accordance with the joint decisions will definitely accelerate the Turkish Union process. A union that can be established between the concerned persons, communities, and institutions will be the first sign of a union that can be established between the 7 Turkish States. By 2025, the European Union like, but a Turkish nation-specific unity can be established between 7 independent Turkish states (Atalay, 2010; Kucuk, 2017; Zeybek, 2013; Mikail, 2008). Therefore, Atatürk's vision is a valid and doable argument.

Atatürk's understanding of "Peace at home, peace in the world" forms the basis of the internal and external policies of all Turkish Republics (Atatürk, 2017). This policy allows them to create intimate relations with their close and distant neighbors, and to implement strategies according to their interests in the complex region and the world.

The most important starting point here is that the Turkish Union special representatives of at least four of the independent Turkish states come together and begin to discuss the issue of the Turkish Union. The rest will be easy and quick within the period when the public's support lasts.

## **CONCLUSION**

In terms of globalization, European integration represents a continuous and dynamic experience. The examination of European integration can provide many clues for the future of globalization. Following the European Union example, for the first time in a thousand years, the Turks have had the opportunity to unite their forces and to rise to a position appropriate for their power. This fact lays a great responsibility on the administrators, intellectuals, and



people of Turkey, who are obliged to lead the Turkish world (Alagoz et al., 2004; Zeybek, 2013)

The basic value that unites the Turkish world is the unity of language, religion, history, and culture. The way to make unity the "Turkish Union" is to reduce the differences as much as possible and to be kneaded together in the nationality dough (Yalcindas, 2010).

In today's world, it is impossible to prevent and imprison the thought, which is the most powerful weapon. Turkish Union, which is required and feasible to be established among 7 independent Turkish states will be possible with citizens of these states saying "Yes" to the Turkish Union and concentrating your thoughts in this direction (Zeybek, 2018). The formation of the Turkish Union will contribute to the safety of the world. It will expand the circle with confidence in the way of cooperation and the development of a culture of peace among people (Yalcindas, 2007). Time demands that in order to raise the Turkish world to new and higher levels, efforts should be intensified in the political, economic, and cultural fields without serving the old ideas.

As a result, we can state that globalization is a sophisticated concept, which has economic, social, political, cultural, environmental, and technological dimensions. In the recent period, the efforts to get closer and unite, and economic and cultural relations in the Turkish world have been increasing rapidly. The creation of the Turkic world Assembly is on the agenda. The relations between Azerbaijan and the Republic of Turkey are progressing on the basis of "one nation, two states" strategy. In addition to all these, the cultural values are getting stronger in all Turkish Republics and the Turkish spirit is rising everywhere (Veliyev, 2009). This spirit will prevail over everything, everywhere.

In this research, we tried to investigate how the comprehension of globalization would provide us better understanding of today's world as Turkey and the other Turkish States are currently in a critical transition period and we tried to present that while seven independent Turkish states are trying to be dragged to many directions by external and internal forces (Cora 2014; Atsız, 2015) and the establishment of the Turkish union is the only solution.

At this stage, one should bear in mind that the countries in question are at the same time members of different international or regional organizations, notably, among others, NATO, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC), Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The studies on Turkish regional cooperation as well as voting similarities of Turkish countries will enlighten the scholars on where the Turkish Council countries are, particularly in association to other country groups in terms of launching a collective position on matters of foreign relationships as it might be presumed that having a comparable viewpoint on foreign economic and political matters might make it easier to ascertain a keener political and economic union" (Kaplan et al., 2015). Finally, a future study may further investigate how policy convergence is happening by focusing on specific cases, resolutions and Turkish countries that are paving the pathway towards the concrete integration leading to Turkish Union.



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