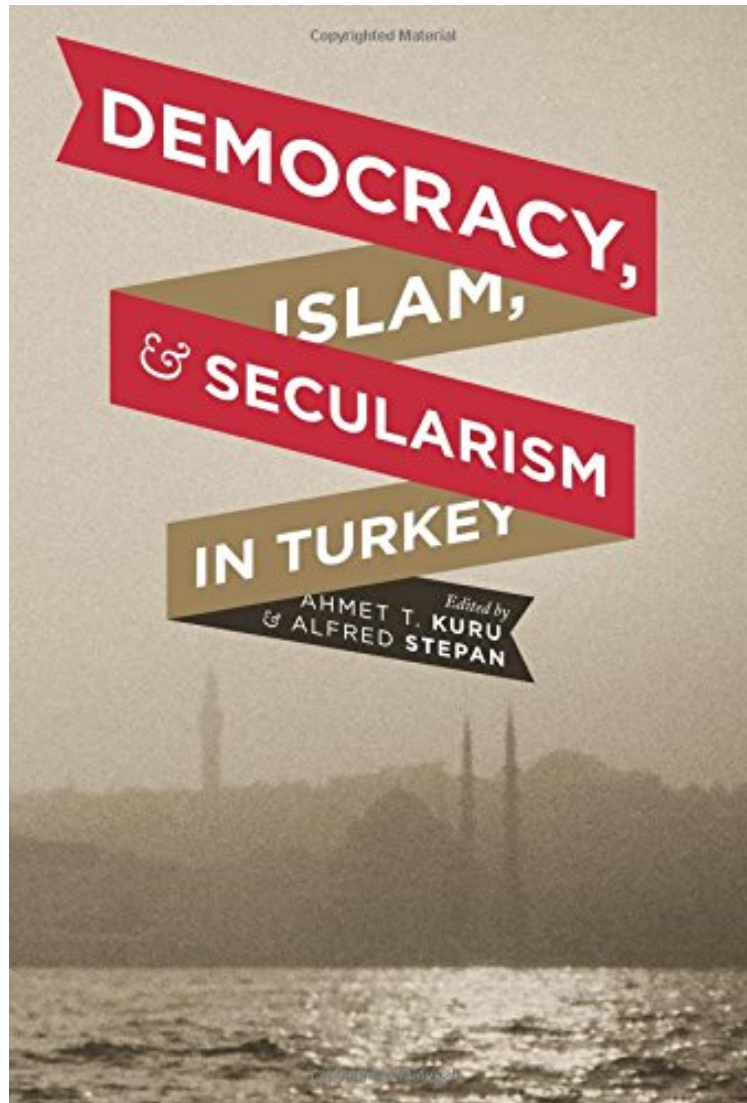


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From Columbia University Press : Democracy, Islam, and Secularism in Turkey (Religion, Culture, and Public Life) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Democracy, Islam, and Secularism in Turkey (Religion, Culture, and Public Life):

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phase of autocratic leadership and a possible civil war. It will be interesting to read Kuru's next book!¹⁰ of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating and informative! Highly recommend! By MaryExcellent course! An enlightening look into the modern Middle East. One of the best courses I've taken through Coursera. Highly recommend for anyone interested in why the world is the way it is today!³ of 4 people found the following review helpful. good review of the Turkish case By Ali Kec This is a collection of articles that would help understand the transformation in Turkish politics and society. It addresses a wide range of topics on Turkey all relevant to critical matters of debate. The book is well organized to help the reader gain a better understanding of the historical background of current issues, the role of AKP (Justice and Development Party), and foreign affairs. Hanioglu, a Princeton University scholar of late Ottoman history, contributes an excellent article in the volume identifying the roots of Kemalism in the late Ottoman intellectual discussions and provides an explanation of its assertive secularism. Kuru and Stepan's chapter compares the implementation of secularism in Senegal, France, and Turkey and shows that Turkish secularism is the most assertive among the three. Ozbudun, one of the most prominent experts on constitutional law, contributes with two chapters, one of which details the undemocratic aspects of the 1982 constitution. It is helpful to readers of all backgrounds with an interest in understanding the Turkish case.

While Turkey has grown as a world power, promoting the image of a progressive and stable nation, several choices in policy have strained its relationship with the East and the West. Providing historical, social, and religious context for this behavior, the essays in *Democracy, Islam, and Secularism in Turkey* examine issues relevant to Turkish debates and global concerns, from the state's position on religion to its involvement with the European Union. Written by experts in a range of disciplines, the chapters explore the toleration of diversity during the Ottoman Empire's classical period; the erosion of ethno-religious heterogeneity in modern, pre-democratic times; Kemalism and its role in modernization and nation building; the changing political strategies of the military; and the effect of possible EU membership on domestic reforms. The essays also offer a cross-Continental comparison of "multiple secularisms," as well as political parties, considering especially Turkey's Justice and Development Party in relation to Europe's Christian Democratic parties. Contributors tackle critical research questions, such as the legacy of the Ottoman Empire's ethno-religious plurality and the way in which Turkey's assertive secularism can be softened to allow greater space for religious actors. They address the military's "guardian" role in Turkey's secularism, the implications of recent constitutional amendments for democratization, and the consequences and benefits of Islamic activism's presence within a democratic system. No other collection confronts Turkey's contemporary evolution so vividly and thoroughly or offers such expert analysis of its crucial social and political systems. Contributors: Karen Barkey (Columbia University) mit Cizre (Istanbul Sehir University) M. Skr Hanioglu (Princeton University) Stathis N. Kalyvas (Yale University) Ahmet T. Kuru (San Diego State University) Joost Lagendijk (Sabanc University) Ergun zbudun (Bilkent University) Alfred Stepan (Columbia University)

As interest in Turkey continues to grow, people will be lucky to have this book to turn to in order to understand the politics of this important country. Its essays provide excellent analyses of the place of Islam in Turkish politics from a number of different perspectives. The result is a truly rich collection that sheds light on the unique experience of Turkey and considers the comparative implications of its history in the region and beyond. (Resat Kasaba, University of Washington, author of *A Moveable Empire: Ottoman Nomads, Migrants, and Refugees*) Highly readable and insightful. (Nikos Christofis *Changing Turkey in a Changing World*) This is a rich collection of essays that helps to clarify and deepen understanding of Turkey's complex past, transitional present, and promising future.... Highly recommended. (Choice) This volume is a significant contribution to Turkish studies. (Middle East Policy) All its chapters will be read with profit by nonexperts and serve as useful refreshers for experts. Admirable, too, is its jargon-free language. (Michael M. Gunter *Journal of Church and State*) This volume significantly contributes to a growing literature on Islam, democracy, and secularism in Turkey. Providing a historical background to the Turkish case from the Ottoman millet system to Kemalism and the later development of civil society, the book delivers a strong basis for the study of Turkish democratization. (Mustafa Gkek *Sociology of Islam*) About the Author Ahmet T. Kuru, a former postdoctoral scholar at Columbia University, is associate professor of political science at San Diego State University and chair of the Religion and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association. He is the author of *Secularism and State Policies Toward Religion: The United States, France, and Turkey*. Alfred Stepan is the Wallace Sayre Professor of Government at Columbia University and a former Gladstone Professor of Government at All Souls College, Oxford University. His most recent book, with Juan J. Linz and Yogendra Yadav, is *Crafting State-Nations: India and Other Multinational Democracies*, and another book with Linz, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post-Communist Europe*, has been translated into nearly a dozen languages.