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Topic of Research : Role of Women in the Rise of Political Islam in Turkey

Since 1996

Key Words: Women, Political Participation, Turkey, Political Islam, Political Parties, Women CSOs, Gender Policies, Feminist Theories, TGNA, Women's Movements.

Finding

Women's participation in Turkish political Institutions has been increased, such as in Turkish Parliament their representation was less than 5 percent before the 1996 and at present their representation has reached to 17.33 percent with 104 female Deputies. But in the Local Electoral Bodies such as in the Municipality, women representation is still 2.5 percent.

In Academia, women's representation is 44 percent in different academic staff, which is more than European Union countries. In European countries it is only 38 percent. Women's enrollment in higher education is at present 49 percent.

Women's employment rate has increased. In 2000, it was only 5 percent and at present it has reached to 13 percent. And their self-employment has reached to 17 percent, in 2000 it was 14 percent.

Political parties in Turkey have allocated quotas for women to run for office in elections such as the AKP has 30 percent, CHP has 33 percent and HDP has 50 percent of voluntary quotas for women candidates.

In Turkey, there are mainly 4 types of Women Civil Society Organizations can be found, the Feminist, Islamist, Kemalist and Kurdish. It is noticeable that women Civil Society Organizations played an instrumental role in addressing gender issues.