

The secrets of Bosphorus

The merger of Turkish political Islam with extreme forms of palaeokemalist nationalism, continues unabated.

As in two months' time, Ankara might remind the world of the centenary since the - ominous for Armenians and Greeks - "fraternal" treaty of Moscow was signed, the alignment of Turkey's policies with the main Eurasian powers, China and Russia, takes new upward turn; for some Turks, the decline of the West is a foregone conclusion. Schadenfreude at the events of the Epiphany Day in Washington's Capitol, expressed through the seemingly solidarity message, is a case in point. Manifest cooperation with Pakistan, hooked to China, is another signal.

According to Stravo's sources, the anti-American rather than anti-European (if we can differentiate the two sides of the Atlantic) forces in Turkey, gain increasing influence by the day. In the same vein, powerful imams and diehard nationalists within and without the MHP party of Devlet Bahçeli compete for championship in anti-Greek hysteria, exerting influence upon President Erdogan. This evolving reality casts a heavy shadow as diplomats from Greece and Turkey will engage in a new round of exploratory contacts in Istanbul, Jan 25, to inquire whether common ground can be reached in order to submit claims by Turkey about delineation of maritime zones, to the International Court of Justice.

The omens are not bright.

Stravo of Amaseia

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