
THE 41ST ISSUE OF THE REVIEW OF ARMENIAN STUDIES JOURNAL HAS BEEN PUBLISHED

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The newly published 41st issue of the Review of Armenian Studies journal contains 4 articles and 1 book review.

The first article in the 41st issue, titled **Facts and Comments** and authored by Alev Kılıç, covers Turkey-Armenia relations as well as Armenias domestic and international developments between January and July of 2020. The government of Nikol Pashinyan has experienced difficulties in fulfilling its promises to the electorate. In retaliation, the government has targeted the bureaucracy since it has been accused of being a remnant of the previous administrations and standing in the way of the current governments progress. The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has continued to give ammunition for the political opposition in Armenia and has resulted in short but serious armed border clashes between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Armenia has continued its pursuit of a multi-vector approach in foreign policy, looking for new openings as relations with Russia show signs of strain and approach towards Turkey has become even more negative. Just like the rest of the world, the COVID-19 pandemic has taken a heavy economic toll on Armenia.

In her article titled **The Relativity of Self-Determination Conceptions Regarding the Nagorno- Karabakh Conflict**, Deniz Akçay evaluates the legal merits of the OSCE Minsk Groups insistence on approaching the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict from the angle of the self-determination formula. Nagorno-Karabakh is currently under the dominating influence of Armenia, meaning the region cannot exercise a will of its own. Meanwhile, the Minsk Groups seems to have veered away from principles of territorial integrity and inviolability of borders concerning this conflict. Analyzing international agreements, court rulings and advisory opinions, the UN resolutions concerning the conflict, and the conditions in which Armenia and Azerbaijan were accepted as members of the UN, Akçay concludes that self-determination cannot not be used as a realistic formula for the resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

In her article titled **Hungarian Turan Association, İmam Abdullatif Efendi and a Hungarian Pamphlet on the Armenian Question**, Melek Çolak analyzes a Hungarian-language pamphlet published in Hungary by İmam Abdüllatif Efendi in the early 1920s explaining the unfair disposition of the European public towards the Armenian Question and the Turkish National Struggle that led to the establishment of the Republic of Turkey. Using documentary evidence, the pamphlet sought to disprove the British smear campaign concerning these issues and to properly inform the Hungarian public about these same issues. Çolak additionally shares information about Pan-Turanism in Hungary during that period, the activities of the Hungarian Turan Association, and the circumstances of İmam Abdüllatif Efendi presence in Hungary. It seems that Abdüllatif Efendi served as a bridge between the Hungarian Turanists and the Turkish government during the National Struggle, and the pamphlet was meant to function as a counter-propaganda tool against

those who sought to turn the Hungarian public against the Turkish National Struggle.

In her article titled **The Ottoman Governments Policies Concerning the Armenian Soldiers in the Ottoman Army and their Families in the Wake of the Provisional Law of Relocation and Resettlement**, Güzin Çaykırın delves into, on the one hand, the claims regarding the killing of Armenian soldiers in the Ottoman Army after the implementation of the Provisional Law of Relocation and Resettlement, and on the other hand, a decree issued by the Ottoman government on not subjecting Armenian soldiers and their families to relocation and resettlement. Çaykırın concludes that claims of the Ottoman Empire seeking to kill Armenian soldiers fail to make sense in light of the evidence at hand. Çaykırın indicates that not only did the Ottoman government implement the aforementioned decree and sent orders to the relevant local authorities in this regard, it also processed and responded to the applications made by Armenian soldiers who complained about bureaucratic errors made during the implementation of the Provisional Law of Relocation and Resettlement.

Lastly, Ahmet Can Öktem analyzes the book titled **To Kill A Sultan - A Transnational History of the Attempt on Abdülhamid II (1905)** edited by Houssine Alloul, Edhem Eldem, and Henk de Smaele. Öktem explains that each chapter of the book deals with various aspects of the 1905 Yıldız assassination attempt against Ottoman Sultan Abdülhamid II from several angles. In this respect, the authors narrate the interaction between the Ottoman Empire and its European counterparts, the domestic and international repercussions of the assassination attempt, and introduces the perpetrators of the attempt such as the ARF and the controversial Belgian anarchist Edward Joris. Öktem indicates that although the book makes for an interesting read, it may also confuse its readers due to the sheer amount of information and perspectives introduced during its narration. Öktem argues that the book is important in the sense that it goes into issues that resonate today, such as terrorisms influence on international relations and law, and how the perceptions towards terrorism can vary with different parties and conditions.

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