

# The New Sultan and the Crisis of Modern Turkey

by [Soner Cagaptay \(/experts/soner-cagaptay\)](#)

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## ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Soner Cagaptay is the Beyer Family Senior Fellow and director of the Turkish Research Program at The Washington Institute.



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**Rather than addressing the polarization his policies have caused, Erdogan seems set on a 'muddle through' strategy that will keep the country in a permanent state of social conflict.**

**T**he following is an excerpt from an article *that originally appeared in [Strategika](#) (<https://www.hoover.org/research/new-sultan-and-crisis-modern-turkey>), an online journal published by the Hoover Institution. To read the full text, download the PDF.*

The failed coup of July 15, 2016 has irreversibly transformed Turkish politics. Although the coup attempt was thankfully thwarted, the path that Erdogan chose to take afterward—using state of emergency powers to embark on a much broader campaign against all dissidents, many of whom possessed no ties to the coup—highlights an unfortunate truth about the country: Turkey is in a deep crisis... ❖

*Strategika*

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