

Articles & Op-Eds

Erdogan Should Seize the Chance for Change in Turkey

[*Soner Cagaptay*](#)

Washington Post

April 5, 2019

The president seems pragmatic enough to recognize when he is beat and refocus his efforts on normalizing the severely polarized political system.

We had to wait awhile to be sure, but now it is clear: The ruling party of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan suffered a defeat in Turkey's key cities in the local elections that took place this past weekend. There was a time when Erdogan—whether you liked him or not—represented change. He stood for a forward-looking vision for the country, suggesting that he could navigate the most pressing challenges, from the Kurdish issue to corruption to economic mismanagement, and he did. The people loved him for this reason and supported him at the ballot box. No longer. Erdogan has lost his magic touch...

[**Read the full article on the Washington Post website.**](#)