# CHAPTER III INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND ITS NETWORK IN TURKEY

In the previous chapter, the author already explained about what will be discussed in this undergraduate thesis such how Turkey overcomes the issue of terrorism and all about the thesis generally such as background, research question, until the hypothesis. But then, in this chapter, we will discuss more detail on International Terrorism and its network in Turkey.

Like what has been stated on the previous chapter, the issue of terrorism has been recognized by all of the states in the world as an important issue to be faced and one of a complicated issue in International relations. Terrorism became more complicated in international politics because of the change of the agenda and foreign policy of the United States after the tragedy of 9/11 2001. Along with the "War on Terrorism" campaign declared by the US, now all countries in the world are fighting against terrorism. Where every state tries to combine the power in order to overcome the terrorism issue which has been spread to all over the worlds. Every state wants to combine their power with another state because the terrorism already made a huge impact to all aspects and become a big threat for a state all over the world such as a huge amount of death, where many innocent people become the victim of terrorist attack in every country, a huge impact on the economic growth of the country itself, social impact, etc.

The Middle East became one of the most serious regions to fight on terrorism. This region became the front guard to fight against terrorism after the United States. it can be linked to The Middle East became the most active region in the development of terrorist networks. Many terrorism networks were born and grow up in the Middle East. ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Kurdish militant are one of them. Turkey is located in the Middle East and listed as one of Middle East country which

made them familiar with terrorism. Despite the location of Turkey in the Middle East, Turkey became more familiar with terrorism because Turkey is located in the middle of conflict state and even in Turkey itself has many conflicts that make more complicated. Then, Turkey is one of the states which always keep their hard work on overcoming the terrorism issue whether in their country or internationally.

## A. History of Terrorism

It is true the issue of terrorism becoming hotter and reach on its peak after the tragedy of September 9th, 2001 that broke twin buildings of World Trade Center in New York City and Pentagon and also Pennsylvania in The United State of Amerika. But, it does not mean that the word of terrorism firstly comes up and discover at that time. The terrorist action already existed even before we are existing in this world. Terrorism is a phenomenon that happened thousands of centuries ago. One of the earliest groups-now called as terrorism- that cited in the literature are the Sicarii, who was a Zealot religious sect fighting against the Roman rule in Palestine between AD 66-73 (Spencer, 2006). It showed that the terror act from the earlier also aimed for the political purposes like what the Sicarii did. Sicarii comes from the Latin word for dagger "sica" and means assassins or murderers. The Sicarii, or "dagger men" carried out murders and assassinations with short daggers. In the 1st Century CE, The Sicarii were led by a descendant of Judas of Galilee, who helped foster revolt against the direct Roman rule in 6 CE, when they attempted to carry out a census of the Jews under the rule of Roman governor Quirinius in Syria so that they could tax them. Their famous action is proclaimed that only God can rule the Jews (Zalman, 2017).

At first, terrorism was purely an act of crime like murder and threats to achieve a certain goal. But over time, the fanaticism of the cult turned into a murder committed either individually or in groups. During the Middle Ages, a religious sect of Ismailis and Nizari called 'Assassins' struggled against the empire of Saladin and in the sixteenth century small 'terrorist' groups in Albania and other regions resisted the armies of the Ottoman Empire. From around the mid-nineteenth century to the First World War revolutionaries and anarchists used bombings and assassinations as frequent weapons in their struggle against autocracy. After the Second World War terrorism became an important part of the anti-colonial struggles (Spencer, 2006).

Since the first era of terrorism, terrorism has always been linked with the religion. The Hindu Thugs for instance in South Asia were probably already active 2,500 years ago, the Jewish Zealot-Sicarii which more than 1,900 years ago, and the medieval Islamic that they called themselves as Assassins in 900 years ago. Most of them are the religious group where they all believe in God and All of them are arguably precursors of some contemporary fundamentalist terrorists. Where in the religion, one of the famous teachings of religion is to "sacrifice" the human life to become the gift of god and will get a better life ahead. On the point of view on terrorism the word of "sacrifice" is made a person act as a victim, then they called as a sacrifice for the religion (Schmid A. P., 2004). With that point of view push the terrorism to do everything that they want to reach their goals.

According to David C Rapoport, there are four waves of modern terrorism, he called it as a cycle because he saw the waves as slowly building up and then decaying. According to him, every wave of terrorism has their own energy in different energy on each wave. The first wave, started in the 1880s in Russia with Narodnya Volya, and in this wave is also called as the golden age of international terrorism in the 1890s, the terrorism existed on this golden age by assassinated many high profile targets such as the Spanish prime minister, the French president, the king of Italy, the empress of Austria, the shah of Persia, and finally the United States president. The second wave

of terrorism appeared in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s when existed the anti-colonial terrorism at the time. This wave has earlier existed in Ireland after World War I happened. The third wave of terrorism appeared in the 1970s and 1980s which is the leftist terrorism. Where most of the people right now becoming the witness of that quintessential terrorism. The last wave which is the fourth wave is the contemporary religious terrorism, such as Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Kurds, etc. In every wave does indeed last about one human generation, and each of generation has its own characteristic technique of terrorism action where the first wave was distinguished by assassination, the second wave by military targeting, and the third wave by hostage-taking. The current, fourth wave is distinguished by 'suicide bombing'.10 Each wave does indeed start with a political event 'which excite the hopes of potential terrorists and increases the vulnerability of society to their claims' (Sedgwick, 2004).

The emergence of terrorism also occurred in the late 19th century and before the occurrence of World War I and occurred almost on the entire surface of the earth. History records in the 1890s an act of Armenian terrorism against the Turkish government, which ended with a massacre of massacres against Armenians in World War I. In the decade of World War I, acts of terrorism were identified as part of a leftist movement based on ideology.

After World War II, the world never knew "peace". Various upheavals develop and take place on an ongoing basis. The confrontation of the superpower that became widespread East-West conflict and dragging some Third World countries into it led to the North-South conflict. The struggle against invaders, racial upheaval, the regional conflict that attracted third-party interference, domestic upheaval in many Third World countries, made the world volatile and volatile. The instability of the world and the frustrations of many developing nations in the struggle for rights that are considered fundamental and legitimate open up opportunities for the spread

and spread of terrorism. The phenomenon of terrorism itself is a relatively recent phenomenon, that is, after World War II and increased since the beginning of the 1970s. Terrorism and terror have evolved in ideological disputes, religious fanaticism, the struggle for independence, rebellion, guerrilla, even by the government as a means and means of enforcing its power (Paulus, 2001).

## **B.** Group of Terrorism in Turkey

Turkey is well known as a state which has an intensive terrorism development and has a big amount of terrorist attack in their country since long time ago. Turkey historically has well experienced the periods of domestic unrest and internal rebellion. The separatist group becomes one of the experienced threat to Turkey's stability. Not only in modern era right now that separatism has existed, but since the Ottoman Empire, the rebellion and separatism have existed. ASALA and PKK are the famous rebellion and also separatist group in Ottoman era. In the late Ottoman and early Republican during the rise of international terrorism following by dissent interpretations where ironically remained relevant to the ASALA and PKK insurgencies that began in the 1970s and 1980s (Burke, 2014). Not only ASALA and PKK that exist in Turkey as the terrorist group, but there are many other terrorist groups listed such as IS or ISIS, Al-Qaeda, IBDA-C and many others as listed in the table below;

Table 3.1. Terrorism and Extremist Group in Turkey

	Turkish	Major	Major Goal
English Name	Acronym	Ideology	
Kurdistan	PKK	Kurdish	Establishment of an
Worker's		Separatism,	independent Kurdish
Party*		Islamism,	state in southeast
		Marxism	Turkey
Kurdistan	KADEK	Kurdistan	Establishment of an
Democratic		Separatism	independent Kurdish
Congress*			state in southeast
			Turkey
People's	ARAK	Kurdish	Establishment of an
Liberation		Separatism	independent Kurdish
Army of			state in southeast
Kurdistan			Turkey
Kurdistan	-	Kurdish	Establishment of an
Liberation		Separatism,	independent united
Party		Marxism	socialist Kurdistan in
			southeast Turkey,
			with a portion from
			Syria, Iraq, and Iran
Northern	PDK/BAKUR	Kurdish	Establishment of the
Kurdistan		Separatism,	independent Socialist
Democratic		Marxism	Kurdistan Republic
Party			uniting Kurds in
			Turkey, Syria, Iraq,
			and Iran.
Union of Kurd	-	Kurdish	Establishment of an
Laborers		Separatism,	independent
		Marxism	Kurdistan in southeast
			Turkey, with portions
			from Syria, Iraq, and
			Iran
Turkish		Radical	Establishment of an
Hizballah**		Islamism	Islamic State in
			Turkey
Islamic Great	IBDA/C	Radical	Establishment of an
Eastern		Islamism	Islamic State in
Raiders' Front			Turkey

Islamic	PIK	Radical	Establishment of an
Kurdistan		Islamism,	Islamic Kurdistan
Party		Kurdish	
		Separatism	
Revolutionary	DHKP/C	Marxism	Establishment of a
People's			Marxist state in
Liberation			Turkey
Party/Front			
Turkish	TKP/ML-	Marxism	Establishment of a
Communist	TIKKO		Marxist state in
Party/Marxist-			Turkey
Leninist			
Marxist-	MLKP	Marxism	Establishment of a
Leninist			Marxist state in
Communist			Turkey
Party			
Turkish	TIKB	Marxism	Establishment of a
Revolutionary			Marxist state in
Communists'			Turkey
Union			
Turkish	TIKKO	Marxism	Establishment of a
Workers and			Marxist state in
Peasants			Turkey
Liberation			-
Army			

Source: Rodoplu, Ulkumen, Jeffrey Arnold, and Gurkan Ersoy. Terrorism in Turkey: Implication for emergency management. Izmir: Proshop Disast Med, 2003.

Note: Terrorist organizations active in Turkey since 1990 (\*The PKK was renamed KADEK in 2002; \*\*Unrelated to the Lebanon-based Shiite Hezbollah) (Rodoplu, Arnold, & Ersoy, 2003)

As seen on the table, there have been existing of many terrorist organizations even since 1990. In this section, the author will divide the terrorism groups in Turkey into three classifications measured by the intention of doing the terrorist actions. They are Political Terrorism, Separatist Terrorism, and International Terrorism.

#### a. Political Terrorism

Political Terrorism is an action or activity which relies on violent actions to influence public opinion or to force the public opinion or to vie for political power. Political terrorism sometimes has nationalistic goals and can be waged by extremist groups to end a political spectrum, more often described as a "left-wing" or "right-wing" terrorist group (Encyclopedia, 2006). In Turkey has been massively happened the terrorism action along last decades, one of those terrorist actions are aimed at changing the political system and taking down the government which familiarly named as a coup.

Turkey has experienced many coup actions taking by the military group. As many as five military coups have taken place in Turkey which is the first coup happened in 1960 where the president, prime minister, and others are arrested in the coup. The second in 1971, where the Economic instability leads to widespread unrest and ended by the coup together with the military intervention in an effort to restore order other offenses. The third coup crashed in 1980, where the clashes between left and right wing groups lead to another army coup and hundreds of thousands of people were arrested. The fourth coup has happened in 1997 with the following the series of military offers of recommendations after rising of Welfare Party. The government has no choice but to accept, the prime minister, forced to resign (Aljazeera, 2016). Then, the last coup was in 2016 when Turkey under Erdogan administration. The coup is counted as the fifth coup since the Republic of Turkey was established.

The coup was definitely crashed on July 15th, 2016 the military was becoming the main tool of the coup. A military section of Turkey launched coordinated operations in several major cities to overthrow the government and shake President Recep Tayyip Erdogan with followed by several explosions in Ankara and Istanbul. The coup has a big amount of victim which killed 241 people and injured 2,194 others. The coup was failed due to the quick reaction from the government calling the entire Erdogan supporter to go to the street and thwart the coup. Turkish government blamed this "coup" on the one person who has a big enough influence in Turkey which is Fethullah Gulen. The response of the government after the coup happened was arresting everyone who has a relationship with the coup and Gulenist, around 9,000 people were arrested. The government also blamed Gulen movement as a terrorist organization and called FETO (Fethullah Gulen Terrorist Organization) by the government. (CBC News, 2016). The government also ordered to close and stop all activities related to Gulen institution and movement in Turkey and also around the world.

# b. Separatist Terrorism

Separatists always seek nationalist aims, where usually wanting to get self-determination or home-rules for geographic community or particular faction. Separatist terrorists (where also called nationalist terrorists) use acts of terror on forcing the creation of a new state or join other existing nation, where separatist communities are closely intertwined (Encyclopedia, 2018). According to the definition, the separatist terrorism is wanting to create a new state-rule and even a sovereign state due to the dissatisfaction of a group on the policies made by the government and also the stability of the state, both in the form of human rights, economic, social, and so forth. Separatist terrorism has been haunting every state in the world and made every state aware of the separatist movement. Meanwhile, Turkey also experienced many separatist terrorists that have been threatening the security and prosperity of the nation.

The separatist terrorism has existed since the beginning of the Republic of Turkey was established until nowadays. The group was likely wanted to create a new nation with a new rule and taking down the government and replace it with the new. There are many separatist terrorist groups in Turkey such as PKK, KADEK, ARAK, IBDA/C, PDK/BAKUR, PIK, DHKP/C, TKP/ML-TIKKO, MLKP, TIKB, TIKKO (see table 3.1). Those terrorist groups are the separatist groups which have been haunted, attacked, and wanted to make a new state-rules with changing the government to the new government in Turkey since decades before.

There are some of separatist terrorism groups in Turkey that we have to know. The first is ASALA. Beside of those terrorism groups above, this terrorist group has an important role in the Turkish history. This group became the first terrorism group that was established and existed in Turkey. Second is PKK, the organization which still haunt the Turkish security up until this day since the late of  $20^{th}$  century and give a huge impact involving thousands of victims and material losses in Turkey.

ASALA is the abbreviation of Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia. ASALA was founded by Hagop Hagopian in 1975 in Beirut, Lebanon. But the action of Armenian nationalist existed before ASALA was founded. Since the day of Ottoman Empire, Armenian nationalists had been active on Turkish territory with both non-violently and through armed resistance. In 1896 precisely in Turkey, the Dashnaktsutvun Armenian nationalist or known as revolutionaries from the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF) tried to take over the Ottoman Bank in Istanbul. The Sultan of Ottoman Empire in response to the attack and growing mistreatment of the Armenian minority, he responded with repression of Armenians throughout the empire which resulted in the death of hundreds of thousands of Armenians between 1894 and 1896 (Bobelian, 2009).

The 1915 Genocide of Armenian became the root of brutal action of Armenian toward Turkey. Armenian separatism reached its peaked during WWI when the Armenian volunteers war against the Ottoman Empire as part of French foreign national legion. Ottoman and Azerbaijani leaders were assassinated by ARF when the violent opposition in the post-WWI period was Operation Nemesis. After the falling dawn of Ottoman Empire and the term of Serves treaty, the new Republican of Turkey recognized the Armenian as the protected minority and violent opposition reduced. But in the middle of Turkey's new era, Armenians protested in front of the Turkish Embassy on April 24, 1965-the fiftieth anniversary of 1915 genocide with the international community still silent. Armenian community members react with a wave of terrorism targeting the Turkish diplomat. ASALA has three key goals: First, to force the Turkish government to recognize the 1915 Armenian genocide; second, to obtain Turkish payment of reparations for the genocide; third, to achieve Turkish cession of the land necessary to create Armenia promised in the Treaty of Sevres (Burke, 2014).

Another biggest challenge of Turkey is coming from their country which is the Kurds, which has been existed since a long time ago before the government captured Abdullah Ocalan as the PKK founder with US assistance (Cagaptay & Yolbulan, 2016). The PKK was founded as a hybrid movement drawing on Kurdish nationalism and revolutionary socialism, with the aim of to unite the Kurdish people. As their efforts, they were doing protests and sabotage on the Turkish government (RFE/RL, 2013).

Kurdish people not only exist in Turkey. The Kurds have a quite massive population in international stage and have a large number of people. they spread over everywhere, especially in the middle east region. The Kurds are spread over the countries in Europe also to Iraq, Iran, Syria, and the most in Turkey. The total of Kurds population is about 30-35 million.

Of these, currently around 15 and 20 million live in Turkey (around 20 percent of the total population), around 6 and 8 million in Iran (8 percent), about 5 million in Iraq (around 15 and 20 percent), and about 2.5 million in Syria (10 percent), in addition, there are other Kurdish minorities, for a total of about 2 million people, mostly in Israel, Germany, France, Belgium, Sweden, the Netherlands and other European countries. according to the map of Kurd's distribution below.

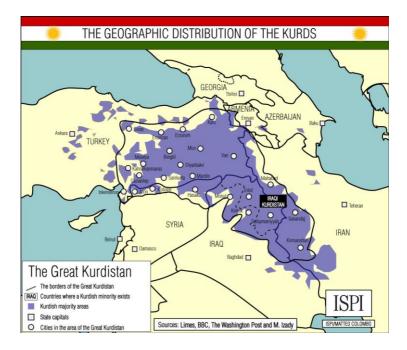


Figure 3.1. The Geographic of Kurds Distribution (Torelli, 2016).

The geographic of Kurd's distribution above showed us the big number of Kurdish population it took a large area of Turkey Iraq and Iran where the most are in Turkey. The existence of Kurdish in those countries was the minority of the population and they always demanding an independent state of Kurdish. Even the debate of the status of the Kurdish area has been ongoing in the international community for decades, but almost no action because of the issue never really becomes the front-page news. Moreover, all those countries above and almost all middle eastern leaders in international politics are denying the existence of Kurds people as the minority. The same as Turkey, the minority of Kurdish in Turkey are being denied by the government such as the Kurdish in Turkey almost have no rights in the political arena, made them hard to participate in politic. Then they made a political party in Turkey called PKK.

PKK is the abbreviation of Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê which is Kurdistan Workers Party in English. The Kurds party in Turkey as well as Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) founded by Ocalan in 1974, and it was formally named with the same name of PKK (Aljazeera, 2008). The basic ideology of this party is coming from Marxist ideology. The year of 1984 marked the historical year of PKK and Turkey. Not recognizing the Turkish political system as legitimate, the Kurdish party decided to take an act of armed struggle. This would be the beginning of a conflict run over the years. Claimed at least 40.000 victims in the conflict. Ocalan was arrested in 1999 and in 2013 the PKK declared a unilateral ceasefire. Then in 2015. the violence against Turkey re-emerged. The PKK defined as a terrorist organization by Turkey, the NATO member countries, European Union, and the major Western countries. PKK has its operational bases in Iraqi Kurdistan, in the mountainous areas of Qandil (Torelli, 2016).

The Kurdish party and the government opposition in Turkey are not only PKK, ISIS, and ASALA. There are many Kurdish parties which opposite with the government and support or in line with the PKK itself as follows; HDP; Halkların Demokratik Partisi (Democratic People's Party) as a Turkish progressive and one of the pro-Kurdish political party founded in 2012. KCK; Koma Civakên Kurdistan (Group of

Communities in Kurdistan) Political organization founded by the PKK in 2007, which includes some of the main Kurdish parties in Turkey, Iraq, Syria, and Iran, with the aim of creating a democratic confederation of all Kurdish regions. MHP; Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi (Nationalist Movement Party) the Turkish ultra-nationalist party founded in 1969 It represents nationalist discrimination against ethnic minorities, especially the Kurds. TAK; Teyrêbazên Azadiya Kurdistan (Kurdistan Freedom Falcons) The Turkish Kurdish nationalist and separatist movement, born in 2004. YDG-H Yurtsever Devrimci Hareket Gençlik (Revolutionary Patriotic Youth Movement) PKK's Youth wing, formed in 2013 (Torelli, 2016). Beside the PKK, ISIS, and ASALA which are defined as a terrorist organization, there are many other terrorist organizations such listed on the table before.

Turkey has been trying hard to fight against terrorism issue in their country with establishing many policies on terrorism issues. The government likely to make a different kind of policy for a different kind of terrorism issue. The Erdogan's policy toward a separatist terrorism is more likely repression, suppression of the media, suspension of civil liberties and extrajudicial crimes of their own. This kind of policy is merely used for the separatist terrorism and likely to a political terrorism. The policy is making the object of policy hampered their activities and actions in disturbing the security and stability of the state and government.

#### c. International Terrorism

International terrorism has been becoming a hot issue in international relation in a recent decade before. Where 9/11 terror attack becoming a date mark of terrorism escalation in the world. All of the state in the world has been focusing on the way to fight against terrorism issue. Where terrorism issue has been attacking many states in recent decade with various purposes. International terrorism refers to terrorist activities that transcend

national boundaries in terms of the methods used, targeted people or places that are part of a terrorist operation.

Since the rise of Al-Qaeda in the 1990s, international terrorism has become very synonymous with Islamic terrorism. Terrorist groups in Syria and Iraq, including Al Qaeda and the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), are identified as international terrorist groups since they launched a lot of terror attacks to another state beyond their country. They have the intention and ability to direct attacks on the West. Beside the west, they also threated other states in the Middle East, and region such South, west, and south-east Asia and many other places include Turkey.

Turkey has been experienced in dealing with many international terrorism issues with a huge amount of attacks and victims have been dealt by Turkey. The responses of the government are pretty enough to minimize the terrorism issue by doing many ways, such as blacklisting the terrorist groups and watch them by the far with the ability of Turkish spy. Also, Turkey built an international cooperation to seek a huge power to fight against international terrorism such as ISIS or called IS, Al-Qaeda, etc.

The main international terrorism group that has been giving a huge impact toward the Turkey's sovereignty is ISIS or called as IS. IS means Islamic State, where "IS" is the heir to ISIS which is Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. This terrorism group was born in the context of Iraq's civil war as Al-Qaida in Iraq (AQI) that was founded in 2004 by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. IS is the Jihadist group led by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. Since 2004, IS take over and control a large portion of the area between Syria and Iraq, including the capital of Mosul in Iraq (Torelli, 2016).

IS was become the large radical Islamic organization in the world and has millions of member from around the world. And around hundreds of Islamic State militant group fighters from Britain are hiding in Turkey. As Ciwan Khalil, a Syrian Kurdish intelligence officer who collaborates with western intelligence agencies toward foreign ISIS fighters told The Times of London that most British ISIS fighters had fled Syria and gone to Turkey. "The exodus began after Mosul in Iraq fell and continued after (ISIS) lost Raqqa. We have lots of French in our jails and scores of other nationals but we think most of the British have escaped," he added (Moore, 2017).

The Turkish-IS relationship got worst and high increasingly hostile since Turkey officially declared the war on IS in mid-2015. Moreover, Ankara permitting the US-led anti-IS coalition to use Turkey's Incirlik airbase, Turkish artillery and warplanes began bombarding the group's home base along the border. Six from the ten major IS attack has taken time since that summer in Turkey, four of which are taking place among the deadliest terror attacks in Turkish history and the other two are directly targeting tourist in Istanbul, mostly Germany and Israeli. Between January and May 2016, IS fired into Turkey's border town Kilis more than 70 rockets killing at least 21 people (Girit, 2016).

Otherwise IS has many foreign fighters that believed from Europe or Arab state. Since 2012, a steady stream of Turkish jihadist has taken up arms to join wars in Syria. In early 2015 declared by Deputy Prime Minister Bulent Arinc that around 1,000 Turkish citizens had join IS. According to Hurriyet's report, a larger number of Turkish citizen that joining IS is about 2,700 and around 1,500 had returned to Turkey, and another said it could be up to 10,000 including militants, migrant families, those killed on the battlefield who traveled to Syria and Iraq, and those who returned to Turkey. The Turkish national both Turks and Kurds who have joined groups like IS and Nusa Front are having another reason to battle the PKK and its affiliates which all designated terrorist group in Turkey. (Tahiroglu & Schanzer, 2017).

Before the existence of Islamic State group in Turkey, there are the other five most notable Islamist extremist groups in Turkey recently are Kaplancilar, Kurdish Hizbullah, IBDA-C, Tahsiyeciler, and Hizb at-Tahrir. At least two of these organizations have direct links to IS, while the others advocate Salafi look in line with the Islamic State's ideology, then contribute to the recruitment efforts of the group. And while some of these groups may now be defunct, they were believed to have provided an infrastructure for IS in Turkey (Tahiroglu & Schanzer, 2017).

### C. Terrorism Problem in Turkey during Erdogan Administration

Over the last two decades, terrorism has pressed a great deal in Turkey, a secular democracy with a Muslim population of 99.8%. From 1984 to 2000, an estimated 30,000 to 35,000 Turks were killed by the ongoing terrorist incident. During this period, the Kurdistan Partiya Karekerren (PKK), a Kurdish separatist group (named KADEK in 2002), was responsible for most terrorism-related events (and casualties), which disproportionately affected the eastern and southeastern regions of Turkey, where PKK has focused its activities (Rodoplu, Arnold, & Ersoy, 2003).

Terrorists are very likely to try to attack in Turkey. A number of terrorist groups are active in Turkey. Since 2015 there has been an increase in PKK (Kurdish separatist) terrorist activity in southeastern Turkey. There have been a number of attacks by other groups including Daesh's suicide attacks (previously called ISIL), attacks by far-off DHKP (C) and Kurdish separatist TAK groups, including in cities like Ankara and Istanbul. Terrorist groups, including Daesh and TAK, have publicly threatened to attack tourist sites in Turkey (Gov.UK, 2017).

Those number of terrorism groups are showing us how big the potential of terrorism issue in Turkey with many kinds of terrorism. Since the Turkish election in 2014 that elected Erdogan as the Republic of Turkey's president, Turkey has been experienced many terrorist attacks until 2017. Then, in this section will present the statistical data of Turkish terrorism attack 2014 until 2016 from Global Terrorism Database (GTD) with no filter of attack criteria. For the data in 2017, the GTD did not have the data yet. Thus, the author will take from another source which will be taken from Esri Story Maps data. The data will be shown in the statistical data below:

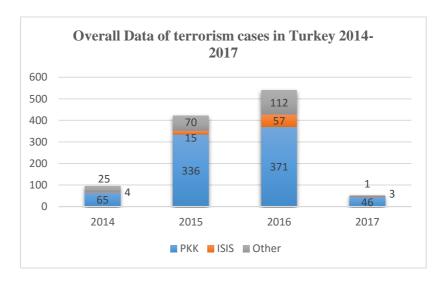


Figure 3.2. The Chart of Terrorism Cases Data in Turkey 2014-2017

Source: Global Terrorism Database and Esri Story Maps.

According to Global Terrorism Database dated from 2014/01/01 until 2014/12/31 around 94 incidents of terror attack happened in Turkey include the ambiguous attacks and unsuccessful attacks. In 2015, dated from 2015/01/01 until

2015/12/31, 421 accidents happened to include the ambiguous cases and unsuccessful attacks. In 2016, dated from 2016/01/01 until 2016/12/31, as many as 540 terrorist accidents happened to include the unsuccessful attacks and the ambiguous cases. But those data are overall data, have not been filtered to the only successful attack and no ambiguous cases. All those data on average includes cases that have no casualties, but there are property damage and state of terror.

Then, the author will take a filtered data of terrorism accident in Turkey from 2014 until 2017 taken by Kuang Keng Kuek Ser as the professional data journalist. But because of the data in 2017 that was taken by Kuek Ser is only captured 1 accident in the January 1st, 2017 due to the Kuek Ser's report just published on January 5th, 2017. Therefore, the data of 2017 will be combined with other sources to get a maximum data in 2017 such the data before by using the Esri Story Maps data. Thus, the author will present the statistical data of terrorist attack as follows:

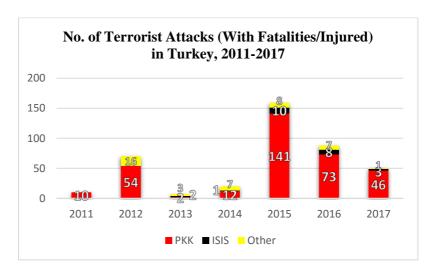


Figure 3.3. The Chart of Terrorism Attacks Data in Turkey 2011-2017

The High-level secret talks between the Turkish government and Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) collapsed in June 2011 followed by escalating violence. A ceasefire was later reached on March 21, 2013, but broke down on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The data from 2011 until 2015 is from Global Terrorism Database. Data for 2016 is compiled from media reports. Only attacks with fatalities are included. (Kuek Ser, 2017).

The author would like to provide many data from different sources. Based on the data of Kuang Keng Kuek Ser above, the massive attack of terrorism begins in 2012 recorded a total of 70 terrorism cases occurred in Turkey, but decreasing in 2013 with only 7 accidents a year. In 2014 reported the return of terrorism up until 20 cases of terrorism. Then, in 2015 experienced a very rapid increase of terrorist attack in Turkey up to a total 159 cases with fatalities. Then in 2016 has decreased to 88 cases, only the cases include the casualties and fatalities. Then in 2017 experienced a significant decrease in the total amount of terrorism cases at least 50 terrorism cases occurred in Turkey.

The chart showed above is only for terrorism cases with the fatalities. But for the author even if there is no fatality, only property destroyed and a state of terror, it can be defined as the terrorist acts which based on the definition of the terrorism in part A above on Terrorism Definition. Thus the author will make a chart included the non-fatalities cases, but still, exclude the unsuccessful attack and ambiguous cases. The data will be only presented from 2014 until 2017 by the statistical data as follows:

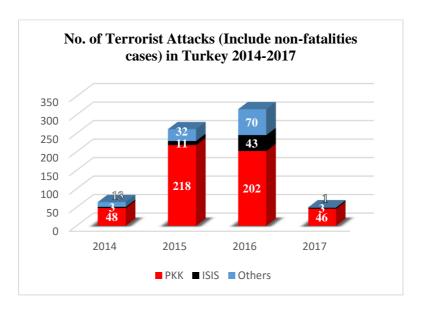


Figure 3.4. Terrorist Attack Data in Turkey 2014-2017

Source: Global Terrorism Database and Esri Story Maps.

According to Global Terrorism Database dated from 2014/01/01 until 2014/12/31 around 64 incidents of terror attack happened in Turkey exclude the ambiguous attacks and unsuccessful attacks. In 2015, dated from 2015/01/01 until 2015/12/31, 261 accidents happened to exclude the ambiguous cases and unsuccessful attacks. In 2016, dated from 2016/01/01 until 2016/12/31, as many as 315 terrorist accidents happened to exclude the unsuccessful attacks and the ambiguous cases. In 2017 Turkey experienced a significant decrease of terrorist attacks into 50 attacks in 2017.

Those three charts are showing the good statistic on terrorism management by Turkish government. It is proven by the decreasing of terrorist attack number noted from 2015 as many 216 terrorism cases in Turkey, and gained its peak in 2016

as many 315 terrorism cases in a year. But then, in 2017 the terrorism cases in Turkey experienced a huge decreased from 315 cases into only 50 cases of terrorism. In short, based on the data above, Turkey under Erdogan administration already made a great improvement on overcoming the terrorism issue in Turkey and also he has shown to the world that his strategies are quiet effective on dealing with the terrorism issue.