

ABSTRACT

The process of Turkey's accession into full membership in European Union has gone through an endlessly problematic matter. Both parties have strong distinction in history, identity, and attitude which hamper the process to be finalized. In the eye of constructivism, the concept of 'Itself' and 'the Other' is utilized to explain the phenomenon on this prolonging accession case regarding Turkey and European Union. On one hand, Turkey see itself as the most secular and democratic country among any other Muslim countries in the world and while seeing European Union as 'Christian community, Turkey is interested to join in by the means of that Turkey can be a role model of developed country who still cherish their national identity and cultures also religious norms and values in it. On the other hand, the Europeans see Turkey incompatible to the identity of most European countries. Turkey is considered to be still under the scrutiny of conservative Muslims who oppose the idea of getting into EU. Turkish democracy and human rights are also considered to be in slow pace following many repressive orders by its political elites over the years. EU also see themselves, which represented by European countries, as a Union who strive for the freedom of individual and the government free from particular dogmas which sometimes grip a country in becoming developed. Turkey is mainly seen to be 'too different' from other European countries and if Turkey is ever to be accepted in the EU, ergo it will threaten and endanger the fundamental identity of European Union.

Key words: Turkey, European Union, Constructivism, Enlargement policy, History, Identity, and Attitude.