

CHAPTER V

Conclusion

Turkey's education system which has gone through numerous changes unfortunately left Turkey's education system quite unstable, alongside to the country's turbulent politics through the years. The results of past education system is reflected in the performance of Turkish students, that still ranked rather lower than its European counterparts. The fact is definitely concerning, since education is believed to contribute building a country's economy as it also helps to produce high quality of human capital.

The rising of AKP to be the ruling party this last decade has shed a light for Turkish education system. International surveys have since shown positive reviews towards Turkey's significant improvement, especially the performance of Turkish students and increasing enrollments in school. Despite the achievement, the education system is still quite far from the EU standards of success given the crucial problems surrounding education remain persist.

The AKP's proposal of the 4+4+4 reform on education system stirred controversies since its first submission of the draft law. It has been argued that this new education policy show a substantial change from the previous policies. The has been arguments that the new policy now stem directly from the government without the consent of bureaucracy

international organizations, nor civil society. Contrary to this, the 4+4+4 reform is a result of popular demands and previous policy documents. In this matter, AKP tried to represent those demands by proposing the bill to the government in accordance to the party program and its 2023 vision in education – articulating interests. Due to the diversity within public opinion, many changes were made in order to answer the criticisms by the sub-committee of the AKP itself – aggregating interests.

A reform on education system, however, must be seen as an innovation with commitment and not only changes without maintenance. Therefore, although the 4+4+4 reform bill had been passed by the assembly, the government alongside the ruling party AKP still need to work out on its implementation with public support. To have a new education policy will not solve the problems and difficulties in Turkey's education simultaneously. It takes strong cooperation between government and the people to actually make it work. Moreover, time and patience are also needed to see the results. The continuity of education system is expected to carry stability that will determine success for Turkey.