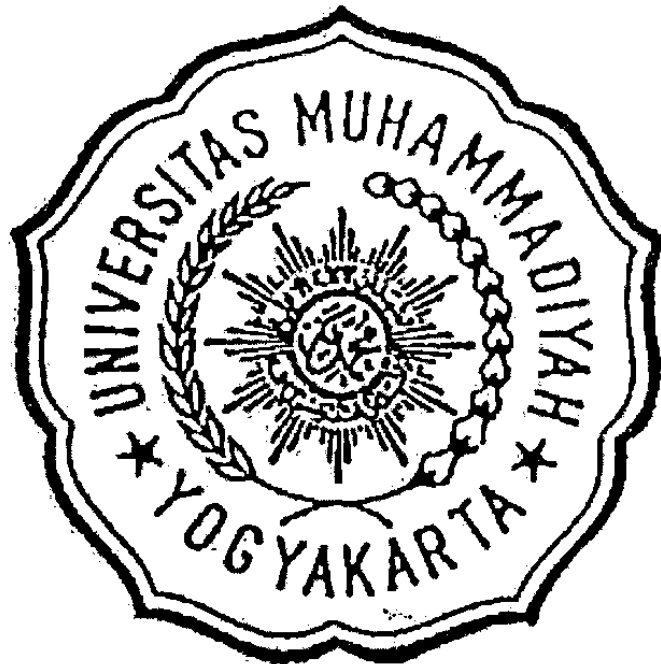


**THE INTEREST OF ADALET VE KALKINMA PARTISI
(AKP) IN REFORMING EDUCATION SYSTEM IN TURKEY:**

THE CASE OF THE 4+4+4 REFORM LAW

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS



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20100510145

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE AND POLITICS

UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH YOGYAKARTA

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In partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Sarjana Ilmu Politik (S.IP) in
International Relations Department, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences,
University of Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta



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ENDORSEMENT PAGE

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This undergraduate thesis has been examined and endorsed by the Board of Examiners from
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On

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Acknowledged by,

Chief of Examiner

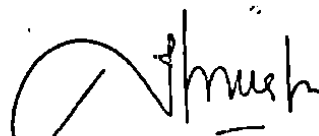


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Examiner I



Examiner II



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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

This is to certify that, the content of this undergraduate thesis is my own work and has not been submitted or published for any degree. The all sources that have been used, those were included in bibliography to avoid plagiarism. Every source in completing this undergraduate thesis has been revised and acknowledge by my advisor

PREFACE

Assalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatu

This descriptive undergraduate thesis is written to meet the requirement for graduation from International Relations Department. The writing intends to analyze the interest of Adalet ve Kalkinma Partisi (AKP) that proposed the bill of the 4+4+4 reform law on education system in Turkey. Turkey, one of the fastest developing countries in the world, still faces many challenges on educating its youth. The AKP, the current ruling party, came with the proposal in reforming Turkish education system to give more opportunities to the citizens. The bill that sparked debates between the country's two main political streams, secularists and conservatives, pointed out the real dilemma of the position of religion and freedom in secular Turkey. This writing focused on the interest of the AKP behind its action in proposing the 4+4+4 reform bill on education system in Turkey.

In preparing this thesis, I realize there are many deficiencies that still need improvement. Therefore, constructive criticisms and suggestions are expected from the readers. My biggest gratitude and praises goes to Allah SWT for giving me the capability to

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- Evi, Raquel, Ahmed, Hadhami, Sajit, Yunus and mbak Sherin. My best summer to date. The foods, the walks and the talks.
- Arzu, Leyla, Simge, Gamze, Deniz, Funda and Kubra for welcoming me in their home and forcing me to try Turkish way of life. And our few little talks and gestures. Some things are better left unspoken.
- Wanda and Wita. For the lunches, the gossips and everyhting that comes in between.
- Dana, the lovely dovey witch with whom I share passion-themed talks. If the amount of our IMs were exchanged with money, we'd be billionaires. Lunch at Milan, shall we? Fajar, the boy talks never got dirtier without you. Sorry for not letting you meet

my future husband and son, okay? Galuh, you're as sweet as the cakes. My beloved partner in crime to overcome 'stressed' = desserts. Honestly, you mean pizza for me, mam. Khozy, for the countless 'Sorry', you are forgiven. Iman, the one who never lost jokes anytime. Kresna, the buzz and busiest. Riffy, oh maaaaan do we have anyone left to share? :p My most relatable mate. Miss you already. Reza, until we meet again. SERIOUSLY YOU Bs. Four years together and I still have no idea how to address you appropriately. I mean, have we ever been appropriate to each other? Nope, and that's how we like it :p Started with group discussion to UNO to the meaningless talks. Those are billions for me to have met you guys. We have been close, distant, awkward to each other, but our laughter I will reminisce the most.

Maya and Dian with whom I never have to explain myself. You two are the best. Seven years and counting.

My family: Ibu, Bapak, Mbak Nurul, Mas Usman and Zaqi for their endless prayers, advice and support. I might not be following everything you said, but that is only I

And the Sweetness and the Cakes

ABBREVIATIONS

- AKP : Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi (Justice and Development Party)
- BDP : Barış ve Demokrasi Partisi (Peace and Democracy Party)
- CHP : Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi (Republican People's Party)
- EU : European Union
- FATİH : Fırsatları Artırma ve Teknolojiyi İyileştirme Hareketi (Movement to Increase Opportunities and Technology)
- HEC : Higher Education Council of Turkey
- IMF : International Monetary Fund
- MHP : Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi (Nationalist Movement Party)
- MoNE : The Turkish Ministry of National Education
- OECD : Organisation for Economic and Co-operation and Development
- ÖSYS : Öğrenci Seçme ve Yerleştirme Sistemi (Student Selection and Placement System)
- ERI : Education Reform Initiative
- GNAT : Grand National Assembly of Turkey

- RP : Refah Partisi (Welfare Party)
- TIMSS : Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study
- TSK : Türk Silahlı Kuvvetleri (Turkish Armed Forces)
- TÜSİAD : Türk Sanayicileri ve İşadamları Derneği (Turkish Industry and Business Association)
- VÖK : Yükseköğretim Kurulu (Higher Education Council)

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