

Government/Media Relations in Turkey: The Makings of an authoritarian order - Ayşe Öncü

The structural parameters of the media field in Turkey initially took shape in the early part of the 1990s decade, when the normative ideal of 'media pluralism' (referring to a plurality of 'autonomous' media outlets and diversity of political/cultural content) seemed within reach, once media markets were 'deregulated'. Now, with the hindsight of the past 25 years, the fallacy of assuming some sort of transition/evolution towards media pluralism, seems apparent. Instead of taking a more pluralistic path, Turkey has fallen into the trap of authoritarianism. This paper seeks to elucidate how the existing features of Turkish media landscape have been imbricated in this political process.