

Representation of Terror and Ethnic Conflict in the Turkish Press: An Analysis of the Peace Process in Turkey - Ayşe Seda Yüksel

This article explores the representation of the Kurdish issue in Turkish media by focusing on four newspapers representative of different ideological stances and economic relations with the Turkish state and central government. Findings of the research indicate that the media discourse on the armed conflict between the Turkish state and the PKK should not be taken as a unified totalizing field. The media's framing of this conflict is a contested discursive site determined by two main factors: ideological affiliation and economic relations with the government. This study first looks at the local repertoire of concepts and definitions that informed the political discourse on the Kurdish issue, terror and ethnic conflict in Turkey during the peace-process, and thereafter. Second, it analyses the discourses in terms of the relative politico-economic autonomy of the media institutions. Discussion focuses on the shifting nature of such discourses in response to political tension, government agendas, and the impact of events.