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NEWS REPORT

Country: Turkey
Title: Composition of the new Parliament following the general election of 7 June 2015
Date: 12 July 2015
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Context

Issue at stake: Female representatives in the Parliament
Ground of discrimination: Sex
Source: Miscellaneous
Field: Other
Applicable law:

Content

Policy development: The total number of representatives (MPs) in Turkey is 550. The number of female representatives increased from 79 to 93 at the last general election of 7 June 2015, resulting in the largest ever proportion of women in Turkey's Parliament.

However, despite the increase, the percentage (16.91 %) of female representatives is still too low. The trend in the number of female representatives and distribution of representatives according to gender can be observed in the following tables.

Table 1: Number of female representatives (MPs)

General election year	Total no. of representatives	No. of female representatives	Percentage
1935	395	18	4.6
1939	400	15	3.8
1943	435	16	3.7
1946	455	9	2.0
1950	487	3	0.6
1954	535	4	0.7
1957	610	7	1.1
1961	450	3	0.7
1965	450	8	1.8
1969	450	5	1.1
1973	450	6	1.3
1983	400	12	3.0
1987	450	6	1.3
1991	450	8	1.8
1995	550	13	2.4
1999	550	22	4.0
2002	550	24	4.4

2007	550	48	9.1
2011	550	79	14.4
2015	550	93	16.91

Source: Turkish Parliament, <http://www.tbmm.gov.tr>

Table 2: Distribution of representatives according to gender

Political Party	Women		Men		Total
	No.	%	No.	%	
Justice and Development Party (<i>Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi, AK Party</i>)	36	13.95	222	86.05	258
Republican People's Party (<i>Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi, CHP</i>)	21	15.91	111	84.09	132
Nationalist Action Party (<i>Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi</i>)	4	5	76	95	80
People's Democratic Party (<i>Halkların Demokratik Partisi, HDP</i>)	32	40	48	60	80
Total	93	16.91	457	83.09	550

Source: Turkish Parliament, <http://www.tbmm.gov.tr>

Key points of analysis: The general election took place on 7 June 2015 and the final results were published in the Official Gazette of 18 June 2015. Some important figures are:

No. of registered voters	56 608 817
No. of voters	47 507 467
Participation rate	83.92 %
No. of valid votes	46 163 243
No. of invalid votes	1 344 224

Political parties	No. of votes	Rate (%)	No. of MPs
Justice and Development Party (<i>Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi, AK Party</i>)	18 867 411	40.87	258
Republican People's Party (<i>Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi, CHP</i>)	11 518 139	24.95	132
Nationalist Action Party (<i>Milliyetçi Hareket Partisi</i>)	7 520 006	16.29	80
People's Democratic Party (<i>Halkların Demokratik Partisi, HDP</i>)	6 058 489	13.12	80

The number of women in central politics is still too low. The official results show that a total of 93 women MPs secured seats in the Turkish Parliament. The figure marks a notable rise against the background of the 2011 parliamentary election, when the Parliament saw 79 women MPs.

Internet link source:

Turkish Parliament, <http://www.tbmm.gov.tr> ;

https://www.tbmm.gov.tr/develop/owa/milletvekillerimiz_sd.dagilim, accessed 16 July 2015.

Directorate of Women's Status (*Kadının Statüsü Genel Müdürlüğü*), Türkiye'de Kadın (Women in Turkey), May 2015, <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/uygulamalar/turkiyede-kadin>, accessed on 21 June 2015.

Official Gazette, 18 June 2015, no. 29390bis

<http://resmigazete.gov.tr/main.aspx?home=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2015/06/20150618m1.htm&main=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2015/06/20150618m1.htm>, accessed 16 July 2015.