

Title: Globalization and Arming the Turkish Case

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Abstract

Turkey's initiation of a modernization program in 1980's for updating its arms base is a turning point in its long lasting arming strategy characterized by dependence on US provisions. This initiation for promoting domestic arms industry paradoxically coincides with the abandonment of import substitution and adoption of liberalization as economic policy in 1980's. Reflections of this modernization program on the domestic industrial structure, on the international market, and on the domestic sources (budget and other) are discussed in this paper. Evaluations with regard to the domestic industry structure are based on Istanbul Chamber of Industry and Arms Producers Associations data. The import substitution efforts ironically are characterised by partnerships with leading foreign arms producers. The implications of the modernization program in the globalization context are discussed on the basis of data compiled from leading international arms market publications for 1998-2000. Finally, reflections on domestic resources are discussed on the basis of budget data and human development indicators. A common outcome is that paradoxes prevail in each case.