

## EDITORIAL NOTE

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This issue begins, as usual, with the article entitled “Facts and Comments”, in which issues regarding Turkish-Armenian bilateral relations, Armenian genocide allegations and their international ramifications and developments in Turkey and Armenia regarding these issues that took place in the first six months of the year 2006 are covered.

In his article entitled “The Legal Avenues That Could Be Restored to Against Armenian Genocide Claims” Retired Ambassador Pulat Tacar examines the possibility of bringing the Armenian genocide allegations to the agenda of a prospective competent court and analyzes various legal means which may be resorted to against these genocide allegations.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Neşe Özden examines the British documents dated to 1920, in order to reveal the attempts to create a ‘Greater Armenia’ in her article entitled “British Theses on the Armenian Question: Based On British Documents, 1920”. In doing that, she will cover a number of British political assessments of the Armenian Question, which had a significant place within the intense political maneuvering leading up to the Peace Treaty of Sèvres signed between the Allied powers and the Ottoman Empire in August 1920.

In his article entitled “Reforms Regarding Armenians in the Six Provinces”, Dr. Ramazan Yıldız analyzes the activities of Russia and the European countries regarding the reforms developed for Armenians and granted them excessive rights and autonomy, and argues how the original reform plan proposed by Russia was changed as a result of Great Power intervention.

Mustafa Serdar Palabryık examines the developments regarding the Eastern Legion from November 1916 to May 1917 in his article entitled “The Establishment and Activities of the French Legion d’Orient (Eastern Legion) in the Light of French Archival Documents (November 1916 – May 1917)”. This period is significant because of the transformation of the Eastern Legion from a small fugitive community to a full scale military battalion which had become ready for attacking the Ottoman Empire. This article aims to analyze this transformation and to illuminate the details about that. Within this framework, the substance of this article is the French attempts to provide volunteers for the Eastern Legion.

In her article entitled “A Critical Analysis of Armenian Genocide Resolutions Submitted to the American Congress and Resolution H.Res.106”, Oya Eren provides a critical evaluation of the resolutions submitted to US legislative institutions on the matter of the recognition of the “Armenian genocide”. It does not seek to respond to the allegations, but rather, intends to show how they have been framed since 1975 through conducting text-analysis in a comparative methodology.

There are also two reviews of the books edited by Prof. Dr. Hikmet Özdemir entitled *Türk-Ermeni İhtilafı: Makaleler (Turkish-Armenian Conflict: Articles)* and written by Dr. Erdal İltar entitled *Büyük İhanet: Ermeni Kilisesi ve Terör, Tarihi Seyir (The Big Betrayal: Armenian Church and Terror, Historical Sequence)* as well as a list of recent publications.

Finally, this issue includes three sets of current documents which are the full text resolutions submitted to American Congress in the beginning of 2007; the call of Nobel Laureates for the normalization of Turkish-Armenian relations and subsequent reply of Turkish scholars, authors and retired diplomats; and the announcement of Turkish Foreign Ministry published in New York Times on April 23, 2007.

With best wishes...

*The Editor*