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THE ROLE OF TURKISH DIPLOMACY DURING THE CONFLICT IN KOSOVO

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Abstract

This paper aims to analyse Turkish diplomacy during the Kosovo War. In the period of 1990, except in the Kosovo War, Turkey had an active diplomatic approach during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995) but also in the Albanian Civil War as a result of the collapse of financial pyramid schemes in 1997. The Kosovo War was the next issue in the Balkans where Turkish diplomacy showed its activism both in international platforms and during NATO's military operation called "Operation Allied Force". Therefore, the main question of this paper can be formulated as: Was Turkey's strategic interest the main reason for having an active diplomacy during the Kosovo War? The main argument of the paper is that in addition to cultural, historical and kinship factors, national interests obliged Turkey to take an active approach during this war.

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