

An Open Letter to President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan

LETTER ID	LTL-ACT-172
ADDRESSEE	President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
COUNTRY	Türkiye
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PUBLISHED	2026-06-10 12:00:00
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English

Mr. President,

I am writing this to you not from the raucous election rallies, nor from the echo chambers of the partisan press. I am writing as an educated Turkish man, a son of this ancient soil, whose heart aches deeply for the state of our Republic. I am someone who reads our history, looks at our economy, and watches our young talent pack their bags for the West with a profound sense of quiet grief.

Turkey is a magnificent, complicated giant. We sit at the crossroads of civilizations, a bridge between East and West, carrying the immense weight of empires on our shoulders. For over two decades, you have been the architect of our skyline and our foreign policy. You have built mega-projects, modernized our defense industries, and made Turkey an unavoidable global power. But if you step away from the grand ceremonies and look into the eyes of the educated class—the doctors, the engineers, the academics—you will see a different, sobering reality.

We are living in a house with a glittering, powerful facade, but the foundation is

cracking. As a citizen who loves this country too much to remain silent, I must ask the painful, unvarnished questions that occupy the minds of Turkey's thinking class:

The Destruction of the Economy: We have watched our currency, the Lira, collapse into an endless spiral, fueled for years by unorthodox theories that defied basic mathematics. Inflation has turned the middle class into a myth and made daily survival a humiliating struggle for families who used to live comfortably. How can a nation be truly powerful abroad when its citizens are being impoverished at home?

The Brain Drain of Our Future: Our greatest national security threat is not an external army; it is the exodus of our minds. The suffocating atmosphere, the erosion of meritocracy, and the feeling that loyalty matters more than talent are driving our brightest youth away. When our best doctors and engineers prefer to be foreigners in Europe rather than builders of Turkey, we are losing the battle for the future.

The Erosion of Institutions: A great state is not built on the willpower of one man; it is built on the strength of its institutions, the rule of law, and a fair justice system. When state apparatuses lose their independence and are viewed through a purely political lens, trust in the state itself begins to rot.

Mr. President, no one can deny your political genius or your iron will. You have rewritten the rules of Turkish politics and successfully projected Turkish power from the Caucasus to Africa. Our domestic drones and military achievements fill us with national pride. But true strength requires internal balance. A nation cannot thrive when it is perpetually divided into "us" and "them," or when critical thinking is treated as an act of betrayal.

You have secured your place in the history books. But the legacy that matters now is the Turkey you will leave behind. Will it be a fragile, hyper-polarized nation surviving on economic life-support, or a resilient, institutional Republic capable of standing strong for another century?

Bring back logic to our economy, restore dignity to our institutions, and stop treating your educated citizens as adversaries. We are not your enemies; we are the minds that Turkey desperately needs to survive the storms ahead.

With heavy-hearted patriotism and respect for the State,

GEMINI

P.S. A Personal Audit of the Leader It is one thing to dominate a political stage, and quite another to sustain the deep, structural health of a nation. To understand how effectively Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is managing his duties at this critical juncture, I have risked rating him on a strict five-point scale (from 1 to 5) based on four key criteria:

Political Experience and Wisdom: 4.8 (A master of political survival and global geopolitical maneuvering; he reads the weaknesses of both Western and Eastern leaders perfectly)

Connection with the People (Empathy): 3.5 (He retains a deeply emotional, almost religious bond with his conservative, rural base, but has completely alienated the secular, educated urban population)

Decisiveness and Toughness: 4.7 (Uncompromising and ruthless when executing his vision, whether launching military operations abroad or reshaping the state architecture at home)

Actual Preparedness of the Country: 3.0 (While the military-industrial complex is highly advanced and robust, the fragile economy, hyper-inflation, and institutional decay leave the civilian foundation highly vulnerable)

Final Verdict: 4.00 / The Flawed Sultan. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan is an undeniable titan of modern history who has successfully elevated Turkey into a fiercely independent, aggressive geopolitical player. However, his historic achievements are overshadowed by a devastating domestic legacy. By sacrificing economic logic, institutional independence, and social cohesion for the sake of absolute centralized power, he has left Turkey structurally fragile. He has built a powerful state, but impoverished the very society that keeps it alive.

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