

# IS WINTER COMING? THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY IN TURKEY

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**Monday May 2 - 3:45pm - 5:30pm**  
**Deakin City campus (Level 3, 550 Bourke St, Melbourne)**

Turkey was once viewed as the Middle East's democratic exception; a bastion of stability and partial pluralism in a region crippled by despotism. Yet today, Turkey increasingly bears the marks of authoritarianism. In the past decade, its rank in the EIU Democracy Index has slid by 9 points to 97th in the world, spurred by the increasing suppression of dissenting voices.

But President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan's problems stretch well beyond the erosion of democratic values. Today, Turkey is facing very real security threats. The Turkey-PKK ceasefire collapsed in 2015. In March, a PKK splinter group took responsibility for two terrorist bombings in Ankara, in which 66 people were killed. Simultaneously, Turkey has experienced blowback from its involvement in the Syrian war, with ISIS carrying out five major attacks in Turkey in the past year, killing a further 154 people.

Join us discuss important questions about where Turkey is headed.

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