

Abstract

The following thesis deals with the pro-Turkish policy of red-green coalition in Germany during 1998-2005, which represented a turning point in German Turkish policy, because it did not follow the anti-Turkish policy of Helmut Kohl. Also today it represents a unique policy - nor the current Chancellor Angela Merkel initially followed it, whose image of Europe is incompatible with the membership of Turkey in the European Union. Based on an analysis of the most important debates held in the Bundestag under the red-green coalition government, where the Turkish question was discussed, the thesis tries to answer the question why the government of Gerhard Schröder/Joseph Fischer supported Turkey's accession to the EU. It concludes that in the speech acts of individual government officials and MPs of the governing parties intermingled both strategic arguments and arguments corresponding with the classic postwar milieu shaping strategy that aims to influence the milieu beyond the borders of the national state. Strategic arguments gained in importance due to three international events that shook the world during the governments of Schröder/Fischer and which tightened the active Turkish policy. It was the conflict in Kosovo, September 11, 2001 and the war in Iraq. However, these international events only deepened the pro-Turkish policy, not provoked it. Gerhard Schröder advocated the Turkish membership in the European Union from the beginning, because he was not influenced by the Christian image of Carolingian Europe as his predecessor Helmut Kohl. That is why he did not consider Turkey as a security risk for Europe.