

Rewiew of the master thesis of Nelleke Meerkerk : Relation between Adalet ve Kalkinma Pertisi in Turkey and the Milli Görüs in the Netherlands”.

The work of topic of a very actual importance is logically divided into three main parts. In the first part Nelleke is giving us a survey of history of islamism in Turkey, the second is an analysis of Turkish immigration to the Netherlands and in the third she is trying to describe a relations between Turkish islamists and Turks in the Netherlands.

The topic of the thesis is very closed to the author, not because she is from the Netherlands, but also because she has been interested in Turkish studies since B.A. studies. Among sources she used are mainly academic literature in Dutch and English. She has also very good knowledge of articles on this topic in most important academic journals. As a primary sources she is using broadly internet online web pages and part of appendix is also interview with a spokesman of the Milli Görüs in the Northern Holland.

My opinion is that first part is a bit longer than it should be (nearly a half of the thesis) and is describing the topic from a broader perspective of a history of modern Turkey. A second chapter is of a very good quality. Unfortunately the third part, the most important from the point of view of the thesis as the whole, is a bit short one (just 12 pages).

In the thesis there are some small mistakes (Ottoman Empire never reached frontiers of China or what is now Tanzania as author is writing). Some mistakes can be found in her English. Sometime she is repeating her arguments too often.

A very positive aspect of the thesis is very impressive, appealing style of writing. The most positive aspect of the thesis is a usage of primary sources and from perspective of academic research at Charles University a usage of Dutch materials.

Nelleke thesis fulfilled academic requirements of master degree thesis and I propose a final grade “excellent” or “ very good”. It should be depended on her defence of this thesis.

1.2.2007.

