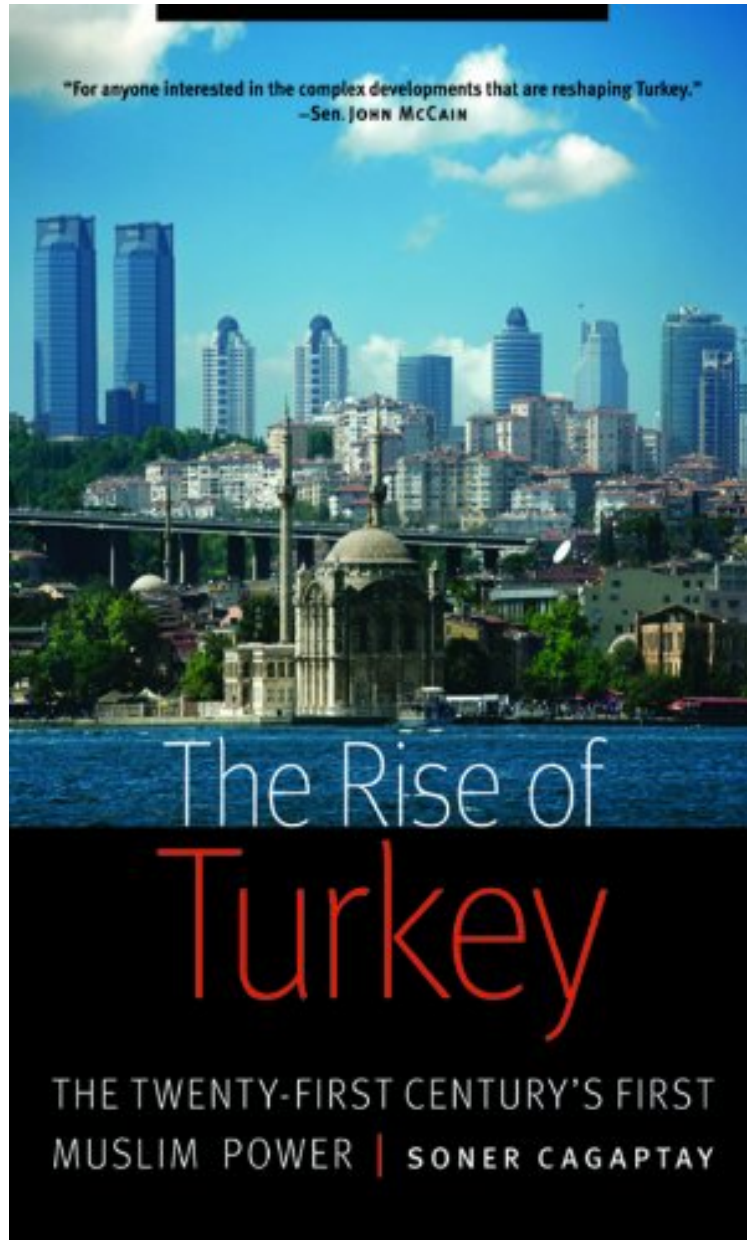


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## The Rise of Turkey

*Soner Cagaptay*

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**Soner Cagaptay : The Rise of Turkey** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rise of Turkey:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. If you think Turkey is what you serve for Thanksgiving, read this book and learn how important this country is to the worldBy Kevin J. AshleyAn excellent primer for Americans (like

me) who do not understand the diversity or prominence of Turkey in the Middle East and in the World. Who knew that 10 percent of Turks do not believe in God or that 15 to 20 percent are Alevis who practice a liberal form of Islam that is accepting of other religions or that there are thriving Jewish and Christian communities in Turkey. I didn't. This book explains the players and their current juxtapositions politically and religiously. I recommend it as a quick read from which one can springboard into more in-depth analyses of how Turkey fits into the Middle East, the EU, NATO, and relationships with the USA.<sup>5</sup> of 5 people found the following review helpful. An Excellent Overview of Social, Political, and Economic Developments in Turkey By Jay L Porter Soner Cagaptay is a well-respected expert on Turkish politics and social issues, and his most recent book is a great primer for anyone wanting to fully understand the myriad of influences and events that have brought Turkey to where it is today. Cagaptay delves into some history to provide useful background, but the book does not get bogged down in historical recounting - it provides sufficient to explain current events and provide context. I appreciate that the author also examines Turkish culture from a variety of perspectives, explaining things like the AK Party's rise in terms of its economic successes, social movements, and political strategies. Every chapter in this book has good tidbits and insight that will help make sense of other scholarly articles and more current analyses. I highly recommend this as a starting point for understanding how Turks think, the government's motives, its relations with the West, and opportunities for future engagement with the United States.<sup>0</sup> of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best short history of a rising economy that I have read. By salsaawi I recommend to anyone who visits Turkey. It's very easy reading and it gives you a good understanding of the Country rise.

Turkey is positioned to become the twenty-first century's first Muslim power. Based on a dynamic economy and energetic foreign policy, Turkey's growing engagement with other countries has made it a key player in the newly emerging multidirectional world order. Turkey's trade patterns and societal interaction with other nations have broadened and deepened dramatically in the past decade, transforming Turkey from a Cold War outpost into a significant player internationally. Turkey's ascendance and the changes that have taken place under the leadership of Turkey's Muslim conservative government have prompted its policymakers to craft a new vision of their role in twenty-first-century society. This developing worldview animates Turkey's desire to sometimes take the lead with its co-religionists and occasionally challenge its partners in the West, while showing no inclination to become an irresponsible rising power. If it can consolidate liberal democracy at home, Turkey could also assume the role of serving as an example for the newly emerging governments brought about by the Arab Spring. The cornerstone of Turkey's rise has been the government's ability to foster stable political conditions for economic growth, alongside a foreign policy that balances Turkey's Muslim identity with its Western overlay, including its strong ties to the United States. Accordingly, policies that could tarnish Turkey's reputation as a bastion of stability risk undermining its position between Europe, the United States, and the Middle East. This realization has been the catalyst for Ankara's careful management of Eastern and Western desires and expectations. The result is a new Turkey: a twenty-first-century Muslim power that promotes stability without the confines of a regional, European rubric.

"The Rise of Turkey is undoubtedly an essential read for anyone interested in developing a serious understanding of modern Turkey." — Reza Akhlaghi, Foreign Policy Association