

WYWIADY – LISTA PYTAŃ

1. What do you think about elections in Turkey during the AKP era (parliamentary, presidential – 2014 and local) in Turkey? Do you agree that they are free and fair?
2. What about the issue of competitiveness? Do you agree that all parties have equal chances to compete in elections to get votes of citizens?
3. Do you see any change between big, medium and small parties on Turkey in this context (question 2)? What about independent candidates?
4. Do you see any change in the context of competitiveness of elections when we compare the subsequent elections from 2002 to 2015?
5. There is a talk in the political science literature about electoral malpractices – it is not about electoral fraud but some electoral manipulations aimed at getting more support of the electorate at the cost of other competitors? Do you observe them in the case of Turkish elections when it comes to the electoral process?:
 - a) Do you see any malpractices with reference to the election law (gerrymandering, malapportionment, any restrictions on passive and active election rights, etc.)?
 - b) When it comes to the election campaign:
 - Do you think that all competitors have equal access to media and material resources?
 - Can all candidates conduct election campaign without any difficulties (negative election campaign – not too far?; cases of intimidation?)?
 - Would you say that there is a vote buying in any form during the election campaign (or even before the election campaign – patronage networks)?
 - Is there any proof of malpractices in the field of financing of AKP, especially during electoral campaign and in other cases related to creating clientelist networks? If yes, what are the most prominent examples of those malpractices?
 - Can people express without any difficulties their electoral preferences during the elections? Any cases of threatening, intimidation, etc.?
 - c) What about the election day? Would you agree that there are no malpractices/manipulations when it comes to the registering the voters, providing adequate polling arrangements, voting act, vote counting, work of electoral bodies/commissions, etc.

6. What were the main themes of electoral rhetoric aimed at gathering support? Were they divisive or consensual? Were they fact-based or constructed upon myths and narratives? Who were they aimed at? Specifically, did they aim at any particular, systemic elite that needed to be replaced and how was it changing since 2002?

7. What is the role of elections in shaping the Turkish politics and political system?

a) Do they have impact on political scene/party system?

b) What role do they play in shaping the Turkish political regime? What role in (de-) democratization?

c) Do they have the impact on change in the regime/of the regime?

d) What is the position of elections among other factors influencing the political regime in Turkey?

8. Do you see countries that are close to Turkey in terms of electoral malpractices?