Abstract:

This study discussed the change of Turkish foreign policy concerning Palestinian cause between the years 2000-2010. In fact this period witnessed a significant change which made Turkish policy to give the Palestinian cause as centralized cause. The development and justice party and Turkish presence play an important role in this change and in the international range in general and in the Middle East in particular.

This study relies on constructive theory in studying and analyzing Turkish foreign policy since this is the methodology being used in a close interpreting and corresponding along with Turkish status whether according to the nature of questions raised around turkey and its interactions, levels of relations, how to form the state identity, and tools and means used by the theory in analyzing. Some of these theories are apart from other theories such as realism and liberalism.

And cover the most important issues regarding theoretical framework of analyzing foreign policy and factors influencing them, objectives aimed to be accomplished, turning to the process of making decisions of foreign policies, then we shed light of the theoretical framework on Turkish status to recognize and analyze the whole of external and internal factors of decision makers in its policy to recognize aims that it is being sought to achieve in accordance with this policy.

The study then turns to know about the nature of foreign Turkish relations within the regional and international system by previewing Arab-Turkish relations and other similar relations of approach or divergence in the last decades and what characterized them in the time of studying, the form Israeli-Turkish relations and the nature of change happened as a result when these relations being at the lowest level over a several decades, and what are the reasons behind this stress and disagreement between both parties as major parties in the Palestinian cause.
The nature of American-Turkish relations is also being discussed as the base of historical alliance between them, beside what United States represents in the Turkish foreign policy. Following that we move to Turkish relations with European countries, the nature of such relations, and their importance to Turkish party so as to join the European Union as the most national aims that turkey seeks to accomplish.

Finally, preview Iran-Turkish relations, the role turkey is influenced of attributed by the nature of these relations as Iran represents an important, influencing, and a lobby role in the issues related to the Palestinian cause in one hand, and as an opponent country to the Israeli one the other hand, especially after the change and the significant approach that have taken place between Turkish and Iran parties recently. Finally we close by analyzing the effect of these relations on Turkish foreign policy and its situation regarding Palestinian cause.

The core of this study is represented by the Turkish-Palestinian relations. What is the nature and form of these relations before 2000. Then introduce that to recognize the nature and change of these relations. Then we reach to the significant change in Turkish policy towards Palestinian cause after positioning of Justice and Development party. The study looks at the connection between this change and the nature of rule system in turkey in addition to the divergence of party role influencing this policy.

Then its preview Palestinian-Turkish relations between 2000-2010 and considering the internal factors influencing Turkish attitude of its external policy toward Palestine and Palestinian cause, including political parties especially Justice and Development party as the ruler one, lobby groups, interests, religious factor, role of public opinion, military Turkish system as the most influencing factor on Turkish system and policy makers, in addition to the role of Turkish presidential system relating to this point.

Then how Turkish contemporary presence in events taking place around Palestinians after Israeli occupation and besiege over Gaza in 2008. In fact turkey has supported
and defended Palestinians, condemning Israeli cruel practices over Palestinians.

Then we turn to the limits controlling Turkish stand toward Palestinian cause, the most important decisions issued by the United Nations regarding Palestinian cause so that we could realize Turkish stand and role regarding such decisions.

The study preview also Turkish stance of reconciliation projects taken place between both Palestinian and Israeli parties. Turkish role regarding this, Turkish stands of basic issues of this conflict such as Palestinian revolution and its legality, refugees issue and the right of return, Jerusalem situation and holy places in Palestine. Here turkey has a granted majority interested in Jerusalem and Alaqsa mosque, aids provided to Palestinians by turkey both popular and official levels.

Turkey also has a role regarding Palestinian state of disagreement, what is turkey stance, how it tries to mediate between Fateh and Hamas parties to end their fighting, leading to reconciliation and achieving Palestinian unity.

Findings and recommendations:

The constructive theory is the most suitable one to study the Turkish case as it is mainly concerned with the source of change or transformation, and how to identify the citizens of the state for them selves. The constructive thought also poses questions about how to shape the identity of culture and identities in the policies of the state, such as a policy of behavior of actors. In addition, the tools that concerned, such as the diplomatic tools, as it became very active in the foreign Turkish policy recently.

Turkish national interests are the basic limits in Turkish foreign policy, and has pursued many stands supporting Arabs in their conflict with the Israeli part, also interested most in reconciliation issues and finding solutions to Palestinian cause and the Israeli-Arab conflict, Turkey has a significant role regarding many issues, including Palestine, the matter contributed in finding an active role in international stance generally and the Middle East particularly.

Despite of the fact that Turkey has a divergence in political system and the part that is dominating on rule whether an Islamic or a secular one, it is following a supportive foreign policy of Palestinian cause specially in essential issues of the conflict, including Jerusalem, refugees, legality of Palestinian revolution to achieve
Palestinian rights and self-determination by declaring the independency of Palestinian State.

Despite of the special relation between Turkey and Israel, Turkey was always beside the decision that support and stand alongside with the Palestinian rights, within a foreign policy which its characterized to be balance between the parties, Turkey contributed to provide Palestinians with aids in various ways, specially recently when Justice and Development party took the lead. Justice and Development party has the most significant role among secular parties in Turkish change and the significant rule in the area, approaching to both the Islamic and Arab world, and aiming at centralizing Palestinian issues, which it represent a religious impact on the party with Islamist roots, and Turkish civil society.