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## **JDP Election Manifesto**

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## **PREFACE**

As we enter the elections in November 2002 we declared “Turkey is the resource.” We stated that Turkey is the best resource with its history, culture, civilization: honest, brave, dynamic, entrepreneurial people, her youth and her potential, we took this path by believing in Turkey.

The last 8.5 years are the greatest proof of how right we were in believing and trusting Turkey. As we head to this direction, we knew that what the country needed the most was confidence. We believed with all our hearts that when this nation relies itself its country and its members it will triumph over all the obstacles, leave all the problems behind and will run towards a string and bright future.

What this nation needed the least was disappointment. A nation, which experienced disappointment for years, a nation which lost all its earnings over night in crises, a nation which lost all hope in political solutions could not tolerate the loss of hope any longer.

We were aware of the fact that we were the hope of the country and the nation... We also were aware of the fact that we were a glimmer of hope for not only the solution for the problems but also for those problems to never occur again, for the disappointment to never be experienced again.

In our long and blessed journey politics never meant more than service to the nation. The decaying understanding of politics as an ambition for prosperity and power has never found a place in our understanding. The future of the nation, its interest, its direction and its trust are always considered to be sacred and guarded with care.

JD Party is a party the path of which is determined by the nation, drawn and established by the nation and in its long journey the party has never wandered off this path.

This political style and understanding, in 8 years, has offered the amount of service, which is more than what has been offered in 78 years.

With JDP government that does not let corruption that does not tolerate prohibitions, that fights against poverty managed to reach success, which gives joy to all of us as a nation. JDP managed this with its cadres, with its organization and 74 million citizens of Republic of Turkey.

What a happy moment today that we cannot quickly count our achievements, service and investments the gains we acquired for Turkey. Again what a happy moment it is that what is telling of us is not us but our achievements.

From small cities to the villages in the valleys and from counties to the big cities everywhere; classrooms, universities, roads, modern houses, dams, hospitals and justice palaces tell our story.

Children bursting with hope, youth looking at the future with confidence, the self-confidence of the small businessmen, peasants, farmers, workers, civil servants and industrialists tell our story.

The happiness of the people who have been neglected for years, the joy of the formerly excluded, the excitement of the citizens whose problems have been ignored before, the smile of the people whose trust to the state was shaken before tell our story and the story of our achievements.

Those who tell our story is not only Turkey, not only those 74 million people but also our siblings in the Middle East, Balkans and Caucasia; our citizens living abroad from Melbourne to Toronto; the innocents in Bagdad, Kabul, Jerusalem and Gaza; our fellows of the Turkish race from Beijing to Sarajevo.

As we enter the elections on June the 12<sup>th</sup>, we gain our energy, strength and excitement from our nation, we broaden our horizons with the prayers of our nation.

Our politics that aimed to add more power and value to the reputation of our country and started with the slogan of “Everything is for Turkey”; again aims to provide the service to our country for a more dynamics, more influential and bigger Turkey in the new period.

The platform in your hand is a road map of the targets we imagine for our future, for the new horizon of Turkey.

This platform is also a road map of not only the next period of government but also the steps that JDP will take in the path towards the centennial of our republic.

Our horizon is the centennial of our republic, the year of 2023. In this platforms we establish our aims for the next four year we also offer a new vision for our republics centennial. We again think big for our country and are excited to take big steps.

During our 8.5 years we never succumbed to populism; we never chose deception as a political style, we never promised what we cannot achieve and we stood by what we promised.

In 2002, we came to power by saying “we will not promise anything for the next three years, what we will do will reflect us.” The main reason for that was the fact that the situation our country was in back then did not ensure trust or a sense of future to our people. Today, if we can talk about our aims for 2023, it became possible as a result of our successes, our reforms and the trust we gained under 8.5 years of JDP government.

We are closer to this vision more than ever.

We aim to make Turkey one of the top ten countries that have the biggest economy. We want to increase the exports above 500 billion dollars, have a national income of two trillion dollars. We want a country that is comfortable with its history and values where the people live in peace and serenity.

We will finish what we have started thanks to your prayers and support.

After the apprenticeship, with June 12 elections, we will bring tremendous joy to Turkey in our period of mastery.

In this blessed path we always walked along with our nation. We are excited to prepare for this journey of service once more, united with 74 million [citizens.]

I hope that June 12 elections will be beneficial to our country, our nation, our democracy. Let our path be clear and our fortune bright.

R. Tayyip Erdoğan

JD Party, Party Leader

## **ADVANCED DEMOCRACY**

Democratization

Strong Political Institution

Strong Civil Society

New Constitution

Empowering Judicial System

Free and Secure Social Life

Citizen and Ends Focused Governance

**JD Party pulled politics back to its center, put people to the center of politics.**

**In our understanding, the main purpose of politics is a person's happiness, peace, and welfare.**

Because we believe that the soul of our civilization is composed of the principle of **“let the person live so that the state lives.”**

JD party trusts the wisdom, experience and foresight of our nation. It does politics on the basis of the national will. JD party always sides with freedom and justice, puts the nation's will above everything else.

In this democratic vision, the state is not the master of the nation but it is a medium that serves the nation.

Our pluralist and liberal understanding of democracy necessitates building platforms that enables the individuals and different strata in the society express themselves feely.

In contemporary democracies, it is imperative that the relationship between political participation & representation and the government is established strongly.

Democracy is a political regime, which is a medium to ensure the security for the freedom of the individual. **JD Party, definitely reject the notion that sacrifices freedom for the sake of security.**

**JD Party prepared the democratic conditions in which the individuals and different strata of the society express themselves freely, can exercise their rights and are in dialogue with others. We aim to develop this environment even further and pass it to the next generation.**

**Pluralist and participatory democracy means that all citizens can equally and fairly benefit from the resources and opportunities provided by the state and all citizens are given the opportunity to express themselves as long as they respect the life styles, cultures, and beliefs of others. Therefore, in JD Party politics there is no place to forceful politics that does not listen to the nation, sees every difference as enemy and fears its own people.**

JD Party, has started its path with this democratic vision and believes that the main mission of the state is to ensure that the individual lives more happily, more freely, and more peaceful. Consequently, JD party's service oriented politics aims to provide solutions to the problems the people and the society face.

The core of JD Party's understanding of pluralism and liberal democracy is the vision of a democratic constitution that ensures the rights of all the individuals and our citizens. With this understanding, JD Party sees the constitution as a social contract that protects the people against injustices.

**Civil society is a sine qua non of our understanding of democracy.** In modern, pluralist, and participatory democracies the realm of civil society, above all else, is the realm of difference and plurality. JD Party defends the right of all differences to get organized and articulate their demands for political, social, and cultural rights. We put emphasis on plurality rather than uniformity. In line with the modern understanding of governance JD Party sees the active participation of the civil society in decision making as essential.

According to JD Party, strengthening local governance is an indispensable part of democracy. Within this context, throughout our government, we found it important to transfer power from the center to the local. In our republic's centennial we aim to implement public policies centered on the citizen and the local governance to take a bigger part in the increase of the quality of services.

In short, JD Party is aware of the fact that it is the most important grass-roots political force for democratization. In the new government session we will continue this mission by leading the efforts for a civil and liberal constitution. This constitution that will be written with the participation of all social strata is indispensable for the flawless progress of Turkey's democratization. Only with the fully democratized Turkey were the will of the nation rules we can reach the level of the contemporary civilizations.

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**Free and Secure Social Life**

One of the fundamental duties of the state is to make its citizens live in peace, secure and free. For the first time, JPD went for a paradigm change in the understanding of security which establishes **“security for freedom” as a foundational principle**. When we are in power, we based our work on security and our reforms on the rule of law and human rights. In 2001, after the terrorist events in the USA, there were several restrictions in the area of freedom and also in many countries there were regulations in this direction.

On the contrary, in our country JDP, since 2002, took radical and rapid democratization steps. It immediately ended implementations that restricts freedom such as state of emergency . Despite adverse events and terror incidents, our country continued on its expansion of democratization. In the area of counterterrorism which is the most problematic area, instead of a one-dimensional security understanding, we have adopted multidimensional analyses and perspectives.

We accept that security policies can not be implemented in a way that restricts areas of individual freedom for any reason and we also accept that security is a means for materializing freedom. On the one hand, security is a prerequisite for protecting the liberties with respect to providing the social order, on the other hand it is an individual right in itself in terms of being free from all kinds of pressures and intrusions.

For all these reasons, **we will make an effort for providing security without violating and unjustly constraining fundamental rights and liberties.**

### **What we have done in the area of security**

AKP gives priority to education, health, security and justice. The budget has been allocated to these areas of service in contrast to the past governments.

**For the first time, security service is considered with a strategic understanding that includes a holistic approach and implementation of multi-directional security policies.**

Security service is redesigned in the axis of protection of freedom and with mentality that includes public support. We adopted a people oriented approach when we provide these services. Universal values such as civic engagement, accountability and transparency constituted the fundamental dynamics of this change in mentality.

**Community Policing** has been founded and improved gradually since 2007. It was founded for the purpose of ensuring public participation and support in the security service and maximizing the satisfaction of citizens. **In 2009, it has been extended to 81 cities of Turkey.**

**In the fight against crime, our fundamental policy is prevention before offence.**

For this purpose, we established crime prevention projects on the international and national level and we had got positive results.

The incidents of purse-snatching, pick-pocketing, fraud and theft which occupy the agenda of the country and affect the secure life adversely have been removed from the agenda with effective and planned implementations. **We executed effective projects based especially on**

**control over streets regarding fight against crime which lead to increased availability and visibility of the police.**

Schools are now more secure. With the implementation of Secure School-Secure Education, 16 million school-age children are protected from crime and bad habits. They are provided with secure education environments free from fear and anxiety.

**In our governance, one of our priorities was the fight against gangs.** Before we took office, several gangs and mafia based crime syndicates were major causes of discomfort for the society, especially for our shopkeepers. These groups were making others' lives unbearable by racketeering, suppression and intimidation. With the new policies, we fought against all kinds of crime syndicates and gangs effectively and decisively. We managed to bring down the gangs with planned operations and all gang members are brought to justice. Our citizens' trust to state is reinforced. Fight against gangs and organized crimes has been a symbol of our government.

Besides these, **we left no unsolved murders and we tried to resolve the cold cases.**

In order to investigate these criminal cases, we improved the technical, administrative and logistical capacity and we established modern criminal laboratories that have the most advanced technologies. **Now, crime investigations are based not only on individual testimonies but also on evidence.** Thus, the capacity of security forces in solving cases and the rate of solved cases is increased.

**City Security Management System (MOBESE)** which provides public peace and enables detection of committed crimes, **is founded in 2007 and now it is actively used in all 81 city centers and big provinces of Turkey.**

We adopted the principle that security forces should provide fast, reliable, credible and low cost security to our citizens under our governances.

With respect to the change in mentality that came with JDP governance which can be summarized as people oriented and citizen satisfaction based approach, we highly emphasized taking control of streets and increasing both the quantity and quality of human resources in order to increase the accessibility of the police. With regard to this, we increased the number of police academies and centers of vocational education for police, the curriculum is revised to be more people oriented and law based. Also, graduates of universities are allowed to be police officers.

**We acknowledge that qualified security service will only come with well-educated, affectionate, good humored, well-behaved and capable human power. For that reason, we strongly emphasized educating qualified personnel in security units.** As a result of these efforts, **the rate of university and college graduates in the Law Enforcement Agency has increased from %21 to %85.** Besides, the change in the mentality has been internalized by underlining the importance of in-service education of current personnel. Every year, 50% of all the personnel has been exposed to these educations.

On the other hand, we considered that in order to provide good service, the motivation and morale of personnel is essential. Thus, we implemented a career system that enables the police to advance in the profession with the “Chief police” and “ Senior Chief police” policies. With the same purpose, **the problem of military service that has been ongoing for years has been solved permanently by our government with the amendment of military service law.**

**The quality and efficiency of the service has been increased** by overcoming the shortages in the security units such as equipment and fuel which has been negatively affecting the motivation service quality.

Police stations and gendarmerie stations used to be remembered with torture and maltreatment. After the changes that we have done, these stations have been places our citizens can go without worry.

Police and gendarmerie stations which are the showcases for the security units and first step of appeal for the all segments of the society were put under review in terms of their physical conditions. They are upgraded in line with human rights norms and international standards with respect to installment of camera systems and places for basic human needs.

**Turkey is no longer a country which is remembered by torture.** With the understanding of “zero tolerance for torture”, we made the necessary legislative amendments such as increasing the penalties, abolishing fine penalty and probation for torture cases.

As an extension of the change of mentality in the field of security, we embraced the same ethical principles of European countries. These principles are implemented by our security units and personnel.

As a result of these, according to the data that has been released by the Statistical Institution of European Union, EUROSTAT, **Turkey is one of the safest countries in Europe with respect to the number of crimes per 100 000 people**

Our country has also been one of the prominent countries in solving crime. For instance, **in the cases of crimes committed against individuals, the percentage of the solution has increased to 95%.**

It is possible to observe this transformation especially in the restructuring of the relationship between the society and security units. As a result of this people-oriented approach, a bridge has been constructed between our security units and citizens.

**There has been progress in facilitating the lives of our citizens.** In line with international standards, we brought changes to the passport system by making it safer, cheaper and long-term based. Instead of making people wait in queues, we started home delivery system.

Besides these, we provided the opportunity to make the procedures of second-hand vehicle sales in shorter periods and at smaller expense in notaries. In the past; sales, transfers and

registration of vehicles were completed approximately in 3 days, now it is completed in minutes.

Another practice that eased the lives of our citizens is related to accidents with material damage. We provided the possibility of agreement between relevant parties by a report. From the day that this practice has been materialized, April 2008, in 80% of the accidents with material damage there has been an agreement. Consequently, on the one hand, the possible traffic jams has been prevented effectively, on the other hand, we have contributed to culture of reconciliation between our citizens.

Our citizens also appreciate the results of successful security policies that has been implemented by JDP government. For instance, in the “Research of Life Satisfaction” that has been conducted by TÜİK in 2009 and 2010, security services were ranked highest with 78% among other public sectors.

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**JD Party is a national movement. That is why, the idea of serving the people underlies in JD Party's policy .**

JD Party considers the state and the politics as a way to serve the people with the understanding of “love the created for the creator's sake.” In the light of these principals, during JD Party's rule, the unity of the nation and the state has been procured. “Servant of the nation” state concept has been built up which closely addresses every problem of our society, works constantly to solve them, and creates new approaches and new methods.

Hence, we have implemented policies of social judgment. The foundation of all of these services is the effort of providing justice, prosperity, quality of life and equal opportunities.

From the economic policy to foreign policy, from the democratization to social policy, we have a multidimensional and forward-looking approach, which considers the people's happiness and needs.

**To achieve our target of building a strong society, in every field, from education to health service, from social supports to culture, we followed this approach.**

As a fundamental right, the health service has been undergone a huge transformation by providing great services which everybody can access.

We have made huge progress in the education: our children and our youth receive a quality education under equal terms” we provide technological needs, dormitories and scholarships. We established new universities and reformed the educational content.

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