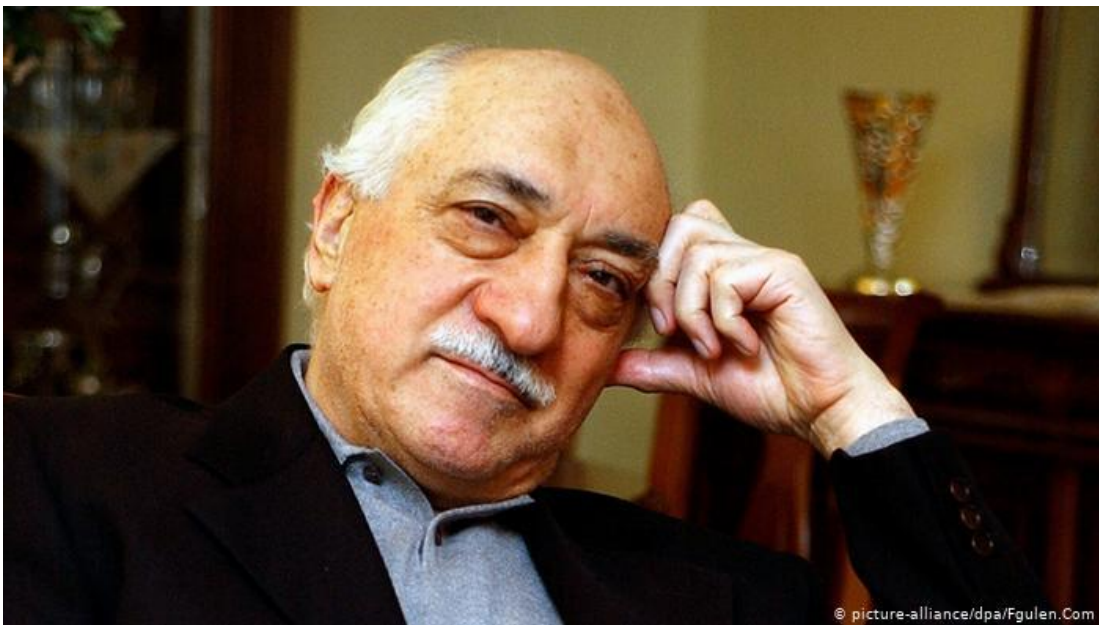




Mobilization of the Society: Gülen Movement

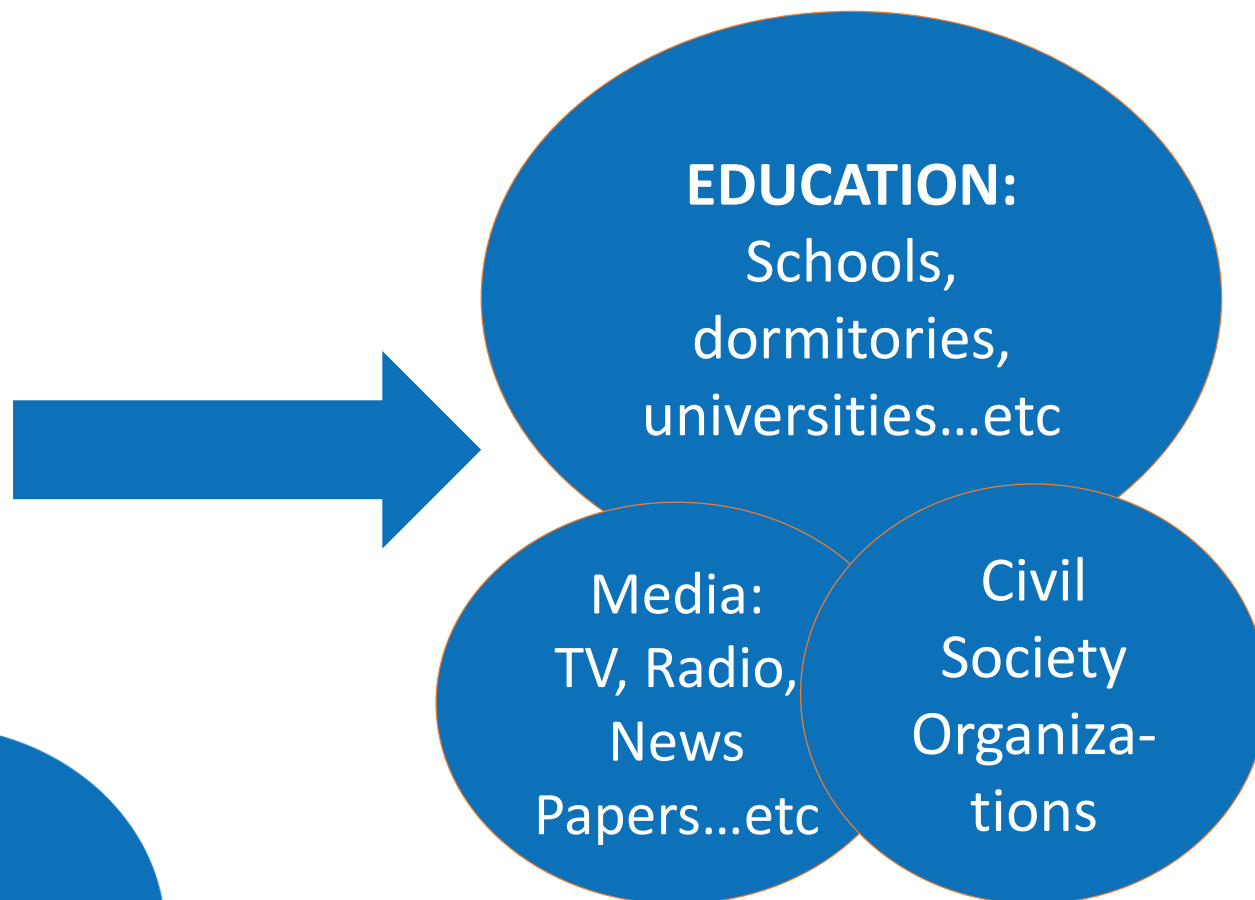
Dr. Mehmet Evrim Altın

MARCH 2021



FETHULLAH GÜLEN

Turkish Islamic Scholar and Retired Imam



Turkey (1970 – 2016)

- 2213 Private Schools and Tutorial Centers
- 22 Universities
- 1005 Dormitories

Germany (1990 – Today)

- 25 „Ersatz“ Private Schools
 - 7 Dormitories
- More than three Hundered Private Tutorial Centers

USA (1999 – Today)

- 7 Private Schools
- Several Hundereds of Charters Schools
- 1 University



According to uncertain statistics: 1455 STEM based private schools in 171 Countries

Research Questions

1- How the Movement mobilized the society to finance such kind of STEM based educational schools?

2- How the movement manage the Human Resources need in these private schools?

3- How the Gülen Inspired Schools connected globally and cooperate with each other?

Research
Design

Qualitative Research Design

Expert Interview Method

Sampling

1. School Managers

3 Schools in America
3 Schools in Africa
3 Schools in Europe

2. Experts

3 Insider Experts
3 Neutral – Positive Experts
3 Experts Contra to the Movement

18 Participants

Data Collection
& Analysis

Face to Face Semi-Structured Interviews

Maxqda and F5

Educational Mobilization of the Gülen Movement

FINANCIAL PERSPECTIVE



- Harmonization of Religion and Science
- Necessity of „STEM“ education
- Religious Arguments
- Financial Transparency => „TRUST“

HUMAN RESOURCES PERSPECTIVE



- Paying Attention to Teacher Education Programs
- Majority of the teachers are local people (75%)
- Mixture of the Movement's culture and local culture in GISs

GLOBAL COOPERATION PERSPECTIVE



- „Global Thinking, Local Acting“ Strategy
- „Network“ Structure of the movement
- **Localization** is the current strategy of the GISs

Critiques

1. „Secret Sect“ Accusation:
Connection GISs with Gülen and the Movement
2. „Golden Generation“ = New (Islamic) Aristocracy
 1. Indoctrination
 2. Missionary Activities
3. Conspiracy
4. Attains Financial Resources
5. Turkish Culture Imperialism



- „Independent“ structure based on local foundations
- No connection between Gülen and GISs
- Inofficial network structure of the movement
- Secular Education
 - Ethic Courses instead of religion courses
 - Gülen and his Philosophy is not taught



CONSEQUENCE = Gülen and his movement have political goals, that's why they try to hide their identity and work secretly to achieve their goals

Military Coup 1960

SECULARISTS BEAT
CONSERVATIVES

- Democrat Party is banned
- Prime Minister and 2 other Ministers executed
- All Democrat party members lost their jobs
- Some of the Democrat party members are jailed, some other send to exile

- **Gülen was 22 years old young Imam in his military service**
- **Later on Gülen builded his movement based on these circumstances**

Failed Military Coup 2016

ERDOGAN REGIME
COOPERATES WITH
SECULAR STATE
AGAINST GÜLEN
MOVEMENT

GÜLEN AND THE
MOVEMENT ARE
LABELLED AS „TEROR
ORGANIZATION

- All Gülen affiliated institutions in Turkey were banned
- Hundered thousands of members of Gülen Movement (including teachers, managers, scholars...etc) were arrested
- GM losts financial and human resources
- Turkey losts ist central position in the GM

Social Isolation

Political Pressure

Illegal Immigration

Modern Genocide



Nurefsan, 9, was trying to escape persecution in Turkey and reunite with her father. Didn't hug him for 5 years. Drowned in the cold waters of the Meric River.

Drowned the conscience of silent humanity!

Current Expansion of the Gülen Inspired Schools (GISs) to the World After 2016

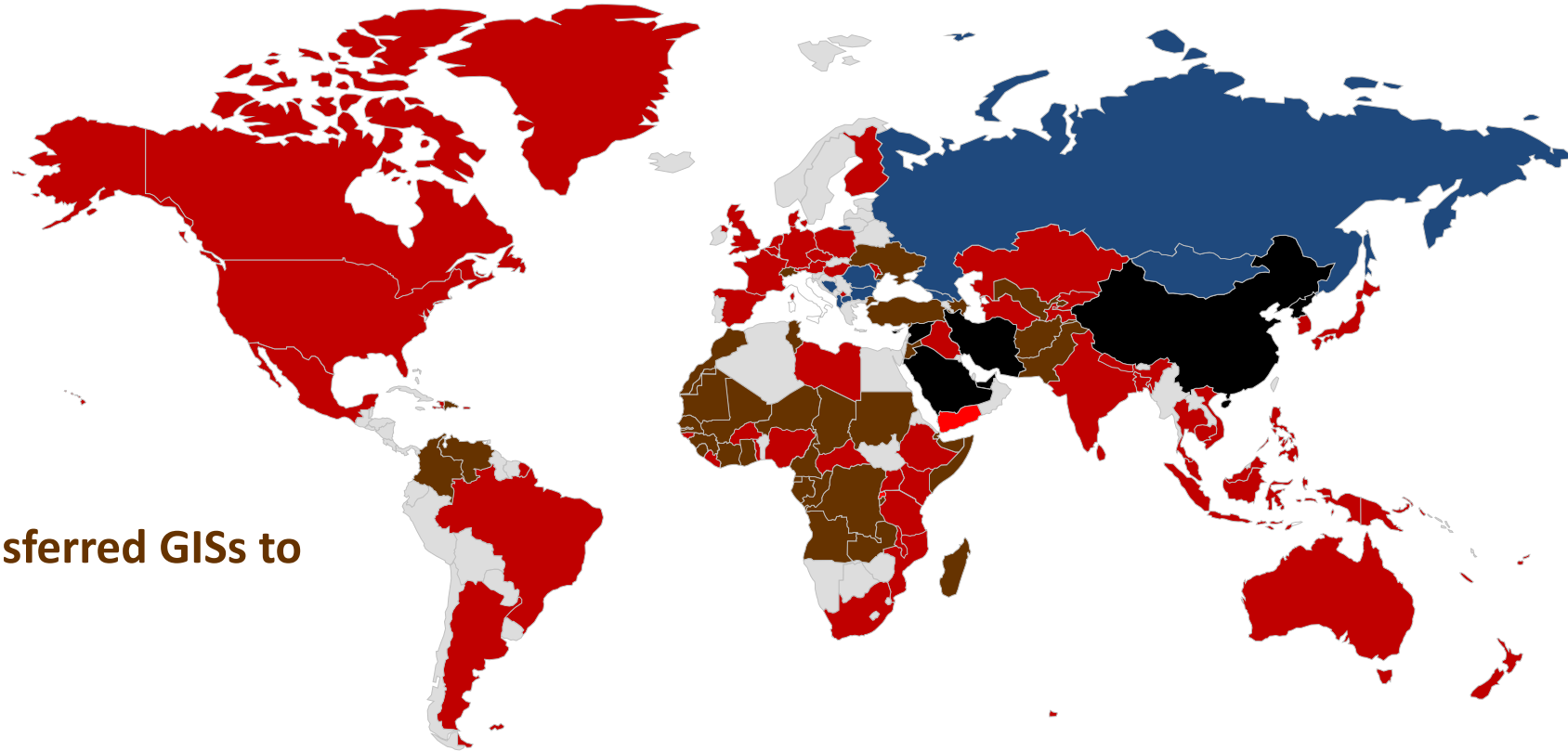
25 % of the students
left the GISs in

3 Schools in Germany, 1
School in Switzerland and 1
Private School in the U.S.
were closed

34 Countries Nationalized or transferred GISs to
„Maarif Foundation“

Illegal Intervention (Kidnapping)

Never Allowed the movement to
found any institutions



CONCLUSION = Gülen and his movement separate
themselves from their educational institutions and try
to protect them from any kind of political pressure

A photograph of a large, multi-story white building with a dark blue roof and numerous windows. The building is surrounded by greenery, including trees and bushes. A large tree on the left side of the frame has a bright sunburst effect. The sky is blue with some clouds. A blue semi-transparent circle is overlaid on the bottom left of the image, containing text.

IUBH Campus Bad Honnef

**Thanks for Your Attention
Questions?**