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Abstract

This presentation draws on the recently published book titled *The Turkish Deep State: State Consolidation, Civil-Military Relations and Democracy*, which addresses the question of how to conceptualize the notion of deep state. This study offers an alternative approach to concept formation and generates a mid-range theory of deep state that sheds light on the reciprocal relationship between state and political regimes. Furthermore, it examines path-dependent causes underpinning the deep state and explores the explanatory power of state transformation for delineating the demarcation line between democracy and autocracy as well as between defective and consolidated democracy. It reads state formation, consolidation and breakdown from the perspective of this most resilient phenomenon of Turkish politics.

