

ABSTRACT OF THE FINAL THESIS

Title (bold): Assessment of Turkey's Harmonisation Process to the EU Environmental Policies

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The European Union's environmental policy began to take shape in the 1970s. The Roman Club, which was founded in 1968, laid the groundwork for this formation; the group of world citizens sharing common knowledge for the future of humanity and environmental awareness remains the starting point of a process that is constantly evolving in the EU. Environmental issues have a special place in European Union policies, and an attempt has been made to create a conscious environmental policy by acting within the framework of an environmental policy determined in light of various principles. Since the 1980s, the European Union's environmental and natural life protection policies have gradually increased.

On the other hand, Turkey faced environmental problems in the 1970s, at the same time as the European Union, and as a result, concepts related to environmental pollution were developed in Turkey. Environmental assessments remained in the background in development plans made before 2000, and the plans were always based on the possibility that environmental policies would harm national development efforts, but with the eighth five-year development plan, the policies used and decisions made to solve environmental problems were determined by European Union norms and international standards. Attempts were made to bring them up to speed with the standards. The National Environmental Strategy and Action Program, which was developed to shape Turkey's environmental policy, holds a significant place.

For Turkey, the environment has primarily been addressed within the context of development plans. The study's main topic is the alignment of Turkish environmental policies with EU policies in the development process of development plans. First, Turkey and the EU were compared in terms of legislation in this framework. Then, in terms of economics, the environmental protection, expenditures, and investments of the public and private sectors were compared, and the current situation in Turkey's environmental policy adaptation process was evaluated. As a result, it has been determined that Turkey should determine and implement more accessible policies for environmental policy harmonization with the EU.

The determination of a country's environmental preferences and goals is referred to as environmental policy. In 1972, the European Union (EU) began developing environmental policies and action plans. Minimum standards and legal bases for waste recycling, water and air pollution were established during this time period.

Since the 1980s, the importance of EU policies aimed at protecting the environment and natural resources has grown. In order to promote sustainable development, the principle of integrating environmental protection into Union policies reveals the need to integrate environmental protection requirements into other Union policies and activities.