

A short history of the Peshmarga.

The Kurdish workers ' Party (Kurdish: Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê, abbreviated PKK; literal translation: "workers ' Party of Kurdistan") is a Kurdish militant organization in Turkey and Iraqi Kurdistan. Between 1984 and 2013 the PKK fought an armed struggle fought against the Turkish State for cultural and political rights and self-determination for the Kurds in Turkey, which is between 10% and 25% of the Turkish population and for decades were suppressed by the Turkish State. Earlier she wanted an independent Kurdish State in the southeast of Turkey. The Group was founded in 1978 in the village of Fis by a group of Kurdish students led by Abdullah Öcalan (Abdullah Öcalan (Ömerli (province of Urfa, Turkey), 4 april 1948) is a leader of the PKK, an armed separatist group that is fighting for Kurdish autonomy. Ocalan was in Kenya on February 15, 1999 by the Turkish Red Berets arrested with the help of the Israeli intelligence service Mossad and was sentenced to death by a Turkish Court. His sentence was later under pressure from the European Union changed to life imprisonment. From 1999 to 2009, he was the only prisoner on the island of Imralı, in the sea of Marmara and is still a prisoner of Turkey).

In 2013 the PKK accepted a truce and began to retreat her fighters to the Kurdish region of northern Iraq, as part of the peace process between the Turkish State and the long disenfranchised Kurdish minority. The PKK put the Turkish Government under pressure to take a stand against IS. The Turkish Government 'till this day tries to stop PKK fighters cross to Syria and to limit its fights against IS and arrested 'till now at least 260 warriors. The name ' PKK ' is usually used also for the armed wing of the PKK, however, called the People's Defense Forces (HPG), formerly the Kurdistan National Liberation Army (ARGK). The armed wing is seen as a terrorist organization by the European Union and the United States under pressure from Turkey, which sees the PKK as a terrorist organization itself. Other countries such as India, China, Switzerland, Russia and Egypt see the PKK as the People's Defense Forces.

The Turkey's June 7th. elections marked the end of the Justice and Development Party's (AKP) supremacy in the predominantly Kurdish southeast, where it had been the No. 1 political party since its coming to power in 2002. The rise of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Democratic Party's (HDP) in the region, which came at the expense of big AKP losses, has prompted the AKP to redesign Kurdish politics.

Turkey's ruling party appears to be on a quest to weaken the Kurdish political movement by promoting divisions and polarization in the Kurdish community, at present being at war with the PKK in south-east.

The first signal came ahead of the June 7 polls as President Tayyip Erdogan blasted a 10-point road map agreed between government representatives and the HDP as part of the settlement process. He later said he did not

recognize the agreement and declared that the settlement process was over. The Peshmarga, Peshmerga or peshmerge, are the armed forces of Iraqi-Kurdistan. The name itself means "those who face death" (pesh = "opposite", marg = "death"). The formal head of the Peshmarga is the president of Iraqi Kurdistan. Peshmarga troops are responsible for the defence of the country, the people and institutions of Iraqi-Kurdistan. Approx. 50 % of the Peshmarga's are female warriors. Because it is prohibited by law for the Iraqi army to enter Iraqi-Kurdistan the Peshmarga, along with other Kurdish organisations (among others Asayesh), are responsible for the safety of the Kurdish region.