

Abstract Title

Turkey's Role in South Caucasus from the lenses of Regional Security Complex Theory (RSCT)

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This paper will study Turkey's influence in South Caucasus. The study applies Barry Buzan and Ole Waever's Regional Security Complex Theorem (RSCT) to trace Turkey's politics in the region since the end of the Cold War. The authors' of this paper share the belief with the originators of the RSCT that it is necessary to combine systemic, regional, national, and to that matter many other relevant frameworks to provide the most accurate description of actual situation and prediction of potential developments. Importantly, it is crucial to wisely combine the age-old tenets of Realist theory with other important theoretical concepts to better explain security. In this regard RSCT, in the humble opinion of the author, is the most complete theorem in the field of international relations to analyze the behavior of any particular state and/or dynamics of global and regional interaction among different powers/states from the lenses of security.

Turkey's role as an insulator state is particularly interesting to us. Having placed Turkey in the conceptual framework of RSCT we will check if the theory correctly predicted what would have passed in three decades after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Of course, no theory can be picture perfect, but let's see how close to reality the theory stands.

And last, but not least, we will try to show what the theory predicts for Turkey in the near future.