

The Ergenekon Case

Ankara moves to the rhythm of "revelations" on this nebula supposed foment coups. The "power" of yesterday, the military and members of the Kemalist establishment (secular Republicans) are in the eye of the cyclone Turkish judiciary.

For four years, Turks living in stressful pace of the "Ergenekon Case." A generic term that covers almost all at once subversive acts, attempts and coup plots that have been fomented for years, by a pattern composed of members of the ultranationalist secret services, military coup plotters, d 'right-wing activists and mafia.

This nebula, whose code name would Ergenekon (1), would have constituted a "state within a state": the Turks also spoke of "deep state" to describe it. Since 2007, a series of revelations, nearly 500 arrests and pretrial detentions and the launch of many procedures are intended to clarify the role of the nebula.

Pinar Dogan said that initially, when the first arrests took place, she had "hope as a majority of Turks, we would finally know the truth about the injustices, disappearances and killings committed during the years black (the 1980s) has lived in Turkey and we would finally know, for example, what was that maintaining ties with the military death squads. "

But for this young brunette woman of 34, who lives in Harvard, where she teaches economics, everything changed one day in February 2010 when she learns the arrest of his father, Cetin Dogan, a retired admiral, himself accused of plotting a conspiracy of Ergenekon: Plan "Bayloz" ("Sledgehammer").

A month ago, the journalist Mehmet Barancu, hitherto unknown, had revealed the plan "crushing blow" in the liberal daily Taraf, publishing some excerpts from thousands of documents, 10 audio cassettes and 19 CDs that would have been "rendered" in a suitcase.

The plot "Sledgehammer"

According to these revelations, some members of the Turkish Navy have provided, among other things, to bomb two of the biggest mosques of Istanbul, close to NGOs, to stop thousands of people and kill a Turkish fighter aircraft at sea Aegean attributing the action to the Greek army. The chaos that would follow in the country would have brought down the Islamic-conservative AKP government, unable to defend the population. This scenario "crushing blow" has even been a "dress rehearsal", a "war game" according to the army, during a seminar organized and registered under the command of Admiral Cetin Dogan March 2003 Headquarters Marine.

Pinar Dogan is in shock.

"My father is a secularist, he never hid that he did not like the AKP, but then to imagine bombing mosques to topple the government, it is impossible! I know my father. "

As soon as she can have access to the file, supported by her husband Dani Rodrik, then it peels the 1,000 pages of the indictment and the 30,000 appendices. Both spend nights and days to verify the information contained in the prosecution case. They focus very quickly on the No. 11 CD with content based on indictment. And there, "second shock" to Pinar Dogan:

"We realize that it's fake!"

A false, "minefield for journalists'

After their research, the two young people realize that certain names, titles or positions mentioned by the very people supposed to have does not match the reality of 2003 that some people in Turkey are supposed to be in the truth abroad at the time.

In December 2010, the couple flew to Istanbul. He just explained to Turkish journalists that the CD # 11 is a fake, he was "manufactured in 2009 at the earliest." On television shows, the discomfort of the presenters can be heard. "Almost every time," says Pinar Dogan, we run into a wall. Some Turkish journalists are well aware that there is something wrong, but they fear retaliation if they report the truth. "What one of them, which is nevertheless not a" blue, "says:

"It's a minefield for journalists who put their feet."

Under the plan only "heavy blow", one of many conspiracies of Ergenekon, 163 suspects were remanded in custody. Pinar Dogan and Dani Rodrik has written a very didactic document in which they expose the disturbing results of their audits, in defense of their father and stepfather.

If the documents that prove the charge is based is indeed produced, we can then question the amateurism of those who designed and myopia prosecutors who, nevertheless, kept the suspects in custody .

Two new allies of the AKP

What however is clear is that these revelations and procedures constitute a new stage of struggle without thank you among the current Muslim-democrat to power with the AKP, which launched the Ergenekon case, and military establishment-secular-nationalist, in opposition, whose most extreme members may belong to the nebula.

In this struggle against its opponents, specifically in its new component that is the Ergenekon case, the AKP government can now rely on two recent important allies.

The police first. It is now largely composed of supporters of the Gulen movement. This religious movement that some call "neo-Brotherhood" is an essential support for the AKP in civil society. In Turkey and abroad, the AKP of Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan, for the first time only in power, can count on many networks and Gulen and marginalize the traditional channels, state or private, the opponent has often considered the sole legitimate owner of the Turkish Republic. For the Ergenekon investigation, the role of Gulen sympathizers within the police is crucial.

Second new ally for the AKP: Justice. It is now more in line with the new Islamic-conservative political majority. Supporters of the Gulen movement are also present. So far, the judicial hierarchy was a bastion of the secular establishment, the civilian arm of the armed struggle against "internal enemies" (Islamists, far left, Kurdish). In September 2010, constitutional reform has changed its composition. A number of high magistrates are elected either by trial judges closer to the AKP, either by the AKP-dominated parliament. "Notwithstanding the blunders court, prosecutors and judges are those pioneers who cleared a minefield while the state apparatus to defend with all his might," the lawyer considers Turkish Turkmen Fusun.

Fear has changed sides

With Ergenekon, fear has changed sides. For years it was the Islamist, leftist and Kurdish militants who experienced abusive custody, remands to liberty, expeditious and judicial blunders that the Turkish judiciary is not stingy. Now this is the "powerful" yesterday, the military and members of the Kemalist establishment (secular Republicans) who are in the eye of the cyclone and Turkish judicial suffer malfunctions.

Among those arrested, there is no doubt that we are racists, torturers and murderers, but also leaders of lay groups persecuted for their ideas. The continued detention, confirmed Thursday, March 17, two Turkish journalists, including one investigating the influence of the Gülen movement in the police and state apparatus raises indignation. Turkish intellectuals and some liberals are beginning to doubt.

The side of the Gülen movement, it is argued that Ahmet Sik, one of two journalists arrested recently made the game the opposing camp: "With his research, Ahmet Sik wants to blame the assassination of Armenian journalist Hrant Dink (2007) to police and customs clearance as well Ergenekon part of its responsibility," said an official of the movement.

Parliament in Strasbourg, Monday, March 7, several MEPs also expressed their dismay and their doubts about the complexity of the Ergenekon case. Distinguishing precisely between the solid parts of the record-because I think there are all the same! - And settle scores is an exercise that most connoisseurs of the country are still not managed to achieve, "says a Top EU official in charge of the Turkey in Brussels.

"It may take ten years but we will go through because these people (the military-secular establishment-Republican, Ed) we have sucked the blood like leeches," said an official with the Gulen movement, close

AKP, we were crushed for years! "Under the guise of anonymity, an intellectual close to the Gulen movement is concerned, however:

"Men who are in power today in Turkey have been victims for too long, they have much drooled. Then there is the risk that they go too fast and that vengeance triumphs over justice. "

Ariane Bonzon

(1) Ergenekon is the name of a mythical mountain valley from the depths of Central Asia which would come from the Turkish tribes. It is a strong reference to the ultra-nationalist Turks. Back to article