

Major Geopolitical Shift: Turkey Ends Its Support of Syria Opposition Rebels as ‘Goodwill Towards Damascus’

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This is a potentially incredible breakthrough in the painful 7 year-long Syrian conflict.

As 21WIRE has pointed out previous, aside from Turkey's key part in [facilitating the creation and supply of anti-Syrian terrorist enclaves](#) over the last 7 years, it has also played the central role in the [dismantling of Syria's manufacturing sector](#) centered around the now devastated industrial hub of Aleppo.

That's what makes this latest news almost unbelievable.

Since 2011, the leadership in Ankara has committed much of its southern territory, a good portion of financial and military resources, as well as nearly all of its diplomatic credibility... for one goal: to destabilize its neighbor and achieve regime change in Damascus.

Perhaps its renewed dialogue and a lucrative Southstream energy partnership with Russia, along with the relative success so far in the [Astana Peace Process](#) – and Washington's disruptive military and financial backing of a prime Turkish arch-enemy, the Kurdish militia in northern Syria, has made Turkish President Erdogan and his inner circle realize that it's time to reverse course on a 7 year failure, and immeasurable social, civil and economic destruction of their southern neighbor.

[Sputnik News](#) reports:

Turkey has stopped supporting the Syrian coalition of opposition forces. According to analyst and journalist Musa Özügür, this decision is likely to contribute to normalization between Ankara and Damascus.

Turkey has decided to end its support for the National Coalition for Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces (aka the Syrian National Coalition), which encompasses various opposition groups fighting in the Syrian conflict, the Syrian news outlet Zaman el-Vasl reported citing a source in the coalition.

Founded in November 2012, the Syrian National Coalition received \$320,000 in annual support from Turkey.

One potential problem with Turkey's statement is the framing of the concession by Ankara. Analysts at 21WIRE do not believe that the admitted annual sum of \$320,000 is in any way

indicative of the scope and scale of Turkey's 'rebel' terrorist operations over the last 7 years. By now it is well-known that the southern Turkish city of Gaziantep was used as a primary base and launching pad for numerous western NGO conducting covert subterfuge in Syria, and also as a base for militant coming to and from their anti-government operations inside of Syria. While Turkey acted as a host, other nations like Qatar are on record as paying [well in excess of \\$3 billion](#) to arm, supply, train and fund rebel/terrorists in Syria. This does not even count Turkey-based operations of US, UK, France, Germany, Norway, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia and Israel in relation to the destabilization of Syria since 2011. For Turkey to imply that its contribution to this effort amounts to a mere \$320,000 is simply not credible as being representative of its overall stake. Whether that is just a reflection of a timid *mea culpa* on Ankara's part in the face of international condemnation – is not certain.

Sputnik continues:

According to Turkish political analyst and journalist Musa Özügürlü, the decision to stop this support was prompted by Ankara's unwillingness to give funds to an opposition organization "capable only of talking at press conferences and useless in combat actions on the ground."

The journalist pointed to the fact that currently the coalition does not have the instruments to influence the course of events in Syria.

"This organization now is rather symbolic. It can operate only under the aegis of its leaders based in Ankara and Istanbul. After five years, everyone sees that the Syrian National Coalition has no future. The Turkish government realized that funding the group made no sense and decided to end its support," Özügürlü told [Sputnik Turkey](#).

The expert pointed out that Turkey is focused on neutralizing the security threats coming from Kurdish units involved in the Syrian conflict.

"While the US decided to cut off support for Syrian opposition fighters in order to focus on military assistance for Kurdish forces, Turkey's decision [to end support for the Syrian National Coalition] is a signal that Ankara will focus on countering Kurdish forces in Syria," he said.

21WIRE: If Turkey is sincere in this endeavor, then we have a major breakthrough in progress. Özügürlü underscores the diplomatic commitment here:

"By abandoning support for the Syrian opposition, Turkey is making a goodwill gesture towards the Syrian government. This decision may help break the ice between Damascus and Ankara," he said.

Overall, this is terrible news for the Neoconservative and Clinton alliance which has devoted so much into the Syrian Project since 2011, and even before that when you consider the US had been coordinating the destabilization of Syria [since at least 2006](#). That's over a decade of covert and proxy war operations directed against Syria, led by the United States.

Undoubtedly, the Obama Administration, Pentagon war hawks, pro-war DC think tanks and *deep state* operatives in Washington – are all looking at billions of dollars expended in US taxpayer funds wasted on yet another foreign policy failure and can now chalk this one up as a loss, right alongside Vietnam, Iraq and soon to be in Afghanistan.

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