

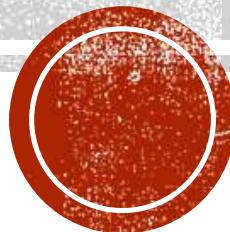
# **CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND ETHNIC ISSUES**

## **W8-10: THE SPANISH CONFLICT**

**Assistant Professor Dr Aytaç KADIOĞLU**

[aytackadioglu@sakarya.edu.tr](mailto:aytackadioglu@sakarya.edu.tr)

twitter: [@aytackadioglu](https://twitter.com/aytackadioglu)



# THE BASQUE CONFLICT

- The Basque conflict was an armed conflict between 1959 and 2011
  - The conflict between the Spanish government and ETA
  - ETA (Basque National Liberation Movement)
  - ETA claimed independence from Spain
  - Separatist and ethno-nationalist terrorist organisation
  - The lives of 10.000 people

# THE FIRST TERM

- The first term is between 1959 and 1980
- ETA's fight against the Franco regime
- ETA assassinated the prime minister of Spain, Luis Carrero Blanco
- After the death of Franco, Spain started a transition to democracy
- The Spanish constitution was approved in 1978
- Political wing: Herri Batasuna

# THE SECOND TERM

- The second term is between 1980 and 2000
- A paramilitary group Antiterrorist Liberation Groups (GAL): Officials of the Spanish government illegally established GAL to fight against ETA
- Targeted members of ETA and Herri Batasuna
- Secret peace talks were organised until 1989
- Declaration of a ceasefire
- Official negotiations were initiated as of 1989

# THE FINAL TERM

- The third term is between 2000 and 2011
- ETA's violent attacks
- Assassinations, car bombings, bombings
- Law of Parties enabled banning of any parties
- Herri Batasuna was banned in 2003
- Mid-2006 ETA ceasefire

# INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE

- Promoting peace in Basque
- Lokarri, a Basque community group, organised peace talks
- Important international figures attended to the conference:
  - Kofi Annan: Former UN-Secretary General
  - Bertie Ahern: Former Prime Minister of Ireland
  - Gro Harlem Brundtland: Former Prime Minister of Norway
  - Pierre Joxe: Former Interior Minister of France
  - Gerry Adams: President of Sinn Fein (Northern Ireland)
  - Jonathan Powell: British diplomat and a very famous peacemaker

# INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE

- A five-point statement
- Called ETA for cessation of violence
- An independent Basque homeland was possible if ETA ends the violent campaign
- ETA declared the end of its violent campaign three days later



# THE PRESENT TIME

- ETA declared to disarm in 2017
- ETA disbanded in 2018
- A small minority of ETA members were convicted for terrorist activities



# CONCLUSION

- ETA's tactics: assassinations, kidnappings and bombings
- The political party, Herri Batasuna
- Paramilitary groups and their actions
- ETA's violent attacks on political actors
- Peace initiatives

# NEXT WEEK

- The Colombian Peace Process