

# THE IMPACT OF THE TURKISH POLICIES TOWARD THE PKK TERRORIST ORGANIZATION: A Time Series Intervention Analysis

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## OVERVIEW

Time series intervention analysis was applied to the PKK history of terrorist attacks in Turkey and the Turkish government responses in order to identify and quantify the impact of those policies on the level of attack frequency.

## METHODOLOGY

Count data (Poisson and Negative Binomial) time series analysis was performed on the periods 1993-1995 and 2003-2005 (pre- and post-Ocalan incarceration) with indicator variables for the "Returning Home Bill", the negotiations for entry into NATO, Ocalan's capture and Ocalan's pardon.

## FINDINGS

The result indicated that the interventions had no statistically significant impact on the number of the PKK attacks. Although the number of casualties decreased during post intervention period, negative binomial regression analysis revealed that the number of deaths per event increased significantly in summer seasons. However, the lethality didn't increase. The result also revealed that there was no significant change of the PKK's target type, but some in target status. The military personnel were targeted much more after the interventions than they were before. Policy implications for governmental actions were indicated. Auto-regression failed to show significant serial correlations after accounting for very strong seasonality patterns.

## FUTURE RESEARCH

Future efforts should employ count data time series models as applied to event frequency as opposed to direct analyses of casualty data.



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