

The star shines over Türkiye

It's a well-known joke. As the Archangel watches from the heights of the universe, he wonders what he sees... The joke goes that Russia declared war on the United States. The Archangel rushed to deliver this crucial news to God. It's beyond anyone's place to disturb God, who was working in his private office at the time, but the matter was of vital importance. The Archangel knocked on the door, entered excitedly, and delivered the news in one breath. The reaction was astonishing. God said, "I do not interfere with the affairs of My servants; they know what to do. Don't bother me again with such matters." The Archangel, astonished, returned to observe what was happening below. Then other great powers—China, France, and England—entered the war. Then smaller states followed. In short, things got heated. Meanwhile, Turkey also entered the war. After considerable hesitation, the Archangel decided to deliver the news to the higher authority and, with trepidation, knocked on the door. An angry voice came from within, "What's wrong again?" The archangel trembled, saying, "Great Master, Turkey has also entered the war. Perhaps you'd like to know..." As God roared, "Why didn't you tell me this before? Bring me my weapons!" The archangel, stunned and astonished, asked, "But Great Master, you remained silent when other countries entered the war, so why do you intervene when Turkey does?" The reply was, "Well, because the Turks leave all their affairs to me."

Jokes aside, it started in 1999 as if by the touch of a 'divine' hand (this 'divine hand' is the subject of another article) and first came to light with the Susurluk Scandal,

dirty business, then Apo was packaged and handed over to Türkiye (again with a 'divine intervention') and the full membership process that began with the EU suddenly coming to the right path in December 1999 and declaring Türkiye a candidate member.

Finally, the rapid progress towards a solution to the Cyprus Problem, which, at least in the eyes of our generation, is an insoluble problem hanging over the country like a millstone; the major legal infrastructure changes that are being undertaken, equivalent to the great modernization initiated by Atatürk... show that something is changing significantly in this country.

For the reasons mentioned above, the frequency of EU visits to Türkiye has increased significantly recently. These visitors aren't just the Luxembourg Foreign Minister or Prime Minister. The succession of EU Commission President Romano Prodi, the first to return to Turkey after so many decades; German Foreign Minister Fischer; German Chancellor Schröder; German Main Opposition Leader Merkel; EU Enlargement Commissioner Verheugen; and the first Swedish Prime Minister to visit Türkiye is a development that cannot be explained by mere coincidence.

In his work 'The Moments When the Star Shines', Stefan Zweig described the events that affected the world, from the conquest of Istanbul by the Turks to the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo.

This time, the 'Star is Shining Over Türkiye', and the lives of this country's citizens are changing. In the words of Çetin Altan, "Don't let your neck be clouded. " Türkiye is on the right track.