

## The policy of the United States of America towards the Ottoman Empire 1830- 1932 AD

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### **ABSTRACT**

The emerging American nation existed after a war American independence

( 1775- 1783 ad ) It faces a hostile world of large empires that practice trade monopolies and do not agree to the principle of free trade Therefore, American merchants and shipowners realized that they had never enjoyed the commercial advantages that the English had

It was foreign trade Necessary to secure the survival of the new republic So American politicians found it necessary Finding new markets To stimulate activity in the economy, which in turn will increase prosperity;

For the upliftment of the American people.

This opened the way for the American commercial presence in the Ottoman states and ports and for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

### **Introduction :**

The United States, as an emerging power, tried hard after gaining its independence in 1783 AD to open new markets for itself in many countries.

Because the American economy needed to recover and feel its strength after leaving the control of the English occupation and She had what she wanted When it was able to conclude many diplomatic and trade agreements with the Ottoman Empire Thanks to these agreements, the United States was able to reach the most important Ottoman ports (Smyrna and Izmir), which witnessed the activity of American commercial traffic to carry out commercial exchange of many commodities, most notably (opium); and Many American trading houses were also established To consolidate its positions within the Ottoman Empire as an entity with its own characteristics alongside the other economic powers present there.

So she established an embassy in Istanbul To protect his interests

and it's over By concluding an agreement Commercial with her ayear 1830 ad She preserved her rights commercial Within the Ottoman states Not only in Smyrna, Istanbul, or even in the Ottoman ports alone But in the states belonging to the Ottoman Empire.

Political relations between the United States and the Ottoman Empire began in the nineteenth century and were primarily aimed at serving the economic and cultural interests between the two countries<sup>(1)</sup>

The two countries signed the Treaty of Friendship and Trade in 1830 AD, which determined the structure of relations between the two countries.

Accordingly, the United States of America was granted the right of the most favored state in the Ottoman Empire, as the first article of the agreement affirmed that Ottoman Empire merchants would pay taxes when they headed to the territories and ports of the United States, or from those ports to other countries, and other similar fees such as those paid by the most favored nations, When American merchants go to the Ottoman Empire, they pay the same taxes and fees that are paid by merchants from countries friendly to the Ottoman Empire that enjoy the system of foreign privileges, and the Article Seven affirmed the freedom of passage of American ships in Ottoman waters, as was the case with the rest of the countries that enjoyed a system of concessions. As for Article Nine, it stressed the necessity of providing assistance and protection to the ships of the two contracting states in the event that they were exposed to sinking or any other danger.<sup>(2)</sup>

In the year following the signing of the treaty, the United States government appointed Navy Commander David Porter as Chargé d'Affairs in Istanbul, Then he became resident minister in 1839 AD, heading the American leg there until his death in 1843 AD.

It seems that this degree of diplomatic representation did not satisfy the Sublime Porte, which expected that the United States government would at least appoint a Minister Plenipotentiary, and in order to provide greater care for the American interests scattered in the Ottoman Empire.<sup>(3)</sup>

The primary mission of these American diplomats was to provide protection for American citizens and their individual and collective interests, while refraining from interfering in the internal politics of the Ottoman Empire, the Eastern Question, or even the question of the future of the Ottoman Empire. Because this is consistent with the traditional US policy of the Monroe Doctrine<sup>(4)</sup>

In which the United States committed itself not to interfere in political affairs, It seems that the United States' abstention from interfering in these affairs led to placing American diplomats in Istanbul in a lower position than their counterparts, representatives of other foreign countries. Therefore, when the Sublime Porte realized

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(1) Hedar Gamal , American Turkish Relations 2003-2009, Master's thesis, Mutah University, 2010, Jordan , p. 1

(2) Ahmed younes alshemary , The development of US-Turkish relations 1947/1991, Journal of the Babylon Center for Humanitarian Studies, 2018, Volume 8,

Issue 2, Babylon, p. 75

Turgay. Uner, , Osmanli Arastirmalari III, The Journal of Ottoman Studies III, Istanbul, p. 207.

(3) <https://tr.usembassy.gov/tr/our-relationship-tr/policy-history-tr/io-tr/> ABD – Türk taiye İlişkilerinin Tarihine Bir Bakış

(4) <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/monroe-doctrine> -Monroe Doctrine (1823

In a message delivered to the US Congress on December 2, 1823, US President James Monroe announced it

that it would be difficult for it to persuade the United States government to abandon its traditional policy, it somewhat neglected to pay attention to providing Demonstrations of merit of the American diplomatic corps, Perhaps this negligence is what prompted the United States government to pay attention to the request to raise the level of representation to an embassy since 1897 AD. However, the objection of the European countries to the Ottoman Sultan, especially Russia and Germany; This led to a lack of response and a delay in approval of the request until 1906 AD, when Leishman was appointed the first US ambassador to the Sublime Porte. Raising the level of representation facilitated many transactions, especially since the head of the mission, if he had the rank of ambassador, could more easily reach the Ottoman Sultan..<sup>(5)</sup>

One of the results of the 1830 treaty was that it provided broad opportunities for American merchants and diplomats, as well as “missionary missionaries,” to penetrate parts of the Ottoman Empire. In this regard, Commodore John Porter Brown, P.J., wrote to the American government that American influence in the Ottoman Empire had become superior thanks to the activities of interest American study of the Ottoman situation during the era of the Armenian massacres (1894-1896)

The government sent its warships, led by Admiral Colbigbetter, to protect the lives of the American missionaries and obtain compensation for the losses inflicted on their institutions as a result of those massacres. Indeed, the American Admiral succeeded. In the mission for which he was sent, the Ottoman Empire agreed to pay an amount of \$95,000 to those missionaries.<sup>(6)</sup>

As for the Ottoman diplomatic representation, it was not sent until twenty-six years after the treaty of 1830 AD, and it seems that the Sublime Porte did not care about sending a diplomatic representative to the United States government until 1856 AD. When he appointed his first consul in New York, then he waited until 1867 AD to send Bulak Bey (who is of French origin) as the first Ottoman envoy with the rank of charge d'affaires, then as extraordinary envoy and minister plenipotentiary in Washington, and it seems that the political events in that period She's the one who pushed him to do this. This was after he received news that the United States government was sympathetic to the rebellion movement in Crete. Therefore, the Sublime Porte assigned Bulaq Bey to abort any attempt to help the Cretan revolutionaries. This representative was able to influence the United States government to remain neutral.

He also achieved another success in convincing the United States government to supply his government with weapons, and at the beginning of the twentieth century, Turkish diplomatic representation in the United States increased to the level of ambassador..<sup>(7)</sup>

The Sublime Porte was also interested in establishing many consular offices in the United States. It had consular offices in San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, New York, and even in Manila in the Philippines, which was an American colony..<sup>(8)</sup>

Relations also began in the form of activity by American missionaries in the Ottoman Empire. A Protestant church was established to confront the hostility of the national

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(5) <https://tarihibilgi.org/monreo-doktrini/Monreo Doktrini Kısaca Nedir?>

(6) Ahmed younes alshemary ,op.cit , pp. 75-76

(7) Öznur Feyizoğlu, Osmanlı Arşiv Belgelerine Göre Sultan Abdülaziz Dönemi Osmanlı Amerika ilişkileri (1861-1876) , Yüksek lisans tezi , Kocaeli, 2009 . S.52 - 96

(8) Öznur Feyizoğlu,A.G.S;98.

churches and the new Christians joining them. The Ottoman authorities worked to increase the number of Protestant Christians in the Ottoman Empire.

However, their numbers did not increase significantly to be able to compete with the ancient Christian sects in the Ottoman Empire. However, if the Protestant sect was small in number, it had a great influence in Turkey, and as a result, Greek, Arab, and Bulgarian Protestantism arose..(9)

Christian missions also worked to translate and publish Christian books in local languages, and this meant the development of local languages such as Armenian and Bulgarian into modern literary languages, the result of this was that these missions became closer to local nationalists, and they aimed to spread nationalist sentiment among the Ottomans in the nineteenth century. American Protestants played a constructive role in this regard, as did other Christian sects.

The American missionaries established hospitals and orphanages equipped with Christian doctors and workers, which continued to work greatly in the Ottoman Empire. They were interested in establishing missionary schools from kindergartens to theological colleges supported by the United States, which were managed by the missions themselves, and spread sports such as athletics..(10)

The First World War (1914 - 1918 AD), which the Ottoman Empire fought alongside the Axis powers, resulted in devastating results for it, which were extracted from it according to the Treaty of Sèvres in 1920 AD, All the lands in Asia Minor, and even this, an area around the port of Izmir (Smyrna) was cut off and given to Greece, in addition to placing the Straits of Bosphorus and Dardanelles under international administration.

In Europe, Türkiye's borders were fixed a few miles from Istanbul. In response to all of this, the Turkish War of Independence broke out and succeeded in liberating the entire territory of Anatolia - the current location of Türkiye - from foreign forces, especially Greek forces.

Following this, the Treaty of Lausanne was signed in 1923 AD to replace the previous treaty. On October 23, 1923 AD, the "Grand National Council" announced the establishment of the modern Turkish Republic, headed by Mustafa Kemal, To begin a new phase in the life of the Turkish state and its political, economic and military relations with other countries and the international community, which ranged, like the relations of the Ottoman Empire, between conflict, cooperation and competition, varying in intensity and strength with those countries, including the United States of America.(11)

## **Conclusion**

This study concluded The United States was late in its commercial activity with the Ottoman Empire, and this delay had many reasons, including the lack of urgent need of

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(9) Salwa Saad Al-Ghalibi, Ottoman-American relations (1830 - 1918), Madbouly Library, 2002, Cairo, p.147.

(10) ibid

(11) Ahmed younes alshemary ,op.cit , p. 73.

- Laurence, Evans, United States Policy and the partition of Turkey 1914-1924, Batilmore, 1964, p237.

American capitalism for the markets of the Ottoman Empire, the strength of European penetration and its ambitions in the Ottoman Empire, as well as the geographical distance and the lack of development of means of transportation, but when the United States found that the conditions had become suitable, it turned to its ambitions. Towards the Ottoman Empire and concluded trade agreements with it

that the treaty of 1830 AD between the United States of America and the Ottoman Empire, which opened the door to the development of Ottoman-American relations, and the United States delved into interference in the affairs of the Ottoman Empire until its fall in 1923 AD and the declaration of the establishment of secular Türkiye.

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