



**ANALYSIS OF TÜRKİYE'S FOREIGN POLICY IN MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE TO LIBYA UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
PRESIDENT RECEP TAYYIP ERDOĞAN (2019 – 2022)**

**UNDERGRADUATE THESIS**

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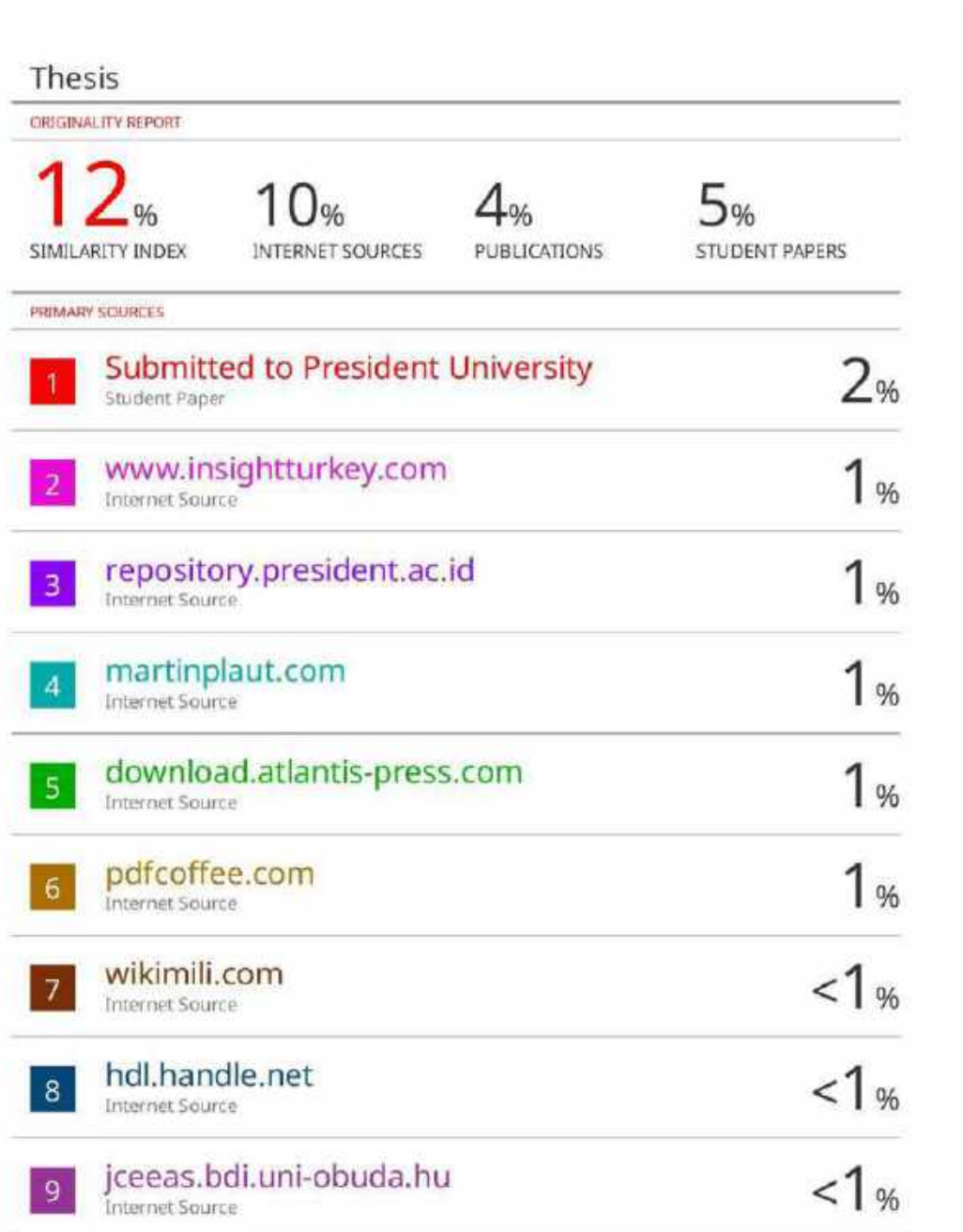
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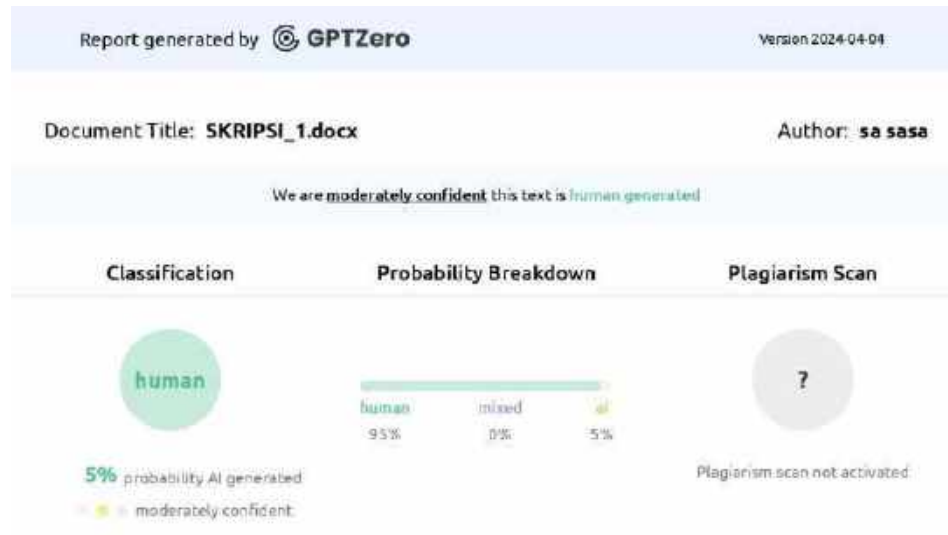
**CIKARANG**

**JULY, 2024**

# TURNITIN RESULT



# GPTZERO RESULT



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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

On February 17, 2011, the beginning of the outbreak of the Libyan civil war which is also remembered as the "Day of Rage" which marked that the Arab Spring had reached Libya. In response to the uprising that occurred from both peaceful rebel elements aiming for political reform, and hardline rebels, Gaddafi's forces began to carry out full-scale military operations indiscriminately against both elements (Siebens & Case, 2012). The United Nations passed Resolution 1970, calling for an immediate cease-fire in response to Gaddafi's swift stance, imposing sanctions on Gaddafi and all members of his government, and referring attacks on Libyan civilians to the International Criminal Court (ICC) (Siebens & Case, 2012). On March 23, NATO began imposing an arms embargo, maintaining a no-fly zone, and protecting civilians and civilian-populated areas from attacks or threats of attack by the Gaddafi regime under Operation Unified Protector (OUP) where the overall control of military intervention in Libya will be taken over by NATO (Fukutomi, 2017). This operation marked the beginning of Turkey's presence and involvement in Libya. Erdoğan, prime minister of Turkey at that time initially opposed NATO intervention in Libya. But just a week later after the speech, Turkey realized that it would face a powerful international coalition if it did not change strategy and send naval vessels and submarines to help enforce the arms embargo against Libya (Özcan, 2012).

According to Özpek & Demirag, in the beginning, the presence of the Turkish army in Libya was due to Turkey not having the power to prevent intervention, and its membership in NATO forced Turkey to be part of the intervention. Turkey is a country that is in a position of contact between three regions, Europe, the Middle East, and the Caucasus (Central Asia). This position makes Turkey strategic and dilemmatic. This is strategic because of the condition of Turkey's territory which can be involved in all aspects that are intertwined in the region such as economics, politics, including profitable security. Meanwhile, the dilemma is caused by the state of Turkey which can be trapped in a difficult position when dealing with broader security issues. The relationship between the two countries carries a deep sense of responsibility in Turkey's policies in Libya. Above all, Turkey prefers to be a constructive actor, taking a role in mitigating conflicts and crises and prioritizing political negotiations over a military approach (Kekilli & Öztürk, 2020). While bringing the principle of protection of civilians to the fore during the revolution in 2011, Turkey made every effort to assist in the reconstruction of Libya until the re-eruption of the conflict in May 2014 (Kekilli & Öztürk, 2020).

Libyan politics took a new turn in which violence was used as an instrument when Khalifa Haftar staged a military coup in May 2014 with the support of Egypt and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) (Kekilli & Öztürk, 2020). Since then,

## ABSTRACT

This study analyzes Türkiye's foreign policy in providing military assistance to Libya under President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan from 2019 to 2022. This study explores the conflict dynamics of Libya's second civil war arising from Türkiye's military involvement in Libya, specifically in support of the Government of National Accord (GNA) against the Libyan National Army (LNA) led by Khalifa Haftar. Using the theoretical framework of defense diplomacy, this study analyzes Türkiye's foreign policy in its military assistance that influenced the development of the conflict. Qualitative methods were used with primary data analysis from government reports, academic journals, and other reliable sources. The results show that Türkiye's military policy has not only strengthened the position of the GNA but also that Türkiye's involvement has been crucial in shaping the dynamics of peacekeeping and peace enforcement in Libya. This study provides important insights into Türkiye's role as a regional actor and its contribution to the conflict dynamics in Libya.

**Keyword :** Türkiye's foreign policy, Military assistance, Libyan conflict, Defense diplomacy, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan.

## **ABSTRAK**

Penelitian ini menganalisis kebijakan luar negeri Turki dalam memberikan bantuan militer kepada Libya di bawah pemerintahan Presiden Recep Tayyip Erdogan pada tahun 2019-2022. Studi ini mengeksplorasi dinamika konflik perang saudara kedua Libya yang muncul akibat keterlibatan militer Turki di Libya, khususnya dalam mendukung Pemerintah Kesepakatan Nasional (GNA) melawan Tentara Nasional Libya (LNA) yang dipimpin oleh Khalifa Haftar. Dengan menggunakan kerangka teori diplomasi pertahanan, penelitian ini menganalisis kebijakan luar negeri Turki dalam bantuan militernya yang mempengaruhi perkembangan konflik. Metode kualitatif digunakan dengan analisis data sekunder dari laporan pemerintah, jurnal akademis, dan sumber-sumber terpercaya lainnya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kebijakan militer Turki tidak hanya memperkuat posisi GNA, tetapi juga bahwa keterlibatan Turki sangat penting dalam membentuk dinamika pemeliharaan perdamaian dan penegakan perdamaian di Libya. Penelitian ini memberikan wawasan penting mengenai peran Turki sebagai aktor regional dan kontribusinya terhadap dinamika konflik di Libya.

**Kata kunci :** Kebijakan luar negeri Turki, Bantuan militer, Konflik Libya, Diplomasi pertahanan, Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

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