EXTENDED SUMMARY

The republican regime planned to raise a new generation based on those principles which were stipulated by the Law on Unification of Education, and on the philosophy and the ideology of the new republic. Educational policies taking Turkish nationality as the basis were implemented based on the awareness of the significant part played by education. The educational policies were nationalistic. This nationalist nature, however, gave way to a more humanistic / socialist understanding after Atatürk. This understanding caused Turkish children to break away from their self and from the Kemalı ideology, and lean to alien “-isms”. As generations broke away from their selfhood and got lost, nationalist intellectuals argued that the posterity needed to be raised based on the understanding called the “Turkish-Islamic Synthesis” in order to ensure that they would be tied to national and spiritual values. Those intellectuals made scientific meetings and produced ideas for rendering this understanding the National Educational policy of the Republic. Some right-wing governments were inspired by this understanding in organizing their educational policies. Opposing the official opinion on how the posterity needed to be raised, the socialists harshly criticized the synthesist policy and educational policies. These criticisms argued that the educational programs and the textbooks aimed to raise, ideologically, a nationalist, conservative and religionist Turkish youth.

**Keywords:** Ministry of National Education, Turkish-Islamic Synthesis, Educational Programs, Socialist, Nationalism