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moderate, EU-oriented path -- Scenario 2 : creeping Islamization -- Scenario 3 : military intervention -- Implications for U.S. policy.

As a Muslim-majority country that is also a secular democratic state, a member of NATO, a candidate for membership in the European Union, a long-standing U.S. ally, and the host of Incirlik Air Base (a key hub for logistical support missions in Afghanistan and Iraq), Turkey is pivotal to U.S. and Western security interests in a critical area of the world. It also provides an example of the coexistence of Islam with secular democracy, globalization, and modernity. However, having a ruling party with Islamic roots-the Justice and Development Party (AKP)-within a framework of strict secularism ha