

interview, Hrant Dink was charged for insulting Turkishness by the Istanbul Prosecutor's Office. Ironically, this interview was reprinted in other Turkish papers too, but none of their owners or editors was brought to trial.

Given the pressurized political atmosphere prevailing in Turkey today, many Turkish intellectuals choose to live abroad, especially in Europe or America. They have, therefore, access to literature unavailable in Turkey; they come in contact with Armenian survivors in the Diaspora and listen to their stories. Trusting or doubting in what they hear or read, but always stupefied, they set out to discover the lost pages of their own history. Their sociopolitical and historical scholarship as well as their fiction today is challenging the official stand and demanding that the Turkish government break the silence, confront the past, and come to terms with it.¹⁸ Because of this change, a dent, albeit a small one, has been made in the rigid Turkish political stand, allowing memoirs, biographies, and fiction to entertain the topic of the Armenian Genocide and the lives of survivors hitherto assumed to be totally integrated and immersed in Turkish society. The analysis of the responses to the past traumatic experience, as conceptualized in artistic literature, provides me with additional insight into the metamorphosis of the identity of Genocide survivors in Turkey.

¹⁸ In this study, the Turkish official stand narrowly refers to the way the government treats the Armenian issue, that is, silencing any discussion of it and the memory of it as well. It should be mentioned, however, that Turkish liberal intellectuals consider that this kind of treatment by the government applies not only to the Armenian issue but to everything that goes against the national project.