

# NEWSBYTES

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"Let us be alert to the season in which we are living. It is the season of the Blessed Hope, calling for us to cut our ties with the world and build ourselves on this One who will soon appear. He is our hope—a Blessed Hope enabling us to rise above our times and fix our gaze upon Him." Tozer

*Well, this certainly is interesting...M*

## **Germany's Largest Right-Wing Extremist Group is Turkish, not German**

by Soeren Kern  
June 22, 2021

- The German Parliament and other federal agencies estimate that the true number Grey Wolves in Germany is above 18,000. This is five times more than the number of members (3,500) of Germany's neo-Nazi party.
- The ideology underpinning the Grey Wolves movement is a Turkish version of Aryanism and sets itself in opposition to anyone who is not Turkish or Sunni Islamic. It is anti-Christian and anti-Jewish, as well as anti-American, anti-Armenian, anti-Kurdish and anti-Greek.
- The objective of the Grey Wolves is to unify all the Turkish peoples into a single country called Turan whose territory would stretch from Europe to China. The Grey Wolves also want to establish a new world order based on Islam that is led by Turkey; they are opposed to the assimilation or integration of Turkish immigrants into Western society.
- "Supporters of the 'Grey Wolves' are responsible for a large number of murders of political opponents and members of minorities in Turkey and abroad." — Die Linke, Parliamentary Resolution, November 2020.
- "So, the CDU is in reality working with the right-wing extremist Grey Wolves, although it preaches that right-wing extremism is the greatest danger in Germany." — Zara Riffler, Tichys Einblick.
- "Erdoğan despises the West and Western values. He says this openly at every opportunity.... One is not working here on integration, not even on a parallel society, but quite obviously on a counter-society.... Why can Merkel — and Germany — criticize Trump and the USA, but not publicly and unequivocally put Erdoğan in his place?" — CDU politician Ali Ertan Toprak, Tichys Einblick.

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As German federal elections approach on September 26, the candidates hoping to succeed Chancellor Angela Merkel are reiterating the need to thwart far-right extremism, particularly neo-Nazism, in Germany. In fact, the largest far-right extremist group in Germany is Turkish, not German, according to a new intelligence report on domestic threats to Germany's constitutional order.



Gallup/Getty Images)

The Turkish neo-fascist movement *Ülkücü* (Turkish for "Idealists") — popularly known as Grey Wolves — now has at least 11,000 active members in Germany, according to the new annual report (*Verfassungsschutzbericht 2020*) by Germany's domestic intelligence agency (*Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz, BfV*).

*Pictured: Turks in Berlin, Germany wave flags at a demonstration in support of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, on July 15, 2017. One man in the photo is giving the hand sign of the Grey Wolves organization . (Photo by Sean*

The German Parliament and other federal agencies estimate that the true number Grey Wolves in Germany is above 18,000. This is five times more than the number of members (3,500) of Germany's neo-Nazi party, the National Democratic Party of Germany (*Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands, NPD*).

The ideology underpinning the Grey Wolves movement is a Turkish version of Aryanism and sets itself in opposition to anyone who is not Turkish or Sunni Islamic. It is anti-Christian and anti-Jewish, as well as anti-American, anti-Armenian, anti-Kurdish and anti-Greek.

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Followers of the Grey Wolves carry out intelligence-gathering operations for the Turkish government, and have murdered, assaulted and intimidated critics of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Germany.

Germany's annual intelligence report, unveiled on June 15, elaborates:

"The Turkish right-wing extremist 'Ülkücü' movement ('idealist' movement) emerged in Turkey in the middle of the 20th century. It is based on a nationalist, anti-Semitic and racist right-wing extremist ideology, the roots of which lie in Pan-Turkism and Turanism. The ideological spectrum of the movement ranges from neo-pagan elements to nationalist Kemalism to the fringes of Islamism. The aim of the movement is to defend and strengthen Turkish citizenship. 'Ülkücü' followers consider the ideal idea to be the establishment of 'Turan' — an ethnically homogeneous state of all Turkic peoples under leadership of the Turks. The country of 'Turan' would incorporate the settlement areas of all Turkic peoples. Depending on the ideological reading, these extend from the Balkans to western China or Japan.

"The 'Ülkücü' movement regards the Turkish nation as the highest value both politically, territorially, ethnically and culturally. The assumed cultural and religious superiority is expressed in the exaggeration of Turkish identity and results in a degradation of other ethnic groups who are declared 'enemies of Turkishness.' The symbol and best-known identifier of the 'Ülkücü' movement is the 'grey wolf' (*Bozkurt*) and the so-called wolf salute derived from it, in which the fingers of the right hand on the outstretched arm shape the head of a wolf. Supporters of the 'Ülkücü' movement are often referred to as 'Grey Wolves' (*Bozkurtlar*).

"The 'Ülkücü' movement is heterogeneous. Of the approximately 11,000 supporters living in Germany, around 9,400 are organized in three large umbrella organizations. These represent the various forms of the 'Ülkücü' ideology in different ways. Some of the associations are foreign organizations of extremely nationalist Turkish parties. The associations strive for a moderate appearance in their external presentation and tend to cultivate their right-wing extremist ideology internally, especially in their associated affiliations. The unorganized supporters of the 'Ülkücü' movement live out their mostly racist or anti-Semitic enemy images in different ways, often on social media, but also when they meet their political opponents, especially the Kurds, in public. This shows the high potential for violence....

The Grey Wolf movement in Germany is divided into three main umbrella organizations:

- **Federation of Turkish Democratic Idealist Associations in Germany (ADÜTDF)** is the largest 'Ülkücü' umbrella organization in Germany. It represents the interests of Turkey's far-right 'Nationalist Movement Party' (MHP), which is the parent political party of the 'Ülkücü' movement. ADÜTDF has around 160 local branches in Germany with around 7,000 members, according to the report, which adds:

"Outwardly, the group demonstrates a commitment to comply with German law and it tries hard to maintain a moderate demeanor. Inwardly, however, the ADÜTDF is an advocate of a nationalist right-wing extremist ideology in line with its parent party MHP. Because of its membership size, the association is a major exporter and disseminator of right-wing extremist ideas among Turks and Germans of Turkish descent living in Germany.

"The ADÜTDF is convinced of the superiority of Turkishness.... This worldview violates the principle of equality anchored in Germany's Basic Law and counteracts the integration of migrants of Turkish origin into German society."

- **Union of Turkish-Islamic Cultural Associations in Europe (ATİB)** represents a more Islamic-oriented part of the 'Ülkücü' movement. ATİB claims to have 80 branches in Germany with over 8,000 members, but the German intelligence report estimates that the group, which is based in Cologne, currently has around 1,200 members organized in around 25 local branches. The report, which does not explain the reason for the discrepancy, states:

"ATİB wants to preserve the cultural and religious identity of immigrants of Turkish origin in Germany.... Through its roots in the 'Ülkücü' ideology, the umbrella organization creates a disintegrative effect and promotes Turkish nationalism with right-wing extremist influences, which is characterized by an extreme friend-foe thinking. This leads to the devaluation of other ethnic groups or religions, especially Kurds and Judaism."

- **Federation of World Order in Europe (ANF)** is the European organization of the extreme Turkish nationalist 'Great Unity Party' (BBP), which is directed against ethnic minorities (especially Kurds) as well as against religious minorities (especially Christian Armenians). ANF was founded in Germany in 1994 and currently has around 15 local branches in Germany with a total of around 1,200 members, according to the report, which adds:

"Like BBP, ANF represents the part within the movement that has expanded the classic 'Ülkücü' ideology to include the factor of religion in the sense of the so-called Turkish-Islamic synthesis. According to this idea, being Turkish is only possible in connection with Islam. The striving for a unification of all Turkic peoples in a homogeneous state 'Turan' is just as much a part of the political agenda as the creation of a new world order. Behind this is the idea of a world domination of Islam under the leadership of the Turkish nation....

"The Turkish-Islamic synthesis...represents a hard line of demarcation from those of different faiths.... Components of 'Ülkücü' ideology such as racism, anti-Semitism and anti-Christianity, supplemented by Islamism... is directed against the core foundations of the free democratic basic order such as personal individuality and identity as well as the legal equality of every human being."

- **Unorganized "Ülkücü" Movement.** In addition to the 'Ülkücü' supporters organized in ADÜTDF, ATİB and ANF, around 1,600 people belong to other 'Ülkücü' structures and the unorganized 'Ülkücü' movement, according to the report. They are mainly younger people who are in contact with one another primarily via social networks on the internet, but sometimes also meet each other personally. "In doing so, they cultivate their image of the enemy and agitate against their 'opponents,' above all Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Kurds and the United States who are belittled by 'Ülkücü' supporters and declared to be 'enemies of Turkishness.'"

A report by the Vienna-based MENA Research and Studies Center, explained the myth that underpins the Grey Wolf movement:

"Their symbol: the grey wolf. Their name: Ülkücü, Turkish for idealist. Their goal: a Turkish empire and the elimination of political opponents...."

"According to legend, a wolf in pre-Islamic times led and saved endangered Turkish tribes who were from the Altai Mountains in Central Asia. The Grey Wolf is considered a powerful hunter that roams the country freely and independently. Since he lives from hunting, he will never recognize others as free and independent. The Grey Wolves movement follows this picture: All non-Turkish sections of the population, especially minorities in their own country, are 'racially' persecuted...."

"The declared goal of the movement is the establishment of a Pan-Turanian nation that stretches from the Balkans through Central Asia to China and unites all so-called 'Turkic peoples' in a 'Greater Turkic empire.' Its symbol, the Grey Wolf, is still used as a sign of distinction today: followers greet the world with the wolf salute. In addition, the howling wolf, along with the Ottoman war flag with the three crescents, is a popular flag motif on the scene. Officially, Turkish followers call themselves Ülkücü, idealists, unofficially they are the Grey Wolves."

### Banning the Grey Wolves

Austria banned the Grey Wolf salute in February 2019. Anyone found making the gesture in public faces a fine of €4,000 (\$4,750); repeat offenders face fines of €10,000 (\$12,000). France proscribed the Grey Wolves in November 2020, after they defaced an Armenian genocide memorial near Lyon. On May 4, 2021, the European Parliament called for an EU-wide ban of the group:

"The European Parliament is highly worried that the racist right-wing extremist Ülkücü movement, known as 'Grey Wolves,' which is closely linked to the ruling coalition party MHP (the Nationalist Movement Party), is spreading in Turkey itself, but also in EU Member States; it calls on the EU and its Member States to examine the possibility of adding Grey Wolves to the EU terrorist list, to ban their associations and organizations in EU countries, to closely monitor their activities and to counter their influence, which is especially threatening for people with a Kurdish, Armenian or Greek background and anyone they consider an opponent."

In Germany, Chancellor Merkel has been reluctant to outlaw the Grey Wolves, apparently out of fear of angering Turkish President Erdoğan.

Germany's conservative party, the Alternative for Germany (AfD), recently called on the German government to ban the Grey Wolves. A parliamentary resolution dated November 16, 2020, said that the group "represents a threat to the constitutional order and social peace in Germany." It added that Grey Wolves were being used by the Turkish government to intimidate and silence critics of President Erdoğan in Germany, and that its objective was to prevent the integration of Turkish migrants. The resolution elaborated:

"In Germany, Grey Wolves have been pursuing the goal of establishing a Turkish nationalist identity against the majority society — under the motto of 'European Turkishness' with the slogan 'Become a German, remain Turkish!' — to misuse them for the creation of a strong Turkish nationalist lobby in Germany.

## Massive exercise in Black Sea with US comes after Russia warning

Russia has warned the US and UK not to “tempt fate” in the Black Sea – only one place where there are naval tensions.



A view shows Russian warships on sunset ahead of the Navy Day parade in the Black Sea port of Sevastopol, Crimea July 27, 2019

(photo credit: REUTERS/ALEXEY PAVLISHAK)

On June 21, the US Sixth Fleet announced it would participate in the Sea Breeze exercise that will take place from June 28 to July 10. Washington says that “this year’s iteration has the largest number of participating nations in the exercise’s history, with 32 countries from six continents providing 5,000 troops, 32 ships,

40 aircraft and 18 special operations and dive teams scheduled to participate.”

This is important because it comes days after a UK warship and Russia appeared to clash off the coast of Crimea. Ukraine claims Crimea, but Russia annexed the area in 2014. There have been other tensions between Russia and Ukraine and Russia and the US, increasingly at sea in recent years. Ukraine is fighting a war against Russian-backed separatists in eastern Ukraine. Russia has warned the UK against what it sees as provocations.

This means that this year’s exercise, as large as it is, has more ramifications for the region. The US says that “Ukraine and the US are co-hosting the exercise in the Black Sea with participation and support coming from 32 countries in total: Albania, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, France, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Senegal, Spain, South Korea, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the United States.”

Of interest here is that Israel is participating alongside its new peace partners such as the UAE. In addition, Turkey is participating, despite its tensions with the Jewish state. It is not the first time Israel has participated: the country also took part in 2012.

Another angle that is interesting is the number of ships and the fact that the drill will concentrate on complex operations such as “amphibious warfare, land maneuver warfare, diving operations, maritime interdiction operations, air defense, special operations integration, anti-submarine warfare, and search and rescue operations.”

NAVAL JOINT drills are increasingly important. Israel hosted Noble Dina, a naval drill, back in March. France and Cyprus joined Israel and Greece for the first time. Egypt and Greece have been working more closely together in recent years and the UAE has begun to play a greater role in the Eastern Mediterranean via close work with Greece. Israel and the UAE also participated in the Greek-led Iniochos drill in April. Israel, Italy, the UK and the US also trained with F-35s in Italy earlier this month in a drill called Falcon Strike.

According to Reuters, Russia has warned the US and UK not to “tempt fate” in the Black Sea. The Black Sea is only one place where there are naval tensions. Last year, Turkey threatened Greece repeatedly and the countries came close to possible conflict. The US has expressed support for Greece and Cyprus. However, maritime issues matter because Jerusalem, Athens and Nicosia want to construct an East Med pipeline and are part of a gas forum with Egypt. In addition, Israel received two new Sa’ar 6 advanced corvette warships in the past year. This is important for Israel’s naval footprint and for the wider region.

Last week, British and American F-35B Lighting II Joint Strike Fighters flew anti-ISIS strike missions from the UK Royal Navy aircraft carrier *HMS Queen Elizabeth* (R08), according to USNI (United States Naval Institute) news. It was “a first for the U.K. in a decade, defense officials confirmed to USNI News on Tuesday.” According to the report, the F-35s from the Royal Air Force were from the 617th Squadron – “The Dambusters” – and they flew anti-ISIS operations.

“The involvement of *HMS Queen Elizabeth* and her air wing in this campaign also sends a wider message,” Commodore Steve Moorhouse, commander of the UK Carrier Strike Group, said in a statement. “It demonstrates the speed and agility with which a UK-led Carrier Strike Group can inject fifth-generation combat power into any operation, anywhere in the world, thereby offering the British government, and our allies, true military and political choice.”

The *Queen Elizabeth* Carrier Strike Group left the UK on May 22 and is in the Mediterranean Sea, eventually heading to the Indo-Pacific region. “The [ship] escorts from the Royal Navy include Type 45 destroyers *HMS Defender* and *HMS Diamond*, Type 23 anti-submarine frigates *HMS Kent* and *HMS Richmond*, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary’s *RFA Fort Victoria* and *RFA Tidespring*, and an unspecified Astute-class nuclear attack boat. The group also includes Dutch frigate *HNLMS Evertsen* (F805) and U.S. Navy destroyer *USS The Sullivans* (DDG-68),” USNI reports.

It was *HMS Defender* that ran into tensions with Russia last week. Russian jets and ships have shadowed the British ship. Moscow is now doing drills in the Mediterranean, saying that it does not rule out a “tough response” to the UK. This sets the stage for a week or more of tensions.

# Draconian Canadian Law Will Censor Christians - America Are You Watching?



Interview with Jojo Ruba of Free to Care on the impact of Bill C-6 after his testimony to parliamentarians, the so-called "conversion therapy ban" that would restrict the right of same-sex attracted people to seek the therapy and care they choose. With the passage of Bill C-6 last week in the House of Commons, I spoke with Jojo Ruba Free to Care to get his reaction:

## **Bill C-6 has passed. What is your reaction?**

It's heartbreaking. This bill should be devastating to any Canadian who supports democratic rights. This Bill uses a definition of conversion therapy that no medical or professional body uses and no other government in the world uses, except for a handful of governments in Canada.

The definition bans both orientation change counselling and behavioural change counselling, even if it does not involve orientation change. This means LGBTQI Canadians would be denied access to support that is available to every other Canadian. Those who want to support us could go to jail for 5 years. That is a clear violation of Charter rights.

Bill C-6's passing means if I want to go to my pastor, imam or priest and ask for help to manage my same-sex attractions so I can choose to remain celibate, my own religious leader would have to choose to help me and risk going to jail or choose not to do anything and let me suffer on my own.

The law actually makes it impossible for me to get support to remain celibate. Even the Justice Minister admitted that consenting adults like myself could only get counselling support if it is free. But even if it is free, no one is allowed to advertise, even verbally promote, this counselling under threat of going to jail for 2 years. This clearly violates my right to have conversations with other Canadians of my choice.

## **What do Christians need to know about this, in a nutshell?**

The Bill makes a fake exception that says I can get counselling to explore my sexual orientation or gender identity. But then it says I cannot seek counselling that would "favor" one sexual orientation or gender identity. That would be criminal.

This will present a direct attack on the Christian faith (and frankly other faith that upholds the value of traditional marriage). Because it directly bans any "practice, treatment or service," Bill C-6 threatens any kind of prayer event, sermon, or teaching we have that "reduces" non-heterosexual behavior.

Publicly praying for those struggling with gay feelings or including information for a Christian counselling service in a sermon or youth gathering could now be seen as "promoting" conversion therapy.

Worse, this Bill is complaint-based. Anyone can raise a complaint about your church, Christian group or event and because it is a criminal bill, the police must investigate it. Even if a church does everything

it can to avoid even looking like it is doing "conversion therapy," it can still die a death of a thousand complaints.

### **What happens next? Is there any recourse?**

What happens is next is the federal election this summer, likely August or Sept. Bill C-6 will pass third reading today (by the time you read this, it will already be passed). Of course, no bill becomes law until it passes the Senate as well.

All signs point that there will be an election. And if that's the case, the Bill won't become law unless the Liberals win again. They will then have to reintroduce it in the House again and in the Senate. The timeline we're working on is that this Bill will become law in November or December 2021.

We need Canadians to work through this election to educate their political candidates then educate them when they get elected and demand they protect the right of all of us to get the counselling support of our choice. We basically get to do this debate all over again.

### **What do you think will be the long-term consequences?**

The other thing this Bill will do is get Christians to self-censor. At a time when young people are desperate for help navigating through sexual and gender identity questions, Christians will choose to avoid this topic altogether to avoid going to jail. Capitulating on this issue of course means that the church will just continue to compromise on every cultural attack in the future. At that point, we truly cease to represent an alternative to a secular culture, the alternative Christ commanded us to be.