

Mapping the Members of the Great National Assembly (1920–23)

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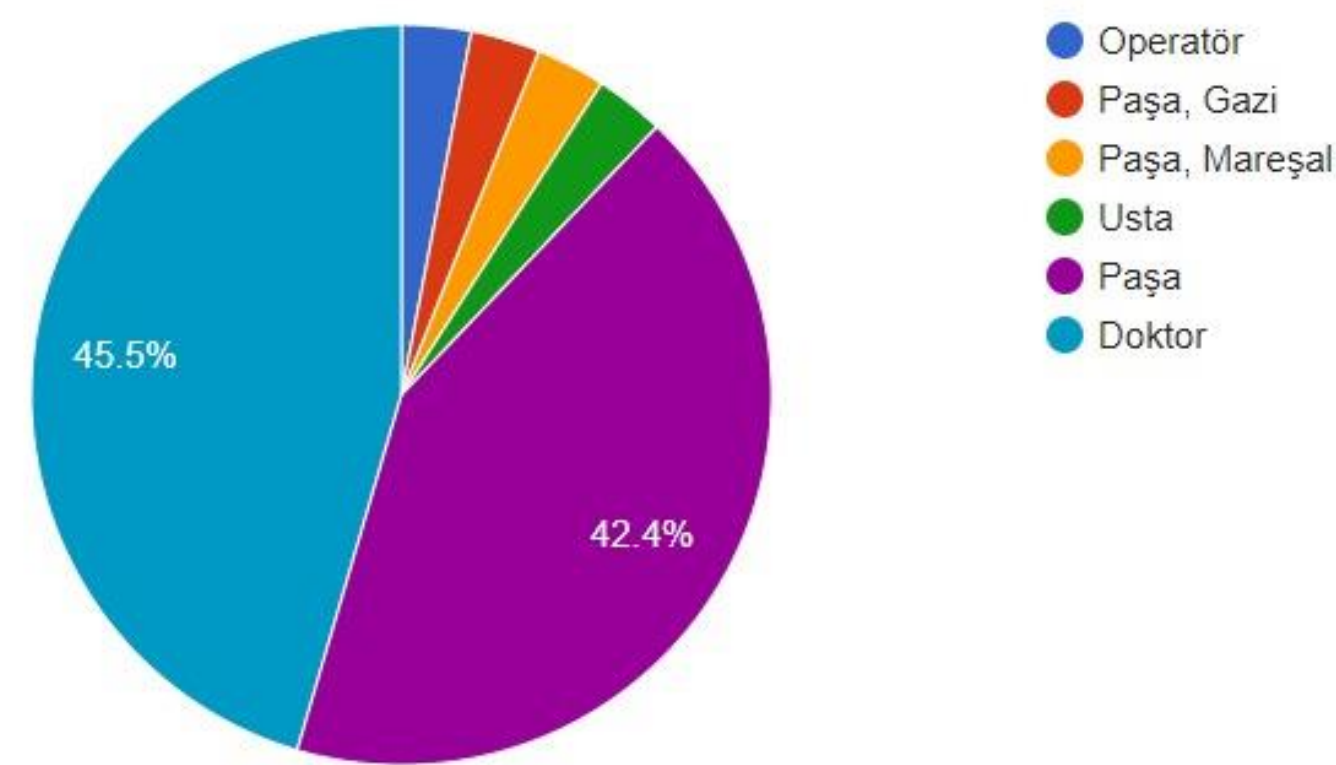
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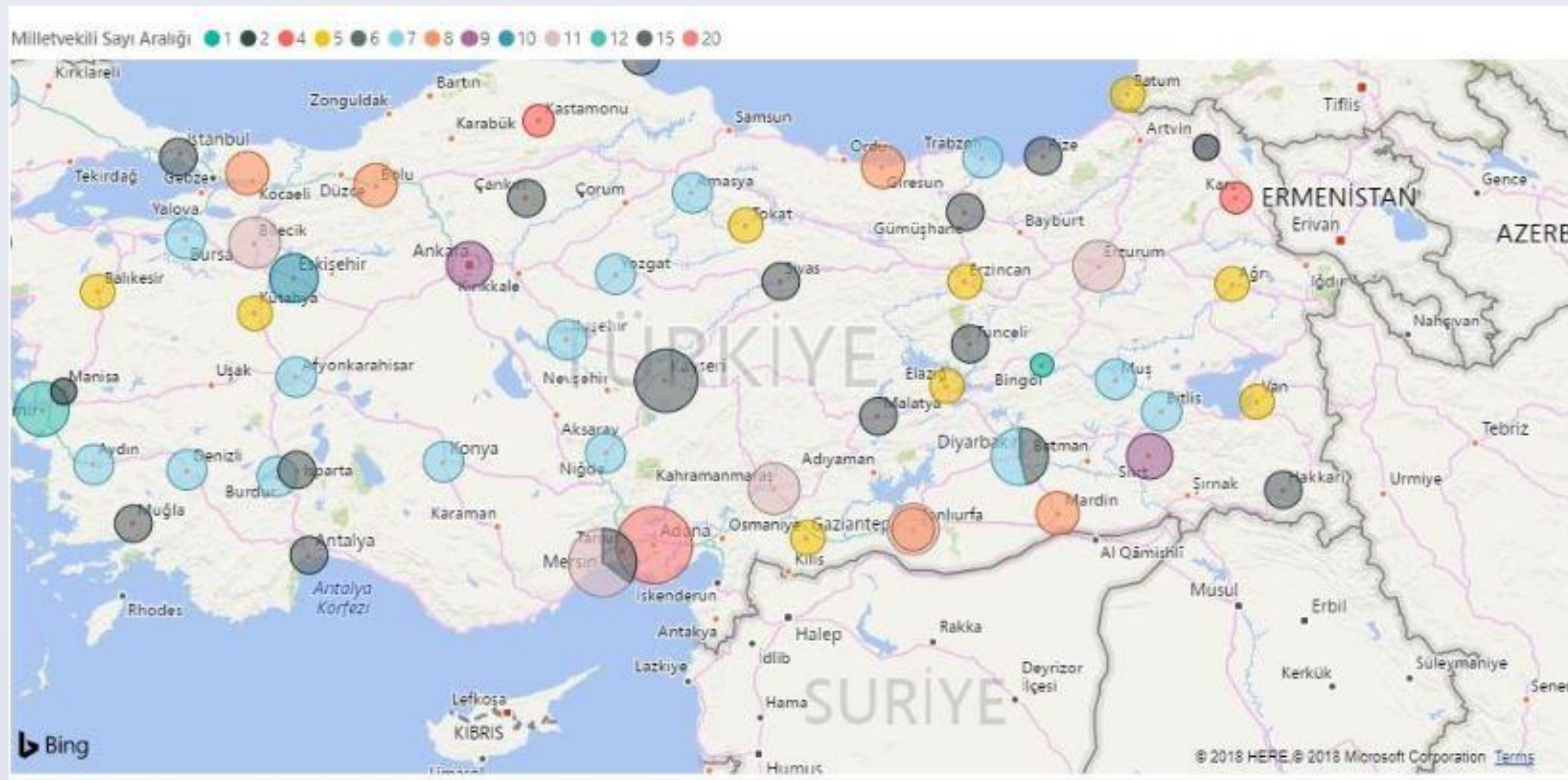
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ABSTRACT

The Percent of Civic Titles



Politics which can be defined as a process of decision making that applies to other members of a group is affected by different ingredients. It can be the political culture of a country or the backgrounds of the decision makers. In our study, this ingredient is the pattern between the backgrounds of decision makers and the decisions that they make. Therefore, taking the first legislature year as our subject matter, we try to find a correlation between the mentioned variables. As to accomplish this goal, using the method "prosopography", we try to examine the background information of members of the Great National Assembly between the years from 1920 to 1923. In this research, following question is to be answered; "Is there an impact of the backgrounds of decision-makers on the decisions they make?"

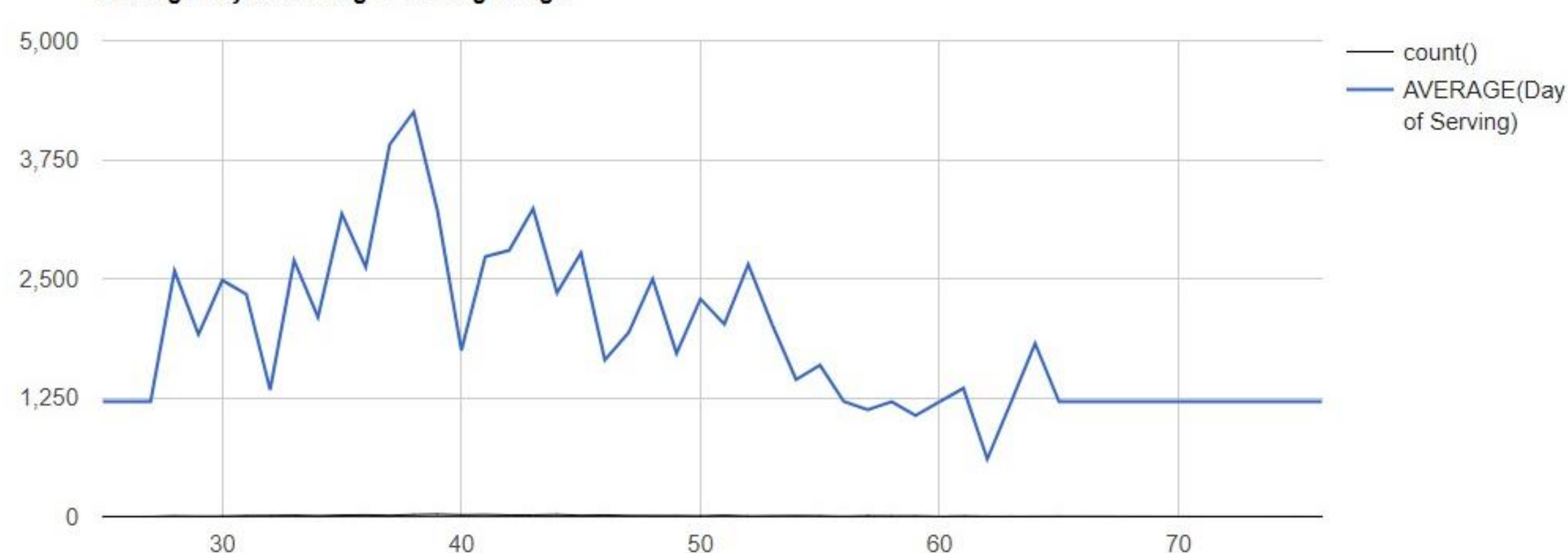


OBJECTIVES

- To find a correlation between the backgrounds of the members and the decision that they make
- To examine their background information and find out whether they have common;
 - Profession,
 - Education type
 - Additional languages
 - CUP, ADR, NF membership etc.

PROJECT DETAILS

Average Day of Serving according to Age



This project aims to collect and analyze biographic data about the members of the Great National Assembly's first legislative period (from 1920 to 1923) in order to better understand patterns of relationship and activity among the various networks of political elites whose roles in the making of modern Turkey are of considerable significance. The aim is to create a database that would then constitute a basis for a prosopographical research. The idea behind such a prosopographical approach is to first identify common biographic elements / characteristics among the members of the parliament (such as educational background, place of birth, bureaucratic career backgrounds, known languages etc.) and then to build hypotheses (and also test the already existing ones in the literature) about the meaning of such commonalities and patterns. The characteristics collected from the biographical data will be classified according to their contextual and statistical relevance. Some of the characteristic, such as place of birth or locations of previous bureaucratic careers, which are considered significant in the analyses of the political elite in the literature, will be mapped using digital humanities tools and frameworks. The goal in this step is to present the patterns found in the prosopographical research both visually and statistically.

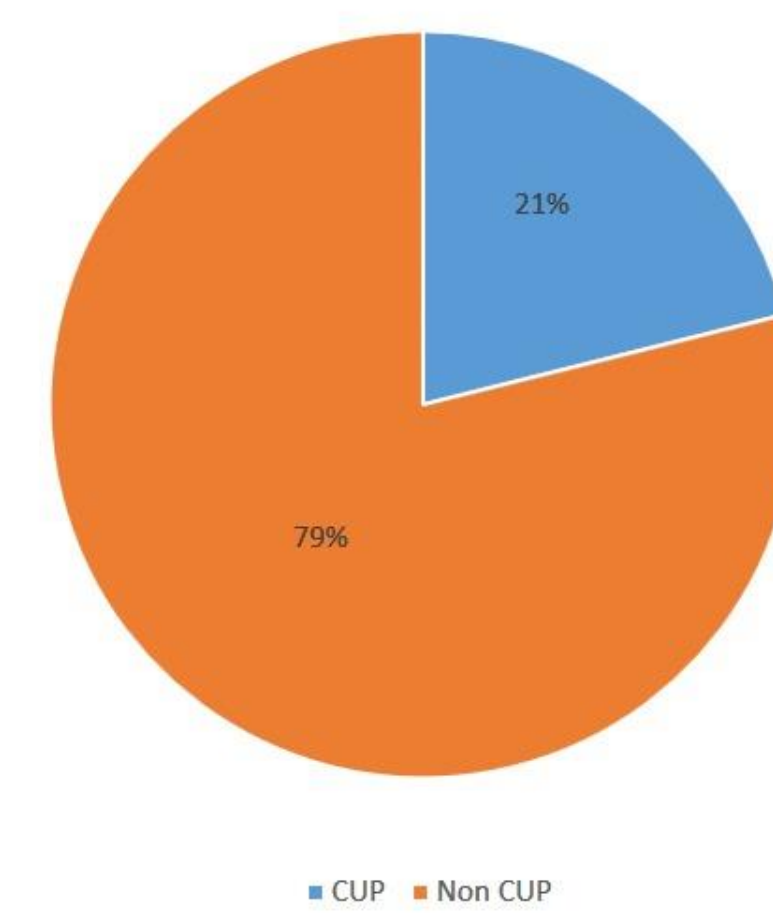
PROJECT DETAILS



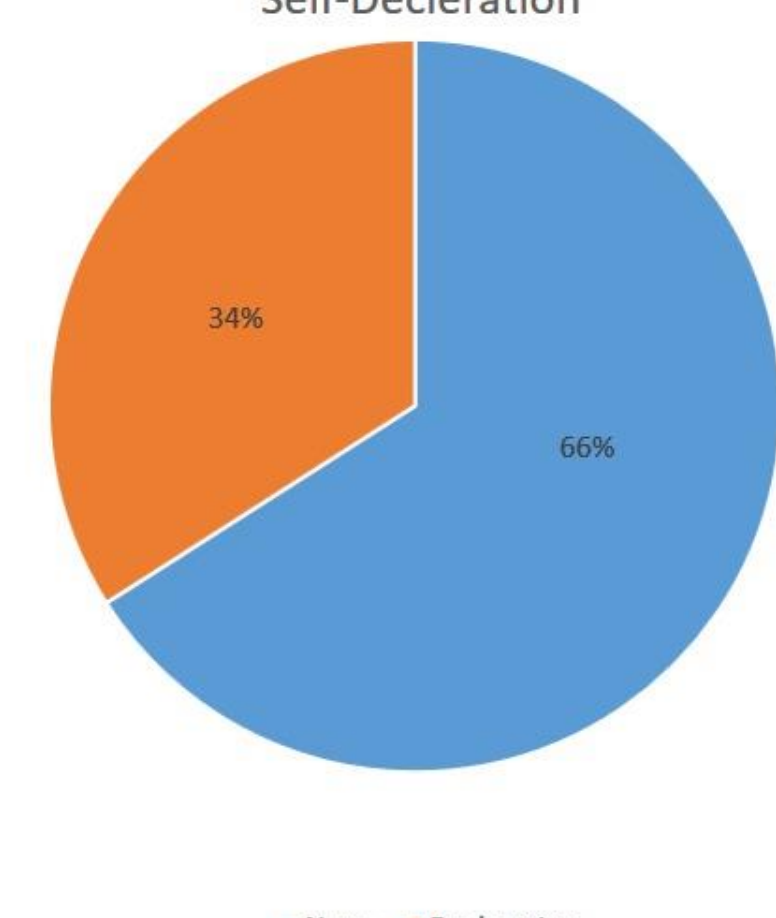
In 1924, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk gave a medal called «Red-Green liberation» to 24 members of the Great National Assembly. The medal was only given to people who fought in Liberation War and worked in the National Assembly with an extraordinary success. We know that people who had these medals served longer than the others, and they are the founding fathers of Modern Turkey. The map above illustrates the birthplaces of these 24 people. Their western origin might be correlated with Kurdish rebellion, minority politics, and their ideology.

There is a division among the members of the Committee of Union and Progress. The first chart below shows the per cent of CUP members in GNA who declared that they were the members of the CUP and those who did not. Majority of them did not declare their CUP ties. Therefore, being a member of the CUP during that time was not pleased by others.

20-23 GNA CUP MEMBERS AND NON CUP MEMBERS DIVISION



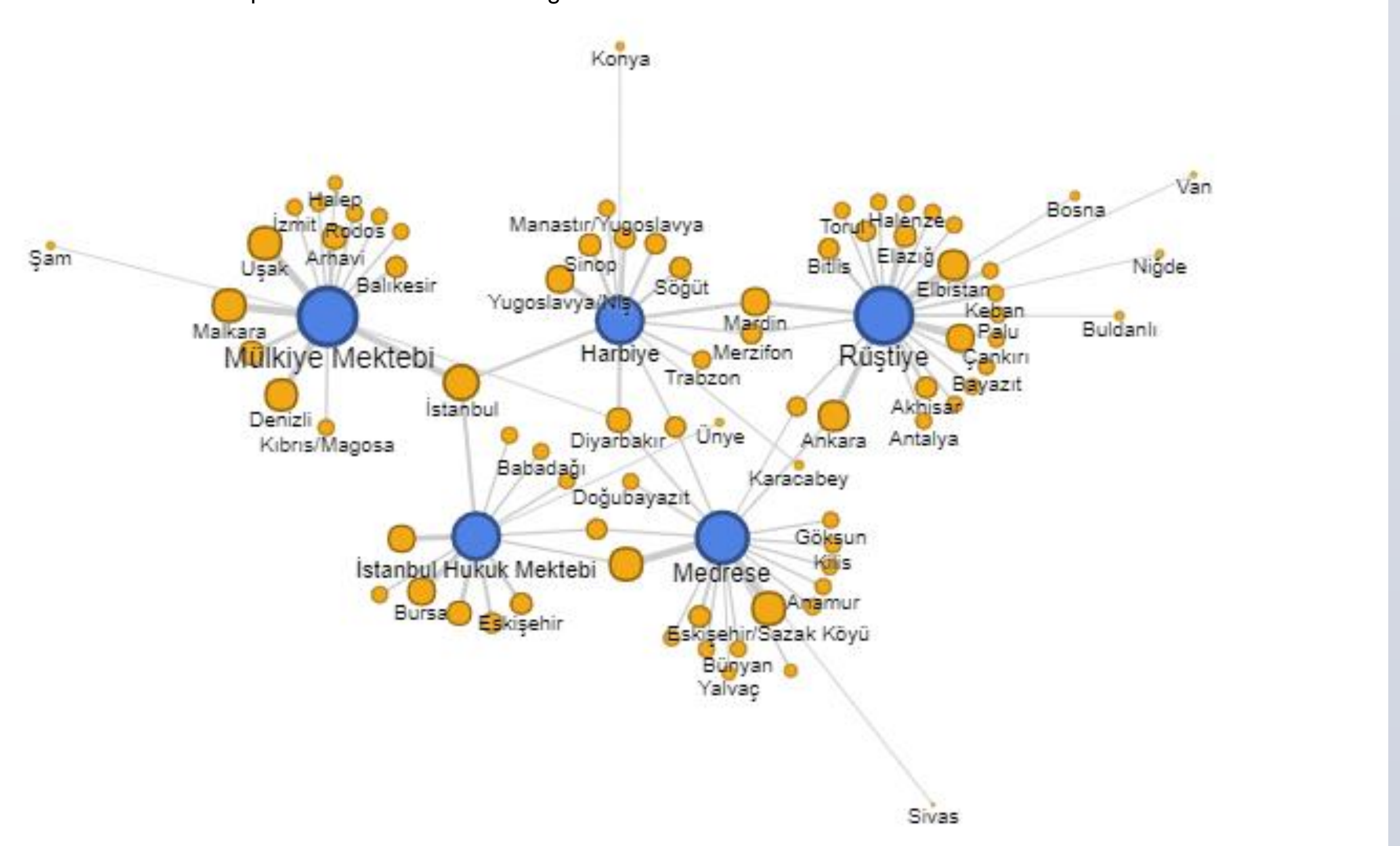
Self-Declaration



CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK

- Some of our research points proved that there is a correlation between backgrounds of members of parliament and their power of representation.
 - Members of parliament who are also connected to CUP are more effective in the Great National Assembly.
 - Similarly, members of the parliament who were born in the western parts of the Empire have more impact in the Assembly.
- Some of our research points such as the comparison between Bey and Efendi did not give any result because there is no significant difference between them.
- Some of our research points need further research such as education type, which requires more detailed classification and examination of existing literature. Even if the collected data on education gives significant clues about the GNA members, it is too early to make a generalization at that point of the research.

The Network of Birthplace and Education among GNA Members



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