Rethinking Democracy in Kurdistan

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PHILOSOPHY
POLITICS

Abdullah Öcalan, Leader of the Kurdish Liberation Movement, Imrali Island, Turkey, 2009

The Kurdish movement has established the de facto democracy, made up of autonomous communities, in the Kurdish region of Syria, Rojava, and in the Kurdish region of Iraq, Kurdistan – autonomous regions that have been formed by the Kurdish people themselves, without any state authority. Establishing democracy in Kurdistan, Öcalan wishes to do, is a long-term project, which will take many years, and it will be a process of trial and error. Democracy in Kurdistan will be a democracy that is not based on the nation state, but on the communities, and it will be a democracy that will be based on the ecological principles of nature, and on the ethical principles of human equality.

[...]

Democratic Change from Below Organizing in Kurdistan, Turkey, Syria and Iraq Öcalan's ideas have been implemented in the Kurdish region of Rojava, in Syria, and in the Kurdish region of Iraq, Kurdistan, in the form of the Democratic Confederalism movement. The Democratic Confederalism movement has been formed from the bottom to the top. The movement has been formed by the people themselves, without any state authority. The movement has been formed by the people themselves, without any state authority. The movement has been formed by the people themselves, without any state authority