

A SHORT GUIDE TO THE TRANSLATION OF PAUL KRUGMAN'S *THE RETURN OF DEPRESSION ECONOMICS* INTO TURKISH LANGUAGE

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1. INTRODUCTION

This guide provides a short overview of Paul Krugman's *The Return of Depression Economics* of into Turkish translation.

The world economies experienced several financial crises which have the common problem of inadequate demand. Japan since the early 1990s, in 1995 Mexico, in 1997 Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and Korea, in 2002 Argentina and in 2008 nearly all economies have experienced a severe economic stagnation, which frustrated the antecedent economic growth. It is realized that classical methods of the central banks to cure economic slumps were not successful. Once again, the question of how to create adequate demand to get to full employment and potential output gained importance. That is the return of depression economics.

Krugman has forecasted the crises in Latin America and other developing economies that led to the recent global financial crisis in 2008 and concluded that hedge funds, the masters of the universe, has been cluttering the emerging economies. In 1999, when the first version of *The Return of Depression Economics* was published the title was recognized as a provocative one and the main thesis of the book was dismissed by conservative economists. In this original version Krugman pointed out that the world believed that depression economics was over; however, Latin American crisis, Japan's liquidity trap and Asian crisis were warning signals. Krugman claimed that all these turmoils happened for the same basic reason; the banking system exposed itself to much risk. Then, people lost confidence and the panic caused contagion.

2. "THE RETURN OF DEPRESSION ECONOMICS" IN TURKISH

The first edition of *The Return of Depression Economics* was published in 1999. Indeed, Turkey experienced a severe economic crisis in November 2000 and again in February 2001, which was predicted by Paul Krugman and discussed in an explicit way in this book. The first edition of the book was translated into Turkish by Neşenur Domanıç in October 2008. Krugman (1999) discussed the reasons of an expected crisis in Turkey by arguing that, as in the case of all crises, the depreciation of Turkish Lira has unique or specific features. The political conflicts that triggered the crisis in Turkey were unprecedented. Moreover, there were so many cracks in the economic policies followed by the Turkish government. Following the discussion of multiple economic crises in the decade of the 1990s, the revised and expanded edition of Krugman's *The Return of Depression Economics* (1999) was re-published in 2008 and entitled *The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008*. In this revised edition, Krugman claimed that depression economics has been ghostly going around the world. It was in South-Asia in 1997s, in Turkey 2001 and everywhere in 2008. This book was again translated into Turkish by Neşenur Domanıç and it has been published as the 6th Turkish edition in February 2010. The Turkish editions of both the original print and the revised issue of Krugman's book were printed by Literatür Yayıncılık in Turkey.

