



International Congress on Economics, Management and Business Studies

Hosted Online from New York, USA

Date: 23rd June , 2026

Website: <https://econferencia.com>

FORMATION OF THE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN THE TURKESTAN ASSR

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Relevance of the topic:

The First World War and the February and October political coups in Russia in 1917 radically changed the socio-political and administrative landscape of Central Asia, in particular the Turkestan region. The Bolshevik regime, which replaced the colonial administration of the Russian Empire, began to create a state apparatus in the region based on completely new class and ideological principles. The establishment of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (Turkestan ASSR) within the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) in April 1918 marked a significant turning point in the history of the region.

The processes taking place between 1918 and 1924 are characterized by the formation of institutions of Soviet statehood, the establishment of mechanisms of military and civil administration, as well as constant compromise, struggle and conflict between representatives of the local national elite and the Bolshevik Center (Moscow). This period is extremely relevant in terms of studying the approach of the Soviet regime to the concept of autonomy in national republics, the formation of a centralized executive apparatus, and, ultimately, the conditions for the division of the region according to national-territorial criteria.

The purpose of the study: Turkestan consists in the gradual formation of the Soviet system of government and the administrative-executive apparatus in the Assr in 1918-1924, the influence of the Center and local factors on this process, the struggle of National Personnel and a comprehensive analysis of the



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liquidation of the Republic as a result of the national-territorial delimitation of 1924.

Tasks of the study:

- Study the ideological and legal foundations of the formation of the Turkestan ASSR and the structure of its initial authorities (Central Executive Committee, Council of People's Commissars);
- Assess the impact of the activities of the central authorities — the Turkkomissiya and Turkburo — on the local republican sovereignty;
- Local national intellectuals in the Turkestan ASSR (T.Risqulov, S.Khojaev, N.To ' raqulov and b.) analysis of the autonomy and independent management model put forward by;
- To clarify the administrative and legal significance of the Constitutions of the Turkestan ASSR of 1918 and 1920;
- To summarize the reasons for the national-territorial delimitation of 1924 and the abolition of the republican administrative apparatus.

The Bolsheviks came to power and the Turkestan SSR was established. In November 1917, at the III All-Russian Congress of Soviets in Tashkent, the alliance of Bolsheviks and Left Socialist-Revolutionaries took power. The Turkestan Council of People's Commissars (CPC), formed in Syezg, became the first Soviet body of the regional executive power. However, this body was highly chauvinistic, and not a single representative of the indigenous peoples was included in its initial composition. This is due to the fact that Muslims and their political organizations ("Shorai Islamiyya", "Ulema", etc.) was met with sharp protest. Political consequences of the liquidation of the Turkestan Autonomy (Kokand)



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In response to the nationalist discrimination policy of the Soviet authorities in Tashkent, the IV Extraordinary Congress of Muslims of the Territory was convened in Kokand in November 1917, at which the Turkestan Autonomy was proclaimed. This autonomy, led by representatives of the national democratic elite such as Mustafa Cho'qay and Islam Shoahmedov, aimed to establish a democratic and secular government apparatus in Turkestan based on the principles of international law and national self-determination. However, in February 1918, the Tashkent Soviet and its military forces (Red Guards, Dashnak armed gangs) invaded Kokand, brutally suppressing the Turkestan Autonomy and destroying the city. The bloody suppression of the autonomy led to a civil war in the country and the outbreak of a mass armed movement against the Soviet regime ("bosmachilik").

The All-Russian Congress of Soviets and the proclamation of the Turkestan ASSR

After the Turkestan Autonomy was abolished, the Bolsheviks held the 5th All-Russian Congress of Soviets in Tashkent from April 20 to May 1, 1918, in an attempt to ease tensions among the local population and give the Soviet government a legal appearance. On April 30, 1918, the Decree on the establishment of the Turkestan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic (Turkestan ASSR) within the RSFSR was adopted in Syezg.

Central authorities: Turkkomissiya and Turkburo

In 1918–1919, the Turkestan ASSR was cut off from the RSFSR Center due to the civil war and the blockade of the Orenburg Railway. The country experienced mass starvation as a result of the military-communist dictatorship and food requisitioning. After the blockade was broken by the Red Army in the fall of 1919, Moscow organized special emergency bodies under the pretext of taking



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control of the territory under its direct control and correcting "Soviet chauvinism" and "mistakes" in the local Soviet apparatus:

- Turkkomissiya (October 1919): Commission of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee and the Council of People's Commissars of the RSFSR for Turkestan Affairs. It included Sh.Eliava, M.Frunze, V.Kuybyshev, Y.Figures like Rudzutak entered. Turkkomissia was given the power to reverse any decision of the Republican government and to fully control military-civilian management.
- Turkburo (August 1920): The Turkestan Bureau of the Central Committee of the RKP(b). This body served as the supreme authority that determined all political, administrative, and personnel issues in the republic.

Administrative-territorial division and executive apparatus

The Turkestan ASSR was divided into 6 provinces: Syrdarya, Samarkand, Fergana, Zhetisu, Caspian (Turkmenistan since 1921), and Amu Darya. The management vertical was formed as follows: At the provincial level, Provincial Executive Committees (Vilko'm), at the county level, County Executive Committees (Uezdkom), and at the volost level, Volost Executive Committees (Volkom) were formed. Elders or village Soviets operated in the villages. In practice, however, the Soviet administration faced serious opposition in conducting its own decisions, as traditional oriental public institutions and Sharia courts had high prestige among the population.

National intellectuals and the idea of the "Turkish Republic"

Starting in 1919, educated and nationalist figures such as Turar Risqulov, Sultonsegiz Khojayev, Nazir Turaqulov, and Sanjar Asfendiyarov joined the Turkestan ASSR's administrative apparatus. They tried to form a state apparatus that would take into account the national and cultural characteristics of the country, rather than the class approach of Soviet power.



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At the 5th Regional Conference of the Turkestan compact in January 1920, the national group led by Riskulov put forward the following requirements:

1. Change the name of the Turkestan ASSR to **"Turk Republic"**;
2. Transform the Turkestan Communist Party into an independent **"Turk Communist Party"** within the RCP(b);
3. Formation of national military units (within the Red Army) consisting of the peoples of the country;
4. Establishment of relations with the RSFSR on a federal basis, through an equal treaty.

V.I. Lenin and the Central Committee condemned these ideas as "Pan-Turkism", "bourgeois nationalism", and a movement that would destroy the federation. In March 1920, the resolution of the RCP(b) MK "on the autonomy of Turkestan" was adopted. The Riskulov project was rejected, and the republic's autonomy was strictly subordinated to the RSFSR Center. T. Riskulov and his comrades resigned as an objection.

"Tuberization" (corenization) of the administrative apparatus

The policy of "korenizatsiya" (indigenization of the personnel apparatus), announced at the 12th Congress of the RCP(b) in 1923, also accelerated the process of involving representatives of the local population in the state apparatus in the Turkestan ASSR. Measures were taken to translate the proceedings into Uzbek, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, and Turkmen, and to train administrative staff from among the local population. However, this process was slow due to the lack of personnel and the difficulty of finding employees loyal to Soviet ideology.

Administrative and legal features of the constitutions of the Turkestan ASSR

During the existence of the Turkestan ASSR, two Constitutions were adopted: • The 1918 Constitution (adopted at the VI All-Russian Congress of Soviets): It established the structure of the republic as an autonomy within the RSFSR. The



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dictatorship of the proletariat, the deprivation of suffrage of the exploiting classes, and the powers of the Congress of Soviets and the Central Executive Committee were established.

- Constitution of 1920 (adopted at the IX Congress of Soviets of the Republic): Developed under the influence of the Central Organs, it significantly limited the powers of the Turkestan ASSR. The management of foreign policy, Military Affairs, Foreign Trade, Finance and railways was transferred directly to the people's commissariats of the RSFSR nationwide.

National-territorial delimitation of 1924 and liquidation of the Republic

By the mid-1920s, the Soviet leadership (V.Lenin, I.Stalin) concluded that the existence of the Turkestan ASSR, the Bukhara People's Soviet Republic (BXSr), and the Khorezm People's Soviet Republic (XXSR) was hindering the implementation of socialist reconstruction and planned economic management in Central Asia. Also, fearing the spread of Pan-Turkism and the idea of national unity in the republic, the Center drew up a plan to divide the country according to national characteristics.

In September-October 1924, the extraordinary sessions of the Turkestan ASSR MIQ and the republic's Soviets adopted decisions on the conduct of national-territorial delimitation and the liquidation of the republic. In November 1924, all state and administrative bodies of the Turkestan ASSR ceased their activities and transferred their powers to the Provisional Revolutionary Committees of the newly formed republics.

The formation of the administrative system in the Turkestan ASSR in 1918–1924 was extremely complex, full of contradictions, and was accompanied by political struggles. This period reflects the path of development of the Soviet state apparatus, from the military-revolutionary committees to the constitutional-executive bodies, into the traditional oriental environment.



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On the one hand, within the Turkestan ASSR, the institutions of modern state administration (commissariats, planning, judicial and police bodies) were formed. On the other hand, the declarative autonomy of the republic was in practice completely controlled by the Central Authorities in Moscow (Turkkomissiya, Turkburo and the Central Committee of the RKP). T.No matter how hard national cadres like Risqulov and his comrades worked to expand republican sovereignty and protect national interests, the rigid centralization principles of the Soviet regime stifled their aspirations. The national-territorial delimitation of 1924 was the logical conclusion of the administrative-territorial policy of the Soviet state in Central Asia, leading to the formation of new Soviet national republics on the territory of the Turkestan ASSR.

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