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Possible Effects of Decentralization of Education Services: Applicability in Turkey / Eğitim Hizmetlerinin Yerelleşmesinin Muhtemel Etkileri: Türkiye’de Uygulanabilirliği

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ABSTRACT

Since the early 1980s, liberalization, globalization, administrative decentralization and such approaches pioneered by neo-liberal policies have led to a change in the understanding of public services and public administration in Turkey and in the world. Traditional public administration which has continued for over a hundred years without any remarkable change until the 1970s has begun to exposure to heavy criticism with the impact of neo-liberal approach. In the 1980s, new public management advocates have begun to focus on the need for reform in the bureaucratic, insensitive, inefficient and cumbersome management models. Educational services has also received its share from this process of change and remained under the influence of the change caused by the decentralization movement in many countries. In this study, the relationship between the current decentralization theories and local education services practice results has examined to investigate the applicability of the decentralization of education services in Turkey. Thus, decentralization of educational services and the emergence probable positive and negative economic, social and political effects have revealed. In this context, the necessity of infrastructure for the decentralization of educational services in Turkey has examined within the framework of the legal basis, the political environment, and the technical, administrative and financial capacities of the local government units, the status of property income and equity concerns. In result of this study, it has been shown that the decentralization of educational services in Turkey (especially in the level of devolution and the responsibility of the municipality) does not show parallelism with the decentralization trend on a global scale in terms of existing conditions.

KEYWORDS Decentralization; education; devolution; semi-public good

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