

treated directly until recently.¹ The critic A. Ömer Türkeş views this absence as the outcome of successive Republican governments' pressure on Turkish writers, dispossessing them of the right to write history and leaving out from the official history many sociopolitical issues, among them the Armenian issue.² Erol Köroğlu, on the other hand, relates this absence to the construct of the Turkish national identity, requiring a selective approach to history, taking parts of it that are useful to the goal of constructing the prescribed identity and leaving out those parts that are harmful.³ Türkeş is right. Political pressures have deprived Turkish writers of their right to write history. However, in spite of all this, dissident voices give vent to various aspects of the history of modern Turkey. Significant among them are the publications of the Istanbul-based Turkish Historical Foundation which has detached itself from the official Turkish Historical Association in Ankara. Fatma Müge Göçek in particular discusses a book titled *From Subject to Citizen in 75 Years* (1999) and cites the passage dealing with the deportation of Armenians:

¹ In a review of Kemal Yalçın's *Seninle Güller Yüreğim* (You rejoice my heart), A. Ömer Türkeş notes that among more than 5,000 novels published in Republican Turkey, very few speak of the deportation of Armenians. He lists those few novels and their authors, some two dozen of them, and adds that they all cater to the official Turkish line vis-à-vis the Armenian issue. He then mentions Kemal Tahir, Yaşar Kemal, Doğan Akhanlı, Ayşenur Yazıcı, İrfan Palalı, Arif İrgaç, and Kemal Yalçın as authors who took a different approach. <http://www.pandora.com.tr/turkce/elestiri.asp?yid=251>. Accessed January 31, 2007.

² Ibid.

³ Erol Köroğlu cited in ibid.