Turkey’s Coup of 15th July: A Gift for Erdogan

Since the failed coup attempt of 15th July in Turkey, many accepted norms about Turkey’s pro-western credentials have begun to be questioned by policy makers in Washington and now in Europe. As the fallout from the coup progresses, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the Erdogan regime is interested in exacting maximum benefit out of the incident to solidify and augment his presidential power base. To what extent and how far will Erdogan go to pressure the EU and US governments to either turn a blind eye to Turkey’s pronounced undemocratic slide and/or burn bridges with these two entities unless he gets what he wants?

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