

# Turkish referendum on constitutional reform

Thirty years to the day after the army seized power in a coup, Turks vote on a package of amendments to the 1982 constitution aimed at restructuring the judiciary and curbing the power of the military.

The vote is seen as a test of support for a government eager to secure a third term and to push through changes that strengthen its case for EU membership

## JUDICIARY

■ Membership of **Constitutional Court** expanded from 11 permanent and four substitute judges to total of 17, with direct right of appeal for individuals

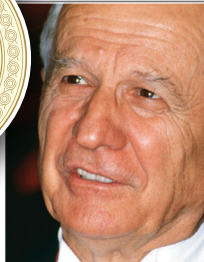
■ Membership of **Supreme Council of Judges and Prosecutors** – body which appoints and dismisses judges – expanded from 7 to 21 members, with parliament gaining greater power in selection of members



## MILITARY

■ Limit power of military courts to try civilians. Civilian courts to try military officers for crimes against state.  
**Senior commanders to be tried by Supreme Court on such charges**

■ Immunity from prosecution for leaders of 1980 military coup scrapped.  
*Coup was led by retired general **Kenan Evren** (left), who is now in his 90s*



## OTHER MEASURES

■ Right for citizens to appeal to ombudsman – long been called for as prerequisite for EU accession

■ Membership of more than one trade union permitted

■ Positive discrimination for children, elderly and disabled