

Turkey's Erdogan says state of emergency may be lifted after June 24 elections

by The Region - 08/06/2018 08:21



Turkey may lift a state of emergency, imposed shortly after a failed coup attempt in 2016, after the June 24 elections, President Tayyip Erdogan said on Thursday.

Speaking in an interview with CNN Turk, Erdogan said the issue of lifting the emergency rule would be discussed after the snap presidential and parliamentary elections later this month.

The parliament extended the ongoing state of emergency for the seventh time for another three months, meaning the upcoming early elections on June 24 will be held under the emergency rule despite widespread disapproval from opposition parties.

The state of emergency was extended with the votes of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) and the Nationalist Movement Party (MHP). It was first imposed on July 20, 2016, five days after a bloody coup attempt in [Turkey](#).

Main opposition Republican People's Party (CHP) spokesman Bulent Tezcan urged the government not to [extend](#) the state of emergency over worries that it would cast a shadow over the elections.

"The state of emergency needs to be lifted immediately; you cannot hold elections during an emergency rule. The country needs to be brought out of the state of emergency now," he said on April 18, hours after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan announced the country will hold early elections on June 24.