Urban mega projects have become ubiquitous throughout the world. In Turkey, they have become part of the daily life since 2011, when Recip Tayyip Erdoğan, the Prime Minister at the time, announced his Kanal İstanbul project by saying: “Turkey deserves to see 2023 with such a big, crazy and great project. Today, we are rolling up our sleeves for one of the world's greatest projects, which cannot even be compared with the Panama Canal, Suez Canal or Corinth Canal”. Since then, we have been witnessing urban transformation by mega infrastructure projects along with social and political transformation of the country via economic policies that aim to keep the construction sector alive; which in turn, have strongly contributed to the emergence of a government-affiliated conservative bourgeoisie during the AKP era. This talk aims to contribute to the age-old question, famously formulated by Seymour Martin Lipset in the 1960s: What is the link between liberal economy on the one hand and political regime, whether democratic or authoritarian, on the other hand? This presentation offers an answer, based on an empirical study of two infrastructure projects, the Yavuz Sultan Selim Bridge and the Greater İstanbul Airport in Istanbul.