International Conference
Contemporary Turkish Studies at a Glance - Topics, Institutions and Future Perspectives
Date: October 13&14, 2012
Venue: Istanbul Bilgi University, SantralIstanbul Campus

Concept
Despite the growing international importance of Turkey, the country’s possible EU-membership and the large number of citizens with Turkish background in European societies, only a few academic institutions in Europe focus on contemporary Turkish Studies. At the same time, little effort has been made to institutionalize cooperation between relevant actors in the field of Turkish Studies in Europe and Turkey. Consequently, material and intellectual capacities are frequently wasted and the opportunity for mutual academic enrichment is lost. The international conference Contemporary Turkish Studies at a Glance – Topics, Institutions and Future Perspectives, taking place on October 13&14, 2012 at Istanbul Bilgi University, Santral Campus, aims to fill this gap by bringing together the most important institutions, organizations and individual scholars from Europe and Turkey who are engaged in Turkish Studies. The conference will provide an opportunity for an interdisciplinary debate within different fields of research and will allow the participants to build networks for future cooperation.

Outline
The two-day conference will give young scholars involved in Turkish Studies the chance to present their papers to some of the most renowned scholars and institutions in the field. Scholars will be given the chance to position themselves in the international research community and to debate related topics and research questions in an interdisciplinary environment. The event will be framed by key-note speeches by some of the most prestigious scholars in the field. Furthermore, in four different panels, chaired by renowned experts, central issues and research questions for Turkish Studies will be discussed in-depth.

The topics, framing the presentations and discussions of the panels, were announced in a Call for Papers, and the most innovative and outstanding papers selected and will be presented during the event. Each day will finish with a roundtable discussion highlighting the outcome of the panels and the implications for Turkish Studies as an interdisciplinary and applied area of study. Additionally, while the conference is underway, organizations, journals and other actors engaged with Turkish Studies will set-up stands to exhibit their work and publications.

Publication
After the conference, a publication is planned in order to compile a snapshot of the current state of Turkish Studies in Europe and to summarize the event.

Organizers
Supported by
Conference Program

1st Day - October 13, 2012

9.30am – 10.00am  Registration

10.00am – 10.30am  Welcoming Remarks
| Emre Gönen - Istanbul Bilgi University
| Ayhan Kaya - Istanbul Bilgi University
| Daniel Grutjen - Network Turkey
| Michael Schwarz - Stiftung Mercator

10.30am – 11.00am  1st Keynote Speech
Village and Empire: Micro- and Macrohistory as Sources of Innovation in Turkish Historiography
| Erik-Jan Zürcher – Leiden University

11.00am – 11.15am  Formation of Panels

11.15am – 12.45am  Political Science
Session 1
Turkey and its Neighbors
Chair
| İlter Turan – Istanbul Bilgi University

Speakers
| Ayça Uygur: Europeanization of Security Sector Reform in the European Union’s Enlargement Zone: Informal Institutions and the Implementation of Decaf in Poland and Turkey
| Lisa Schäfer: Turkey is too large, too poor and too different” – isn’t it? A Framework for Explaining the EU Member States’ Diverging Positions on Turkey’s Accession
| Ali Balcı: The Kurdish Movement’s Policy towards the USA: An Understanding of a Dissident Power Block’s Foreign Policy in Turkey

Sociology
Session 1
Migration, Urbanization and Stratification
Chair
| Ayşe Parla – Sabancı University

Speakers
| Tomas Wilkoszewski: The Uyghur Communities in Turkey: from the Doğu Türkistan Göçmen Derneği to the World
| Paul Osterlund: Locating a Revanchist Continuum in Post-Ottoman Istanbul
| Luisa Piart: Uyghur Congress Istanbul's Garment Industry: A Transnational Field of Small Entrepreneurs
| Nevin Şahin-Malkoç: Homeland” in “Dreamland”? Space and Identity in “Göçmen Konutları”

12.45am – 1.45pm  Lunch

1.45pm – 2.15pm  2nd Keynote Speech
Anthropologists of Turkey
| Alan Duben – Istanbul Bilgi University
2.15pm – 3.45pm  Political Science
Session 2
Domestic Politics
Chair
| Fuat Keyman – Istanbul Policy Center

Speakers
| Anne Schluter:  Competing or Compatible Language Identities in Istanbul’s Kurdish Workplaces?
| Laura Tocco:  Civil Society in Turkey: A Gramscian Approach
| Doğu Durgun & Elif Kalaycıoğlu:  A new Turkish Citizenship? Contestation of Muslim Women's and LGBT Organizations

Sociology
Session 2
Transnationalism
Chair
| Ayhan Kaya – Istanbul Bilgi University

Speakers
| Ciğdem Bozdağ:  The Digital Bridge Between Turkey and Europe: Transnational Media Use in Turkish Diaspora
| Doğuş Şimşek:  The Perceptions of “Home” in the Context of Transnationalism among Turkish and Kurdish Youth in London

3.45pm – 4.15pm  Coffee Break
4.15pm – 5.30pm  Wrap-up Session
Contemporary Turkish Studies at a Glance
Participants
| Alan Duben
| Ayhan Kaya
| Fuat Keyman
| Erik-Jan Zürcher

Chair
| Elise Massicard

5.30pm  End of event

2nd Day - October 14, 2012

10.00am – 10.30am  3rd Keynote Speech
Moving Beyond ‘Turkish Studies’: an Anthropological Query
| Yael Navaro-Yashin – University of Cambridge

10.30am – 10.45am  Formation of Panels
10.45am – 12.15am | History
Session 1
Ottoman History
Chair
| Şevket Pamuk – Bogazici University/LSE

Speakers
| Emre Erol: Organized chaos as a weapon against Ottoman Greeks (the Rum) in Foçा, 1914
| Pınar Ure: Claiming Byzantine Antiquities: Byzantine Archeology and the Diplomacy of Archeology between Russia and the Ottoman Empire (1894 – 1914)
| Nicola Verderame: The Ottoman Participation in World Fairs as an Internal Communication Tool: The Case of the World’s Columbian Exposition (Chicago, 1893)

12.15am – 1.15pm | Lunch

1.15pm – 1.45pm | 4th Keynote Speech
Ancien Regimes
| Şerif Mardin – Sabancı University

1.45pm – 3:15pm | History
Session 2
Contemporary History and Memory Studies
Chair
| Leyla Neyzi – Sabancı University

Speakers
| Eray Çaylı: Turkey’s ‘Witness-sites’ and Its Discourses of ‘Coming to Terms with the Past’: the Case of the Madımak Hotel
| Alice von Bieberstein: Archival (Im)Mobilizations: Sensing the Sights and Sounds of Denial
| Erol Sağlam: Trabzon and Nation: A Psychoanalytical Insight into Memory, Identity, and Citizenship

Cultural Studies
Session 2
Gender Perspectives
Chair
| Ayşe Gül Altınay – Sabancı University
Speakers
| Eirini Avramopoulou: Walking as Feminists against Death and Violence: On (Lost) Hopes
| Belin Benezra: The Institutional History of Family Planning and Abortion in Turkey
| Tillie Kluthe: Bağımsız olmak – To be Independent. Ethnographic Research about a Women’s Organization in Turkey

3.15pm – 3.45pm Coffee Break
3.45pm – 5.00pm Wrap-up Session
Future Perspectives for Turkish Studies

Participants
| Yael Navaro-Yashin
| Şerif Mardin

Chair
| Kerem Öktem

5.00pm End of Event