
Biographies

Authors

Birce Altıok-Karşıyaka graduated cum laude and received her B.S. in Global and International Affairs at Binghamton (SUNY) and Boğaziçi Universities with double minors in Sociology and History and a concentration in Middle East and North African Studies in 2010. She completed her M.A. in Human Rights Studies at Columbia University in 2011. She started pursuing her Ph.D. in the department of Political Science and International Relations at Koç University in 2011. Her research interests include international relations theory, Turkish foreign policy, migration and human rights.

Şafak Baş graduated from Heidelberg University with a Master's Degree in Political Science and Islamic and Iranian Studies in 2012. After his studies he worked as a policy analyst for the European Stability Initiative in Berlin and Istanbul. He moved to Tehran in August 2013, in order to work as a freelance journalist. Since July 2014, Şafak is pursuing a PhD at the Free University Berlin. In his research he is mainly focused on Turkey and Iran, as well as the greater Middle East.

Christiane Czygan is an Ottomanist with expertise in history of the press, economic history and literary history with an interdisciplinary analytical approach and a list of more than 10 publications. She has earned her Ph.D. in Turkish Studies, University of Hamburg under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Raoul Motika and her MA in Turkish Studies, History and French Literature, University of Hamburg under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Petra Kappert. She further conducted research in Istanbul, Paris, Berlin and Stuttgart. Participated in different national and international groups working on the history of the press and the Tanzimat. Currently, Christiane Czygan works on the preparation of the project on a divan of Sultan Süleyman.

Elif Gözler graduated from Public Administration, Dokuz Eylül University, İzmir in 2008. After gaining the scholarship of Ministry of Education, she completed her MA at the program of Global Politics and Law in the University of Sheffield in 2010. Recently, she received her PhD degree in Ethnopolitical Studies from University of Exeter. Gözler's research interests include constitutional politics, participative processes, minorities, citizenship policies and nationalism theories.

Ayşegül Kars Kaynar graduated from the International Relations Department of Middle East Technical University. After completing her master studies in City University of London, she gained her PhD degree in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, back in Middle East Technical University. She is currently teaching in European University of Lefke, Cyprus. She is known as the translator of Bertell Ollman's two prominent books to Turkish, "Alienation: Marx's Conception of Man in Capitalist Society" and "Marxism: an Uncommon Introduction". She is also in the editorial board of "Kampflplatz Journal"; a nationally circulated journal of philosophy and politics.

Sinan Karşiyaka received his BS degree in Global and International Affairs at Binghamton (SUNY) and Boğaziçi Universities in 2010. He completed his master's degree in Center of European and Mediterranean Studies with a concentration in European Politics and Policies at New York University in 2011. He started his doctoral program in Political Science at Bilgi University in 2013. His research interests include Turkish foreign policy, Turkish politics, and international relations theories.

Magdalena Kirchner is a Transatlantic Postdoc Fellow in International Relations and Security in SWP's International Security Division. She joined the Transatlantic Relations Program of the German Council of Foreign Relations as an Associate Fellow in July 2014, where she worked on Security Politics in the Middle East and U.S. policy in the region. In addition, she served as editorial journalist for the Security Policy Reader, jointly published by the Federal Ministry of Defense and the German Armed Forces. She studied Political Science (International Relations) and History in Heidelberg and Aarhus before becoming a doctoral fellow of the Baden-Württemberg Landesgraduiertenförderung Program (2011-13). Until 2013, she served inter alia as a lecturer at the Institute for Political Science at the University of Heidelberg and as head of the Working Group "Conflicts in the Middle East and Maghreb" of the Heidelberg Institute for International Conflict Research. In 2010 and 2012, she spent several months as a Visiting Fellow at the Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies in Tel Aviv, the International Strategic

Research Organisation (USAK), as well as the Center for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM), both based in Ankara.

Jean-Baptiste le Moulec is a political science graduate (2003) from Paris Political Science Institute (Sciences Po' Paris). His master's degree thesis was focusing on identity construction, both State and tribal-beduin, in Saudi Arabia. Specialized in the Near East and Northern Africa, he speaks both Arabic and Turkish and has accomplished long stays in Egypt (2002), Qatar (2006), Saudi Arabia (2007-2008) and Turkey (since 2010). Taking Turkish Middle East specialists as a case study, his Ph. D. research, started in 2012, concentrates on power-knowledge relationships mixing a sociology of scholars and network analysis in a socio-historical perspective.

Ceren Lord completed her PhD in 2015 at the London School of Economics, Government Department, focusing on state, religion and institutional change in Turkey. She holds a master's degree from Oxford University (St Antony's College) in Modern Middle Eastern Studies. Alongside her academic career, Ceren previously worked for the private sector as an analyst specialising in the economics and politics of Turkey and the Middle East and North Africa region. Ceren's main research interests include religio-political movements in Turkey, Middle East and South-East Asia; state and religion relations; nation-state building and minorities; comparative democratisation, sectarianism, foreign policy and securitisation of minorities in Turkey and the Middle East.

Chiara Maritato is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Turin. After obtaining her BA and MA both in France at SciencesPo Bordeaux and Italy at the University of Turin, in 2011 she was intern at French Institute for Anatolians Studies (IFEA) in Istanbul. Currently she is completing a research on the Turkish female preachers (*vaize, kadın vaiz*) enrolled by the Presidency of Religious Affairs (*Diyanet*). In 2013, her ethnographic fieldwork in Istanbul has been conducted under the supervision of Prof. I. Gözaydın.

Erol Ülker is currently an Assistant Professor of History at Istanbul Kemerburgaz University – Department of Social Sciences. His research interests include nationalism, labor and social movements in Middle Eastern, Ottoman and Turkish history. He has published several articles in English and Turkish on the Turkification policies of the late Ottoman state, the migration-settlement policies of early republican Turkey, and the socialist and labor movements in Istanbul under Allied occupation. Ülker obtained his B.A. in International Relations from Istanbul University (1999). He holds two M.A. degrees from the Political Science Department of Boğaziçi Univer-

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Kerem Yıldırım is a Political Science Ph.D. candidate at Koç University, İstanbul, Turkey. His research interests are comparative politics, clientelism, communication, and Turkish Politics. He is currently working on his dissertation titled “Clientelistic Continuity and Persuasion: A Study of Preference Change in Turkey.” His most recent article on increasing levels of political polarization and press-party parallelism in the Turkish media was published in June 2014. He also has an upcoming chapter on the characteristics of social movements and the case of 2013 Turkish protests in the book titled Contentious politics in the Middle East.

Aylin Yıldırım Tschoepe is an architect, anthropologist and instructor. She is originally from Germany, where she has worked as an architect on public and private projects since 2004. Interested in the social agency of architecture and the reciprocal relationship between people and places, she continued her academic career in a Master (Sc) Program in Frankfurt am Main and Istanbul, and later as a Fulbright Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design in Cambridge, MA where she received a degree as Doctor of Design in 2012. She has taught studios and seminars at introductory and advanced levels and held a Visiting Assistant Professorship at the Architecture Department of the Wentworth Institute of Technology (2013-2014). To expand and deepen her expertise in interdisciplinary research and teaching, she studies in the PhD program in Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University (2011-2016), focussing on migration, memory and identity politics, and urban transformation. She holds a TUBITAK/EU funded fellowship for her current research on labor migration, “homescapes” and hybrid identities.

Meltem Yılmaz Şener got her Ph. D. in 2010 from Department of Sociology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the US after completing her MS degree in Sociology and BS degree in Business Administration at Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey. She worked as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois for one year and taught courses on globalization, transnational feminisms, and sociological theory. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology at Istanbul Bilgi University. Her research lies at the intersection of and integrates recent advances in transnational/global sociology, social inequality, and social theory. She aims to do theoretically informed analyses

of inequality at the global and country levels, and with respect to social class, work, gender, and power relationships between the global North and the South.

Editors

Meltem Ersoy received her PhD in Political Science from George Mason University. Her dissertation is titled *Political Crisis and Party Transformation*. She completed her MA in Conflict Analysis and Resolution at Sabancı University, and BA in International Relations at Koç University. Ersoy coordinated the *Contemporary Turkey at a Glance II* Conference. She was the project manager for the *Political Party and Electoral System Reform in Turkey* at Istanbul Policy Center (IPC). She coordinated the *Strengthening the System of Checks and Balances in Turkey through Constitutional Reform* at IPC. Ersoy worked as an instructor at Boğaziçi University. She focuses on political Islam, Turkish politics, negotiation, peace processes, political parties and secularism, on which she contributed to various international conferences.

Esra Özyürek is Associate Professor and the Chair for Contemporary Turkish Studies at the European Institute at London School of Economics. She received a BA in Political Science and Sociology at Boğaziçi University and an MA and PhD in Anthropology at the University of Michigan. She is the author of *Nostalgia for the Modern: State Secularism and Everyday Politics in Turkey* (Duke University Press 2006) and *Being German Becoming Muslim: Race, Religion, and Conversion in the New Europe* (Princeton University Press 2014). After receiving her BA in Political Science and Sociology from Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Esra Özyürek received her MA and PhD in Anthropology at the University of Michigan. She had since taught Anthropology at the University of California, San Diego.