



ASSOC. PROF. PINAR İPEK

Pinar İpek is Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations, at TOBB Economics and Technology University in Ankara, Turkey. She holds a B.A. from Faculty of Political Science, Ankara University and a M.B.A from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She completed her PhD in international affairs at University of Pittsburgh in 2003. Her research interests include energy security, the EU's energy policy, geopolitics of the Eastern Mediterranean hydrocarbon resources, political economy of oil and gas in the Central Asia and the Middle East regions, energy transition in developing countries, and Turkey's state-business relations within the context of local modalities of capitalist development in global political economy. Her articles are published in scholarly journals such as Foreign Policy Analysis, Europe-Asia Studies, Middle East Journal, Middle Eastern Studies, Turkish Studies, Middle East Policy, European Integration online Papers, Perceptions: Journal of International Affairs. She has also two book chapters on Turkey's energy security.



PROF. HALDUN YALÇINKAYA

Haldun Yalçinkaya is the chair of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at TOBB Economics and Technology University in Ankara / Turkey. Professor Yalçinkaya has been conducting research on Foreign Terrorist Fighters of DAESH and Countering Violent Extremism since 2014 and serving as an academic advisor for the different activities of the NATO Center of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism since 2019. He graduated from Kuleli Military High School and later Turkish Military Academy. During his military service as an officer, he completed his post-graduate studies in International Relations at İstanbul University. Dr.Yalçinkaya studied "peacekeeping" at MA level and "transformation of war" at Ph.D. level. After earning his Ph.D. degree, he had post-doctoral Research and joined the Changing Character of War Project in Oxford University between 2009-2010. Furthermore, during his military service, he served in Afghanistan in 2005. He published four books on war and terrorism issues and several academic articles/book chapters on International Security issues focusing on new actors of the battlefields as well as terrorism. After serving more than ten years at Turkish Military Academy he has been Professor in International Relations at TOBB University of Economics and Technology since 2013, as well as the coordinator of Bodrum+ Institute



PROF. YÜCEL ACER

Prof. Dr. Yücel ACER is a professor of International Law and currently the Head of the Department of Public Law at the Faculty of Law, Ankara Yıldırım Beyazıt University (Turkey). He also works as senior researcher in SETA and the National Centre for Sea and Marine Law (DEHUKAM). He received his undergraduate degree in international relations from Ankara University, the Faculty of Political Sciences, a LL.M. in International Law from the University of Sheffield (the UK), and PhD in International Law from the University of Bristol (the UK). Prof. Acer did post-doctoral studies at the Faculty of Law at the University of Hawaii in the USA, and gave lectures at the Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, (Turkey) Izmir University of Economics (Turkey), Eskişehir Osmangazi University (Turkey), Turkish Military Academy (Turkey), and Atılım University (Turkey). His studies focus on international law of the sea, international law of armed conflicts and international human rights law. He is the author many academic articles as well as the author of the books, “The Aegean Maritime Disputes and International Law”, “The Crime of Aggression in International Law”, (in Turkish) “The Boundary Disputes in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean on the Basis of the International Jurisprudence” (in Turkish) and co-author of “The Asylum Strategy of Turkey from the Global and Regional Perspectives” (in Turkish) and “Basic Textbook on International Law” (in Turkish with summaries in English).



PROF. ÖZLEM TÜR

Dr. Özlem TÜR is Professor of International Relations at Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye. Her main expertise include Turkey’s relations with the Middle East (especially Syria, Israel and Lebanon), the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Feminist IR. Her publications include Turkey-Syria Relations - Between Enmity and Amity (London: Ashgate, 2013, co-edited with Raymond Hinnebusch); “Turkey and Israel in the 2000s” (Israel Studies, 2012); “Political Economy of Turkey’s Relations with the Middle East” (Turkish Studies, 2011). -“Turkey’s Role in Middle East and Gulf Security”, (Asian Journal of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, 2019), “Turkey and Egypt in the Yemen Crisis” in Stephen W. Day and Noel Brehony (eds.), Global, Regional and Local Dynamics in the Yemen Crisis, (Switzerland: Palgrave-Macmillan,), 2020 and “Political Economy of the Arab States - Whither any Change?” in Youssef Cherif (ed.), the Modern Arab State - A Decade of Uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa, 2021.



PROF. MİTAT ÇELİKPALA

Dr. Mitat Çelikpala is a Professor of International Relations and the Vice-Rector at Kadir Has University, Istanbul. He teaches graduate and undergraduate courses on Eurasian security, energy, critical infrastructure security/protection, Turkish foreign and domestic policy, and the Caucasus. He previously served as an academic advisor to NATO's Center of Excellence Defense Against Terrorism in Ankara (2009-2012), especially on regional security and critical infrastructure protection, and was the board member of the Strategic Research and Study Center (SAREM), Turkish General Staff (2005-2011); Academic Adviser to the Center for Strategic Research (SAM), Turkish Foreign Ministry (2002-2010) and Caspian Strategy Institute, Istanbul Turkey (2012-2013). He was a Senior Associate Member at St Antony's College, Oxford University, UK (2005-2006). He has written for several academic publications, including Energy Policy, Middle Eastern Studies, International Journal of Turkish Studies, Insight Turkey, and Journal of Southeast European and the Black Sea Studies. He also contributed many conference papers on Turkish foreign policy, Turkish-Russian relations, Eurasianism, and Turkish geopolitics.



**PROF. DIMITRIOS
TRIANTAPHYLLOU**

Dimitrios Triantaphyllou is Professor of International Politics at the Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens and Professor of International Relations at Kadir Has University, Istanbul. He holds a BA in Political Science and History from the University of California, Berkeley and an MA and PhD in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. He has previously served in various capacities in several research and academic institutions such as the Center for International and European Studies (CIES), Istanbul; the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), Athens; the EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS), Paris; the Hellenic Observatory at the London School of Economics; the University of the Aegean, Rhodes; and the International Center for Black Sea Studies (ICBSS), Athens. He also served as an advisor at the Hellenic Ministry for Foreign Affairs. He is an editor of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies (SSCI indexed); a member of the Greek-Turkish Forum; a Research Associate of the Institute of International Relations (Athens); an Expert at Global Academy (Istanbul); co-convenor of the Commission on the Black Sea; a member of the Advisory Boards of the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, the International Institute for Peace, Vienna; the Black Sea NGO Forum, the Corporate Social Responsibility Association of Turkey, and Global Academy. His more recent applied and research interests include Turkish Foreign Policy; Black Sea Security and Politics; EU foreign and neighbourhood policies; Greek-Turkish relations; and Politics in the Eastern Mediterranean. He is also actively engaged in several non-formal education initiatives promoting civic engagement and youth empowerment.



PROF. ŞABAN KARDAŞ

Dr. Şaban Kardaş is a research professor at the Gulf Studies Center at Qatar University. He has published articles and book chapters on Turkish domestic and foreign policies, energy policies and international security and has been an occasional contributor to international media. He has taught classes at Diplomacy Academy, Sakarya University, Police Academy, Military Academy, and TOBB University of Economics and Technology from where he is currently on academic leave. He received his doctoral degree in political science from the University of Utah. Dr. Kardaş also holds a master's degree in international relations from the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, and a second master's degree in European Studies from the Center for European Integration Studies in Bonn, Germany.



AMB. (R) FATİH CEYLAN

Fatih CEYLAN is a Career Ambassador(R). Born in Bursa in 1957. He Graduated from Faculty of Political Science, University of Ankara in 1979. Ambassador Ceylan attended post-graduate studies at Rutgers/Princeton Universities in the U.S. Had his Master's Degree in international relations in 1982. He joined the Turkish Foreign Ministry in 1979. Served in Turkish posts and missions in Islamabad, Deventer, NATO, Brussels and the EU. He appointed to Khartoum and Turkish Delegation to NATO as Ambassador. Last appointment in Ankara was Deputy Undersecretary in charge of bilateral affairs. He received state orders from Sudan and Kazakhstan respectively for his contributions to improving the bilateral ties between Türkiye and those two countries. He is the President of Ankara Policy Center, a well reputed think tank located in Ankara. He is a prolific writer addressing different aspects of Turkish foreign and security policies, focusing particularly on NATO and European security. Ambassador Ceylan retired from the Ministry in 2019 February.



**ASSIST. PROF.
K.AYDIN GÜNDÜZ**

Dr. K. Aydın Gündüz is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations at TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations from Koc University, Turkey in 2017. He has been teaching methodology and comparative politics classes at TOBB ETU since 2018. His research interests lie primarily in the areas of institutional change in political systems, comparative studies of democratization and autocratization, political behavior in hybrid regimes, and Turkish politics. His works have been featured in various academic journals, including Policy and Society, Public Administration and Development, and Southeast European and Black Sea Studies.



PROF. MUSTAFA AYDIN

Mustafa Aydın is a Professor of International Relations at Kadir Has University, and the President of the International Relations Council of Turkey. Previously, he worked at Ankara University and Economy and Technology University and served as the Rector of Kadir Has University between 2010 and 2018. He was a guest researcher at Michigan (1998), Harvard (2002), and Athens (2003) universities, as well as at the Richardson Institute for Peace Studies (1999), the EU Institute for Security Studies (2003), and the Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (2018). He is a Coordinator of the Global Academy, Co-Coordinator of the Greek Turkish Forum, and a member of the International Studies Association, Turkish Atlantic Council, European Leadership Network, and European Academy of Art and Sciences. Prof. Aydın's areas of interest include international politics, foreign policy analysis, and security issues related to Eurasia, the Middle East, and Turkey. For further info: <https://www.mustafaaydin.gen.tr>



ASSIST. PROF. GÜLRİZ ŞEN

Dr. Gülriz Şen is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and International Relations at TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey. She received her Ph.D. and B.Sc. degrees from Middle East Technical University, Department of International Relations, and holds an MA in Conflict and Sustainable Peace Studies from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, where she pursued her studies as a Jean Monnet scholar. Her major academic interests comprise Middle East politics with a particular focus on international relations of the Persian Gulf and the Levant, and gender in global politics. Dr. Şen published a Turkish translation of her award-winning Ph.D. thesis from METU Press in 2016 on the theme of Iran's post-revolutionary foreign policy vis-à-vis the United States. She also authored articles, book chapters, and policy briefs on Iran-U.S., Iran-Turkey, and Iran-GCC affairs. Her recent collaborative research focuses on gendered perspectives of radicalization and violent extremism. Dr. Şen teaches undergraduate and postgraduate courses on Global Politics; International Relations of the Middle East; Politics, Society, and Foreign Policy of Modern Iran; and Gender in International Relations.



**ASSOC. PROF. PETAR
MARINOV**

COL. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petar Marinov began his service in 1997 as an officer - engineer of radar systems. He served in the air defense system of the Land Forces and passed through various positions, including a senior expert in the command of the Bulgarian Army. Since 2010, he has been a professor at the Rakovski National Defense College. The chance and challenge to participate in missions of the Bulgarian army in Iraq and Afghanistan awakened his interest not only in the manifestations of terrorism but also in the reasons for its occurrence. Explores various aspects of unconventional threats, radicalization processes, and asymmetry in the conduct of operations. COL.Assoc.prof. Dr. Petar Marinov has undergone a number of specializations in Bulgaria, as well as in Defense institute of International Legal Studies (DIILS) - USA and NATO Center of Excellence - Defense against Terrorism (COE-DAT) - Turkiye. Col. Prof. Dr. Marinov is the main author and head of the master's program "Security and countering radicalization and terrorism", and from 2022 he is a member of the NATO Independence Scientific Evaluation Group (ISEG) with the responsibility "Counter-Terrorism".



**ASSOC. PROF. MUSTAFA
SERDAR PALABIYIK**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mustafa Serdar Palabiyik received his BSc, MSc and PhD degrees from Middle East Technical University, Department of International Relations. Since 2010, he has been working as lecturer at TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Department of Political Science and International Relations. He has recently studied at European University Institute at Florence, Italy as a visiting scholar. His main areas of interest include Ottoman diplomatic history, Turkish foreign policy and critical geopolitics. He is the author of two books, *Turks and Armenians: Understanding the Controversy over 1915* and *Turkish and Greek Relations in an Age of Turmoil (1821-1922): From Coexistence to Conflict* as well as various book chapters and articles published both in Turkey and abroad.



PROF. DENİZ SERT

Deniz Sert is a Professor at the Department of International Relations, Ozyegin University, Istanbul. Before joining OzU, she was a Senior Research Associate at the Migration Research Center, Koç University, MiReKoc. An expert on migration issues in Turkey and globally, she has taught and researched at several institutions domestically and abroad. She received her BA in International Relations from Koç University, an MSc in European Union Policy Making from the London School of Economics, and an MPhil in Political Science from the City University of New York. She got her PhD in Comparative Politics from the City University of New York. She has published extensively on international migration within Turkey and its regions. She was a Jean Monnet Chair on Migration and Mobility for the period 2019-2022. She is also an editor at the IOM's renowned SSCI journal, *International Migration*.



**PROF. SİNEM AKGÜL
AÇIKMEŞE**

Sinem Akgül Açıkmeye is a Professor of International Relations and Jean Monnet Chair holder on Hybrid Threats in the EU at Kadir Has University (KHAS). Prof. Açıkmeye is currently a Senior Fellow at the Centre in Modern Turkish Studies at Carleton University in Canada (since 2021), and was a Jean Monnet fellow at LSE (2001-2002), Turkish Academy of Sciences fellow (2002-2008), visiting PhD student at London School of Economics (2005-2006), Sasakawa Young Leaders fellow (2005-2007), visiting scholar to IGCC-University of California-San Diego as a US Department of State Fellow (2007), Black Sea Young Reformers fellow (2010-2011), visiting researcher at Stellenbosch University (2016), visiting scholar at Harvard University (2017) in support of her research on Security Studies, EU foreign and neighbourhood policies specifically from a security perspective, European integration, enlargement and Turkey-EU relations. She works as part of the editorial board of International Studies Perspectives and European Review of International Studies, serves as a Governing Board Member as well as the Secretary-General of the International Relations Council of Turkey (IRCT) and served as a Member of the Governing Council of the International Studies Association (ISA) (2018-2020). She has coordinated and took part in several international research and exchange projects including EU-FP7 Marie-Curie Actions, Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships and Erasmus+ Jean Monnet Actions.



AMB. (R) AHMET ÜZÜMCÜ

Ambassador Ahmet Üzümcü is a career diplomat with vast experience in multilateral diplomacy and disarmament and non-proliferation issues. Prior to his appointment as Director-General of the OPCW in December 2009, he was Turkey's Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Geneva, where he chaired the Conference on Disarmament in March 2008. Ambassador Üzümcü completed his second term as Director-General of the OPCW in July 2018.

Ambassador Üzümcü has also served as Deputy Undersecretary of State for Bilateral Political Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey's Permanent Representative to NATO and Ambassador to Israel, in addition to earlier postings to NATO, Aleppo and Vienna. He holds a Bachelors Degree in International Relations from Ankara University and speaks English and French fluently. He is married and has a daughter.

Ambassador Üzümcü received the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the OPCW in December 2013. In December 2015, H.E. Mr Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France, decorated Director-General Üzümcü with the Légion d'honneur (rank of officer). In 2019, he was made honorary CMG, Order of St Michael and St George, by the British Government for his services to international diplomacy and the rule of law.