

Reading John Stuart Mill in Istanbul: A Conversation with Timothy Garton Ash

Moderator

Fuat Keyman

(Director of Istanbul Policy Center and Professor of International Relations at Sabancı University)

Speakers

Timothy Garton Ash

(Professor of European Studies at University of Oxford and author of *Free Speech: Ten Principles for a Connected World*)

Ayşe Kadioğlu

(Acting Rector of Sabancı University and Professor of Political Science at Sabancı University)

Yaman Akdeniz

(Professor of Law at Istanbul Bilgi University)

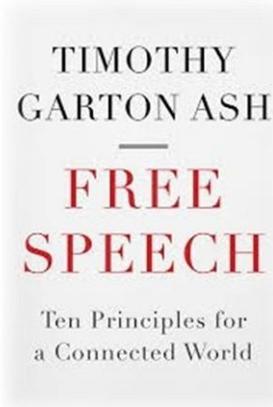
Zeynep Arslan

(Project Coordinator at Hrant Dink Foundation)

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 17:00-19:00

Istanbul Policy Center

(Minerva Han, Bankalar Caddesi, No:2, Karaköy)



Never in human history was there such a chance for freedom of expression. If we have Internet access, any one of us can publish almost anything we like and potentially reach an audience of millions. Never was there a time when the evils of unlimited speech flowed so easily across frontiers: violent intimidation, gross violations of privacy, tidal waves of abuse. A pastor burns a Koran in Florida and UN officials die in Afghanistan. Drawing on a lifetime of writing about dictatorships and dissidents, Timothy Garton Ash argues that in this connected world that he calls cosmopolis, the way to combine freedom and diversity is to have more but also better free speech. Across all cultural divides we must strive to agree on how we disagree. He draws on a thirteen-language global online project —freespeechdebate.com— conducted out of Oxford University and devoted to doing just that. With vivid examples, from his

personal experience of China's Orwellian censorship apparatus to the controversy around Charlie Hebdo to a very English court case involving food writer Nigella Lawson, he proposes a framework for civilized conflict in a world where we are all becoming neighbors.

The event will be held in English. There will be no translation. Please [click here](#) to RSVP.

[Timothy Garton Ash is in Istanbul on the occasion of his lecture at the Science Academy.](#)