IPC

ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER
SABANCI UNIVERSITY
STIFTUNG MERCATOR INITIATIVE



Istanbul Policy Center

2016-17 ACTIVITY REPORT

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ABOUT

Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) is a global policy research institution that specializes in key social and political issues ranging from democratization to climate change, transatlantic relations to conflict resolution and mediation. IPC organizes and conducts its research under three main clusters:

- The Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative
- Democratization and Institutional Reform
- Conflict Resolution and Mediation

Since 2001, IPC has provided decision makers, opinion leaders, and other major stakeholders with objective analyses and innovative policy recommendations.



HISTORY

Initiated by Tosun Terzioğlu, former President of Sabancı University, Ahmet Evin, former Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), and Üstün Ergüder, former President of Boğaziçi University, and with the contribution of Sabancı University professors Korel Göymen and Ersin Kalaycıoğlu, Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) was founded in November 2001 to conduct applied and innovative public policy research in Turkey. With its cutting-edge policy research and public outreach activities, IPC is the embodiment of Sabancı University's commitment to an interdisciplinary approach to science and progress through close cooperation with the community.

In August 2010, Fuat Keyman, Professor of International Relations at Sabancı University, took over as the director of IPC. Under Keyman's leadership, IPC has not only produced outstanding programs, publications and events, but also expanded its keys research areas to include political and social trends in Turkey, social equality, civil society, and urban transformation.

True to this vision, IPC has initiated numerous successful applied research projects with its community partners. Some of these undertakings go back to the founding of Sabancı University in 1997 when IPC was still at a developmental stage. An EU-Turkey Dialogue Project was FASS' first grant to be coordinated in the Karaköy office between 1997-98. Shortly thereafter in November 2001, IPC was established under the leadership of Üstün Ergüder as an institution with a flexible nature and equally partnered with each faculty. Since then, IPC has strived to create a bridge between NGOs and academia in both Turkey and the world, without losing its focus on applied academic research and public policy. Between 2001 and 2010, IPC accomplished noteworthy projects in the areas of education reform, good governance, conflict resolution, Turkey-EU relations, and globalization. Furthermore, Turkey-US relations was included as one of Center's principal research programs. During its early years, IPC's Education Reform Initiative also became one of its most significant projects and contributed to enhancing its public visibility.

In August 2010, Fuat Keyman, Professor of International Relations at Sabancı University, took over as the director of IPC. Under Keyman's leadership, IPC has not only produced outstanding programs, publications, and events, but also expanded its key research areas to include political and social trends in Turkey, social equality, civil society, and urban transformation. In 2011, IPC partnered with Stiftung Mercator to establish one of the most comprehensive partnerships between a Turkish and German NGO. In 2012, the IPC–Sabancı University–Stiftung Mercator Initiative was launched and began realizing a diverse mix of research and exchange activities in climate change, EU/German-Turkish relations, and education. Through this collaboration, both institutions seek to strengthen the academic, political, and social ties between Turkey and Germany, as well as between Turkey and Europe.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



In many ways, 2016-2017 was a turning point for Turkey and the world. Through these transitions and the challenges that often accompany them, we at Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) have built on our established strength and continued to grow as an institution. As one of the most influential, respected, and fast-growing think tanks in Turkey, IPC has become a well-known brand in the fields of public policy research and social sciences.

Through the Center's academic research and influential work, IPC has considerably increased its visibility in the last two years. Our strength comes from five features: academic rigor, creativity, relevance, teamwork, and a friendly office environment. With forty-five researchers and administrative personnel, three research clusters, and fifteen effective and up-to-date research programs, we have organized more than 250 events in Turkey and abroad in various formats such as panels, conferences, talks, workshops, and book launches. In addition, we have published more than 150 reports, policy briefs, and op-eds that have been circulated among key stakeholders across the globe. Our team has become considerably stronger since Senem Aydın-Düzgit joined IPC in September 2016 as Research and Academic Affairs Coordinator.

In 2011, the IPC-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative was established as the first research cluster of IPC. The Initiative has grown beyond our expectations and has become a hub for research and policy building in EU/German-Turkish relations and climate change. The strong bond that the Initiative has built between Germany and Turkey will continue. In the course of six years under the Initiative, we have hosted thirty-seven Fellows and twelve Senior Fellows at IPC; cooperated with over thirty national and international institutions; and published hundreds of opinion pieces, policy briefs, and academic articles through various platforms. In 2015, we initiated an Alumni network and successfully organized two Alumni retreats in Istanbul.

In the field of EU/German-Turkish relations, we aim to give new impetus to the EU/German-Turkish partnership and the revitalization of EU-Turkey relations. This year, we initiated a diplomacy working group on the revitalization of EU-German/Turkish relations. Under this research area, we focus on Customs Union modernization and the current

refugee issue in terms of its implications for EU/German-Turkish relations, as well as the integration of refugees into both societies. In addition, we focus on Turkey's role in the MENA region and its importance in the EU's external actions and foreign policy.

In the field of climate change, we are becoming the go-to institution in Turkey by bringing together a significant number of stakeholders under this thematic area. Since 2015, Sabancı University has been officially represented at the COP international climate negotiation meetings. We aim to continue our numerous collaborations with a range of think tanks, NGOs, and research institutions to develop mechanisms for effective multi-level governance of Turkey's climate and energy policies in the European context. This year, we are initiating a "Climate Forum" in cooperation with Agora Energiewende and the European Climate Foundation. As part of this the three institutions will together establish SHURA Energy Transition Center in order to provide a sustainable and broadly recognized Turkish platform for energy discussions that will support renewable-led energy system transformation in Turkey.

Democratization and Institutional Reform constitutes IPC's second research area, which allows us to make an important contribution to Turkey's democratization and good governance. Through its partnership with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), IPC has conducted thorough research on constitutional reform that has yielded numerous consensual suggestions on political party, parliamentary, and judiciary reforms. The wide-scale participation and interest from the diverse Turkish NGO community has generated a first-of-its-kind "Checks and Balances Network." Today, under the leadership of IPC and NDI, the Checks and Balances Network is responsible for programs that promote deliberative democratic processes and participatory citizenship with 263 civil society organizations all around Turkey. This cluster also has two subsections: governance and urban studies. IPC's research on governance provides policy suggestions, particularly on local governments, decentralization, and regionalization. Under urban studies, we conduct research on the impact of globalization on the economic and democratic development of key urban centers in rural Anatolia.

Our third research area, Conflict Resolution and Mediation, has increased IPC's national and international visibility. The program focuses on the Middle East and the Arab Spring, peace building, migration and refugees, mediation, the Kurdish question, and the role of conflict resolution in Turkey's democratization. In 2016, an Asia Studies section was initiated under this program. Throughout their work, the Conflict Resolution and Mediation team has coordinated projects with different actors ranging from the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Development to the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TİKA) and NGOs working on humanitarian aid. Most recently, the program has been working on the reconstruction of the Turkish state after the July 15 coup attempt and inclusive growth.

With its groundbreaking research on three thematic research areas and successful researchers, IPC is one of the fastest growing and most effective think tanks in Turkey. The 2016-17 IPC Activity Report summarizes the programs, projects, activities, and publications of our three research clusters. I would like to thank everyone on the IPC team for their hard and industrious work and success.

Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman
Director, Istanbul Policy Center

IPC IN NUMBERS
(since 2011)

45 researchers and administrative personnel

3 research clusters

15 effective and up-to-date research programs

More than **250** events, such as workshops, conferences, panels, etc.

"The importance of a policy center like this is to convey the research that is made in academia to decision-makers and civil society. In this regard Istanbul Policy Center has come a long way. It is in a position to be an example for other centers."

Ayşe Kadıoğlu
IPC Senior Scholar and Member of Executive Board

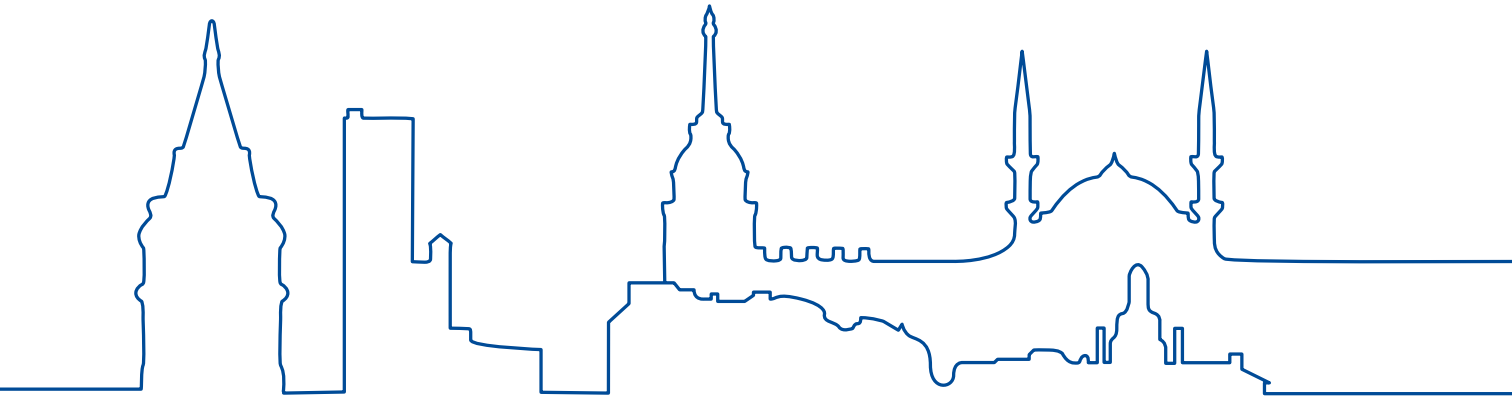
More than 150 publications

More than 21 joint research projects with Sabancı University professors

Nearly 70 Sabancı University student interns and project assistants

"In my opinion, Istanbul Policy Center is currently Turkey's most respected and productive think tank. At a time when the weight of think tanks in Turkey is declining, Istanbul Policy Center is, in this area, a very well-known institution—not only in Turkey but also in Europe—that promotes cooperation between Turkey and Europe, is active in a lot of areas, and conducts very import research."

Atila Eralp
2017/18 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow



COOPERATING INSTITUTIONS

"The outputs of IPC's research have created an impact both with regards to civil society in Turkey and also in terms of influencing or receiving feedback from policy-makers, both in Turkey and outside of Turkey. In that sense, I would say IPC is a very influential actor for policy-making, civil society, and research, and I am very happy to be a part of that from the very beginning."

Meltem Müftüler-Baç
IPC Senior Scholar

Innovative research and successful public policy programs thrive on strong partnerships built over time, across sectors and borders. Committed entirely to this principle, IPC works with a broad network of think tanks from Turkey, Europe, the United States, and different regions from around the world. IPC's collaboration with these institutions contributes to its multi-vectored, diverse, objective, and expansive policy research and analysis. These strong ties with leading global public policy institutions also play a vital role in improving political, economic, and academic cooperation between Turkey, Europe, the United States, and the other strategic actors.

IPC works closely with a diverse community of policymakers, journalists, scholars, and civil society activists. The Center also cooperates with universities, think tanks, foundations, as well as central and local government agencies.

Over the past 16 years, IPC has cooperated with the following institutions:

- Agora Energiewende gGmbH
- American University
- The Aspen Institute
- The Atlantic Council of the United States
- Bertelsmann Foundation
- Bilgi University
- Bilkent University
- Brookings Institute
- Bruegel
- Center for American Progress
- Center for European Security Studies
- The Center for European Policy Studies
- Center for Middle Eastern Strategies (ORSAM)
- The Centre for Turkey Studies (CEFTUS)
- Chatham House
- Diplomatic Academy of Qatar
- Durham University, UK
- Economic Development Foundation (IKV)
- Ege University
- European Climate Foundation
- Foundation for European Progressive Studies
- Free University Berlin

"Working at Istanbul Policy Center was truly one of the most joyful things that I have done throughout my academic life. First of all, it's a very well-established center with a wide range of work areas that has proven itself. It can be said that it is one of the few non-governmental organizations in Turkey that can claim to practice "politics" and has ties to both civil society and the university."

Çiğdem Bozdağ
2013/14 Mercator-IPC Fellow

German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)

German Marshall Fund of the United States

Green Europe Foundation

Green Thought Foundation

Hrant Dink Foundation

Ifo Institute at the University of Munich

INGEV

International Council on Clean Transportation

Istituto Affari Internazionali

Life and Peace Institute

The Magna Charta Observatory

Makerere University

METU Alumni Association Visnelik Facility

Middle East Institute at National University of Singapore

MURCIR

The National Democratic Institute

NATO

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

SaferWorld

The Sasakawa Foundation

SciencesPo

Somali Peace Line

South Asian University

Stiftung Mercator

SWP

Syrian Economic Forum

TEPAV

Thomson Reuters Foundation

TOBB-ETU Department of Political Science and International Relations

Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA)

Turkish Foreign Ministry

TURKONFED

Wilson Center

World Wildlife Foundation



THE ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER - SABANCI UNIVERSITY - STIFTUNG MERCATOR INITIATIVE

The Istanbul Policy Center–Sabancı University–Stiftung Mercator Initiative aims to strengthen the academic, political, and social ties between Turkey and Germany as well as Turkey and Europe.

The Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative aims to strengthen the academic, political, and social ties between Turkey and Germany as well as Turkey and Europe. The Initiative is based on the premise that the acquisition of knowledge and the exchange of people and ideas are preconditions for meeting the challenges of an increasingly globalized world in the 21st century.

The Initiative focuses on two areas of cooperation which are of essential importance for the future of Turkey and Germany within a larger European and global context. These areas are:

EU/German-Turkish relations
Climate change

The Initiative was launched on July 5, 2011 upon the signing of the "Memorandum of Understanding" by the presidents of Sabancı University and Stiftung Mercator. It officially initiated its activities on January 1, 2012.



In the course of six years, the Initiative,

hosted **37 Fellows** and **12 Senior Fellows**
at IPC, among all of whom are very experienced and prominent researchers, journalists, and professionals;

organized close to
180 events in Turkey and abroad
in various formats such as panels, conferences, talks, workshops, and book launches;

cooperated with over **30 national and international institutions;**

published around **90 publications**

MERCATOR-IPC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Initiative's cornerstone is the Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program, which allows international scholars and civil society activists predominantly, but not exclusively, from Germany to work on academic and practical projects at IPC. Fellows work on projects within the fields of EU/German-Turkish relations and climate change.

There are two types of positions available:



Mercator-IPC Fellowships are granted to outstanding young academics, journalists, and professionals who have significant prior work experience. Each year the fellowship program opens a call for applications to select a new cycle of fellows. The selection of fellows invited for personal interviews is conducted by an international jury consisting of eminent experts from the two thematic areas. The jury team is composed of jurors from both thematic areas and conducts personal interviews with the most qualified applicants from their respective field.

Mercator-IPC Senior Fellowships are granted to internationally renowned scholars and highly respected representatives of civil society or politics who have already made a significant contribution to German-Turkish or European-Turkish relations.

MERCATOR-IPC FELLOWS (2015-2017)

2017/18

EU/German-Turkey Relations

Banu Karaca

Turkish Cultural Foreign Policy at the Crossroads: Potentials and Challenges

Souad Osserian

Syrian Healthcare and Education Professionals' Integration in Turkey: Altering Formulations of Turkish Citizenship



▲ Welcoming of the 2017/18 Mercator-IPC Fellows, October 16, 2017, Istanbul

Gabriele Cloeters

The Gender Aspect of Syrian Migration in Turkey: Approaches of Non-Governmental Organizations Towards Syrian Female Refugees

Simon Waldman

Beyond the European Union: The Future of Turkish-United Kingdom Relations

Climate Change

Barış Karapınar

Climate Change and Land: Leveraging the Synergies between Adaptation and Mitigation through Sustainable Land Management in Turkey

Pınar Ertör-Akyazı

Carbon Pricing Options and EU Harmonization in Turkey: A Behavioral Economics Approach

2016/17

EU/German-Turkey Relations

Kristen Biehl

Examining Policy Formations and Everyday Realities of Refugee Integration in Turkey

Wiebke Hohberger

Syrian Refugees in Turkey: Current Approaches of State and Non-State Integration Efforts and Possibilities for Turkish-German Joint Projects

Magdalena Kirchner

Rising to the Occasion? Turkey and Germany in Transatlantic Crisis Management

Emre Üçkardeşler

A Framework for Long-term Education and Integration Strategies

"Our aim here is to make Turkey better understood, to make Turkey-Germany relations better understood. Turkey is a very complex society. There are a lot of different views, and there is a lot of important research being done. It has become very important that this is understood in Europe and Germany."

Atila Eralp
2017/18 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow





▲ Welcoming of the 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellows, October 10, 2016, Istanbul

Climate Change

Tuğba Ağaçayak

Mitigation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Waste and Agriculture Sectors and its Multi-level Governance in Turkey

Sarah Louise Nash

The Politics of the Climate Change and Migration Nexus: Taking the UNFCCC Task Force to Task

2015/16

EU/German-Turkey Relations

Çetin Çelik

Comparing School Opportunity Structures in Turkey and Germany

Defne Kadıoğlu Polat

A Tale of Two Gentrifying Cities: Berlin and Istanbul

İlke Toygür

Political Parties and Elections in Turkey and Europe: Challenge for Democracy?

Climate Change

Hande Paker

Politics of Climate Change at the Crossroads of Local and Transnational

Peter Mock

Crossing the Bridge: Policies for Clean Vehicles in Turkey and Germany

Christiane Fröhlich

Climate Change and Migration

▶ Welcoming of the 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellows, October 10, 2016, Istanbul



"Istanbul Policy Center was founded sixteen years ago, and for six years the Initiative has been a part of this. It adds a lot to our research and improves the variety of research we conduct. A network has been established. We now have past fellows. The network between them shows that this is a successful program."

Ayşe Kadıoğlu
IPC Senior Scholar and Member of Executive Board

MERCATOR-IPC SENIOR FELLOWS (2016-2017)

Atila Eralp, 2017/18 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow; Senior Fellow at the Center for European Studies and Emeritus Professor in the Department of International Relations at Middle East Technical University, Ankara

Yezid Sayigh, 2017 Mercator-IPC Visiting Senior Fellow; Senior Fellow at the Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut

Richard Youngs, 2017 Mercator-IPC Visiting Senior Fellow; Senior Fellow at the Democracy and Rule of Law Program at Carnegie Europe

Gerald Knaus, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow; Founding Chairman of the European Stability Initiative (ESI)

Çağlar Keyder, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow; Professor of Sociology at the State University of New York in Binghamton and at Koç University in Istanbul

The Mercator-IPC Fellowship Program team convenes annual Advisory Council and Executive Board meetings to assess the Initiative's role in Turkish-European relations, its strategic outlook, and administrative decisions. The fellowship kicks off with an orientation program and high-level welcoming event. Throughout the fellowship, the coordination team regularly meets with the fellows at the monthly working group meetings. The program also organizes monthly brown bag lunches where IPC staff and the fellows present their research.

As part of the sustainability of the fellowship network, since 2015, Mercator-IPC Alumni reunite each year at Alumni Retreats, which allow fellows to tap into the expertise of prominent scholars/experts under an overarching theme, conduct in-depth discussions with the group, and join hands-on training workshops.

EU/GERMAN-TURKISH RELATIONS

ACTIVITIES UNDER THE MERCATOR-IPC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

EVENTS

Turkey and the EU in the Emerging New Middle East

2017/18 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Atila Eralp convened a panel on "Turkey and the EU in the emerging new Middle East" in cooperation with Sciences Po on December 14, 2017 at Science Po, Paris. The panel, which was chaired by Riva Kastoryano, Senior Research Fellow at CNRS, hosted Fuat Keyman, Director of Istanbul Policy Center and Professor of International Relations at Sabancı University, and Galip Dalay, Research Director at Al Sharq Forum and Senior Associate Fellow on Turkey and Kurdish Affairs at Al Jazeera Center for Studies, as panelists.

Integrating Syrians into the Turkish Higher Education System: Discussing Solutions among Syrian Students

2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow Wiebke Hohberger convened a workshop on "Integrating Syrians into the Turkish Higher Education System: Discussing Solutions among Syrian Students" on September 14-15, 2017 at Cezayir Restaurant, Istanbul.

Prospects for Syria

2017 Mercator-IPC Visiting Senior Fellow and Senior Fellow at Carnegie Middle East Center in Beirut Yezid Sayigh convened two talks on "Prospects for Syria" on June 13, 2017 at TOBB ETU in cooperation with ORSAM and on June 16 at Vault Karaköy, Istanbul.



▶ Yezid Sayigh's talk "Prospects for Syria" on June 16, 2017, Istanbul

Effective Policy Relevance and Advocacy

2016/17 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Gerald Knaus convened a workshop on "Effective Policy Relevance and Advocacy" that brought together project coordinators/managers at Stiftung Mercator and project partner institutions to discuss possible ways of making theoretical research and knowledge produced outside of research more policy relevant and impactful. The workshop was convened on March 20, 2017 in ESI Berlin.

How Schools' Institutional Habitus Shape the Educational Achievement of Children from Working-Class Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Backgrounds: A Comparative Case Study in Germany and Turkey

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Çetin Çelik's report "How Schools' Institutional Habitus Shape the Educational Achievement of Children from Working-Class Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Backgrounds: A Comparative Case Study in Germany and Turkey," was launched on Monday, February 27, 2017 at IPC. Kenan Çayır, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities from Istanbul Bilgi University, participated as a discussant.

New Directions in European Cooperation in Turkey

The Initiative organized a report discussion for 2017 Mercator-IPC Visiting Senior Fellow Richard Youngs' forthcoming report "New Directions in European Cooperation in Turkey" on January 17, 2017 at IPC.

"There is nothing quite like Tophane": A Case Study of Gentrification in Istanbul

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Defne Kadıoğlu Polat's report "'*There is nothing quite like Tophane*': A Case Study of Gentrification in Istanbul" was launched on December 19, 2016 at IPC with the participation of Ayşe Öncü, Emeritus Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Sabancı University, as a discussant.



▲ "How Schools' Institutional Habitus Shape the Educational Achievement of Children from Working-Class Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Backgrounds: A Comparative Case Study in Germany and Turkey," February 27, 2017, Istanbul



▲ "New Directions in European Cooperation in Turkey," January 17, 2017, Istanbul

Effective Policy Writing and Advocacy

2016/17 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Gerald Knaus convened a workshop on "Effective Policy Writing and Advocacy" with 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellows on November 22-23, 2016 at ESI Istanbul.

Cosmopolitan Democracy Revisited in a World of Rising Populism, Deepening Polarization and Rampant Neoliberalism

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Hande Paker convened a conference titled "Cosmopolitan Democracy Revisited in a World of Rising Populism, Deepening Polarization and Rampant Neoliberalism" on October 24-25, 2016 at IPC.

Turkey and the EU: Shared Challenges and Common Opportunities

The Initiative and Friends of Turkey at the European Parliament co-organized a "Networking Dinner" followed by a panel discussion titled "Turkey and the EU: Shared Challenges and Common Opportunities" on October 17-18, 2016 in Brussels. Both events were convened by 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow İlke Toygür.

Turkey-EU Relations in the Post-July 15 Era: A Needed Cooperation and Collaboration

The Initiative organized a panel "Turkey-EU Relations in the Post-July 15 Era: A Needed Cooperation and Collaboration" on October 10, 2016 at The Seed, Sakıp Sabancı Museum. The panel, which was moderated by Senem Aydın-Düzgit, Research & Academic Affairs Coordinator and Faculty Member at Sabancı University, hosted Fuat Keyman, Director, and Mercator-IPC Senior Fellows Ruprecht Polenz, Nilüfer Göle, and Gerald Knaus as speakers.



▶ "Cosmopolitan Democracy Revisited in a World of Rising Populism, Deepening Polarization and Rampant Neoliberalism," October 24-25, 2016, Istanbul

Neoliberal Globalization and Populist Tendencies: Turkey in the Global Context

The Initiative organized a panel titled "Neoliberal Globalization and Populist Tendencies: Turkey in the Global Context" with 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Çağlar Keyder and IPC Director Fuat Keyman on June 9, 2016 at Cezayir Restaurant, Istanbul.



▲ "Neoliberal Globalization and Populist Tendencies: Turkey in the Global Context," June 9, 2016, Istanbul

Investigations of Urban Scenes: The New Middle Classes, Urban Amenities, and the Proliferation of the Scene

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Defne Kadıoğlu Polat initiated a seminar with Jan Rath, Professor of Urban Sociology at the University of Amsterdam, on urban scenes. The seminar was held on June 1, 2016 at IPC.

Democratizing the City: Urban Citizenship in Buenos Aires and Istanbul

The Initiative organized a seminar by Mert Arslanalp, Visiting Professor at Özyeğin University, titled "Democratizing the City: Urban Citizenship in Buenos Aires and Istanbul" on April 18, 2016 at IPC. The event was convened by Mercator-IPC Fellow Defne Kadıoğlu Polat with Çağlar Keyder, Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow and Professor at the College of Social Sciences and Humanities at Koç University, participating as a discussant.

Reshaping Relations in the Midst of Crises: A Bitter Anniversary for Turkey-EU Accession Negotiations

The Initiative organized a discussion on the policy brief titled "Reshaping Relations in the Midst of Crises: A Bitter Anniversary for Turkey-EU Accession Negotiations" on April 14, 2016 at IPC. 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow İlke Toygür and EU Affairs Analyst Melih Özsöz presented their policy brief.

PUBLICATIONS

Hande Paker, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *Cosmopolitan Democracy Revisited in a World of Rising Populism, Deepening Polarization and Rampant Neoliberalism*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, July 2017).

Richard Youngs, 2017 Mercator-IPC Visiting Senior Fellow, and Müjge Küçükkeleş, *New Directions for European Assistance in Turkey*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2017).

Çetin Çelik, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *How Schools' Institutional Habitus Shape the Educational Achievement of Children from Working-Class Ethnic Minority and Immigrant Backgrounds: A Comparative Case Study in Germany and Turkey*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2017).

"It is proof that such partnerships can be done, especially in academia. In this regard, I find the Initiative very successful as it has a different outlook than a lot of other programs. Thanks to the Initiative I've seen that the lines separating the academic world and the real world can be removed."

Ebru Turhan, *2013/14 Mercator-IPC Fellow*

Defne Kadıoğlu Polat, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, "*There is nothing quite like Tophane": A Case Study of Gentrification*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, October 2016).

Susanne Güsten, 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *A Farewell to Tur Abdin*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, August 2016).

İlke Toygür, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, and Bianca Benvenuti, "The European Response to the Refugee Crisis: Angela Merkel on the Move," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, June 2016).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit, "Brexit: What, Why and How?" IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, June 2016).

İlke Toygür, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, and Melih Özsöz, "Reshaping Relations in the Midst of Crises: A Bitter Anniversary for Turkey-EU Accession Negotiations," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2016).

İlke Toygür, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, and Melih Özsöz, "Stormy Months on the Aegean: The Refugee Deal and Its Impact on Turkey-EU Relations," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2016).

▼ "European Muslims in Daily Life," February 3, 2016, Istanbul



Barbara Pusch, 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *(In)Compatible Transnational Lives and National Laws: The Case of German Citizens in Turkey, Report*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2016).

BOOK LAUNCHES

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

The Initiative and the Hrant Dink Foundation/Asulis Discourse, Dialogue, Democracy Laboratory convened the panel "Reading John Stuart Mill in Istanbul: A Conversation with Timothy Garton Ash" on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at IPC. The panel was moderated by Fuat Keyman, Director of Istanbul Policy Center and Professor of International Relations at Sabancı University.

Timothy Garton Ash, Professor of European Studies at University of Oxford and the author of Free Speech: Ten Principles for a Connected World; Ayşe Kadıoğlu, Professor of Political Science at Sabancı University; Yaman Akdeniz, Professor of Law at Istanbul Bilgi University; and Zeynep Arslan, Project Coordinator at Hrant Dink Foundation, participated as speakers.

Ademimerkeziyet Elkitabı

IPC Senior Scholar Cengiz Aktar's book titled *Ademimerkeziyet Elkitabı* was launched on May 13, 2016 at IPC. Ayşe Kadıoğlu participated as a discussant.

European Muslims in Daily Life

2014/15 Mercator-IPC Senior Fellow Nilüfer Göle's book titled *Gündelik Yaşamda Avrupalı Müslümanlar (European Muslims in Daily Life)* was launched on February 3, 2016 at IPC.

PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE INITIATIVE

GLOBAL TURKEY IN EUROPE

Since 2012, IPC has partnered with the Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) under the Global Turkey in Europe (GTE) project to strengthen Turkey-EU relations through the development of policy recommendations that are based on in-depth academic research and are being enhanced by practical advice from professionals and decision makers.

In 2017 the GTE V project was launched. GTE V aims to mobilize European and Turkish actors from politics, academia, businesses, and civil society to explore ways to transform the currently strained debates in key areas of Turkey-EU relations, such as the future of Turkey's EU accession negotiations; the modernization of the Customs Union; cooperation in migration management; energy cooperation; security cooperation; and the strengthening of civil society.

ACTIVITIES UNDER GTE IV&V

Modernising the Customs Union: A Key to Reinvigorate a Rules-based EU-Turkey Relationship?

The fifth year of Global Turkey in Europe project kicked off with the roundtable discussion on "Modernising the Customs Union: A Key to Reinvigorate a Rules-based EU-Turkey Relationship?" The discussion was organized by the Initiative, IAI and European Institute for Security Studies (EUISS) on December 15, 2017 at EUISS, Paris.

What Happens after Finding Refuge? Integration of Syrian Refugees in Germany and Turkey: Challenges and Prospects

The Initiative, IAI, and Foundation for European Progressive Studies co-organized the seminar "What Happens after Finding Refuge? Integration of Syrian Refugees in Germany and Turkey: Challenges and Prospects" on May 8, 2017 at Mercator Centre in Berlin.

Does the EU-Turkey Deal Represent a Model to be Replicated in Other Contexts?

The Initiative and IAI co-organized the seminar titled "Does the EU-Turkey Deal Represent a Model to be Replicated in Other Contexts?" on December 15-16, 2016 at Catania, Italy, as part of the Global Turkey in Europe project in partnership with the Mercator European Dialogue (MED).

The EU-Turkey Deal and Its Implications for the Asylum Capacities of EU Border Countries

The Initiative and IAI co-organized the seminar titled "The EU-Turkey Deal and Its Implication for Border Countries" on November 3-4, 2016 in Athens as part of the Global Turkey in Europe project in partnership with the Mercator European Dialogue (MED).

The Humanitarian Dimension of the Refugee Crisis in Turkey: Challenges and Prospects

The workshop titled "The Humanitarian Dimension of the Refugee Crisis in Turkey: Challenges and Prospects," which is the first of a series of workshops on the refugee crisis under the Global Turkey in Europe program, was organized by the Initiative and IAI on July 22, 2016 at IPC.



▲ "Modernizing the Customs Union: A Key to Reinvigorate a Rules-Based EU-Turkey Relationship?" December 15, 2017, Paris

TURKEY 2023: A TRILATERAL TASK FORCE INITIATIVE

The Turkey 2023 project aims to outline a long-term vision of prosperity for Turkey, explore its role in Europe and the transatlantic relationship, assess the state of the Republic and its institutions one hundred years after its foundation, and examine its position in the region and the world. The project is based around an expert trilateral task force assembled by the Center for American Progress (CAP) (Washington) and IAI (Rome).

ACTIVITIES UNDER TURKEY 2023

Trends in Turkish Civil Society: Turkey 2023 Task Force

IPC, CAP, and IAI co-organized the "Trends in Turkish Civil Society: Turkey 2023 Task Force" meeting as part of the Turkey 2023: A Trilateral Task Force Initiative. The meeting was held on May 2, 2017 at IPC.

Inclusive Growth—Istanbul Launch Event and Turkey 2023 Task Force Meeting

IPC, CAP, and IAI co-organized the "Inclusive Growth—Istanbul Launch Event and Turkey 2023 Task Force Meeting" on July 20-21, 2016 at IPC.

Publications under Turkey 2023

Center for American Progress, Istanbul Policy Center, and Istituto Affari Internazionali, *Turkey 2023: A Trilateral Task Force Initiative, Report*, Center for American Progress, Istanbul Policy Center, and Istituto Affari Internazionali, July 2017

Center for American Progress, Istanbul Policy Center, and Istituto Affari Internazionali, *Turkey's Path to Prosperity in 2023: How to Avoid the Middle-Income Trap Through Inclusive Economic Growth, Report*, Center for American Progress, Istanbul Policy Center, and Istituto Affari Internazionali, July 2016.

▼ "Revitalizing Turkey-EU-Germany Relations," July 4, 2017, Istanbul



REVITALIZING TURKEY-EU-GERMANY RELATIONS

The project "Revitalizing Turkey-EU-Germany Relations" funded by the Initiative aims to contribute to the revitalization of the EU-Turkish-German relationship through two complementary courses of action.

The first pillar of the project, with its particular focus on publications, aims to create a knowledge base to intensify cooperation and practical policy making in two key policy areas between the two sides, namely the refugee crisis and the upgrading of the Customs Union agreement.

The second pillar of the project focuses on networking events and established a Track II diplomacy working group. The group's aim is to create a platform by bringing together academics, professionals, and public servants from Turkey, Germany, and European institutions to feed in to the debate on the future of Turkey-EU-Germany Relations and work collectively on revitalizing relations. The first meeting took place in Istanbul. Given the trilateral partnership of the Initiative, the high-level meetings will also be held in Berlin and Brussels over the course of 2018.

ACTIVITIES UNDER REVITALIZING TURKEY-EU-GERMANY RELATIONS

Turkey-EU: The Customs Union Agreement

The Initiative organized a roundtable discussion in cooperation with CEPS Brussels on "Turkey-EU: The Customs Union Agreement" where a draft report on the issue was discussed with academics, think tank representatives, and policy makers on November 24, 2017 in Brussels.



Revitalizing Turkey-EU-Germany Relations Working Group I

The Initiative organized a working group meeting that brought together academics, professionals, and public servants from Turkey, Germany, and European institutions to feed in to the debate on the future of Turkey-EU-Germany Relations and work collectively on revitalizing relations on July 4, 2017 at IPC.



THE IMPACT OF TURKEY'S EU ACCESSION PROCESS ON GERMAN-TURKISH BUSINESS RELATIONS

The project "The Impact of Turkey's EU Accession Process on German-Turkish Business Relations," which was initiated by 2013/14 Mercator-IPC Fellow Ebru Turhan, aims to bring renewed attention to Turkey's EU accession process and its positive implications for bilateral relations between Germany and Turkey within a European framework.

The Initiative and Ifo Institute at the University of Munich organized a one-day event titled "Germany and Turkey in Europe: Economic and Political Challenges and Possible Options" on April 4, 2016 in Munich. The meeting brought together German and Turkish representatives from business, academia, and national and international organizations.

CLIMATE CHANGE

ACTIVITIES UNDER THE MERCATOR-IPC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

EVENTS

Waste Management System in Germany and Strategies to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Waste Sector

2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow Tuğba Ağaçayak organized the "Waste Management System in Germany and Strategies to Mitigate Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Waste Sector" excursion to a biogas plant, incineration plant, waste treatment plant, and compost facility in Berlin between May 2-4, 2017.

Beyond Climate Migration Workshop

2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow Sarah Louise Nash, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Christiane Fröhlich, and 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow Ethemcan Turhan convened a workshop titled "Beyond Climate Migration" on April 20-21, 2017 at IPC. Dr. Andrew Baldwin from Durham University, UK, gave the keynote speech on "White World Order, International Relations, and Migration: Getting Beyond Climate Migration."

Reducing Emissions from the Road Transport Sector in Turkey: The Role of Restructured Vehicle Taxes and Congestion Pricing

The Initiative convened a panel titled "Reducing Emissions from the Road Transport Sector in Turkey: The Role of Restructured Vehicle Taxes and Congestion Pricing" on February 17, 2017 at IPC. The panel was moderated by Climate Studies Coordinator Ümit Şahin, while Associate Professor at Istanbul Bilgi University Ayşe Uyduranoğlu and 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow and Managing Director at the International Council on Clean Transportation Peter Mock participated as panelists.



▼ "Reducing Emissions from the Road Transport Sector in Turkey: The Role of Restructured Vehicle Taxes and Congestion Pricing," February 17, 2017, Istanbul



▲ "Beyond Climate Migration Workshop," April 20-21, 2017, Istanbul

Trends of Energy Transition: International Developments & Relevance for Turkey

Istanbul Policy Center-Sabancı University-Stiftung Mercator Initiative and Agora Energiewende co-organized a workshop titled "Trends of Energy Transition: International Developments & Relevance for Turkey" on November 3, 2016 at the 9th International Energy Congress and Expo, Energy is Future Congress.

Civil Society and Climate Change Workshop: Ecology Struggle in Turkey at the Local Level and Beyond

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Hande Paker convened the Civil Society and Climate Change Workshop on "Ecology Struggle in Turkey at the Local Level and Beyond," which was held on May 16, 2016 at Ege University, Izmir.

▼ "Civil Society and Climate Change Workshop: Ecology Struggle in Turkey at the Local Level and Beyond," May 16, 2016, İzmir



"It was truly a very good experience. Afterwards, I moved from Istanbul to Madrid, but I have been using my experience, research, and friendships that I had established here. Both Istanbul Policy Center and the Initiative have been very important contributions to my life."

İlke Toygür
2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow

Civil Society and Climate Change Workshop II: Different Approaches to Climate Change and Common Solutions

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Hande Paker convened the Civil Society and Climate Change Workshop II on "Different Approaches to Climate Change and Common Solutions" on May 15, 2016 at IPC.

After the Paris Treaty: Anti-Coal Struggles in Turkey

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Hande Paker and Political Economist and Member of Political Ecology Working Group and Ekoloji Kolektifi Bengi Akbulut spoke at the seminar titled "After the Paris Treaty: Anti-Coal Struggles in Turkey" on March 31, 2016 at IPC.

PUBLICATIONS

Tuğba Ağaçayak, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow, and Levent Öztürk, "Strategies Regarding Mitigation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the Agriculture Sector in Turkey," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, September 2017).

Hande Paker, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *Cosmopolitan Democracy Revisited in a World of Rising Populism, Deepening Polarization and Rampant Neoliberalism*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, July 2017).

Sarah Louise Nash, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow, "The Devil's in the Detail: Policymaking on Climate Change and Human Mobility in the UNFCCC," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, May 2017).

Ümit Şahin, Climate Change Studies Coordinator, Sarah Louise Nash, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow, and Tuğba Ağaçayak, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC

Fellow, "The Trump Effect on Climate Policy: Hard Times for Global Climate Action," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).

Ümit Şahin and Mehmet Ali Üzelgün, "Climate Change and Media," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, December 2016).

Peter Mock, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, "Policy Options to Reduce Emissions from the Road Transport Sector in Turkey," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, August 2016).

Cenk Demiroğlu, 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow, *Climate Change Vulnerability of Ski Tourism in Germany and Turkey*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2016).

Ümit Şahin, Ahmet Atıl Aşıcı, Sevil Acar, Ali Osman Karababa, Levent Kurnaz, and Pınar Gedikkaya Bal, *Coal Report: Turkey's Coal Policies Related to Climate Change, Economy and Health*, IPC-Mercator Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2016).

Peter Mock, 2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow, "Driving Change: A Snapshot of the Automotive Sector in Turkey," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2016).

Jörn Richert, 2013/14 Mercator-IPC Fellow, "Turkey's Energy Future in an Uncertain World – Five Priorities for a Viable Energy Strategy," IPC-Mercator Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2016).

PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE INITIATIVE

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY BUILDING IN TURKEY

Initiated by Climate Change Studies Coordinator, Ümit Şahin, this three-year project aims to coordinate different policy-relevant works under IPC's climate change cluster, especially with regards to three areas: climate governance, climate-related energy policies, and international negotiations. As an initial step, the project aims to facilitate the dialogue between different climate policy actors in Turkey. In the field of climate-related energy policies, the project will facilitate dialogue with policy makers and civil society in order to strengthen the role of renewables in the Turkish energy sector. Lastly, as part of the international negotiations area, IPC has been officially represented at both Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings in 2016 and 2017.

ACTIVITIES UNDER CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY BUILDING IN TURKEY

2017 Bonn Climate Summit – Impressions from COP23

The Initiative convened a panel titled "2017 Bonn Climate Summit – Impressions from COP23" on November 28, 2017 at IPC. Climate Studies Coordinator Ümit Şahin, 2017/18 Mercator-IPC Fellows Pınar Ertör Akyazı and Barış Karapınar, 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow Ethemcan Turhan, and Marmara University Department of Political Science and International Relations Faculty Member Semra Cerit Mazlum shared their general observations on the summit, as well as Turkey's official position on the climate change regime, with academics, civil society representatives, and journalists in this field.



▲ "2017 Bonn Climate Summit – Impressions from COP23," November 28, 2017, Istanbul

How to Escape Carbon Lock-in: The Case of Turkey in the Context of the Developing World

The side event titled "How to Escape Carbon Lock-in: The Case of Turkey in the Context of the Developing World" was organized on November 15, 2017 at the Bonn Climate Change Conference (COP23).

Just Energy Transition in Economies: Opportunities & Challenges for Disruptive Changes in Energy Markets

The side event titled "Just Energy Transition in Economies: Opportunities & Challenges for Disruptive Changes in Energy Markets" was organized in cooperation with the World Wildlife Foundation on November 10 in the Turkey Pavilion at Zone Bonn.

2016 Climate Summit in Marrakech – Observations from COP22

The Initiative convened a panel titled "2016 Climate Summit in Marrakech – Observations from COP22," on November 21, 2016 at IPC. Climate Studies Coordinator Ümit Şahin, 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow Ethemcan Turhan, 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow Sarah Nash, and Marmara University Department of Political Science and International Relations Faculty Member Semra Cerit Mazlum shared their general observations on the summit, as well as Turkey's official position on the climate change regime, with academics, civil society representatives, and journalists in this field.

Roundtable Meeting on Climate Policies of Turkey (2) Financing of Climate Policies of Turkey after Paris Climate Conference

IPC convened the second gathering of Roundtable Meetings on Climate Policies of Turkey, on "Financing of Climate Policies of Turkey after Paris Climate Conference (COP21)", at IPC Karaköy on May 31, 2016. The meeting hosted numerous actors from different sectors which engage in Turkey's climate policies. The discussion focused on developments in the financing of climate policies post-December 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP21) and the policies that Turkey must adapt.

Climate Adaptation Policies in Turkey

Istanbul Policy Center organized the third meeting of Turkey's Climate Policies Roundtable Discussions titled "Climate Adaptation Policies in Turkey" on October 31, 2016 at Bilkent University in Ankara. The discussion was facilitated by Climate Studies Coordinator Ümit Şahin.

INTRODUCING AN EMISSIONS-BASED VEHICLE TAXATION SCHEME IN TURKEY

2015/16 Mercator-IPC Fellow Peter Mock initiated the project "Introducing an Emissions-based Vehicle Taxation Scheme in Turkey," which aims to develop concrete policy pathways for switching to an emissions-based vehicle taxation scheme in Turkey and exchanging knowledge and experience between a broad range of stakeholders in Turkey and Germany.

NETWORK BUILDING FOR CLIMATE POLITICS IN TURKEY

The project "Network Building for Climate Politics in Turkey," which was initiated by 2014/15 Mercator-IPC Fellow Ethemcan Turhan, aims to extend the Mercator-IPC Initiative's Climate Change Cluster research and outreach activities in Ankara with direct and regular contact with state institutions, embassies, and international organizations.

IPC convened a panel titled "Climate Policy in Turkey: Current Opportunities and Permanent Problems from the Perspective of Social Sciences," which was organized as a part of Sivil Düşün EU Programme, on October 20, 2016 at PE-3 Salon, METU Alumni Association Visnelik Facility in Ankara.

HUMANITARIAN POLICY RESPONSES TO THE REFUGEE ISSUE

The project "Humanitarian Policy Responses to the Refugee Issue," which was initiated by 2016/17 Mercator-IPC Fellow Hande Paker, proposes to analyze instances of encounters between refugees and hosts where hostility, exclusion, and fear are overcome. The aim is to study the way the encounters between newcomers and citizens are shaped in order to clearly define the nature of the interactions that take place between those who are in the position of the guest and those who are in the position of the host.


IPM

DEMOCRATIZATION AND INSTITUTIONAL REFORM

Istanbul Policy Center's Democratization and Institutional Reform cluster focuses on three areas: checks and balances, governance, and urban studies.



Istanbul Policy Center's Democratization and Institutional Reform cluster features three research programs. Through a partnership with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), IPC has conducted thorough research on constitutional reform that has yielded numerous consensual suggestions on political party, parliamentary, and judiciary reforms. Over a hundred Turkish civil society organizations have contributed to this study. The wide-scale participation and interest from the diverse Turkish NGO community has generated a first-of-its-kind "Checks and Balances Network." Today, under the leadership of IPC and NDI, the Checks and Balances Network is responsible for programs that promote deliberative democratic processes and participatory citizenship.

Governance constitutes the second important component of this cluster. IPC's research on governance provides policy suggestions particularly on local governments, decentralization, and regionalization. Furthermore, IPC remains a key partner in EU-anchored and UNDP-sponsored projects.

Urban studies is the third fundamental feature of this cluster. Urban transformation in Anatolian cities has boosted Turkey's economic growth and expedited the democratization process. IPC's work in this field probes the impact of globalization on the economic and democratic development of key urban centers in rural Anatolia.

▶ Network Meeting II., February 2016, Istanbul



CHECKS AND BALANCES NETWORK (CBN)

Founding Story

The Checks and Balances Network (CBN or Network) is a community of civil society organizations and citizens working to strengthen Turkey's democracy. Diverse in political perspective, lifestyle, background, ethnicity, faith, and geography, it is united by the belief that a strong system of checks and balances is essential to advancing Turkey's democracy and protecting fundamental rights and freedoms.

CBN grew out of a project spearheaded by IPC and NDI. As Turkey's parliament began work on a new constitution in 2011, IPC and NDI facilitated discussions among 120 diverse political, civic, government, academic, and media actors, including senior representatives from each political party, that yielded consensus on 108 recommendations for strengthening checks and balances. From among these participants, the idea of creating an advocacy network emerged. CBN was formally established in early 2014 with 100 founding civil society organizations. Today, CBN is made up of 263 civil society organizations and 34,000 individuals from across the country.



Purpose

CBN's mission is to establish a strong system of checks through a new democratic constitution, reform of institutions, and greater participation, transparency, and accountability. The concept of "checks and balances" provides a framework for distributing state powers among diverse institutions and actors in ways that prevent abuse of power and ensure the rights and needs of citizens.

CBN strives to:

- Help citizens increase their understanding of fundamental democratic concepts and the role of citizens and institutions in a checks and balances system.
- Work to address chronic and systemic deficiencies in Turkey's governing system.
- Enable diverse stakeholders to explore, discuss, and reach consensus on alternative pathways to reform.
- Keep citizens abreast of reform initiatives and related legislative and regulatory activity.
- Encourage and support constructive dialogue between civil society and public officials on reform questions.



CORE PROGRAMS

Information Sharing	**CBN monitors legislative and regulatory activities and disseminates information and analysis designed to help citizens follow and understand reform developments.**
Advocacy	CBN advocates for changes in public policy to enhance checks and balances by conducting research and analysis, developing policy recommendations, facilitating consensus, building public awareness, and working to persuade decision makers to adopt proposed changes.
Civic Education and Participation	CBN provides citizens with opportunities to become more knowledgeable about democratic governance and institutions, and become more active in bringing about needed reforms.
Outreach and Communications	Through digital communications and outreach efforts in all regions of the country, CBN works to establish relations with and engage a wide range of constituencies, actors, institutions, and organizations including public officials and political parties.
Special Initiatives	Finally, CBN develops innovative tools and platforms to model and inspire best practices. Examples include Mecliste.org, a digital platform enabling citizens to follow the activities of parliament, track major legislation, and become aware of the social, economic, political, and cultural implications of proposed laws; and Imagine Turkey, a citizen participation tool that helps citizens express their ideas about the future.

SELECTED PROJECTS

August 2014-March 2016

Working for Transparency in Campaign and Political Party Finance

The aim of this project was to monitor campaign financing. The project team analyzed financial contributions to electoral campaigns and how these contributions were spent during the campaign. In correspondence with international election monitoring organizations, this project supervised elections in Adana, Izmir, Ordu, and Mardin, where four different political parties served as the Metropolitan Municipality. As part of this project, CBN met with local administrators, political party representatives, NGOs, experts, business people, local media representatives, and opinion leaders with different political views. The findings of this research were published in a report, made available to the public.

▶ Selected Projects in four different cities, October 2015





Project Events

- Utopia Workshop Plot Study, Sivil Düşün Advisory Board, ODTÜ Vişnelik Facility, February 2016, Ankara
- Utopia Workshop, Erimtan Museum, May 2016, Ankara
- Citizenship Research, Launching Meeting, June 2016, Istanbul
- Utopia Workshop, IPC, July 2016, Istanbul
- CBN Meetings for the New Structure in nine cities: Adana, Ankara, Bursa, Diyarbakır, Erzurum, Izmir, Istanbul, Ordu, and Kayseri. CBN held meetings on information regarding the new structure of the network and future works, November 2016.



▶ Selected Projects, June 2016



February - July 2016

Imagine Turkey

For this project, nearly 50 young people from different schools, political and social backgrounds came together in "utopia" workshops that were carried out in Ankara and Istanbul in May and July 2016. During these workshops, young people envisioned how to live together in the future in public spaces such as workplaces, neighborhoods, schools, parks, and gardens and vividly presented their very own imaginary designs. More than 200 people participated in this project, and over 100 future scenarios were visualized through different formats, such as graphics, cards, interviews, surveys, and questions. The outputs obtained during this process later became the core of the Imagine Turkey project, which CBN aims to spread throughout Turkey.



June-July 2016

CBN Stands behind Its Own Proposals: Not a Partial, but a Comprehensive Reform for an Independent Judiciary!

In the days when the Supreme Court and the Council of State's Amendment Draft began to be discussed in the parliament, CBN drew attention to the importance of judicial independence and a comprehensive judicial reform. With the slogan "We Are Not Law Students but We Comprehend the Issue," CBN reached out to nearly 50 people through social media by preparing reliable but simple information about the subject.

August-September 2016

Concrete Suggestions for a Constitution that We are Genuinely at Peace with

CBN put forward concrete proposals for a constitution we can be content with in different digital media platforms, in different languages, and concepts.

October 2016

From Checks and Balances Perspective, The Limits of the State of Emergency

CBN put forward suggestions regarding the legal limits of the State of Emergency from a checks and balances perspective. Thanks to the material published through different social platforms, CBN reached 25,000 people directly.

November 2016

Why Should We Care About the Constitution?

This project aimed at redirecting the discourse about the constitutional amendment issue from everyday futile discussions towards the axis of checks and balances. To this end, CBN produced impartial, accurate, and reliable sources of information. With simple questions such as "How are we related to the constitution?" or "Why should we care about the constitution?" CBN tried to gain answers via a set of over 30 inputs that were to inform citizens in a fundamental way about "what importance the Constitution had for citizens" and "what it means for society."



December 2016-January/February 2017

What Place for Checks and Balances in the Constitutional Amendment?

Before the proposed amendment to the Constitution, CBN questioned the place of Checks and Balances within the proposal. CBN advocated for the establishment of checks and balances and explained where the proposed amendment was located within such a framework. CBN provided clear and objective answers to questions such as "What will happen if the constitutional amendment is legalized?" and "How will the legislature, executive and judiciary change?" Approximately 100 people were reached in this process.

January-April 2017

Approaching the Constitutional Amendment Law in Terms of Checks and Balances

CBN assessed the Constitutional Amendment Law through predetermined criterion of checks and balances and thereupon measured the results accordingly and explained them impartially. In this way, CBN created a space for the topic to be discussed not in terms of everyday political debates but from the perspective of a checks and balances mechanism. A report for the 8th democracy barometer entitled "Considering the Constitutional Amendment Law in Terms of Checks and Balances" was published. Days ahead of the referendum, CBN invited all parties to communicate respectfully towards different preferences. On the evening of April 16, CBN's video and hashtag claiming "Whatever the result may be, we shall look into each other's face (#YüzümüzOlsun) became one of the most talked about topics on Twitter. CBN simplified the content of the report so that everyone could easily understand it and reached hundreds of thousands of people with graphics, infographics, and videos that were produced for social media.

January 2017- Ongoing

Imagine Turkey

"Imagine Turkey" (1TRH) is a project aiming to bring people living in Turkey together by creating a common space where everyone is free to voice their dreams. This project is a candidate for being the largest participatory work in Turkey designed and implemented by civil society itself. It consists of three steps:



▲ Imagine Turkey, January 2017, Istanbul

- 44 facilitators and organizers conducting 49 focus groups meetings, what the project calls "imagination meetings," in 12 Turkish cities: Adana, Ankara, Bursa, Denizli, Diyarbakır, Erzurum, Izmir, Istanbul, Kayseri, Mardin, Ordu.
- KONDA analyzed the common points of these imaginations, both in terms of their relevance and needs they have expressed. In light of this analysis, Network members have prepared a report on what commonalities were revealed through the 1TRH project. The report was shared with the public in December 2017.
- In the long run, it is planned to create common spaces for citizens, non-governmental organizations and decision-makers to negotiate the imaginations discovered together with 1TRH.

September 2016-January 2018: Promoting Political Party Reform and the Media Project

August 2017-Ongoing

Media Reform Group – Draft Situation Analysis on Citizens' Access to Reliable and Accurate News

The Media Reform Group has set up core teams and specified working areas. In the new period, the group will analyze the reliability of media sources, the role of the media in checks and balances, the creation of new media inventory, new media, and citizens' access to information. Working on creating a new strategy, the group continues to search for experts to support them.

Other Events in 2017

- Evaluation of the Constitutional Amendment Law with regard to Balance and Monitoring, Analysis Report, National Press Launching Meeting, January 2017, Ankara
- Evaluation of the Constitutional Amendment Law with regard to Balance and Monitoring, Analysis Report, National Press Launching Meeting, January 2017, Istanbul
- Evaluation of the Constitutional Amendment Law with regard to Balance and Monitoring, Analysis Report, Information Sharing Meetings with the members, January 2017, Istanbul and Ankara
- "The Dream of 1 Turkey" Facilitator and Organizer Educator Training, January-February, 2017
- 54 "Imagination Meetings" in 49 pilot cities, March 2017

PUBLICATIONS

- No Checks and Balances without Freedom of Press and Speech!
- The Immunity Establishment Must Be Reorganized with the Judicial Reform!
- This Survey Says Too Much: What Self-Perception of Turkish Citizens?
- Independent and Impartial Judgment for Checks and Balances
- Joint Declaration Against the Coup: We Are for Democracy!
- A Unified Writing of the Constitution Guarantees Our Democracy!
- If There are Checks and Balances, There are Limits to the State of Emergency!
- If Checks and Balances Are Indispensable, Where is Is it the Constitution?
- The Place of Solution to Our Country's Problems Must Be the Parliament!
- "Evaluation of the Constitutional Amendment Law in Terms of Checks and Balances" Democracy Barometer Report
- Our Position: Checks and Balances, Our Request: A New Constitution
- Message from the Legislative Reform Group on April 17 and Beyond
- Evaluation of Checks and Balances in the Referendum
- Independent HSK (the Supreme Board of Judges and Prosecutors) for Independent Judiciary: How Should the Assembly Choose Its Members?
- Hunger Strike at a Critical Stage, Normalization for Democracy
- 1 Year Ago, 1 Year After: Responsibility for Law and Democracy
- "What Political Parties and Election System for an Effective Assembly; Requirements, Criteria, Recommendations" Democracy Barometer Analysis Report
- Verified and Reliable Information For Participatory Democracy: Recommendations From Checks and Balances Perspective For Digitalized Media
- We Have a Word for KHK (Decree-Law) no. 696: The Right Address is The Parliament for Regulation on Criminal Liability!
- Imagine Turkey (1TRH) Analysis Report

MECLISTE.ORG

mecliste.org is an online platform that was established in February 2016 with the aim of developing a more participative and transparent legislative process and enabling all components of this process to contribute to and benefit from it.

Since the day it was established, mecliste.org has prepared information on draft laws and proposals within the TBMM agenda and informed its followers about the duties and responsibilities of the parliament.

PROJECTS

"Taking the Initiative for Transparency and Participation in Parliament" June 2015-March 2017

"Working for a More Effective and Accountable Parliament" July 2017-March 2018

SELECTED DOSSIERS

Draft Law on Protection of Personal Data

Through consultation with various experts, mecliste.org prepared information on how the draft law on protection of personal data will affect the privacy of citizens, as well as informing citizens of their fundamental rights and freedoms.

Political Ethics Law Proposal

Certain democratic criteria determines the confidence citizens have in politicians. Citizens must be sure that

politicians who make decisions on their behalf use this power according to their best interests. This is why the Political Ethics Law Proposal was brought to the agenda of mecliste.org, as the proposal is targeting a definition of the principles of making "clean" politics. The prepare dossier consulted with experts in this area, compiled information from open sources, and followed the legislative process. The proposal is still on the agenda of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey.

Supreme Court and Council of State Draft Law

The website has prepared a dossier on the draft law concerning changes in term periods of the Council of State members, elections, and appointments and the duties of the Council of State and the administrators.

Legislation During the State of Emergency

The State of Emergency announced on July 20, 2016 has been extended for its fourth three-month period under the Decree Law 28 (KHK). Mecliste.org has followed this process and shared the contents of each KHK. In turn, the website received opinions from experts on what such legislation should look like in the State of Emergency.

Where Will Our Money Be Spent in 2017?

In 2017, the website provided information on the budgets of public institutions and how much of this budget is funded by tax money. Examples from different budget-making processes around the world were used for comparison.

Constitutional Amendment

Following the constitutional referendum on April 16, 2017, mecliste.org prepared information about the changes in the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary through a chart juxtaposing the articles of the existing constitution as opposed to those in the amended version. A wide range of specialists shared their opinion about the constitutional amendment with the website. Both the commission phase of the amendment and the general assembly phase were followed daily.

Bylaw Amendment

After the April 16, 2017 referendum and the resulting constitutional amendments, mecliste.org summarized the bylaw amendment proposal that was prepared to fill the gap in the General Assembly's commitment to bylaw amendments and the lack of information on this process.

In addition to this, through following the General Assembly's agenda, briefings on various topics were produced. The subject matter varied and included the following topics:

- Removing immunity
- Proposal for the amendment of the Turkish Armed Forces Personnel Law
- How civil society can participate in the legislative process
- Functions of parliamentary commissions
- Draft for the amendment of the Code of Criminal Procedure
- Elections and processes within the Judicial Board (HSK)
- Explaining the Pouch Law
- Pouch Law Draft, including regulations on tax laws
- 2018 Budget
- Assembly Presidency Elections
- Law proposal related to the Supreme Election Board (YSK)

URBAN STUDIES

Under the Urban Studies program, Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman, Prof. Dr. Çağlar Keyder, Dr. Fırat Genç, and Ayşe Köse Badur's report "The City Region: The New Dynamics in the Local Development, From Turkey's Cities to the Cities of Turkey" was published in April 2017. This two-stage research project, conducted by the Local Democracy and Governance Forum and established by TURKONFED and IPC, set out with the intention of working on Turkey's economic and administrative problems in the "city-region" context, drafting solutions, and presenting the issue to the public through a fresh perspective.

This report was penned to reveal the dynamics and potentials of city-region formation in Turkey based on specific criteria. It provides an in-depth analysis of socio-economic data of twelve cities (Adana-Mersin, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Diyarbakir, Eskişehir, Gaziantep, Izmir, Kayseri, Konya, Samsun, and Van). Focusing on the capital accumulation processes in these cities, the objective situation regarding the present and potential dynamics of the urban-regional formation process in Turkey is also portrayed.



▶ "The City Region: The New Dynamics in the Local Development, From Turkey's Cities to the Cities of Turkey," May 2017, Diyarbakır

The aim of this long-term study, which was conducted over a period of two years, is to understand the transformation of cities during Turkey's globalization process and to analyze the parameters and conditions of a kind of restructuring that will open up the possibilities of capital accumulation emerging at the urban scale in accordance with economic efficiency and social inclusion principles. The sub-sections of the report aim to test the hypotheses that we have formulated in order to examine the gap between the potential opportunities and constraints of Turkish cities that are affected by global production, consumption, and circulation relations.

The launch event was organized by TURKONFED in Diyarbakır in May 2017. The launch event consisted of a press conference and a panel discussion. Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman gave a speech in both meetings. Additionally, on July 26, 2017, Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman had met with economic actors in Izmir and gave them detailed information about the report.



CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND MEDIATION

The Conflict Resolution and Mediation (CRM) program focuses on a number of topics within its field, including the Middle East and the Arab Spring, peacebuilding, migration and refugees, mediation, the Kurdish question, and the role of conflict resolution in Turkey's democratization.



The Conflict Resolution and Mediation (CRM) program is a joint initiative by Sabancı University's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS) and Istanbul Policy Center. It aims to conduct research, provide education and training, contribute to the enhancement of civilian capacity, and become involved in joint projects with national and international institutions.

The program prioritizes its cooperation with relevant state institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. IPC is a member of the Peace Capacities Network (formerly known as the Civilian Capacities [CIVCAP] Network), which is a consortium of seven think tanks from around the globe. It also cooperates closely with the Conflict Analysis and Resolution Master's program at Sabancı University and provides internships or field research opportunities for program students.





PROJECTS

DIALOGUE AND SUSTAINABLE CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE KURDISH QUESTION AND POLARIZATION IN TURKEY PROJECT (JUNE 2017 – APRIL 2018)

Dialogue and Sustainable Conflict Resolution in the Kurdish Question and Polarization in Turkey project, which is a follow up to Post-Coup Opportunities on Conflict Resolution and Democracy project, aims to support enhanced political dialogue and conflict resolution through research and transformative mediation techniques to be able to help contain the Kurdish question and polarization as the two main hurdles for stability and democracy in Turkey.

Project events and publications for 2017:

WORKSHOPS IN 2017

The Role of Arts and Sports in Overcoming Polarization (October 5, 2017, Istanbul)

▼ "The Role of Arts and Sports in Overcoming Polarization," October 5, 2017, Istanbul



PUBLICATIONS IN 2017

Bülent Aras, *The Role of the Turkish State in Conflict Resolution*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, December 2017).

Fuat Keyman and Metin Gürcan, *Fifteen Months After July 15: Reforming The Military, Transforming The State,* IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, November 2017).

POST-COUP OPPORTUNITIES ON CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND DEMOCRACY PROJECT (SEPTEMBER 2016 – APRIL 2017)

In 2016, the "Post-Coup Opportunities on Conflict Resolution and Democracy" project was initiated as a response to the failed coup attempt of July 15. The project aimed to identify what could be done to harness post-coup dynamics and address key issues to ensure stability and cohesion in Turkey. It provided a platform to increase awareness and enhance dialogue through conflict identification, analysis, and resolution by conducting field research in Istanbul, Ankara, and Diyarbakır, organizing five workshops, analyzing data, promoting discussion, and disseminating information.

Workshops held as part of the project:

Inclusive Growth and Political Reconciliation after July 15th (March 3, 2017, Diyarbakır)

Reforming Turkey: Institution Building after July 15th (January 18, 2017, Istanbul)



Polarization, Consensus and Democracy after July 15th (January 17, 2017, Istanbul)

Kurdish Question and Democracy after July 15th (December 2, 2016, Ankara)

Government, Foreign Policy, and Military after July 15th (December 1, 2016, Istanbul)

PROJECT PUBLICATIONS

Pınar Akpınar and Derya Berk, *Final Project Report: Opportunities on Conflict Resolution and Democracy after July 15*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).

Bülent Aras, *Turkish Foreign Policy after July 15*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2017).



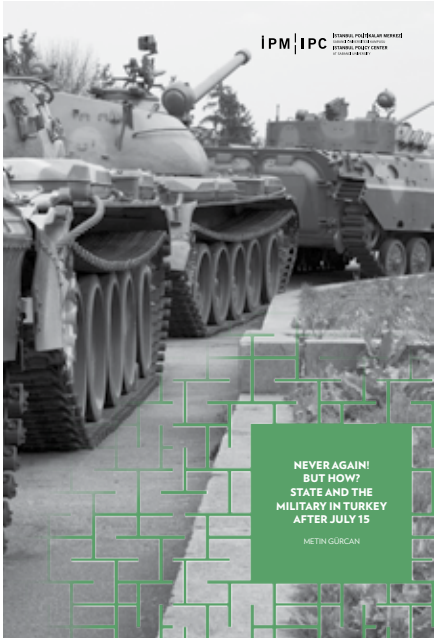
Bülent Aras, *State, Institutions and Reform in Turkey after July 15*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2017).



Cuma Çiçek, *Kurdish Question and Civil Society after July 15: Paths for Dialogue and Reconciliation*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2017).

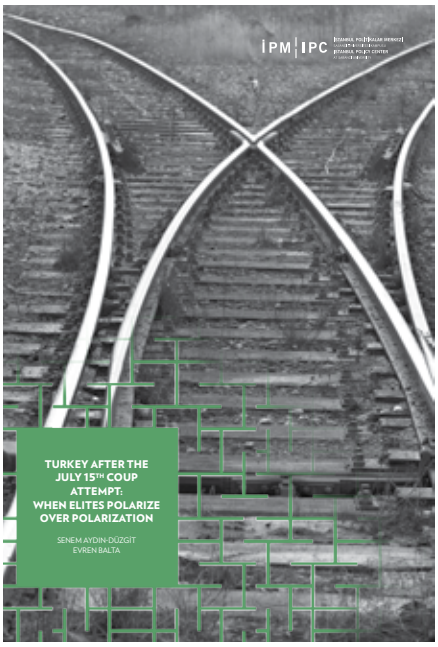
Fuat Keyman and Aysen Ataseven, *Opportunities for Consensus and Coexistence after July 15: Peace and Human Development Connection*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).

Metin Gürcan, *Never Again! But How? State and the Military in Turkey after July 15*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).



Altay Atlı, *Healing the Wounds: Turkey's Quest for Inclusive Economic Growth*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit and Evren Balta, *Turkey after the July 15th Coup Attempt: When Elites Polarize Over Polarization*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2017).



THE CHANGING GEOPOLITICS OF THE MIDDLE EAST: INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION AND GLOBALIZATION PROJECT (MAY 2016 – MAY 2018)

The Changing Geopolitics of the Middle East: Inter-Regional Cooperation and Globalization Project aims to unfold and explore the changing political landscape, understand current dynamics, develop policy alternatives and recommendations, and make projections about the possible paths that the region might be following in the future. The rather challenging issue of mapping the developments in the

Middle East is dealt with in the project through two frameworks: one covering the status of governance, state, and democracy in the region, and the other inquiring into the new geopolitical order of the Middle East, which is facing the collapse of a century-old system that was established after the First World War. Within these contexts, this project is undertaken through several activities, including field studies, publications, and conferences both in Turkey and abroad.

PROJECT EVENTS

Changing Geopolitics and the Emerging Order of the Middle East: Challenges Ahead, What the Future Holds Workshop, Singapore, January 12, 2017 (Istanbul Policy Center, Middle East Institute at the National University of Singapore, and Sasakawa Peace Foundation Joint Event).

PROJECT PUBLICATIONS

Altay Atlı and Bülent Aras, *Changing Geopolitics and the Emerging Order of the Middle East: Challenges Ahead, What the Future Holds*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2017).

Bülent Aras and Emirhan Yorulmazlar, "Mideast Geopolitics: The Struggle for a New Order," *Middle East Policy* 24, no. 2 (2017): 57–69.

PROJECT ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARAB SPRING (POMEAS), MARCH 2014 – MARCH 2016

Project on the Middle East and the Arab Spring (POMEAS) arose in response to the upheavals that began in 2011 throughout the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), as well as the subsequent developments of an unfolding regional process that mixed disappointments with opportunities. POMEAS aimed to sponsor research, hold conferences for invited experts, and develop a publications program that included scholarly monographs, policy briefs, and opinion editorials impacting both the discourse of experts and the climate of public opinion.

SELECTED PROJECT PUBLICATIONS

Bülent Aras and Richard Falk, "Five years after the Arab Spring: a critical evaluation," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2252–2258.

Bülent Aras and Emirhan Yorulmazlar, "State, region and order: geopolitics of the Arab Spring," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2259–2273.

Richard Falk, "Rethinking the Arab Spring: uprisings, counterrevolution, chaos and global reverberations," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2322–2334.

E. Fuat Keyman, "Turkish foreign policy in the post-Arab Spring era: from proactive to buffer state," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2274–2287.

Pınar Akpınar, "The Limits of Mediation in the Arab Spring: The Case of Syria," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2288–2303.

Halil İbrahim Yenigün, "The political and theological boundaries of Islamist moderation after the Arab Spring," *Third World Quarterly* 37, no. 12 (2016): 2304–2321.

TURKEY'S INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PEACEBUILDING: MEDICAL AND EMERGENCY AID PROJECT (MARCH 2015 – JUNE 2016)

Humanitarian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have become important actors of Turkish foreign policy with their humanitarian assistance in the international arena. This project aimed to contribute to the academic literature in the fields of civilian capacity building, emergency relief assistance, health aid, and peacebuilding by investigating the works and modus operandi of Turkish humanitarian NGOs.

Workshops at Istanbul Policy Center, Makerere University in Kampala, and South Asian University in New Delhi were conducted as part of the project.

SELECTED PROJECT PUBLICATIONS:

Pınar Akpınar, *Turkey and India as Global Development and Humanitarian Actors*, Conference Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2016).

Pınar Akpınar, *Turkey's Engagement in Africa's Development*, Workshop Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2016).

"INVESTIGATIVE REPORT OF THE ANALYSIS PROJECT ON THE IMPACT OF SUR, DIYARBAKIR EVENTS ON THE ECONOMY OF THE CITY"

"The Analysis Project on the Impact of Sur, Diyarbakır Events on the Economy of the City" was supported by the Karacadağ Development Foundation and conducted by the Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce. The Ministry of Development and INGEV contributed to the project along with IPC. "The Analysis Project on the Impact of Sur, Diyarbakır Events on the Economy of the City" aimed to identify and analyze the economic impacts of conflict in both Sur and Diyarbakır. In this context, face-to-face interviews were conducted with 1,002 firms that were also members of the Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce. As part of this research, 209 interviews were conducted with employees working in Sur in order to measure the impact of the conflict on the labor market. Two focus group meetings were also held with economic actors doing business in both Sur and Diyarbakır.

Investigative Report of the Analysis Project on the Impact of Sur, Diyarbakır Events on the Economy of the City revealed that the conflict that took place within Sur shrank the economy of the whole city. It was found that while the economic actors of Sur who were directly and deeply affected by the conflict were in urgent need of financial support, the business circle of Diyarbakır also hoped for the end of conflict and a return back to peaceful, daily life to continue business.

The report was launched in a press meeting organised by Diyarbakır Chamber of Commerce in March 2017. Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman gave a speech during the meeting.

TUBITAK PROJECT: "MAKING THE PEACE PROCESS SUSTAINABLE: THE SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE POST-CONFLICT PERIOD"

The project "Making the Peace Process Sustainable: The Social Acceptance of the Peace Process in the Post-Conflict Period" is conducted by Sabancı University and supported by TUBITAK. The aim of the project is to contribute to the peace process both academically and practically by conducting field research, drafting a report, and writing articles according to post-conflict reconciliation methods.

The primary issue central to the project is the social acceptance of the peace process. In this context, the project aims to discover the recent situation in the region and develop the following steps to improve societal relations, construct trust within society, and initiate social dialogue. The original value of this project is its outcomes, which will contribute to the social road map of the peace process both academically and practically. The field project will be conducted in five cities in the region. Diyarbakır, Tunceli, Bingöl, Van, and Mardin have been chosen as pilot cities according to the content of the project. In this context, the first step of the fieldwork was conducted in Diyarbakır in May 2017, and the second one was conducted in the city of Van in December 2017.

"Making the Peace Process Sustainable: The Social Acceptance of the Peace Process in the Post-Conflict Period" will be completed in the end of 2018.

The coordinator of this project is Prof. Dr. Fuat Keyman and the researcher is Prof. Dr. Bülent Aras, IPC Senior Scholar and Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at Sabancı University. Ayşe Köse Badur is also working in the project as a project assistant.

PEACECAP PROJECT

EVENTS

Transforming Conflict and Violence in Somalia through Effective Community Engagement

IPC Researcher Auveen Woods and Senior Scholar Teri Murphy convened and moderated a workshop on "Transforming Conflict and Violence in Somalia through Effective Community Engagement" with participants from the Somali Peace Line (Mogadishu) and the Life and Peace Institute (Nairobi) from November 27 to December 1, 2016 at IPC.

Rising Powers and Peacebuilding: Innovative Approaches to Preventing Conflict and Sustaining Peace



On May 23, 2016, IPC, in cooperation with American University and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), organized a one-day event in Istanbul titled "Rising Powers and Peacebuilding: Innovative Approaches to Preventing Conflict and Sustaining Peace."

PUBLICATIONS

Auveen Woods and Onur Sazak, "Turkey's Approach to Peacebuilding: Principles, Policies, Practices," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, May 2016).

Onur Sazak and Nazlı Selin Özkan, *Turkey's Contributions to Security Sector Reform (SSR) in Conflict-Affected Countries*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, November 2016).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Auveen Woods, Bianca Benvenuti, and Nihal Kayalı, "Workshop Report: Syrian Refugees in Istanbul, Report," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, April 2016).

Bülent Aras and Salih Yasun, "The Educational Opportunities and Challenges of Syrian Refugee Students in Turkey: Temporary Education Centers and Beyond," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, July 2016).

Auveen Woods and Nihal Kayalı, *Engaging Syrian Communities: The Role of Local Government in Istanbul*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, January 2017).

Auveen Woods, Teri Murphy, and Maria Christina Vibe, *Transformation through Justice for Syria: Lessons from South Africa, Indonesia and Colombia*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, March 2017).

Pınar Akpınar, "From Benign Donor To Self-Assured Security Provider: Turkey's Policy In Somalia," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, December 2017).

Bülent Aras and Pınar Akpınar, "Turkish Foreign Policy and The Qatar Crisis," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, August 2017).



OTHER ACTIVITIES

EVENTS

GERMAN-TURKISH ROUNDTABLE ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS 2016: "THE TEMPTATION OF THE CALL TO JIHAD: RECRUITMENT OF FOREIGN FIGHTERS, PREVENTION AND COOPERATION"

The German-Turkish Roundtable (GTRT) is an initiative that seeks to build bridges and promote dialogue between Germany and Turkey in areas of mutual international political and economic concerns. Istanbul Policy Center Senior Scholar Bahri Yılmaz organized the GTRT 2016 conference in Berlin from September 29-30, 2016 to discuss the topic "The Temptation of the Call to Jihad: Recruitment of Foreign Fighters, Prevention and Cooperation."

ACTHUMAN SOCIAL INCLUSION INITIATIVE CONFERENCE

The first conference of the ActHuman Social Inclusion Initiative, initiated by the contributions of İNGEV, IPC and the Syrian Economic Forum, took place at Salt Galata on Wednesday, September 27, 2017. Around 180 guests attended the conference which was titled "Improving the Employment and Economic Contribution of Companies Founded by Syrians in Turkey (Suriyeliler Tarafından Kurulan Şirketlerin Türkiye'de İstihdam ve Ekonomiye Katkısını Geliştirmek)."

▶ "ActHuman Social Inclusion Initiative," September 27, 2017, Istanbul



LIKEMINDS: GERMAN-TURKISH JUNIOR EXPERT INITIATIVE WITH EUROPAISCHE AKADEMIE BERLIN

With Europaische Akademie Berlin and Robert Bosch Stiftung, IPC co-organized roundtable meetings under the Likeminds: German-Turkish Junior Expert Initiative on "Seeking Security in the Age of Human Needs and Global Necessities" on March 18-20, 2016 in Istanbul and visits on May 29-31, 2017 in Brussels. A videoconference was also organized on January 28, 2017.

THE ROLE OF EURASIA IN A MULTI-POLAR WORLD

In partnership with the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), IPC organized the one-day conference "The Role of Eurasia in a Multi-Polar World." The conference, which was spearheaded by IPC Senior Scholar Ahmet Evin, took place at DGAP's office in Berlin on December 6, 2017.

THREE FACETS OF RISING POPULISM: CASES FROM TURKEY, EUROPE, AND THE UNITED STATES

In collaboration with IPC and the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation (BST), a project of the German Marshall Fund of the United States, an event titled "Three Facets of Rising Populism: Cases from Turkey, Europe, and the United States" was held on June 7, 2016.

IKV-IPC ROUNDTABLE ON TURKEY-EU RELATIONS

In coordination with the Economic Development Foundation (IKV), IPC organized the "IKV-IPC Roundtable on Turkey-EU Relations" on March 17, 2017 at the Brussels Representative of IKV.





▶ "IKV-IPC Roundtable on Turkey-EU Relations," March 17, 2017, Brussels

TURKEY AND THE EU: MANAGING POLITICAL TENSIONS FROM THE BACKGROUND OF ECONOMIC AND SECURITY-RELATED INTERDEPENDENCIES

IPC, IKV, and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP) co-organized a roundtable titled "Turkey and the EU: Managing Political Tensions from the Background of Economic and Security-Related Interdependencies" in Berlin on June 23, 2017. The forum aimed to facilitate an in-depth discussion between Turkish and German perspectives, along with sharing expectations concerning economic relations, security issues, and European affairs.

THE SAKIP SABANCI INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD 2017

In honor of the late Sakıp Sabancı, Honorary Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sabancı University, the Sakıp Sabancı International Research Awards are presented each year in the field of social sciences. Last year's jury prize on "Europeans with Legacies from Turkey in Everyday Life" has been awarded to Nermin Abadan-Unat for her outstanding work on emigration from Turkey.

"GREENING CLIMATE, GREENING ECONOMY" PROJECT

This project run by Istanbul Policy Center, Green Thought Association, Green European Foundation that was funded by European Union Civil Society Dialogue Program.

ACTIVITIES UNDER "GREENING CLIMATE, GREENING ECONOMY" PROJECT

Climate-friendly Land Usage and Green Economy Workshop

IPC, Green Thought Foundation, and Green Europe Foundation co-organized a workshop titled "Climate-friendly Land Usage and Green Economy Workshop," which convened on October 27, 2016 at IPC.

Climate-friendly Cities and Green Economy

IPC, Green Thought Foundation, and Green Europe Foundation organized a workshop titled "Climate-friendly Cities and Green Economy" on June 27, 2016 at IPC.

Climate-friendly Energy and Green Economy

IPC, Green Thought Foundation, and Green Europe Foundation's workshop titled "Climate-friendly Energy and Green Economy" was held on September 8, 2016 at IPC.

Green Economy Policies for Climate

IPC, Green Thought Association, and Green Europe Foundation convened a conference on June 1, 2017 at IPC, Karaköy, to introduce the end report of the Green Climate Green Economy project, titled "Green Economy Policies for Climate."



Publication

Ahmet Atıl Aşıcı and Ümit Şahin, "Climate Friendly Green Economy Policies" Project Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, May 2017)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Metin Gurcan, *Seeing the Other Side of the COIN: Problematization of "Our" Counterinsurgency (COIN) Efforts in Afghanistan*, IPC Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, February 2016).

Bahri Yılmaz and Morgan Palmer, "To Where Is Britain Running?: The Real Need for the Brexit Referendum," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, May 2016).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit, "Brexit: What, Why and How?" IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, June 2016).

Ahmet Evin and Megan Gisclon, *The Sliding West: Populism and Religion as Challenges to the Liberal Order*, Conference Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, July 2016).

Metin Gurcan and Megan Gisclon, "From Autonomy to Full-fledged Civilian Control: The Changing Nature of Turkish Civil-Military Relations," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, August 2016).

Metin Gurcan and Megan Gisclon, "What Is the Turkish Military's Strategic Identity after July 15?" IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, September 2016).

Pınar Dinç, *Mapping Populism: Definitions, Cases, and Challenges to Democracy*, Conference Report (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, October 2016).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit and E. Fuat Keyman, "The Trump Presidency and the Rise of Populism in the Global Context," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, January 2017).

E. Fuat Keyman and Megan Gisclon, "Erdoğan's Post-Referendum Paradox," *On Turkey Series* (Washington, DC: The German Marshall Fund of the United States, May 2017).

Bahri Yılmaz, "Why Has Turkey Failed? Does It Fit to Acemoğlu and Robinson's Thesis in Why Nations Fail?" IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, August 2017).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit and E. Fuat Keyman, "The Illiberal Turn in Advanced Democracies," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, December 2017).

E. Fuat Keyman and Megan Gisclon, "Turkey's Strategic Choice: Flexible Alliances with an Enduring Transatlantic Anchor," *On Turkey Series* (Washington, DC: The German Marshall Fund of the United States, December 2017).

Senem Aydın-Düzgit, "PESCO and Third Countries: Breaking the Deadlock in European Security," IPC Policy Brief (Istanbul: Istanbul Policy Center, January 2018).


THE TRUMP PRESIDENCY AND THE RISE OF POPULISM IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT
İPM-MERCATOR POLİTİKA NOTU
İPC-MERCATOR POLICY BRIEF
İPM-MERCATOR POLİTİKA NOTU
İPM

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