



**TURKEY AT THE CROSSROADS:  
POLITICS AND DEMOCRATIZATION IN AN  
EMERGING POWER IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

**Marshall Student Center Room 3707  
University of South Florida**

**Thursday, March 24, 2011**

*Sponsored by the  
Department of Government & International Affairs  
and the College of Arts & Sciences,  
and co-sponsored by the Dialogue Society Student Organization, USF*

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011**

**9:30AM Introduction and Welcome**

**Dr. Mohsen Milani**

*Professor and Chair, Government & International Affairs, University of South Florida*

**Dr. Eric Eisenberg**

*Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, University of South Florida*

**9:50AM Keynote Speech**

**Dr. Hakan Yavuz**

*Professor, Department of Political Science and Middle East Center, University of Utah*

**10:30AM Panel 1—Democratization and Secularism in Turkey**

**Chair: Dr. Mustafa Gokhan Sahin**, University of South Florida

**Discussant: Dr. Sinan Ciddi**, University of Florida

**Presenters:**

**Dr. Mehmet Gurses**, Florida Atlantic University

*"Islamists, Democracy and Turkey: A Test of Inclusion-Moderation Hypothesis"*

**Dr. Fevzi Bilgin**, St. Mary's College of Maryland

*"Who Will Guard the Guardians? The Troublesome Secularism of the Turkish Military"*

**Dr. Huseyin Yilmaz**, University of South Florida

*"Turkish Democratization: Historical Background and the Legacy of Ottoman Empire"*

**12:00PM Break for Lunch**

**THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2011**

**2:00PM Panel 2- Islam and Politics under Justice and Development Party**

**Chair: Dr. Abdelwahab Hechiche**, University of South Florida

**Discussant: Dr. Hakan Yavuz**, University of Utah

**Presenters:**

**Dr. Mustafa Gokhan Sahin**, University of South Florida

*"From Neo-Ottomanism to Strategic Depth: Turkish Foreign Policy during the JDP Era"*

**Dr. Sinan Ciddi**, University of Florida

*"The Changing Nature of Turkey's Political opposition: The September 12<sup>th</sup> Referendum"*

**Dr. Fulya Apaydin**, University of South Florida

*"An Emerging Power Overseas?: Gulen Movement and AKP Alliance in Africa and Central Asia"*

**3:30PM Closing Remarks**

**Dr. Mohsen Milani**

*Professor and Chair, Government & International Affairs, University of South Florida*

## **FULYA APAYDIN**

Dr. Fulya Apaydin is a postdoctoral scholar in the Department of Government and International Affairs at the USF. Her research focuses on political of economy of development across Latin America and the Middle East with an emphasis on sustainable human capital formation. In her previous work, Dr. Apaydin explored the causes of variation in skill formation policies through comparing carefully selected cases from Turkey and Argentina. As a post-doctoral scholar she works on a new project that explores varying patterns of an economic and political cooperation between the Turkish government and an Islamic social movement in Central Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

## **FEVZI BILGIN**

Dr. Fevzi Bilgin is an Assistant Professor at *St. Mary's College of Maryland's* Political Science Department. Dr. Bilgin's teaching and research areas include comparative politics, democratic theory, Turkish politics, Middle Eastern Politics, Islam and politics, constitutional politics, political theory of citizenship, pluralism, and multiculturalism. He is the author of numerous articles and books, including "Political Liberalism in Muslim Societies" (Routledge, 2011). He is currently working on the constitutional politics of Turkey. His work focuses on democratization, compatibility of Islam with democracy, and constitutional design and constitutional legitimacy in polities in transition.

## **SINAN CIDDI**

Dr. Sinan Ciddi, is the Assistant Director of *Center For European Studies* at the *University of Florida, Gainesville*. And runs the program on Turkish Studies within the Center. Dr.Ciddi is the author of the book "Kemalism in Turkish Politics: The Republican People's Party, Secularism and Nationalism" (London and New York, Routledge, 2009) and has published recently on elections in Turkey. Dr. Ciddi's research focuses on Turkish nationalism, secularism and constitutional reform.

## **ERIC EISENBERG**

Eric M. Eisenberg is Professor of Communication and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of South Florida. Dr. Eisenberg received his doctorate in Organizational Communication from Michigan State University in 1982. He is recipient of the Burlington Foundation award for excellence in teaching and the Ohio University Elizabeth Andersch Award for lifetime contributions to the field of Communication. Dr. Eisenberg has authored over 70 articles, chapters, and books on organizational communication, health communication, and communication theory. His best-selling textbook "Organizational communication: Balancing creativity and constraint" (currently in its sixth edition) received the Academic Textbook Author's award for the best textbook of the year. His recent work focuses on handoffs in health care and how improved communication can reduce the likelihood of medical mistakes. He is an internationally recognized researcher, teacher, facilitator and consultant specializing in the strategic use of communication to promote positive organizational change.

## **MEHMET GURSES**

Dr. Mehmet Gurses is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at *Florida Atlantic University*. His research interests include democracy and democratization, ethnic and religious conflict, post-civil war peace building, post-civil war democratization, and the emergence and evolution of the Islamist parties in the Middle East. Dr. Gurses's publications have appeared in *International Interactions*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Civil Wars*, *Defense and Peace Economics*, *Democratization*, and *Ethnic Politics*.

## **ABDELWAHAB HECHICHE**

Dr. Abdelwahab Hechiche is a Professor in the department of Government and International Affairs at the USF. His research focuses on Middle Eastern Politics, human rights, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the United Nations. Dr. Hechiche was Dean Rusk Seminar Fellow at the Southern Center for International Studies, Atlanta, Georgia, and twice fellow at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies of Harvard University. He was also Laureate of the Fondation de la Vocation, Paris 1965, for Peace in the Middle East.

## **MOHSEN MILANI**

Dr. Mohsen M. Milani is Professor of Politics and Chair of the Department of Government and International Affairs at the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida.

Professor Milani has written more than sixty academic articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries about the Persian Gulf and Iran's foreign and security policies. His latest publications include "Meet Me in Baghdad: Iran's Policy Toward Iraq" (*Foreign Affairs* on line); "Tehran's Take" (*Foreign Affairs*), and "Iran and Afghanistan," in (*Iran Primer*, U.S. Institute of Peace Press, 2011).

He has served as a research fellow at Harvard University, Oxford University's St. Antony's College, and the Foscari University in Venice, Italy.

He is the Book Series Editor on "Governance and International Relations in the Middle East" for the University of Florida Press.

## **MUSTAFA GOKHAN SAHIN**

Dr. Mustafa Sahin is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Government and International Affairs at USF. He received his BA in International Relations from Bilkent University, Ankara. His MA is from Fatih University, Istanbul where he studied on Turkish foreign policy with respect to the Palestinian Question. He has a doctoral degree in International Relations from Florida International University. He wrote his dissertation on domestic sources of Turkish foreign policy where he specifically analyzed the role of Islamic movements. He is currently working on a book project tentatively entitled *Islam, Politics and Society in Contemporary Turkey: The Legacy of Ottoman Empire*.

## **HUSEYIN YILMAZ**

Dr. Huseyin Yilmaz is an Assistant Professor of History at the University of South Florida. His research focuses on Ottoman political history since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Dr. Yilmaz has published numerous articles on constitutional tradition, political thought and civilizational identity in the late Ottoman era.

## **HAKAN YAVUZ**

Dr. Hakan Yavuz is an Associate Professor of Political Science in the *Department of Political Science* and the *Center for Middle Eastern Studies* at the *University of Utah*. He is the author of "Secularism and Muslim Democracy in Turkey" which was published by Cambridge University Press in 2009, and his first book "Islamic Political Identity in Turkey, published by Oxford University Press is already in 3<sup>rd</sup> print. He has also edited two more books: "The Emergence of a New Turkey: Democracy and AK Parti" which came out from University of Utah Press in 2006 and together with John Esposito, he edited "Turkish Islam and the Secular State: The Gulen Movement which was published by Syracuse University Press in 2003. Dr. Yavuz has extensively written on Islam, Democracy and Politics, with a special focus on Turkey and the Gulen Movement.

