International Conference
The PKK, Kurdish Nationalism and the Future of Turkey
Thursday November 7, 2013

VIRGINIA TECH NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
1021 PRINCE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

RSVP IS REQUIRED to attend the conference:
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Organized and Sponsored by
School of Public & International Affairs, Virginia Tech, National Capital Region
Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies Chair (Indiana University)
Center for Turkish Studies (Portland State University)

Kemal Silay, Professor of Turkish Language and Literature; Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies Endowed Chair Professor; Director, Turkish Language Flagship Center; Director, Turkish Studies Program Indiana University

Gerard Toal, Professor of Government and International Affairs. Director of the Government and International Affairs program; Virginia Tech

Tuğrul Keskin, Assistant Professor of International and Middle East Studies; Affiliated Faculty of Black Studies Sociology, and Turkish Studies; Portland State University

http://turkeyandkurds.blogspot.com/
PANEL - 1:
Kurdish Nationalism and Imperial Legacy
8:30 - 10:00 AM

OPENING REMARKS BY KEMAL SILAY, INDIANA UNIVERSITY-BLOOMINGTON

Moderator: Gerard Toal, Virginia Tech

- Perception of Identity among the Kurds in Turkey, Iraq and Iran - Derya Berk (Rutgers University)

- De Facto States and the Independence Question: Is Iraqi Kurdistan an Exception? - Zheger Hassan (University of Western Ontario)

- Europe’s Kurdish Diaspora as Bellwether - Vera Eccarius-Kelly (Siena College)

- The Evolution of Kurdish Nationalism within the Turkish State Discourse - İnci Aksu Kargin (Indiana University, Bloomington)
PANEL - 2: Room - I
Young Academicians and Kurdish Nationalism
10:30 - 12:00 AM

Moderator: Tuğrul Keskin, Portland State University

• Modernization, Religiosity, and Ethno-nationalism of the Kurds in Turkey - Keri Hughes (California State University - Long Beach)

• From Juba to Erbil: The Growth of Cross-Continental Consciousness - Evan Fowler (John Hopkins University)

• Foundational Mythology and The Discursive Construction of Terrorism in the PKK - Selim Can Sazak (Columbia University)

• Political Mobilization Theory, Syrian Kurds and PKK - Wladimir van Wilgenburg (The Jamestown Foundation)
PANEL - 3: Room - II

Kurdish Nationalism in Contemporary Turkey

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Moderator: Birol Yeşilda, Portland State University

- Emergence of Kurdish Nationalist Movement: From Social Movement Theories Perspective - Rahman Dağ (Exeter University)

- The “Arab Spring” and the Kurdish Community: An Analysis of the Kurdish Movement in Turkey in the Aftermath of the Arab Revolutions - Tülin Şen (King’s College London)

- Language and Nation Building: The History of Kurdish in Turkey - Engin Gülbeş (Ankara Strategic Institute)

- Evolution of Turkish Nationalism and the Changing Nature of Kurdish Problem - Salim Çevik (Ipek University)
PANEL - 4: Room -I

PKK and Kurdish Nationalism

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Moderator: Birol Yeşilada, Portland State University

- US Policies and PKK’s New Situation - Deniz Tansi (Yeditepe University)

- The PKK and Kurdish Movement in the 1970s - Ahmet Hamdi Akkaya (Ghent University)

- Turkey’s War on Terror: A Comparison of Applied Strategies in Dealing with the PKK - Doğan Koç (Gülen Institute-University of Houston)

- The PKK Problem: Turkey's Incapacity to Solve It - Birol Başkan (Georgetown University- School of Foreign Service in Qatar)
Moderator: Joshua Hendrick, Loyola University of Maryland

• Understanding the “Kurdish Question”: an ethnographic case study in Yüksekova Tahir Abbas (Fatih University) and İsmail Hakkı Yiğit (Mississippi State University)


• An Ethnographic Account of the Compulsory Public Service of Doctors in Hakkari: The Limits of the JDP’s Assimilation Strategy and the Production of Space - İlker Cörüt (Central European University)

• Imperialism and Kurdish Nationalism in Turkish Press - Begümşen Ergenekon (Middle East Technical University)
PANEL -6:

The Kurds and the Future of Turkey

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Moderator: Kemal Silay Indiana University, Bloomington

• Managing Violent Conflicts of Mesopotamia through Regionalism: Emergence of Kurdish Sphere as a Game Changing Actor for Contestation and Peace Process - Haluk Baran Bingöl (Kennesaw State University)

• Negotiations Between Pro-Islamic Government and Öcalan, the PKK Question for Turkey - Ali Kemal Özcan (Tunceli University)

• The AKP’s Kurdish “Closing” - Elif Genç (York University)

• From the Right for Independence to the Claims for Territorial Autonomy: The Kurdish Questions in Turkey - Maya Arakon (Süleyman Şah University)

• The Correlates of Kurdish ethno-nationalism in Turkey: A more definitive test - Faruk Ekmekçi (Ipek University)

DINNER: 7:30 - 10:00 PM
INDIGO LANDING RESTAURANT
ONE MARINA DRIVE
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314
http://www.indigolanding.com/

1919: The deportation of Kurds by joint Assyrian-British imperial forces in Iraqi Kurdistan