27 April 2009

Europe in the Twenty-First Century

Ankara, Turkey
Final Exam: Wednesday, 6 May, 10:15-12:15 in this room

Part One: answer TWO out of SIX essay questions (30% each)
--these questions will cover the entire course; you should support your answer with reference to specific examples (people, events, texts, images); count on spending 35-40 minutes on each answer and writing at least five substantial paragraphs for each

these six questions will be selected from twelve which I will post on the course website on Thursday afternoon (30 April 2009, approx. 6:00 p.m.); after the questions are posted, you are “on your own”—Jennifer and I will not answer any more questions

Part Two: comment on FOUR out of EIGHT passages or images (10% each)
--these will be materials we have covered since the last midterm; format is identical to that on the first two exams for this course
“The European Union has not superseded conventional territorial units… What is new, and thus rather hard for outsiders to catch, is the possibility of being French and European, Catalan and European—or Arab and European…

[In terms of' production and exchange, Europe is seamless and transnational.] But viewed as a site of power or political legitimacy or cultural affinities, Europe remains what it has long been: a familiar accumulation of state particles. Nationalism had largely come and gone, but nations and states remained.

[USA has a bigger army and China produces more, and cheaper, goods.] But neither America nor China has a serviceable model to propose for universal emulation. In spite of the horrors of their recent past—and in large measure because of them—it is Europeans who are now uniquely placed to offer the world some modest advice on how to avoid repeating their own mistakes.”

Institutions of European Union

European Commission: one commissioner for each member state; its president is named by the Council + approved by the Parliament

Council of the European Union: one government minister from each member state—leadership changes every six months [legislative functions]

European Court of Justice: one judge from each member (based in Luxembourg)

European Parliament: since 1979; 785 directly elected members [legislative]; 23 official languages; meets in Brussels (Belgium) and Strasbourg (France)

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<th>number of seats in European Parliament</th>
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European Court of Human Rights (Strasbourg)
EU does and does not do:

- legislation and local services
- military and foreign policy
- agriculture and foreign aid

What is “Europe”? nation, state, or something else?
blue=EU countries that use the *euro*
green=EU countries whose currencies have a fixed rate of exchange with the *euro* (in preparation for adopting it)
red=EU countries with own currencies
pink=non-EU countries that use the *euro* by special arrangement

blue: Ireland, Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Germany, Finland, Austria, Greece, Cyprus, Malta, Slovenia, Slovakia

green: Denmark, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia

red: United Kingdom, Sweden, Poland, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary

pink: Montenegro, Kosovo
National Forms of European Identity

Germany: past as “the Other”

France: extension of cultural/civilizing mission

Romania: belonging and acceptance

Vilnius (Lithuania)—along with Linz (Austria) is 2009’s designated “European Capital of Culture”

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“Europe” under pressure in 2009

economic crisis: interlinked economies with largely independent economic-policy makers

protester and riot police in Budapest, March 2009

LKP=Liyannaj kont pwofitasyon [“alliance against exploitation”]

protesters in Guadeloupe

Europe: center and periphery?
1923 Treaty of Lausanne sets Turkish-Greek-Bulgarian boundaries

1923-1938 Mustafa Kemal (Atatürk), first president of Republic of Turkey

1939-1945 Turkey neutral in WW2

1957 Treaty of Rome creates EEC

1959 Turkey first applies for membership in EEC

1961 West Germany and Turkey sign “guest worker” (gastarbeiter) agreement

1962 formal “association” of Turkey with EEC; suspended in 1980

1973 first expansion of EEC, adds United Kingdom, Ireland, Denmark

1993 Treaty of European Union ("Maastricht Treaty") comes into effect

2004 Cyprus, Malta, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Czech Republic become part of European Union

2004-2006 negotiations between Turkey and European Union
Human Rights and Anti-Immigration Rhetoric in France

“Mon mari, lui, c’est un bon musulman. Il me tape jamais au visage...”
(“My husband, he’s a good Moslem. He never hits me in the face.”)

(quote from Philippe de Villiers’ supporter)

Should Turkey be admitted to the European Union?

Islamic Veil, Women’s Oppression
(Feminist-Laïque Cooperation)

“You’re for zero percent immigration. So am I.”
Philippe de Villiers, Mouvement pour la France (2007)
The Headscarf Affair (*affaire des foulards*)

Lila and Alma Levy, with their father (2005)

Aubervilliers