



COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

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ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



ALMA MATER IS AN ICONIC SYMBOL OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, LOCATED IN FRONT OF COLUMBIA'S LOW LIBRARY AND SCULPTED BY DANIEL CHESTER FRENCH IN 1901. PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

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A MESSAGE FROM LEE C. BOLLINGER

PRESIDENT, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



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Our network of Global Centers has become central to the University's teaching, research, and scholarship. The Centers afford students and faculty the opportunity to engage with the people and ideas shaping the modern world, at a moment when that need could not be more urgent. And when they return to our home campuses, those who have travelled abroad play an essential role in broadening the intellectual outlook of all of us. It is simply a fact that we would not be the same institution without the Global Centers.

A MESSAGE FROM PROFESSOR SAFWAN M. MASRI

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL CENTERS AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT,
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

A challenging year the world over, 2020 vividly illustrated the perils of not heeding recommendations backed by scientifically proven data. Making decisions based on populism and false assumptions has cost the world dearly.

Yet the response to the Covid-19 crisis by health care professionals and the medical research community has demonstrated the power of pooled resources, as brilliant minds came together from around the world to come up in record time, albeit still not quickly enough, with real solutions to a global pandemic not seen in our lifetime. The world can now afford more than a glimmer of hope, as millions of vaccines are being distributed globally, and now that knowledge and reason are once again prevailing in political leadership.

This cooperative approach, and its attendant benefits, was also a hallmark of the Columbia Global Centers network during 2020. The Centers quickly mobilized and pivoted to offer more than 500 instructive webinars—tackling issues related to the economy, Covid-19, forced migration, climate change, and many other critical topics—that brought Columbia expertise in conversation with essential voices from all over the world, to reach hundreds of thousands of audience members. The Centers collaborated in their programming with every school on campus, which led to new, sustained opportunities for tangible and impactful collaborations that engage our faculty with regional partners around relevant topics.

The Global Centers also offered students virtual internships, providing our local and regional networks of employers exceptional talent and skills. The program generated 1,900 applications from students in more than 50 countries. More than 400 students from 15 schools across campus took up positions last summer, and the program has been expanded and extended into the academic year.

Perhaps the most pioneering work the Centers performed during the crisis was in leading the University's efforts to provide international students study and community spaces—to convene, connect, and collaborate—at the Global Centers and nine pop-up sites around the world, in addition to student access to study facilities in 80+ other cities. More than 4,000 students have registered for and accessed the spaces, and thousands more have been engaged in robust programming and through new communication channels designed to meet the needs of our international student body.

At a time when so many turned inward and the world became insular, we went out—even more—and we adapted, innovated, and built community. We were not isolated groups serving specific locations, but a global body functioning together for all. Our defining purpose—of being an essential, international part of the University—has never been more clearly realized.

The network of Columbia Global Centers has turned a corner in a way that is enormously beneficial—to their stakeholders in every region, and to the University. This year, 2021, is one of consolidation for our network, as we strive to continuously grow and strengthen the international presence essential to the University and the global community.

I am immensely grateful to our many partners and supporters all over the world who make the work of the Columbia Global Centers possible and impactful, and I am especially proud of our staff, who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that we deliver on our promise.



REFLECTIONS FROM İPEK CEM TAHA

DIRECTOR, COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL
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PHOTO COURTESY OF PINAR GEDİKÖZER

The 2020-2021 academic year was full of challenges and opportunities, both on and off-campus. As the Covid-19 pandemic spread on a global scale, students around the world found themselves adapting to digital classrooms. We also, whether as professionals or as citizens, had to adapt and survive in rapidly changing health and social conditions. Although the global distribution of vaccines is now allowing us to sigh in relief, we remain conscious of the many rising inequalities that the pandemic has amplified.

The Istanbul Center and the wider Global Centers Network undertook this challenge in terms of both adaptation and contribution. This year, we put our global network, as well as our Istanbul Center generated programming, almost entirely in a digital format. It was also a year where we experimented with new formats and new means of conversation in the digital world: Ishtar Diaries, a podcast project we collaborated on with Professor Zainab Bahrani and her graduate students, delved us into the antiquity and divinity of Mesopotamia, the cradle of civilization. It took the form of a discussion with experts, as they led us through the ancient world's contemporary art, social and political conditions, and personal experiences.

Another new and valuable format we have created is our series 'Voices of Emerging Scholars,' with monthly webinars showcasing advanced graduate and postdoctoral students worldwide in collaboration with Professor Zeynep Çelik. The program was primarily intended to provide a platform for young scholars who were deprived of their academic communities and lost access to their archives and libraries due to the pandemic. We are now happy to announce that their papers will be published in the Spring issue of the 'Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies.'

This years' highlights have included engaging webinars aligned with our ongoing themes, including public health, media and journalism, sustainable cities and development, art history, women and gender studies, and arts and culture. As we hosted leading experts in these fields, we thought about our current challenges at a time of global emergency and envisioned new possibilities in a post-Covid world.

Although we were impacted by rising case numbers and multiple lockdowns in Istanbul, it was our honor to continue to contribute to issues of global importance, to our communities, and to the Columbia network. When times were difficult, we stayed motivated with our goal of making the world a more interconnected and well-informed community. Columbia University's expertise and leadership in many of the key topics that impact our world today, such as climate, health, and racial disparities have helped us disseminate important information while also connecting Columbia to world-wide experts, activists and academics.

We hope for a better year ahead and remain determined that together we will overcome difficulties. The Istanbul Center will proudly continue to take part in the global dialogue on many key issues.

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS NETWORK

The Columbia Global Centers provide physical and intellectual infrastructure around the world for scholars and practitioners to work together across disciplines to tackle the most pressing global issues of our time. Through the Centers, Columbia faculty and students engage in important work that enriches their scholarship and research and results in real impact on the ground. The Columbia Global Centers help us to better understand each other and bring firsthand perspectives back to the Columbia campus in New York City.



[Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul](#) serves as a hub for Columbia University's programs and initiatives that relate to Turkey and the region. It has clustered its themes into the following: Ottoman Geographies; Democracy and Governance; Art, Culture, and Contemporary Society; Public Health, Climate, Geopolitics, and Energy; and Innovation and Entrepreneurship. The Istanbul Center continues its close partnership with the Columbia campus, the network of Global Centers, and the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies to create sustained programming through research, capacity building, public outreach and teaching.



[Columbia Global Centers | Amman](#) broadens engagement, fosters collaborations, and cultivates regional and global themes, such as Forced Migration, Geopolitics, Education, Gender Issues, the Arts, and Youth and Entrepreneurship. The Center offers student programs in Architecture, Arabic Studies, and Environmental Sustainability. The Center also hosts an annual fellowship program for emerging displaced scholars interested in the humanities to continue and further develop their scholarly pursuits.



[Columbia Global Centers | Beijing](#) serves as a regional hub for the Columbia University community in East Asia. The Centers programs and activities provide unique opportunities for knowledge exchange and skill development, preparing the University's faculty, students, and alumni with a broad global view and international experiences through meaningful engagement with local and regional academics, experts, and practitioners. The Center focuses on global themes, including Arts, Culture and History; Health and Medicine; Environment and Sustainability; Business, Innovation and Entrepreneurship; Engineering and Applied Science; Urban Planning and Public Health; and Education.



[Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai](#) serves as a knowledge platform for Columbia University, connecting it with regional South Asian scholars and institutions to address key global challenges. The Center develops programs related to critical issues in the region, such as Health, Environmental Sustainability, Education, Culture, and Entrepreneurship. Activities serve to deepen the impact of research, generate innovative solutions, and build capacity through educational programs and public lectures, exhibitions, and conferences.



[Columbia Global Centers | Nairobi](#) serves as a regional hub for Eastern and Southern Africa. The Center supports Columbia University's faculty, students, and alumni and serves as a base for collaborative research and diverse programs around the themes of Business Empowerment, Creative and Liberal Arts, Education and Knowledge, Health Initiatives, and Refugees and Immigration. The Center also engages the public through tailored programs, lectures, roundtables, and symposiums on diverse topics ranging from public health to business to international affairs.



[Columbia Global Centers | Paris](#) housed at the iconic Reid Hall, hosts the Undergraduate Global Engagement program in Paris (UGE | Paris), the Paris/New York Architecture program, the M.A. in History and Literature (MAHiLi), and residencies for the Executive M.A. in Technology Management. Its programming focuses on Creative and Liberal Arts, Sciences, Medicine, and Sociopolitical issues. The Center co-sponsors events with UGE | Paris, MAHiLi, and the Institute for Ideas and Imagination, which opened its doors at Reid Hall in September 2018. On campus, they partner with the Alliance Program, the European Institute, and the Maison française.



[Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro](#) is a hub for Columbia programs and initiatives relevant to Brazil. Established in 2013, the Center contributes to Brazil's academic and research environment, while also allowing members of the Columbia community to increase their knowledge and explore academic opportunities within Brazil. The Center works in collaboration with local universities, non-governmental organizations, and public institutions to design cross-cutting, innovative programs that aim to improve the understanding of global challenges through a transdisciplinary, transcultural and applied perspective.



[Columbia Global Centers | Santiago](#) works on addressing a number of economic and social issues, including Global Economics, Climate Change, Depression and Anxiety Prevention, and Human Rights. It brings a multidisciplinary approach to all these topics, drawing on the knowledge and research of the numerous Columbia schools, centers, and labs. Since the outbreak of Covid, the Center has focused on emerging matters and challenges such as social unrest in Latin America, the 2020 presidential elections in the United States, the impact of fake news, the future of the retail industry post Covid-19, and the need to incorporate Environmental, Social and Governance issues (ESG) in companies' culture.



[Columbia Global Centers | Tunis](#), is a hub for Columbia University faculty and students with an interest in Western and Northern Africa. The Center is located in downtown Tunis and runs or assists in programs across Tunisia and the region in the areas of education, entrepreneurship, medicine, and other fields taught at Columbia University. The Center hosts classes, workshops, and public events in order to connect Columbia University with Tunisia and the broader region.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENTS

The 2020-2021 academic year was a dynamic year for Columbia University. Here is a selection of its highlights:

COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ALEX HALLIDAY, MAUREEN RAYMO, RUTH DEFRIES, AND JASON BORDOFF

The climate crisis is one of the greatest threats facing humanity. The challenges it poses are immense and urgent. In response, Columbia University has created the Climate School to develop innovative education, support groundbreaking research, and foster essential solutions, from a community to a planetary scale. The Climate School will marshal the University's strengths in basic disciplines and expand its resources to understand climate and its impact on society. Columbia educates the world's best and brightest, preparing them to be skilled, productive members of society. The Climate School will ensure that these students are equipped with the knowledge and tools to lead in the 21st century. By working with communities, businesses, and policymakers, the School will create new technologies, policies, and approaches to solving the climate crisis.

The first academic program to take place at the Climate School is the Master of Arts in Climate and Society, a 12-month interdisciplinary program that trains professionals and academics to understand and cope with the impacts of climate change and climate variability on society and the environment. Columbia Climate School is co-led by four of Columbia's most eminent climate experts: Alex Halliday, Founding Dean; Jason Bordoff, Co-Founding Dean; Ruth DeFries, Co-Founding Dean; and Maureen Raymo, Co-Founding Dean.

COLUMBIA SUSTAINABILITY PLAN 2021-2030

Columbia University has made unprecedented commitments to address the climate crisis, most notably establishing a Climate School, committing to carbon neutrality, and establishing a non-investment policy in gas, oil, and coal companies. With Plan 2030, Columbia University joins the global movement of leading organizations by aligning “with the most ambitious aim of the Paris Agreement, to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and reach net zero by 2050 for the best chance of avoiding the worst impacts of climate change.” Plan 2030 is a ten-year strategic plan that outlines aggressive sustainability goals, grounded in climate science, for Columbia’s New York campuses to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050. Building on the goals achieved in its first sustainability plan, Columbia has developed this plan in conjunction with its own Earth Institute scientists and faculty, using guidance from the Science Based Target initiative (SBTi) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to establish principles and measurable targets that help ensure Columbia will achieve this goal. Achieving these targets requires an increased commitment across all areas of the University, and the ability to model sustainable values within every part of its culture – the way it educates, operates, designs, constructs, and manages resources.

COLUMBIA WORLD PROJECTS



In 2017, Columbia University launched a new initiative, Columbia World Projects (CWP), which mobilizes the University’s researchers and scholars to work with governments, organizations, businesses and communities to tackle global challenges. In the 2020-2021 academic year, there were eight active projects: ACToday: Adapting Agriculture to Climate Today, for Tomorrow (Bangladesh, Colombia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Senegal and Vietnam), Combating Household Air Pollution With Clean Energy (Ghana), Digital Mental Health Care for Covid-19 High-Risk Populations, Increasing Covid-19 Vaccine Confidence, Leveraging Policy to Improve Maternal Health in the Fourth Trimester (Kansas, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia and New York City), The Room to Grow Model: Closing the Opportunity Gap for Young Children in Low-Income Families (New York City), Transforming Wastewater Infrastructure in the United States (Alabama), and Using Data to Catalyze Energy Investments (Uganda). CWP also curates a wide range of events that engage faculty, students, and community members in its larger mission to connect the worlds of knowledge and action, and with the Obama Foundation Scholars Program, uses university resources to help make an annual cohort of rising activists more effective in their work.

FOURTH PURPOSE TASK FORCE REPORT

As the 2019-20 academic year began, President Bollinger announced the intention to create two university task forces: the first to ask what the University should be doing regarding climate change, the second to consider how Columbia might advance their “Fourth Purpose.” The Fourth Purpose Task Force offers recommendations, with partners within and beyond the academy, for how Columbia may more effectively and expansively direct the knowledge and resources of the University towards work that addresses human problems. The primary question this task force asked was: “What might be done to magnify our opportunities—and, indeed, our responsibilities, especially at this moment in history—to help bring deep knowledge to the world we serve, and, in so doing, enhance the vectors of university research, teaching, service and impact?”

COLUMBIA’S COMMITMENT TO ANTIRACISM

President Lee C. Bollinger shared a message to show Columbia’s commitment to Antiracism: *“No matter how committed one has been to challenging these deep injustices and providing remedies, whether as a person, an institution, or a society, we are all rightly being called upon to do more and to begin again, with a great sense of honesty and new purpose... There is no question that the great Civil Rights Movement is unfinished and that what is called for now is a New Civil Rights Movement, one primarily focused on the criminal justice system, housing, education, and economic inequalities. As the Black Lives Matter movement so powerfully underscores, there is still unfinished work from the past, but there are also new forms of discrimination that are taking root in society today. I have spent a significant part of my career dedicated to fostering diversity, supporting affirmative action, and ending invidious discrimination in education, and I can assure you, neither I nor Columbia intend to relent in this pursuit of the principles of equality and access to opportunity. It is my hope that we can leverage this moment and effect real change.”*

WORLD LEADERS FORUM

On December 2, 2020, António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, gave a talk on “The State of the Planet” at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. His talk, focused on climate change, climate-related financial risks, and the green economy, included a question-and-answer session with a virtual audience. The event was moderated by Maureen E. Raymo, G. Unger Vetlesen Professor of Earth and Climate Science; Interim Director, Earth Observatory and the introductory speech was given by Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University.

On December 2, 2020, Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, and Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University, had a virtual discussion on “The Greek Transformation: Overcoming a Financial Crisis, Populism, and COVID” at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. This talk, which focused on the political and leadership qualities that are needed to address major societal and economic challenges, included a question-and-answer session with a virtual audience. This event was co-sponsored by the Center on Global Economic Governance and Columbia Global Centers.

On December 9, 2020, Erna Solberg, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway and Wilmot Godfrey James, Senior Research Scholar at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, had a conversation on “Multilateral Leadership in Global Health Security” at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. This discussion explored the importance of funding global health efforts, garnering multilateralism in recovery, and leveraging opportunities for a sustainable shift in society. The introductory speech was given by Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University.

COLUMBIA STUDENT SUPPORT INITIATIVE

Columbia Student Support Initiative is a new effort dedicated to raising \$1.4 billion in financial assistance for students by June 2025 and involving all 16 of our schools. This special campaign will add to the University's existing resources for undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, and other forms of assistance that are critical to student success and wellbeing.

VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

On April 30, 2021, the Columbia University Commencement ceremony of the 267th academic year took place for its Class of 2021. The Commencement was virtual like last year, but that has not dimmed the excitement to celebrate our graduates wherever they may be in the world. Graduates from all schools and colleges as well as family and friends around the world tuned in to the celebration.

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ADVISORY BOARD SUMMIT

An Advisory Board Summit, chaired by President Lee C. Bollinger, was held virtually on March 10, 2021. The Summit convened board members from all nine Columbia Global Centers around the world, in addition to a number of Trustees, faculty, members of the University administration, and special guests. Among the board members in attendance were H.M. Queen Rania Al Abdullah, Mr. Ratan Tata, H.E. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, Jorge Paulo Lemann, and other luminaries.

President Bollinger made remarks on the state of the University and shared updates on the new Climate School, Columbia World Projects, and other important initiatives. A presentation then followed by Safwan Masri, EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, on “Columbia in the World: Redefining Global Engagement” that illustrated how the Columbia Global Centers pivoted during the pandemic and have emerged as a stronger, more vital, and innovative platform for global engagement.

The meeting also included a special presentation by two of Columbia’s leading experts in epidemiology and virology, who provided a global update on the pandemic including vaccine development, scale-up, and efficacy, and SARS-CoV-2 variants and emerging strains.

THE GLOBAL COLUMBIA COLLABORATORY

“We’re at a moment when the need for global cooperation to address the problems facing humanity has never been greater. This program offers students the opportunity to learn about these complex challenges, collaborate with experts and with their peers, and propose meaningful solutions that can translate into action.”

LEE C. BOLLINGER



The Global Columbia Collaboratory, launched in Summer 2020, is a program for undergraduate students. This program is developed by the Columbia Global Centers network and the Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement to give students the skills, understanding, and networks to grow into the leaders our world needs to thoughtfully address our increasingly complex challenges. This series of webinars were all co-hosted by Safwan M. Masri, Professor and EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University, and Shannon Marquez, Dean of Undergraduate Global Engagement, Columbia University.

2020–2021 THE GLOBAL COLUMBIA COLLABORATORY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THE PANDEMIC: SELF, OTHER, AND THE WORLD BEYOND US

July 15, 2020, Webinar

This seminar discussed how the pandemic has affected our human interactions; including how new connections have been forged, how technology use has grown, and at which point our new methods of interaction begin to change us for the worse.

Speakers: Roger Cohen, journalist, author, New York Times Op-Ed Columnist; Carol Becker, Professor of the Arts, Dean of Columbia University School of the Arts; Hisham Matar, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of *The Return* and *A Month in Siena*; Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University; and Natalia Herbst, Obama Scholar, Former Director for Community Organizations, National Youth Institute (discussant)

THE FALSE CHOICE: PUBLIC VS. ECONOMIC HEALTH

July 28, 2020, Webinar

The panelists discussed the effect of the pandemic on the economy, covering topics such as what the most economical way to achieve a healthy population is, how other crises such as climate change should pertain to economic rebuilding, and the effectiveness of different countries' approaches.

Speakers: Mary Bassett, Former Commissioner of the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Glenn Hubbard, Dean Emeritus, Columbia University Graduate School of Business, Professor of Finance and Economics; Andy Haines, Professor of Environmental Change and Public Health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine; Wafaa El Sadr, Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine, Columbia University; Harrison Hong, Professor of Financial Economics, Columbia University; and Linda Fried, Dean of Columbia University, Mailman School of Public Health, Professor of Public Health, Practice (moderator)

US ELECTIONS: WHAT'S BROKEN, WHAT'S POSSIBLE, AND WHAT CAN WE PREDICT?

October 29, 2020, Webinar

A few days before the election result in the US, Andrew Gelman and Wen-kuni Ceant discussed the American electoral process: statistical models, the need for reform, and a global lens on American politics were all considered.

Speakers: Andrew E. Gelman, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Higgins Professor of Statistics and Professor of Political Science, Columbia University Data Science Institute; and Wen-Kuni Ceant, Fulbright Scholar, CEO and Co-Founder, Politicking

THE FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGE

December 3, 2020, Webinar

Speaking on the topical issue of food security, the panelists in this webinar discussed a range of pertinent topics, from the most pressing issues facing food security, conflicting governmental, private sector, and research priorities, the impact of climate change, and how we can learn and grow from the pandemic.

Speakers: Anne Paxton, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Population, Columbia University; Michael Puma, Director and Research Scientist, Center for Climate Systems Research, Earth Institute; Arif Husain, Chief Economist and Director, Food Security Analysis and Trends Service, United Nations World Food Programme; and Ruth DeFries, Denning Family Professor of Sustainable Development, Columbia University (moderator)

IS SOCIAL MEDIA UNDERMINING DEMOCRACY?

December 9, 2020, Webinar

In this pertinent conversation, panelists discussed how social media threatens our democratic social fabric, including examining social media giants such as Facebook and Twitter, the spread of disinformation, where the civic duty of social media companies lie, and debates on how censorship infringes on the right to freedom of speech.

Speakers: Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University; Jameel Jaffer, Executive Director of the Knight Institute; Alondra Nelson, President of Social Science Research Council; and Emily Bell, Founding Director of the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia Journalism School

FUTURE OF CITIES: RETHINKING SUSTAINABILITY

February 11, 2021, Webinar

In this webinar, panelists discussed how cities will have to adapt to meet the changing conditions of our environment. Among the topics covered were how cities can implement a green recovery, the potential of emerging forms of multilateral, multi-level, and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and what the latest models and theories are on sustainable cities.

Speakers: Lorenzo Kihlgren, Lecturer, Sciences Po and Chairman of Urban Flag; Kate Orff, Director, Urban Design Program, Columbia University; Jacqueline Klopp, Co-director and Research Scholar, Earth Institute, Columbia University; Flavia Neves Maia, Obama Foundation Scholar, Columbia University; and Amale Andraos, Dean of Columbia Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (moderator)

THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY

March 25, 2021, Webinar

In this webinar, panelists discussed how the pandemic affected democracy worldwide, the fragility of modern democracy, impending threats to rights and freedoms, how the recent rise in authoritarianism correlated with the rise in income inequality, and how democracy compares to other forms of governance in providing for the governed.

Speakers: Vicki Murillo, Professor of Political Science, Columbia University; Nadia Urbinati, Professor of Political Theory, Columbia University; Tessza Udvarhelyi, Head of Office for Community Participation, 8th District of Budapest; Yascha Mounk, Associate Professor of the Practice of International Affairs at Johns Hopkins University; Fredrick Harris, Dean of Social Science and Professor of Political Science, Columbia University (moderator)

THE FUTURE OF WORK

June 14, 2021, Webinar

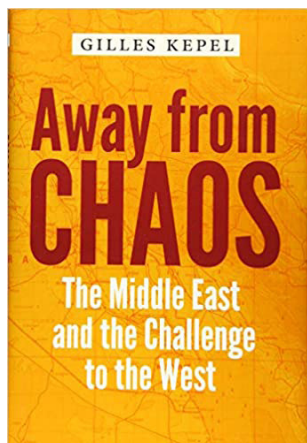
The panelists discuss the effects of the pandemic on mental health, work-life balance, creativity, certain professions, burnout, and women and disadvantaged populations.

Speakers: Dr. Cindy Pace Vice President, Global Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, MetLife; Dr. Ioana Lupu Professor, ESSEC Business School France; Christian Vanizette, Co-founder, Makesense.org; and Elizabeth Wisecarver, Global Head of Design, WeWork

THE COLUMBIA GLOBAL “IN CONVERSATION WITH” BOOK SERIES

“In Conversation with” is a book series launched in June 2020, initiated by Columbia Global Centers and Columbia University Press. The series aims to bring global audiences together over a shared love of knowledge and a passion for books and to provide direct access to the authors of original works, thoughtful research, and cutting-edge ideas. Over the past year, we invited specially chosen authors to discuss their newly released University Press books, pairing them with a carefully selected interviewer—someone we knew would both engage and challenge them.

2020–2021 THE COLUMBIA GLOBAL “IN CONVERSATION WITH” BOOK SERIES PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

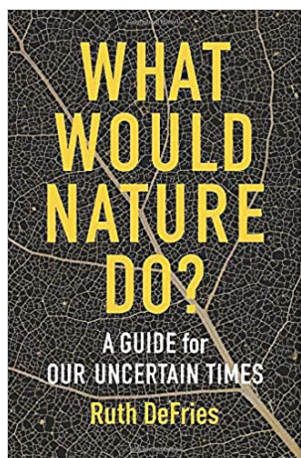


AWAY FROM CHAOS: THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE CHALLENGE TO THE WEST

July 2, 2020, Book Talk

In this Book Talk, Gilles Kepel is in conversation with Lionel Barber on the subject of his new book, “Away from Chaos: The Middle East and the Challenge to the West.” In it, he weaves together the various threads that run through Middle East politics and tie them to their implications on the global stage.

Speakers: Gilles Kepel, Professor, Paris Sciences et Lettres University and Director of the Middle East Mediterranean Chair, École Normale Supérieure; Lionel Barber, Editor in Chief, Financial Times; and Safwan Masri, Professor and EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University (chair)

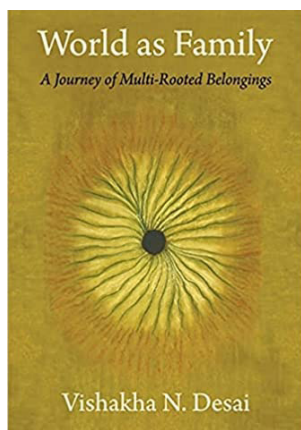


WHAT WOULD NATURE DO? A GUIDE FOR OUR UNCERTAIN TIMES

January 25, 2021, Book Talk

Professor Ruth DeFries speaks to Oliver Morton in this Book Talk on the subject of her new book, “What Would Nature Do?” that shares strategies from the natural world that can help us chart a path forward in these uncertain times.

Speakers: Ruth DeFries, University Professor and Denning Family Professor of Sustainable Development in the Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, Columbia University; Oliver Morton, Senior Editor, The Economist; and Safwan Masri, Professor and EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University (chair)



WORLD AS FAMILY: A JOURNEY OF MULTI-ROOTED BELONGINGS

June 7, 2021, Book Talk

Vishakha Desai is in conversation with Irina Bokova on the subject of her new book, “World as Family.” The book explores the significance of living globally and its urgency for our current moment.

Speakers: Vishakha Desai, Senior Advisor for Global Affairs to the President of Columbia University, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Global Thought, Columbia University; Irina Bokova, Former Director-General, UNESCO; and Safwan Masri, Professor and EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University (chair)

THE COMMITTEE ON FORCED MIGRATION

The Committee on Forced Migration, launched in 2018, is an initiative of the Columbia Global Centers focused on providing an institution-wide space to advance discourse, both internal and public, on forced migration-related inquiries and engagement. In 2020, Columbia Global Centers and the Committee on Forced Migration have launched a webinar series to provide opportunities to explore these issues from within different disciplines and contexts to examine the history of anti-immigrant racism, issues of density and urban living in a post-Covid world, and the role of journalism in humanitarian crises.

2020–2021 THE COMMITTEE ON FORCED MIGRATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

LAWYERING FOR REFUGEES DURING COVID-19

October 1, 2020, Webinar

As the world's most vulnerable, refugees, migrants and forcibly displaced persons have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The webinar discussed limited access to asylum seekers, the effects of international law on these groups' public health, the situation of these groups in the US, structural issues relating to refugee law that pre-date the pandemic, and how best to implement protective norms for the world's most vulnerable.

Speakers: Terry McGovern, Harriet and Robert H. Heilbrunn Professor, Population and Family Health at the Columbia University Medical Center, and Chair, Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health; J.C. Salyer, Director, Human Rights Program and Assistant Professor of Practice, Anthropology and Human Rights, Barnard College; Nisha Agarwal, Deputy Executive Director, International Refugee Assistance Project; Ama Francis, non-resident fellow, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia University (moderator); and Safwan M. Masri, Professor and EVP for Global Centers and Global Development, Columbia University (special remarks)

EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING FOR DISPLACED POPULATIONS: STRENGTHENING COORDINATION AND APPROACHES ACROSS HUMANITARIAN SECTORS

October 8, 2020, Webinar

In this webinar, panelists discussed how the pandemic has affected education for displaced learners, what is helping or hampering stronger intersectoral approaches for mitigating the compounded impact of forced displacement, and the upheaval of childrens', adolescents', and youths' educations.

Speakers: Dr. Hirokazu Yoshikawa, Courtney Sale Ross Professor of Globalization and Education, NYU Steinhardt; Lena Verdelli, Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, Director of Clinical Training, Teachers College; Mary Mendenhall, Associate Professor of Practice, International and Comparative Education Program, Teachers College; Dr. Michela Martini, Migration Health Regional Specialist for East and Horn of Africa International Organization for Migration (IOM); and Dr. Vidur Chopra, Bruce S. Goldberg Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Teachers College (moderator)

CLIMATE, CONFLICT AND CORONAVIRUS: A PERFECT STORM FOR MIGRANTS AND DISPLACED PERSONS

October 22, 2020, Webinar

In a discussion centered on how forced migrants are affected by the pandemic, the webinar covered topics ranging from how undocumented migrants' conditions promote the spread of the virus, how climate-related extreme events do not allow for social distancing, the resulting precipitation of economic downturns, increased urban-to-rural flows in low-income countries, and the closing of borders.

Speakers: Jeffrey Schlegelmilch, Director, National Center for Disaster Preparedness, Columbia University; Kamal Amakrane, Adjunct Professor, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), and Director, the Office of the President of the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA); Leslie Roberts, Associate Professor of Population and Family Health, Columbia University Medical Center; and Alex de Sherbinin, Geographer, Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN), Earth Institute, Columbia University

UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



In the fall of 2020, President Lee Bollinger and the Columbia Global Centers announced the creation of new “pop-up” Columbia-designated study and convening spaces for international students. The location of the spaces - created in partnership with the co-working company WeWork - were chosen to allow the University to help the highest number of students who could not return to the United States due to the pandemic. In addition to the WeWork locations, the Global Centers opened their doors to students who wished to use any of the nine Global Centers (if local conditions allowed), in the cities of Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio, Santiago and Tunis. To ensure the best possible study environment for pandemic learning, each of the Centers welcomed students with upgraded technology equipment, restructured spaces, and amended protocols.

“With fall classes entirely online and with travel and other restrictions imposed by the pandemic,” said Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, “it is imperative that our international students have an option to connect more fully to the University community, participate in socially distanced study, and to convene and engage with fellow students, faculty, and staff while taking their virtual classes.”

Columbia University also offered passes to non-Columbia designated WeWork spaces in more than 80 cities, along with access to partnership spaces in Tel Aviv and Athens. Nine months after the launch of this initiative, the University, through the Global Centers, has helped more than 4,000 students in 90+ cities, not only with technologically appropriate and Covid-safe study environments, but with specially created programming, developed in partnership with the various schools, the University, regional alumni, and the students themselves.

THE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP FOR DISPLACED STUDENTS (CUSDS)

CUSDS is an effort to combat today’s unprecedented humanitarian and economic loss by providing displaced students with the opportunity to pursue higher education at Columbia University. Started in 2016 by the Columbia Business School’s Tamer Center for Social Enterprise, and now administered by the Columbia Global Centers, the scholarship supports displaced students from anywhere in the world who are unable to complete their higher education. As the first-ever Columbia-wide scholarship, and the world’s first scholarship of its kind, this program has committed up to \$6 million annually in support, per cohort, for up to 30 students each year.

Sources:

globalcenters.columbia.edu/cgc-global-columbia-collaboratory
globalcenters.columbia.edu/cup-book-series
globalcenters.columbia.edu/CFM
globalcenters.columbia.edu/university-initiative-for-international-students
globalcenters.columbia.edu/CUSDS

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

ISTANBUL CENTER BY THE NUMBERS

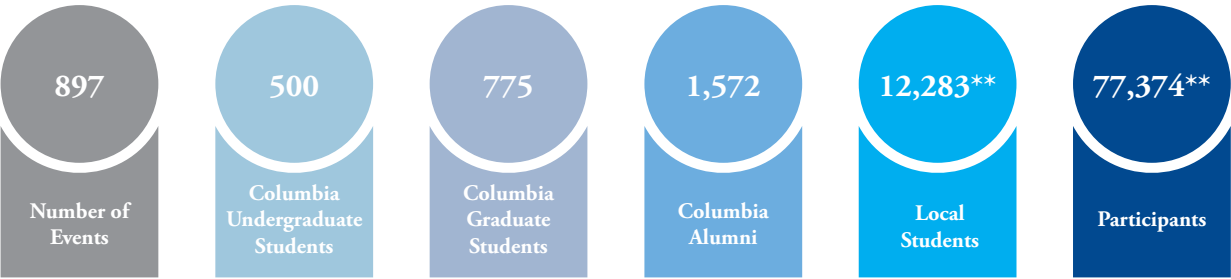


In March 2020, with news of a lockdown in Turkey, the Istanbul Center was required to adapt its activities to the “new normal” to continue its mission during an unprecedented time. Although adjusting to the pandemic was no easy matter, we as a local and global dedicated team undertook this challenge, quickly transformed our programs and initiatives into a digital format.

Transitioning to a digital format was full of challenges, but we believe that the transformative power of human interaction, our online programming, webinars, podcasts, and videos have all helped us to get our message out to a truly global audience that we were unable to reach before.

To date, we organized 40 online public programs, including 10 educational and 26 cross-center events, and collaborated with 11 local partners. We hosted 134 speakers, including 32 Columbia faculty members. We were also joined by over 9,500 viewers from more than 50 different countries. In conclusion, the pandemic’s effects have challenged us to grow with the times, and allowed us to create a truly global platform for dialogue and debate that we believe has only been led to adapt for the better.

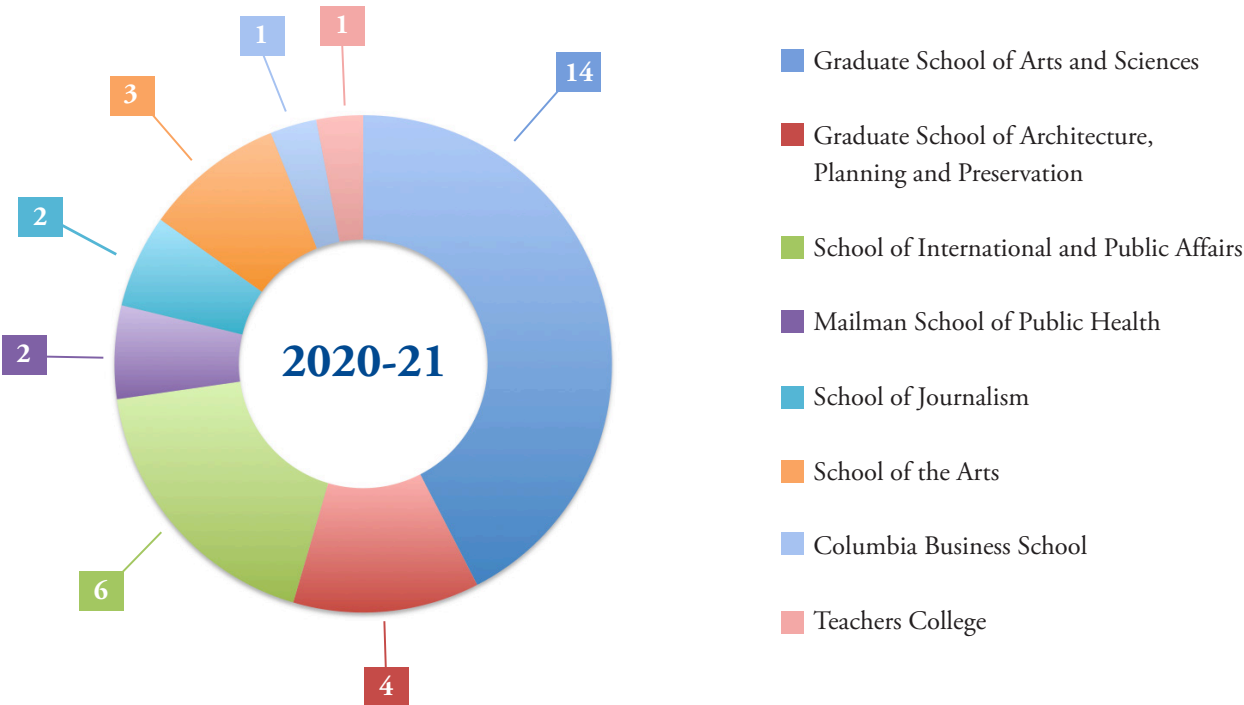
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPANTS SINCE OUR LAUNCH*



NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPANTS IN 2020-2021***



NUMBER OF COLUMBIA FACULTY INVOLVED IN OUR PROGRAMS IN 2020-2021



*These numbers reflect multiple interactions and engagements per person.
**These large numbers are also a function of frequent public events hosted at our Studio-X Istanbul venue between 2013 and 2019.
***These numbers reflect online events.



OUR WORK AND THEMES

Since its foundation in 2011, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has become a hub for the study of contemporary politics and history in Turkey and the broader region. Through a wide array of teaching programs and research projects at the intersection of history, political science, economics, and sociology, the Istanbul Center has contributed to the exchange of knowledge among scholars and students across different geographies. In this regard, the Istanbul Center has played a pivotal role in facilitating scholarly exchange between regional counterparts and the campus, hence developing new learning and research agendas from a transregional point of view.

We strongly believe that the Istanbul Center is a solid thought partner that contributes to the creation of a global conversation around these topics. The Center is also an important convener on issues of global significance.

OTTOMAN GEOGRAPHIES

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

ART, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

PUBLIC HEALTH, CLIMATE, GEOPOLITICS AND ENERGY

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

THEMES

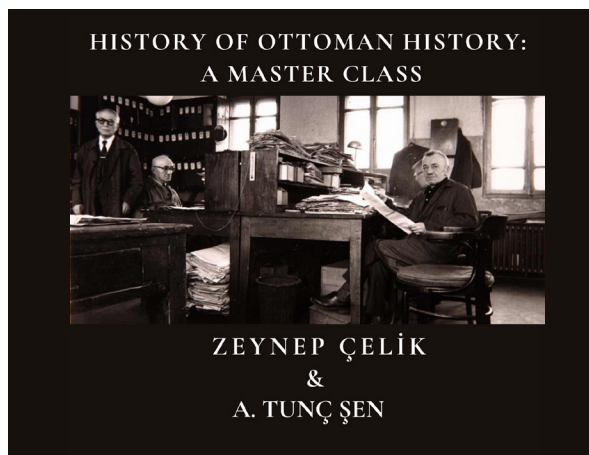
OTTOMAN GEOGRAPHIES

Istanbul, the historic capital of the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires, is the starting point from which one can explore the vast geographies that these empires once covered: Turkey, Greece, Balkans, Mediterranean, the Black Sea and the MENA region, with international trade and cultural connections with Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. The Istanbul Center has investigated such transregional connections through the lens of different disciplines. With strong academic counterparts and the breadth of regional resources, the Istanbul Center offers a fertile platform to advance research and teaching in a unique way. In addition, the Center has hosted a joint summer course three times offered by Columbia University and Boğaziçi University on the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires studied through history, monuments, and urban life.

2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

HISTORY OF OTTOMAN HISTORY: A MASTER CLASS

August 4, 2020, Master Class



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PROF. TUNÇ ŞEN AND PROF. ZEYNEP ÇELİK

This master class was based on a seminar on the “Margins of Ottoman Historiography” co-taught by Zeynep Çelik and Tunç Şen at Columbia University in Fall 2019. The seminar was designed to discuss the formation of Ottoman-Turkish historiography in late Ottoman and Early Republican Turkey. The main goal of the seminar was to familiarize the students with the foundational works, trends, institutions, and names of the rigorous and essential scholarship in Ottoman-Turkish studies from a multi-disciplinary approach. During the online master class, some of the Fall 2019 seminar students also shared their perspectives and takeaways.

Speakers: Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Tunç Şen, Assistant Professor of History, Columbia University

Partners: The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and Columbia Global Centers | Tunis

VOICES OF EMERGING SCHOLARS WEBINAR SERIES

January 20 - June 16, 2021, Webinar Series

The Voices of Emerging Scholars is developed to provide some visibility to young historians (advanced Ph.D. students and recent post-doctoral scholars) during this difficult time of the pandemic. We envisioned regularly held webinar meetings, organized around a shared theme. Limiting the chronology to the late 19th century Ottoman and early Turkish Republican eras for practical reasons, we made a call for papers and received an enthusiastic response. We planned over twenty sessions, each promising to open fresh perspectives onto the discipline. The six webinars that we held so far displayed rigorous, creative, critical, and bold thinking, addressed difficult questions, made unlikely connections, and revealed hitherto overlooked networks. The meticulous research was complex, relying on multitudes of archives, often in different places and necessitating familiarity with several languages. In brief, a lively scholarly community began to surface. We hope to support this group of brilliant young scholars further by publishing their papers in a special section of the 'Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies,' starting in the Spring 2021 issue.

ZEYNEP ÇELİK

DISCUSSANTS



AYŞE BUĞRA



DIANE FAVRO



EUGENE ROGAN



MERVE T. İSPAHANI



MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER



PETER HRISTOFF



ZEYNEP ÇELİK

PRESENTERS



ALEV BERBEROĞLU



ANDREW HAMMOND



BURAK SAYIM



DOĞA ÖZTÜRK



DOTAN HALEVY



ELLIS GAREY



EMILY NEUMEIER



EMİR KÜÇÜK



ERHAN TAMUR



MEHMET KENTEL



MUHAMMET SAÇMALI



NAZLI SONGÜLEN



ORÇUN CAN OKAN



ÖZGE KARAGÖZ



SARAH IRVING



SHARON MIZBANI



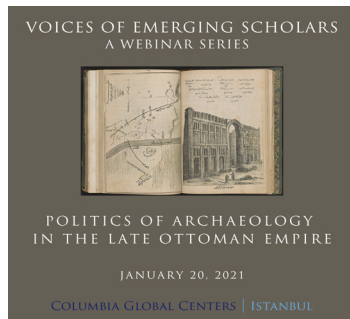
ZEHRİ BETÜL ATASOY



ZEINAB AZARBADEGAN

This webinar series is organized by Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Merve İspahani, '18GSAS, PhD, Academic Programs Coordinator, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

The Voice of Emerging Scholars webinar series has been kindly supported by James Leitner, a long-standing friend of Columbia University. We thank him for enabling this series.



POLITICS OF ARCHEOLOGY

January 20, 2021, Webinar

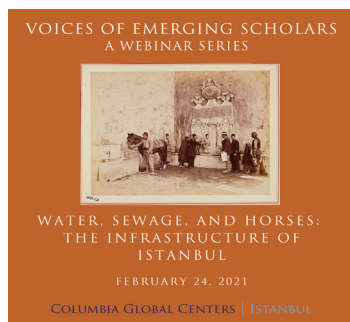
Presenters:

Erhan Tamur, "Of Consuls and Steamers: Material Foundations of Colonial Archaeology in Late Ottoman Iraq"

Zeinab Azarbadegan, "Ottomans and Iranians at Ctesiphon"

Dotan Halevy, "The British 'Antiquities Threshold' and the Muted Legacy of Ottoman Legislation"

Discussant: Diane Favro, Distinguished Professor Emerita, UCLA



WATER, SEWAGE, AND HORSES: THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF ISTANBUL

February 24, 2021, Webinar

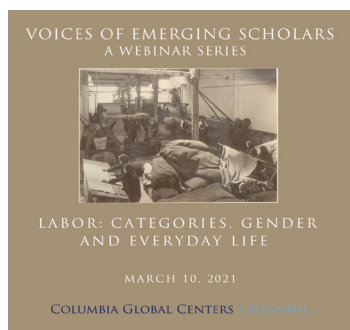
Presenters:

Sharon Mizbani, "The Art of Infrastructure: Hamidiye Fountains in Ottoman Istanbul"

Emir Küçük, "Horses of the Constantinople Tramway Company in 1871 - 1914"

K. Mehmet Kentel, "Pera, Kasımpaşa, Sewers, and Maps: Representing Infrastructural Entanglements in the Nineteenth-Century Istanbul"

Discussant: Michael Christopher Low, Assistant Professor of History, Iowa State University



LABOUR: CATEGORIES AND GENDER AND EVERYDAY LIFE

March 10, 2021, Webinar

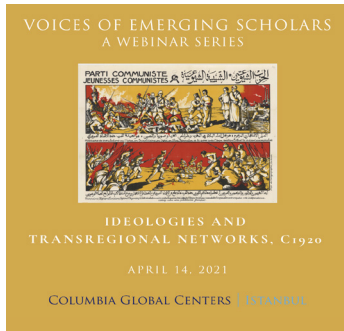
Presenters:

Ellis Garey, "'The Worker' as a Contested Category in Early 20th Century Beirut"

Zehra Betül Atasoy, "Gendered Expressions of Labor: The Case of Sümerbank Textile Factory, Istanbul"

Sarah Irving, "Women Versus Wheelbarrows: Archaeological Labor and British Imperialism in Late Ottoman Palestine"

Discussant: Ayşe Buğra, Professor Emerita, Boğaziçi University



IDEOLOGIES AND TRANSREGIONAL NETWORKS, C1920

April 14, 2021, Webinar

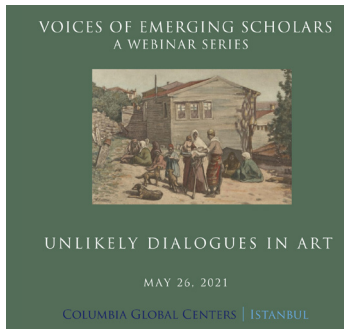
Presenters:

Andrew Hammond, "Response to the Anglican Church": Late Ottoman Islamicists at the Inception of the Turkish Republic"

Burak Sayım, "Beyond Borders: An Entangled History of Communism in the post-Ottoman Middle East"

Orçun Can Okan, "The Treaty of Lausanne and the Construction of the Arab East"

Discussant: Eugene Rogan, Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, University of Oxford



UNLIKELY DIALOGUES IN ART

May 26, 2021, Webinar

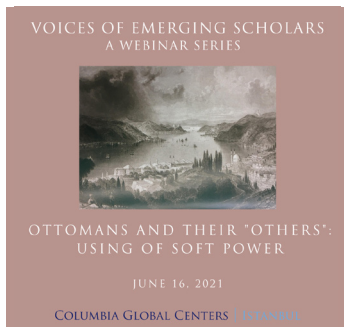
Presenters:

Alev Berberoğlu, "Dynamics of an Artistic Duo: Reciprocal Influences Between Elisa and Fausto Zonaro"

Emily Neumeier, "Citation as Nation Building in the Paintings of Cemal Tollu"

Özge Karagöz, "Redistributing Artistic Values in the New Turkey: The 1934–35 Exhibition of Soviet Art"

Discussant: Peter Hristoff, Visual Artist and Professor, The School of Visual Arts, NYC



OTTOMANS AND THEIR "OTHERS": USES OF SOFT POWER

June 16, 2021, Webinar

Presenters:

Muhammet Saçmalı, "A Raison d'État of the Ottoman Universal Caliphate: Protecting Shi'ite Safavids"

Nazlı Songülen, "Development of the Beylerbeyi Neighborhood, Settlement Policies"

Doğa Öztürk, "Philanthropy and Self-Identification in Late Ottoman Egypt"

Discussant: Merve İspahani, '18GSAS, PhD, Academic Programs Coordinator, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

THE MAKING OF "EUROPE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE ORIENT"

March 24, 2021, Book Talk

A century before the publication of Edward Said's "Orientalism," a passionate discourse emerged in the Ottoman Empire, rebutting politicized Western representations of the East. Until the 1930s, Ottoman and early Turkish Republican intellectuals, well acquainted with the European political and cultural scene and charged with their own ideological agendas, deconstructed tired clichés about "the Orient." In this book, Zeynep Çelik recontextualizes Eurocentric studies, unearthing an important episode in modern Middle Eastern intellectual history and curating a selection of primary texts illustrating the debates.

This panel aimed to discuss the complex production of the book "Europe Knows Nothing about the Orient" from its early inception through the final translation.

Speakers: Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; Rana Alpöz, Executive Director, Koç University Press; Sibel Doğru, editor, rights and acquisitions specialist and Publishing Coordinator, Koç University Press; and Ayşen Gür, journalist, freelance writer, and translator

Partners: Koç University Press and ANAMED (Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations)

"EUROPE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE ORIENT" WITH ZEYNEP ÇELİK AND RASHID KHALIDI

April 22, 2021, Book Talk

"I offer this book as open-ended. I know for sure that I did not cover everything, I did not include all the texts written in Turkish on this, but I also included other texts from writers in the Middle East, in North Africa, and my hope is that this open-ended book will be continued with proposals, with other texts from other geographies and other languages."

ZEYNEP ÇELİK



In "Europe Knows Nothing about the Orient," Professor Çelik fills a historiographical void by providing a critique of Western Orientalism from an Ottoman/Turkish perspective, showing how the West sees the Oriental 'other.' The book not only gives the reader her analysis of intellectual late Ottoman and early Turkish discourse but immerses the reader in the writings, explaining how the Orient was perceived or misperceived by the Western other.

Speakers: Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies, Columbia University

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

The rising tide of populism and its impact on the preservation or dissolution of democratic values and institutions have become one of the most pressing issues globally. The study of liberal democracy and human rights in Turkey, a critical geopolitical actor, provides significant insights into understanding the issue. Even though Turkey is characterized by a particular set of historical, institutional, and political traditions, as well as economic dynamics, its move towards a more authoritarian political culture cannot be understood outside this global trend of rising populism. Freedom of speech, the refugee crisis, human rights, peace and security, democratic processes, and gender are critical areas of inquiry for the Istanbul Center.

2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

DIGITIZING K12 EDUCATION: CAPTURING THE COVID-19 EXPERIENCE AND IMAGINING THE FUTURE

July 1, 2020, Webinar



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY CARLSON GUSRAFSON

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools all around the world had to turn to emergency remote education. This situation revealed gaps in pedagogical knowledge and infrastructure to support the use of technology for instruction. Since it is thought that virtual learning will likely be a permanent part of education going forward, this webinar gathered education experts from the US, Kenya, and Turkey to provide insight into how we can move towards a more sustainable online learning experience for K12 education.

Speakers: Detra Price-Dennis, Associate Professor of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University (keynote speaker) Saliha Aslan '15TC, Head of School Üsküdar SEV Schools; and Mary Muriuki, Regional Representative of Cambrilearn.com; Dahlia Hamza Constantine, Doctoral candidate in Curriculum and Teaching at Teachers College, Columbia University (moderator)

Partner: Columbia Global Centers | Nairobi

“This is not an equal opportunity virus; it goes after those who are most vulnerable. It has exposed and exacerbated inequalities in our society.”

JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ



PHOTO: PROF. JOSEPH E. STIGLITZ, ISTANBUL, 2014

In partnership with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and as part of the Kapuscinski Development Lecture Series, Nobel Prize-Winning Economist Professor Joseph E. Stiglitz gave a talk on “The Post Pandemic World: Restructuring the Global Public Good” to over three thousand people. Joseph E. Stiglitz started his lecture by saying that countries around the world responded differently to the Covid-19 pandemic. The US, Brazil, and India failed in their respective responses to the crisis, whereas Denmark and New Zealand did a better job in controlling both the pandemic and its economic aftermath. So what accounts for the successes and failures of different countries in coping with the Covid-19 pandemic? Are there any generalizations, Stiglitz asked, that we can draw from this encounter? According to Stiglitz, countries that recognize the importance of science and institutions; and those that demonstrate a deep respect for their citizens, have done better. As he discusses in his recent book, “Power, People and Profits: Progressive Capitalism for an Age of Discontent,” countries that respect science, social organization, credibility, and the institutions for the verification of truth have succeeded in raising the standard of living for their societies in the last 250 years. Not surprisingly, these countries managed to cope with the pandemic better than others.

Stiglitz argued that six months after the outbreak of the pandemic, it became clearer that the US was particularly vulnerable to this crisis due to the existing inequalities such as the lack of access to health care and good nutrition. “This is not an equal opportunity virus,” Stiglitz continued, “it goes after those who are most vulnerable. It has exposed and exacerbated inequalities in our society.”

Now, there is a global consensus that we don’t want to bounce back to where we were in January 2020. Speaking on the impact of Covid-19 on globalization, Stiglitz argued that the pandemic made us all realize, all of a sudden, that “viruses do not carry passports, they can go anywhere in the world.” However, the economic system that we have created does not contain resilient global supply chains. At the height of the pandemic, the US was not able to produce masks, protective gear for health care workers, or ventilators. There is a need to create more resilient supply chains going forward.

On the other hand, the pandemic also showed that we need global cooperation. The post-Cold War optimism that we would all convert to liberal democracies and free-market economies has been dashed with the pandemic. In an earlier conversation with the economist Thomas Piketty, hosted by the Columbia University’s Paris Center, Stiglitz had argued that in the 1970s shareholder value maximization was believed to be the most important goal. At the time, Stiglitz wrote

numerous articles that this was in fact a false assumption as the well-being of the society and environment were just as important. The Covid-19 crisis demonstrated the need for such regulatory frameworks towards the formation of a research-based, greener economy and equal society in the post-pandemic world.

Kapuscinski Development Lectures are given by top global thinkers who discuss development in the European Union countries and beyond. The series is organized jointly by the European Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and partner organizations, universities and development think-tanks. Since 2009, over 100 lectures have gathered over 30,000 participants.

Speakers: Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor, Columbia University; Recipient, The Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences (2001) and The John Bates Clark Medal (1979); and Anya Schiffrin, Director, The Technology and Media Specialization, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University (moderator)

Introductions: İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul; Jutta Urpilainen, European Commissioner for International Partnerships; and Mirjana Spoljaric, UN Assistant Secretary-General

Partners: European Commission and United Nations Development Programme

ON THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION WITH SOLİ ÖZEL

November 2, 2020, Webinar

"The elections should be seen as a clash between America's past and those imagining a new future for their country."

SOLİ ÖZEL



PHOTO COURTESY OF STEPHAN RÖHL

The day before one of America's most important presidential elections, the Istanbul Center hosted Soli Özel in conversation with İpek Cem Taha for a lively discussion about the possible outcomes of the election and its impact on Turkey. The discussion touched upon many issues, including the reliability of the election system in the US, anxiety among a deeply polarized society in the fear of an atmosphere of potential chaos, the possible outcomes of the presidential elections in shaping US foreign policy perspectives as well as the orientation of Turkey-US relations under a potential Biden administration. The discussion also invited us to rethink the future of democracy as radical movements and authoritarianism continue to gain currency around the world with increasing pressures on free and fair elections.

Speakers: Soli Özel, political commentator and Visiting Lecturer of International Relations and Political Science, Kadir Has University; and İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

CROSSROADS IN PANDEMICS: CRISIS OR OPPORTUNITY FOR TURKEY?

October 14, 2020, Webinar



Covid-19 is the biggest disruption of the 21st century to global economies and governments, which are experiencing the worst hit since the Great Depression. Businesses and governments are looking for the best recovery options to combat this unprecedented crisis. This talk focused on the opportunities and crises of the Covid-19 pandemic for the Turkish economy and how to create a more resilient economy which will resist future shocks.

Speakers: Erol Bilecik, Chairman of Index Group and former President of the Board of Turkish Industrialists and Businessmen Association (TÜSİAD); and İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

Partner: Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey

COMPROMISES, COMPLICITY AND RIGHTS

December 11, 2020, Webinar



PHOTO COURTESY OF AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS (AFP)

Three years have passed since the slaying of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, and even though this is a well-known fact, silence around the issue remains. The panel aims to challenge this silence and the complacency surrounding this issue on a regional and global scale.

The panelists covered various subjects but focused mainly on compromise and complicity with Saudi leadership, and the different forms these took. Many examples of compromise were enumerated by the panelists; the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, the general muzzling of the press, the imprisonment of feminist and other political activists, or the war on Yemen.

Speakers: Dr. Agnès Callamard, Director, Columbia University Global Freedom of Expression, and Special Adviser to the President of Columbia University; Mohamed Yassine Jelassi, Secretary-General, Syndicat National des Journalistes Tunisiens (SNJT); and Cansu Çamlıbel, Editor-in-Chief, Duvar English

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Tunis and Columbia Global Centers | Paris

COUNTERING ISLAMOPHOBIA THROUGH EDUCATION

December 11-14, 2020, Webinar Series



Graduate students from Teachers College, Columbia University presented and discussed themes from their course on Islam, Education, and Radicalization. Presentations focused on emerging research that explores the role of education in countering Islamophobia and serving as a potent mechanism for de-radicalization. Students discussed how education can serve as a facilitator for social cohesion, capable of addressing the unique challenges that marginalization, exclusion, discrimination, racism, and radicalization pose for at-risk youth.

This virtual program is organized by the Columbia Global Centers | Amman, Columbia Global Centers | Tunis, and in partnership with Teachers College and the Middle East Institute at Columbia University.

COUNTERING ISLAMOPHOBIA IN THE UNITED STATES: A LOOK AT “ACCESS ISLAM”

Student Presenters: Kendra Burpee, Faryal Siddiqui, Vikramaditya Harshad Joshi

Discussants: Jihed Haj Salem, CVE Advisor, FHI 360 Tunisia; and Firat Kurt, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University

DECONSTRUCTING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO ISLAMOPHOBIA

Student Presenters: Mir Sana Ullah Khan, Minjung Kang, Joti Ghani, Sarah Schoengood

Discussants: Jihed Haj Salem, CVE Advisor, FHI 360 Tunisia; and Firat Kurt, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University

COUNTERING ISLAMOPHOBIA: A PARENTAL PEACE EDUCATION APPROACH

Student Presenters: Raksha Sule, Lauren Gonzales, Yujie Yang, Rachel Karnoff

Discussants: Jihed Haj Salem, CVE Advisor, FHI 360 Tunisia; and Firat Kurt, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University

INCORPORATING ISLAM INTO THE MAINSTREAM EDUCATION SYSTEM: A STRATEGY TO COUNTER ISLAMOPHOBIA

Student Presenters: Ayelet Hillel, Maximilian Rojas-Domke, Tianxiang Zhu

Discussants: Dr. Renee Hattar, Head of International Studies, The Royal Institute for Inter-Faith Studies; and Firat Kurt, Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University

THE BIRTH OF THE MODERN UNIVERSITY IN TURKEY AND JAPAN

March 16, 2021, Online Panel



PHOTO FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: PROF. SELÇUK ESENBEL, AND H.E. PROF. EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU

The panel reconsidered the emergence of the first modern universities in Turkey and Japan within the comparative framework of both countries' respective paths to political modernization. Two distinguished panelists shed light on why the constitution of a modern university was central to political reform during the Tanzimat Era and the Meiji Restoration and explored multiple ways in which the idea of creating a learned community occupied the thinking of reformers in both countries.

Speakers: H.E. Prof. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, academic, diplomat, 9th Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), a former member of the Turkish Parliament and PACE, Honorary President of the Turkish Society for History of Science, and Istanbul Center Advisory Board Member; and Selçuk Esenbel, Professor Emerita at Boğaziçi University Department of History, Founding Director and presently Academic Coordinator of the Asian Studies Center, and the Master of Arts in Asian Studies at Boğaziçi University

THE ROLE OF STUDENT CLUBS AT UNIVERSITIES IN DEVELOPMENT OF GENDER EQUALITY

March 16, 2021, Webinar

The Istanbul Center organized a closed workshop with the representatives of university clubs and societies who work on women's and gender studies in Turkey. The aim of this meeting was to create solidarity networks and experience-sharing mechanisms among different university clubs as well as to discuss the potential outcomes of termination of the Istanbul Convention on the clubs' activities.

Student Speakers: İlayda Habip, Öykü Eke, Havva Başak Belhan, Aslı Altunsu, Dicle Yıldız, Zela Altun, Berfin Değirmenci, İlgar Jahed, Rewşan Aydınariğ, Nilay Ulaş, and Ege Atacan Doğan

Moderators: Aylin Vartanyan, Lecturer, Boğaziçi University; Cemre Baytok, Office Coordinator, Boğaziçi University Sexual Harassment Prevention Commission (CİTOK)

QUALITY JOURNALISM: THREATS AND OPPORTUNITIES

May 3, 2021, Online Panel

On World Press Freedom Day, on May 3, the Istanbul Center and the International Press Institute, founded at Columbia University in 1950, organized a panel discussing a range of issues. Among them, the development of journalism amid political, social and technological developments in the world, as well as press freedom violations, the ongoing business model crisis, the status of Turkey's independent media, and the future of journalism, including threats to its integrity and opportunities for its growth.

Speakers: Emre Kızılkaya, Vice President, National Committee for the International Press Institute (IPI); Project Editor, Journo; Faruk Bildirici, journalist and Ombudsman; Minez Bayülgen, Editor-in-Chief, Kapsül News; and Scott Griffen, Deputy Director, International Press Institute (IPI)

Partner: International Press Institute

GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE

June 10, 2021, Webinar



GENDER DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE

ŞEMSA ÖZAR
Boğaziçi University

EMEL MEMİŞ
Ankara University

İLKE ERCAN
Delft University of Technology

YILDIZ TAR
Kaos GL

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

As a part of Pride Month, the Istanbul Center hosted renowned academicians and activists in various fields to discuss workplace gender discrimination, gender domination through language, gendered occupations, pay equality, emotional labor, and diversity policies and practices of companies.

Speakers: Şemsa Özar, Professor, Department of Economics, Boğaziçi University; Emel Memiş, Associate Professor, Faculty of Political Sciences, Ankara University; İlke Ercan, Principal Educator, Department of Microelectronics, Delft University of Technology; and Yıldız Tar, Media and Communication Program Coordinator, Kaos GL Association

ART, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

At the intersection of two significant historic actors- the Byzantine and Ottoman Empires- Turkey, and especially Istanbul, have acted as the bridge between East and West, both figuratively and literally. Turkey is a melting-pot of historical, ethnic, linguistic, and cultural heritage of the Middle East, Central Asia, and Europe. These legacies position both the city of Istanbul and the Istanbul Center to be a significant convener and explorer in topics relating to art, culture, and contemporary society.

2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

BREAKING BINARIES: THINKING ABOUT ART IN THE COVID AGE

November 12, 2020, Webinar



PHOTO: DR. VISHAKHA DESAI, ISTANBUL, 2017

The current crises of the pandemic, social justice, and the climate have laid bare the deep fissures in our worlds, demanding that we reimagine and articulate the possibilities that go beyond narrow binaries of national/global or past/present. This conversation between Shahzia Sikander and Vishakha Desai was based on the *Miniature 2.0*. Exhibition at the Pera Museum in Istanbul, which focused on contemporary approaches to miniature painting. The exhibition features the works of 14 artists from different countries, including Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Azerbaijan. Their works go beyond the form and context of traditional court paintings as they re-think issues including colonialism, orientalism, economic inequality, gender, politics of identity, discrimination, social violence, compulsory migration, and representation, by giving miniature painting a new dimension in a contemporary world.

The global crisis of Covid-19 triggered a new kind of engagement with our societies and the world around us. In Vishakha Desai's words, it is about "how we think of ourselves in relation to others" beyond the exclusionary logic that divides geographies and separates our past from our present.

Speakers: Dr. Vishakha Desai, Senior Advisor for Global Affairs to the President of Columbia University, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Global Thought; and Shahzia Sikander, American-Pakistani visual artist

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai and Pera Museum

ISHTAR DIARIES

March 21 & June 29, 2020, Podcast Series

The Ishtar Diaries is a podcast series that merges scholarship of the ancient world with contemporary art, social and political conditions, and personal experiences. It revolves around Ishtar, a major ancient goddess of the region, who allows us to reimagine the arts of civilization as aspects of her all-encompassing nature and attributes, inscribed into the historical and archaeological record as if a diary. But these diaries are in a state of continuous becoming. Each time we engage with them, we have come to redefine ourselves through them, reshape them, remember and forget some of their parts, and add new memories to them. These accumulating narratives are the biographies or diaries that we aim to explore in this podcast. Through this journey, we hope to challenge the colonial and patriarchal narratives and interpretations forced onto this heritage, to contribute to its preservation, to place it in the backdrop of original and often ethereal music produced by contemporary female musicians from the region, and to demonstrate that the ancient past is relevant beyond the realm of academia.

Produced by graduate students at the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University: Majdolene Dajani, Jeiran Jahani, Laleh Javaheri-Saatchi, Kutay Şen, Aref Heidar (Ceé), Saphe Shamoun and led by Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology. With thanks to the Media Center for Art History, Columbia University.



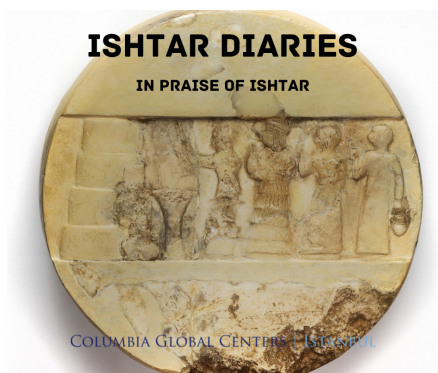
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: AREF HEIDAR (CEÉ), JEIRAN JAHANI, LALEH JAVAHERI-SAATCHI, KUTAY ŞEN, SAPHE SHAMOUN, MAJDOLENE DAJANI AND ZAINAB BAHRANI



EPISODE 1: ISHTAR DIARIES INTRODUCTION

In this episode, İpek Cem Taha and Zainab Bahrani talk about how the idea of the podcast was sparked by a conversation between them in the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020.

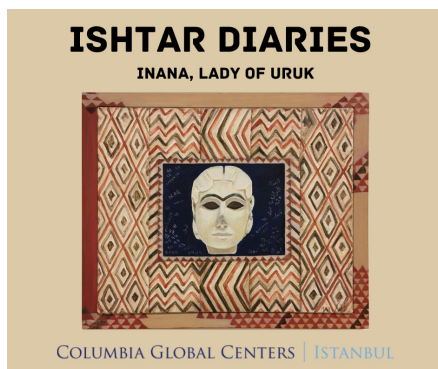
Speakers: Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology, Columbia University; and İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul



EPISODE 2: IN PRAISE OF ISHTAR

In this episode, we hosted the renowned Iraqi-American poet, Dunya Mikhail, to read excerpts from the "Exaltation of Inana," a hymn dedicated to the great Mesopotamian goddess Inana/Ishtar, and composed by the priestess Enheduanna, daughter of King Sargon and high-priestess to the Moon God Nanna. The hymn dates from the 3rd millennium BC and makes Enheduanna the first known poet in history. Dunya Mikhail shares her own poetry and in this exchange of rhymes, ancient and modern, we create a bridge between the first poet and a modern one, two women with shared heritage as well as shared experiences such as loss of home and exile.

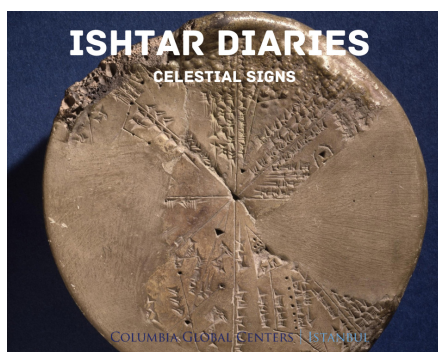
Speakers: Laleh Javaheri-Saatchi, Master student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Dunya Mikhail, Iraqi-American poet and the author of several books of poetry, winner of the 2010 Arab American Book Award for Poetry, and The War Works Hardd



EPISODE 3: INANA, LADY OF URUK

A marble head of a woman excavated from the ancient city of Uruk is an important piece of Sumerian sculpture that is considered to be the oldest representation of the goddess Inana, Ishtar's predecessor and counterpart. The history of this object extends from the fourth millennium BC to the present day, as it has tremendous significance for Iraqi heritage and continues to inspire contemporary artists. In an interview, Professor Zainab Bahrani shares her perspective on its looting from the National Museum of Iraq in Baghdad, its return, and the aftermath of the 2003 US invasion of Iraq.

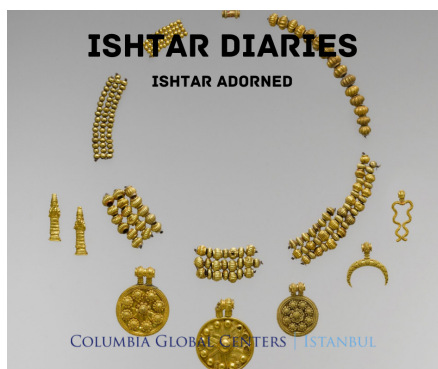
Speakers: Majdalone Dajani, Master student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology, Columbia University



EPISODE 4: CELESTIAL SIGNS

What did the Babylonian sciences look like, and how did they read and interpret natural phenomena? What paradigms were at the basis of their predictive sciences? What role did the cuneiform script play in their philosophy of science? These are some of the questions that we explore in a conversation with Professor Marc Van de Mieroop. We discuss rational astronomy and irrational astrology, and whether these distinctions can be extended back in time by thousands of years when Babylonians practiced those sciences. We also engage with broader topics on how science has been redefined in different ways throughout history, our changing expectations from science, and our conceptions of rationality vs irrationality or logical vs illogical.

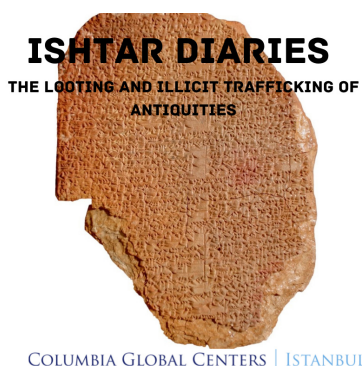
Speakers: Jeiran Jahani, PhD student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Marc Van de Mieroop, Professor, Department of History, Columbia University



EPISODE 5: ISHTAR ADORNED

In this episode we host Dr. Kim Benzel, to speak to us about ancient jewellery and how jewellery in its shapes, materials, motifs and making, is imbued with far more than the eye beholds. Dr. Kim Benzel, who is an expert of ancient Near Eastern jewellery, and herself a maker, has studied goldsmithing techniques and speaks to us of the multi-faceted nature of ancient jewellery making. She explains how these objects of superficial beauty can encapsulate other-worldly power, often transformed into objects of reverence themselves. This is a fascinating exploration of the many meanings of ancient jewellery, with an expert who sheds light on complex creation techniques.

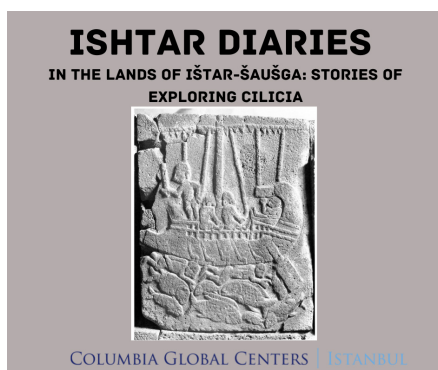
Speakers: Jeiran Jahani, PhD student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Marc Van de Mieroop, Professor, Department of History, Columbia University



EPISODE 6: THE LOOTING AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING OF ANTIQUITIES

The looting and illicit trafficking of antiquities is an issue that has gained considerable attention, especially over the last few years due to the impact of several armed conflicts on the tangible cultural heritage of several countries in Western Asia. An interview with Professor Erin Thompson provides some insight into the various aspects and complexities of this topic including the sale of looted artefacts in legal art markets, law enforcement, repatriation, and fakes.

Speakers: Majdalone Dajani, Master student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Erin Thompson, Professor of Art Crime at John Jay College (CUNY)



EPISODE 7: IN THE LANDS OF IŠTAR-ŠAUŠGA: STORIES OF EXPLORING CILICIA

In this episode, we discuss the formative years of archaeology in the nascent Turkish Republic, viewed through the lives and works of two exceptional women archaeologists, Machteld J. Mellink and Halet Çambel. Professor Aslı Özyar, whose professional life intersects with significant episodes of Mellink and Çambel's lives and works, recounts how and why the work of these two scholars was essential to the archaeology of the Eastern Mediterranean and to the preservation of cultural heritage. We talk about the emergence of on-site preservation of archaeological remains and rescue excavations in Turkey, thanks to Halet Çambel, and how Anatolian archaeology has gained its place in the studies of the ancient Eastern Mediterranean, owing to M. Mellink's life-long research in Anatolia.

Speakers: Kutay Şen, PhD student, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia University; and Aslı Özyar, Professor of Anatolian and Mesopotamian Art and Archaeology, Boğaziçi University

WATCHING THE CLASSICS

June 15-22-29, 2020, Online Film Series



PHOTO: PROF. RICHARD PEÑA AND ELA BAŞAK ATAKAN, '96 AR, ISTANBUL, 2018

'Watching the Classics,' an online film series, focused on three undisputed classics of world cinema that have helped change the course of film history- these are 'Citizen Kane,' 1941, USA; 'The Rules of the Game,' 1939, France; and 'Late Spring,' 1949, Japan. Each week, Professor Peña placed a given film within its aesthetic, economic, technological, and socio-political context, detailing each director's formal techniques while teasing out the implications of their decisions.

Speaker: Richard Peña, Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University and Director Emeritus of the New York Film Festival

Partner: Istanbul Film Academy

PUBLIC HEALTH, CLIMATE, GEOPOLITICS AND ENERGY

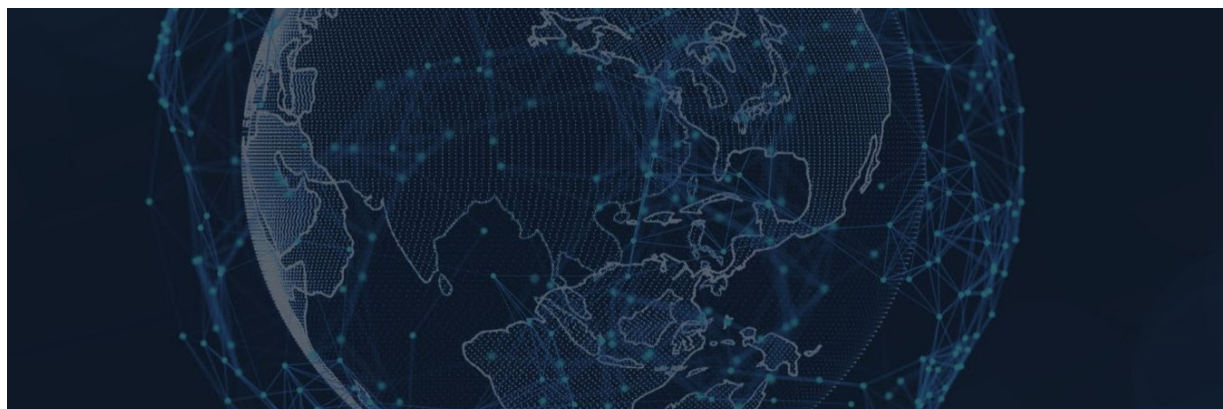
Climate change is arguably the top global issue of today's world, which can only be dealt with through joint efforts made by governments, universities, businesses, civil societies, and citizens. Considering Columbia University's commitment to climate response and Turkey's increasing political and public attention to this vital topic, the Istanbul Center focuses on public health and climate as programmatic priorities. The coronavirus pandemic has also opened the eyes of many, both in Turkey and the wider region, to the realities of local, regional and global health topics. There is huge potential to support joint research projects and cooperation between Columbia and local partners to find solutions for problems resulting from both climate change and public health.

With its strategic geographical position between the Middle East and Europe, Turkey plays a crucial role in regional geopolitics as well as in energy politics. Turkey's status as an energy hub in Eurasia is highly affected by its relationships with its neighbors, where ongoing political, economic, and military conflicts persist. The Istanbul Center aims to create a collaborative research environment to gain a better understanding of the energy politics at play, as well as of energy transportation routes in Eurasia.

2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

TALKING WITH DATA: WHY IS IT CRUCIAL IN THE COVID-19 ERA?

July 21, 2020, Webinar



Covid-19 data collection and sharing practices vary amongst responses of countries across the world. How surveillance data is collected and shared with the public, academia, businesses, and other stakeholders in each jurisdiction can change the course of public health responses, which need to be built on public trust and tailored according to the countries' real needs. This webinar gathered experts from the U.S. and Turkey to present the best practices and discuss issues of current public health data collection and sharing needs in times of Covid-19.

Speakers: Corinne Thompson, Epidemiologist, Bureau of Communicable Diseases, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (keynote speaker); Matthew Montesano, Data Communication Specialist, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Banu Çakır, Professor of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Hacettepe University; Dr. Özge Karadağ Çaman, Public Health Researcher, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University (moderator); and Dr. Yanis Ben Amor, Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University (moderator)

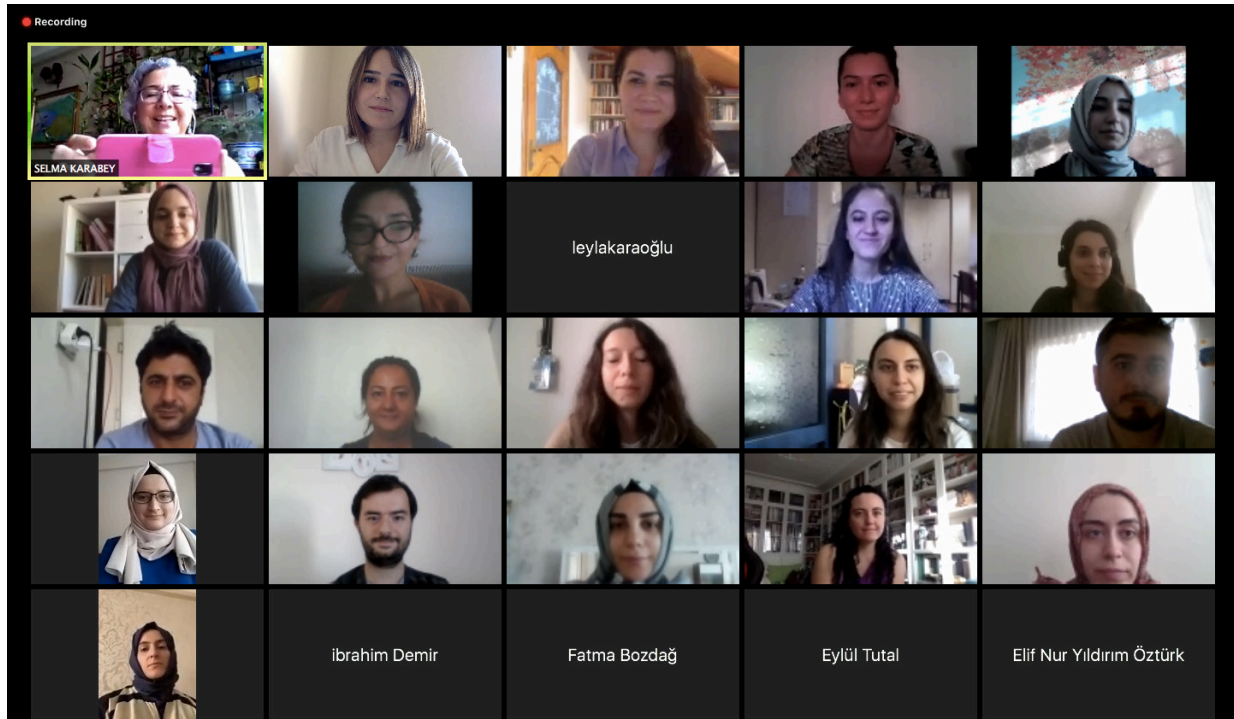
Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Rio and The Center for Sustainable Development

QUALITATIVE METHODS IN MIGRATION AND HEALTH RESEARCH: A TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

September 30 & October 1, 2020, Online Training

“This is the first online-training that I have actively participated in. One of the best features of this workshop was gathering researchers working in similar fields and meeting them with experts both at the local and global levels.”

STUDENT PARTICIPANT



The two-day workshop on qualitative methods in migration and health research was held online as a part of the Refugees Act and Communicate for Health (REACH) project, a regional initiative of Columbia University, which aims to bridge the gap in health literacy and health care access among refugee and local youth via digital health technologies in countries most affected by forced migration. During the workshop, local and global experts trained postgraduate public health students and early-career public health researchers in Turkey to increase their research capacity on qualitative and mixed-method research with migrants and refugees.

Principal Investigators: Dr. Yanis Ben Amor, Executive Director; and Dr. Özge Karadağ Çaman, Public Health Researcher, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Partners: The Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) at the Earth Institute; Istanbul University; and Birİz Association

Sponsors: President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) and Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF)

HEALTH PROMOTION VIA DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AMONG YOUNG REFUGEES

October 29, 2020, Online Panel & Exhibition



PHOTO: REACH STAKEHOLDER MEETING, ISTANBUL, 2019

REACH (Refugees Act and Communicate for Health) is a regional initiative of Columbia University that aims to bridge the gap in health literacy and access to health care among refugee and local youths via digital health technologies in countries most affected by forced migration. The REACH project aims to use a community-based participatory research approach to explore and promote the use of digital technologies among young refugees to improve their access to health information and services in Turkey. The project started with a stakeholder workshop in Istanbul to discuss current problems and solutions regarding health literacy and health care access issues among refugees in 2019. The project team then conducted a qualitative photovoice study with young refugees and local youth in Istanbul, in addition to in-depth interviews with health workers and policymakers to assess the current trends and gender-specific needs for digital tools including mobile apps to access health information and services among refugees. In this online panel and photo exhibition, the findings of the photovoice study were shared with the aim of raising awareness on using digital health technologies for health promotion in forced migration settings.

Principal Investigators: Dr. Yanis Ben Amor, Executive Director; and Dr. Özge Karadağ Çaman, Public Health Researcher, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Speakers: Firas Kayal, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, New York Office; Goleen Samari, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; Selma Karabey, Department of Public Health, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul University; and Damla Ceyhan, Department of Public Health, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Istanbul University; Özge Karadağ Çaman, Public Health Researcher; and Dr. Yanis Ben Amor, Executive Director; Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University

Partners: The Center for Sustainable Development (CSD) at the Earth Institute; Istanbul University; and BirÖz Association

Sponsors: President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) and Taiwan International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF)

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO COVID-19 VACCINE: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

March 3, 2021, Webinar

Among the world's millions of refugees, there is a concern that many may be excluded from their host countries' national vaccine programs, or face added barriers to access, due to a shortfall of Covid-19 vaccine supplies. Even in host countries that have started vaccinating refugees, those who are undocumented may remain sidelined. Failure to include vulnerable populations in their coronavirus response will undoubtedly undermine a global recovery from the pandemic. This webinar brought together experts who discussed the perils of vaccine nationalism. They investigated what the international community needs to do to improve vaccination coverage for migrants and forcibly displaced people, and what is required to create an equitable vaccine allocation process in refugee-hosting countries.

Speakers: Rula Amin, Senior Communications Advisor at UNHCR Regional Bureau for the Middle East and North Africa; Dr. Amira Hamadeh, Regional Vaccination Program and Medical Movement Coordinator at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in MENA; Dr. Özge Karadağ Çaman, Public Health Researcher; and Dr. Yanis Ben Amor, Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University (moderator)

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Tunis and Columbia Global Centers | Amman

RE-THINKING THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN: DIPLOMACY, ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

December 3, 2020, Webinar



PHOTO COURTESY OF DEUTSCHE WELLE (DW)

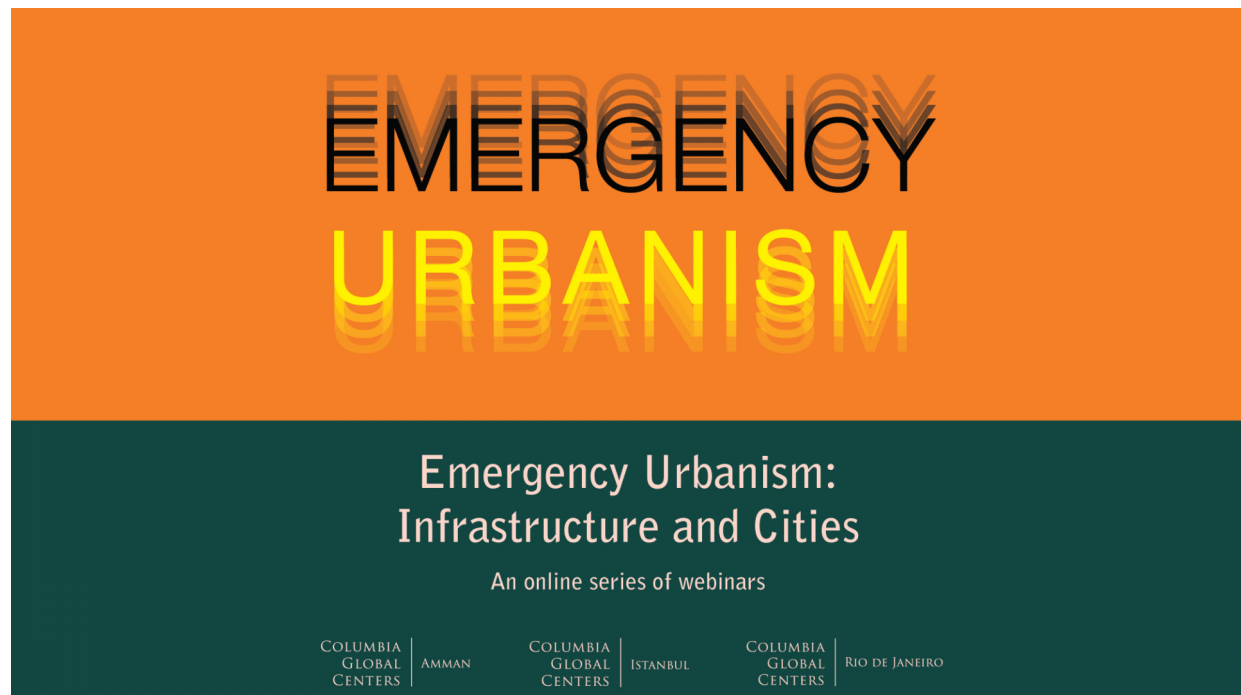
The panel focused on the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean from a political ecology and sustainability perspective with distinguished speakers. Topics included diplomacy between Turkey and Greece on the dispute of Cyprus, which has become intertwined with that of energy since new hydrocarbon resources have been found in the Eastern Mediterranean, the European Green Deal, and the need for more hydrocarbon resources in a world moving further away from gas.

Speakers: Sinan Ülgen, Chairman, EDAM; Dr. Charles Ellinas, Non-Resident Fellow, Atlantic Council; Değer Saygın, Director, SHURA Energy Transition Center, İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul (moderator); Ioannis N. Grigoriadis, Associate Professor, Bilkent University; Senior Fellow & Head, Program on Turkey, ELIAMEP (moderator)

Partner: The Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy

EMERGENCY URBANISM: INFRASTRUCTURE AND CITIES

December 1-16, 2020 & January 13, 2021, Webinar Series



Communities, cities, and nations have been confronted with a myriad of urban challenges: inequality, urban density, lack of adequate physical and social infrastructure, access to affordable housing, environmental health risks, and more. The Covid-19 pandemic has exacerbated these challenges. Measures to contain the virus are disrupting public life, altering social coherence, and affecting the built environment. This webinar series aimed to explore different dimensions, including cities' response to environmental disasters, mobility cultures, as well as digital infrastructure among many others.

EMERGENCY URBANISM AND PREVENTIVE INFRASTRUCTURES

December 1, 2020, Webinar

This webinar explored how cities have responded to environmental disasters and disease outbreaks and investigated the interventions required to mitigate the effects of such emergencies. The panelists provided insight into the preventive systems that are installed, required, and used in emergency anticipation and response.

Speakers: Mona Fawaz, Professor, Urban Planning and Studies, Department of Architecture and Design, American University of Beirut; Murat Güney, '16GSAS, Researcher and Coordinator, International Cooperation, Istanbul Planning Agency; Pedro Rivera, Architect, Adjunct Assistant Professor, Columbia University; and Jawad Dukhgan, Associate Director, Studio-X Amman; and Mark Wasiuta, Co-Director of the Critical, Curatorial and Conceptual Practices in Architecture program, Columbia University (moderator)

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Rio and Columbia Global Centers | Amman

PANDEMIC AND RE-SHAPING THE URBAN LANDSCAPE: HYPER LOCALIZATION AND 15 MINUTE CITIES

December 16, 2020, Webinar

This webinar addressed how the pandemic reintroduces Carlos Moreno's notion of "la ville du quart d'heure" in which daily urban necessities are within a 15-minute reach on foot or by bike. It brought together experts to discuss how the urban environment is being repurposed as well as the subsequent impact on community, creativity and city life.

Speakers: Hayrettin Günc, Program Manager, NATCO, Global Designing Cities Initiative; Hazem Zureiqat, Partner, at Engicon, Transport Consultant and Advocate, Jordan; Juan Francisco Saldarriaga, Senior Data and Design Researcher, Brown Institute for Media Innovation, Columbia University; Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, Lecturer in City Diplomacy, Sciences Po and École Polytechnique, Paris; Müge Yorganci, Specialist, Istanbul Planning Agency (moderator); and Merve İspahani, '18GSAS, Academic Programs Coordinator, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Rio and Columbia Global Centers | Amman

DIGITAL INFORMATION, MAPPING TOOLS, AND PLANNING

January 13, 2021, Webinar

The panel discussion explored the role of technology that is used today to help municipalities and governments identify the neighbourhoods most vulnerable to viruses. Technology such as urban planning tools and mapping techniques expose issues detrimental to communities, such as the lack of access to essential services and its correlation to higher infection rates. The panellists investigated how digital infrastructure and information is utilized in response to managing pandemics and emergencies as well as the engagement of citizens in shaping their built environment.

Speakers: Michael Krisch, Deputy Director, Brown Institute for Media Innovation, Columbia University; Leah Meisterlin, Urbanist, GIS methodologist, and Assistant Professor in Urban Planning, GSAPP, Columbia University; Omar Tesdell, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Birzeit University; Jawad Dukhghan, Associate Director, Studio-X Amman (introduction); and Laura Kurgan, Professor of Architecture and Preservation, GSAPP, Columbia University (moderator)

Partners: Columbia Global Centers | Rio and Columbia Global Centers | Amman

GREEN RECOVERY

April 29, 2021, Webinar



In celebration of Earth Day, the Istanbul Center hosted Uğur Bayar for a talk on the post-pandemic green recovery, sustainable energy, green investing opportunities, and agricultural potential in Turkey.

Speakers: Uğur Bayar, Chairman, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Turkey; and İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul (moderator)

Partners: World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Turkey and Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey

HEALING IN THE CITY

June 30, 2021, Webinar



The exhibit ‘Finding a Cure in Istanbul’ explores the concept of healing, based on the issue of accessing health in a big city, from the time of cholera to the coronavirus. We are witnessing a moment that asks us to consider the right to health, the right to life and the right to the city altogether. By linking body and place, the exhibit thinks through what collective life imposes on us in terms of distance, intimacy and responsibilities.

Alongside the exhibition, curated by Melis Bektaş and held in the Yaklaşım Tüneli, a metro evacuation tunnel at the heart of Istanbul, the Istanbul Center and Karşı Sanat Çalışmaları organized a webinar with distinguished speakers. The event focused on exploring how seeking and providing care — in its holistic sense — has evolved in Istanbul from 19th-century epidemics until today as well as how public health policy, and more specifically the urban hospital, has played a role in constructing national identity.

Speakers: Dr. K. Murat Güney, ‘16GSAS, Expert, Istanbul Planning Agency; Fatih Artvinli, Associate Professor, Acıbadem University; and Deniz Tortum, Director and Media Artist

Partner: Karşı Sanat Çalışmaları

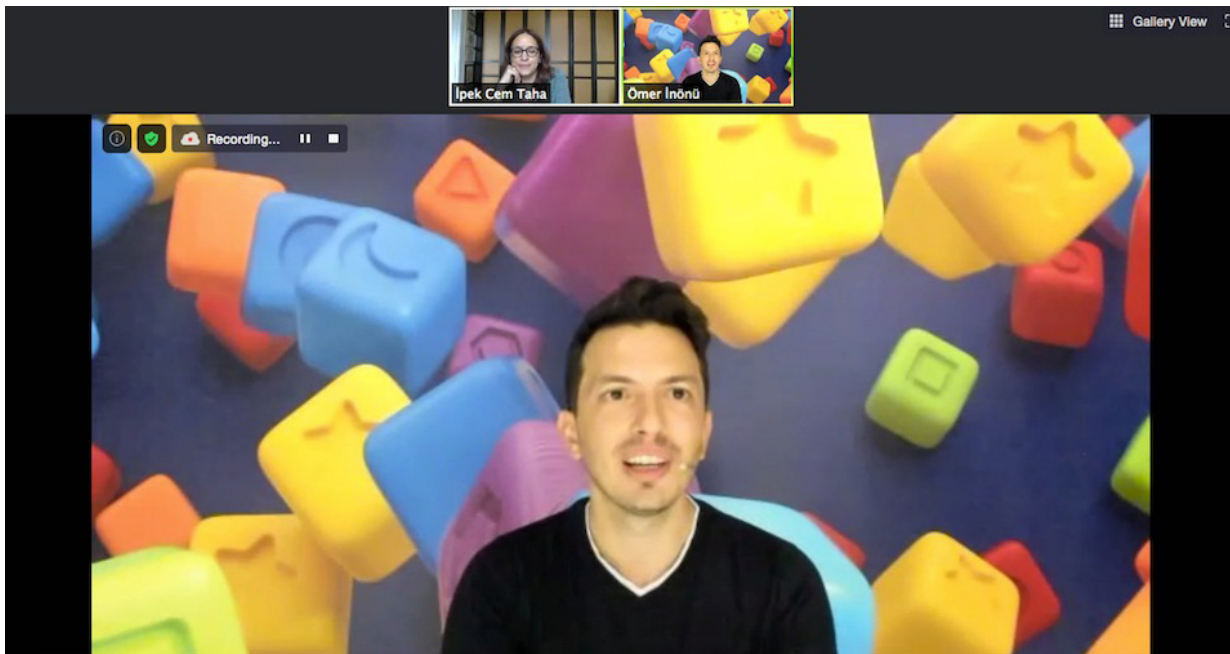
INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovation and Entrepreneurship is a recent priority theme that plays an important role, as the world is increasingly being shaped by technology, digitalization, and new media. Innovation and entrepreneurship are vehicles to self-sufficiency for Turkish and regional entrepreneurs, the drivers of future economic growth. There is a small, but burgeoning, entrepreneur community that receives international, local, non-governmental and governmental support. The goods and services that are created by Turkish entrepreneurs not only address gaps in the local economy but also regional ones. In addition, we see this space increasingly giving a voice and a source of income to those on the periphery: women, refugees, and minority groups.

2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

THE STORY OF PEAK: A TURKISH GAMING COMPANY'S JOURNEY TO THE TOP

July 8, 2020, Webinar



Peak Games is an Istanbul-based leading mobile gaming company that was founded in 2010. In 2020, the social game developing company Zynga announced it acquired Peak Games for \$1.8 billion - \$900 million in cash, and \$900 million in Zynga shares. This talk focused on the success story of Peak Games and Ömer İnönü's experience starting from Columbia Business School to joining Peak Games as the Director of Strategy.

Speakers: Ömer İnönü, '13BU, Director of Strategy, Peak Games; and İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

August 17-21, 2020, Workshop

"It was absolutely delightful to see the students' passion for solving problems through social entrepreneurship. Everyday, I witnessed the wonders and progress that their teamwork and collaboration produced. While facilitating their journey in developing a social venture, I learned so much about regional norms, and the importance of designing culturally-conscious solutions."

BHOOMIKA AJAY KUMAR

"The Social Entrepreneurship Workshop has been an incredible journey for me. I had the chance to learn skills that will really help me in my future projects and I got to meet with a lot of inspiring people. I feel like I am one step closer to becoming a changemaker and creating a positive impact on the world. I am so happy to have this experience with all of the great instructors and classmates!"

AYSELI KARABEKMEZ, PARTICIPANT



During this annual five-day virtual social entrepreneurship workshop, 12 high school students took their first steps towards becoming the next generation of social entrepreneurs in Turkey and around the world. The students learned about how entrepreneurial problem solving and design thinking can yield social impacts. They heard from social entrepreneurs, Zach En'Wzoh, Co-founder and CEO of Bissy Energy; and Krystal Persaud, Founder and CEO of Grouphug Solar. The students formed small groups and pitched their ideas at the end of the workshop to Turkish entrepreneurs, Durukan Dudu, Founding Director of Anadolu Meraları (Anatolian Grasslands), and İtir Erhart, Co-founder of Adım Adım (Step by Step), who gave them feedback and advice on how to move forward with their projects.

Workshop leaders: Sajjad Zafar '23CC, Rachel Lau '23CC, Bhoomika Ajay Kumar, '23CC, WORKSHOP LEADER, Angela Liu '21CC, Bella Barnes '21CC, Shahreen Hossain '23BC, Irene Koo '20CC, and Justice Betty, '18GS

Partners: Building Blocks and Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE)

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ALUMNI REUNION

January 16, 2020, Workshop

This reunion aimed to build a robust community of alumni of the annual entrepreneurship workshops across Jordan, Turkey and Kenya, and create an opportunity to connect with Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE) alumni, showcase their personal projects, chat with mentors and hear from a keynote speaker.

Partners: Building Blocks and Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE)

PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND PROJECTS (PGIF)

Launched in March 2013 by President Lee C. Bollinger, the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) awards grants to Columbia faculty members to leverage and engage with the resources and facilities of Columbia's global centers network. The program is designed as a venture fund to enable the development of projects and research collaborations across the nine global centers.

"The REACH PGIF project is the first partnership between the Center for Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute and Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul. From the beginning, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has allowed the project to be rolled out smoothly, and being part of the worldwide Global Centers network, it has allowed for expansion of opportunities beyond the original scope of Turkey. This wide network worldwide has been particularly essential in the current COVID-19 era where all meetings and conferences are online webinars. This has significantly increased the opportunity to reach a wider audience globally."

YANIS BEN AMOR, RECIPIENT OF A 2019 PGIF AWARD

"Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has a very creative and hardworking team that always brings new ideas and opportunities, and has a very central role in what we plan and do as part of our projects in the region. It also has a very active role in connecting Columbia University with Eastern Europe and Central Asia as well as with the other Global Centers. The Istanbul Center truly acts as a hub and a bridge for researchers, trainers, students, and everyone who would like to contribute to science, art, education, and policy-making for a more sustainable world."

ÖZGE KARADAĞ ÇAMAN, RECIPIENT OF A 2019 PGIF AWARD



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: YANIS BEN AMOR, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY; ÖZGE KARADAĞ ÇAMAN, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY; EYLEM NAZLI TAŞDEMİR, COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL; SELMA KARABEY, ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY; AND PINAR ŞİMŞEK, BİRİZ FOUNDATION

The following table shows the PGIF projects that have partnered with the Istanbul Center:

PROJECT TITLE	FACULTY	DURATION
Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases	Professor Wafa El Sadr and Professor Miriam Rabkin, Mailman School of Public Health	2013
Global Leadership Matrix	Professor Sheena Iyengar, Columbia Business School	2013
Global Migration Network	Professor Julien Teitler, School of Social Work, and Professor Sandro Galea, Mailman School of Public Health	2013
Istanbul Documentation Project	Professor Holger Klein, Department of Art History and Archaeology	2013
Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments	Professor Zainab Bahrani, Department of Art History and Archaeology	2013-2016
De-Provincializing Soft Power	Professor Victoria De Grazia, Department of History	2014
Global Operational Data Index	Professor Susan McGregor, Columbia Journalism School	2015
Changing Health Needs in Complex Emergencies: Non-Communicable Disease Services for Syrian Refugees in Jordan	Professor Neil Boothy, Professor Wafaa El Sadr, and Professor Miriam Rabkin, Mailman School of Public Health	2015-2018
Sustainable Waste Management	Professor John Themelis, School of Engineering and Applied Science	2015
Mapping Human Networks of Transnational Architectural Projects	Professor Mabel O. Wilson, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation	2015
Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past (RNHDP)- 2016 Summer Training Program	Professor Elazar Barkan, School of International and Public Affairs	2016
Providers ASPIRE	Professor Nabila El-Bassel and Professor Neeraj Kaushal, School of Social Work	2016-2018
Black Sea Networks	Professor Valentina Izmirlieva, Department of Slavic Languages	2016-2019
Co-Creating an Urban Displacement Solutions Alliance	Professor Neil Boothby, Mailman School of Public Health	2018-2019
REACH: Using Technology to Increase Health Literacy and Health Care Access for Refugees in Turkey Project Meeting	Professor Yanis Ben Amor, Center for Sustainable Development	2019-2020
Youth Health Promotion Via Digital Technologies: Towards Building an International Research Network in Forced Migration Settings	Professor Yanis Ben Amor, Center for Sustainable Development	2020-2022
Health and Repatriation: Rebuilding the Health Care System in Post-Conflict Syria	Professor Monette Zard, Mailman School of Public Health	2020-2022

TURKEY ON CAMPUS

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has increased the dialogue between Turkey and Columbia's campus through its expanded programming and events over the years, which has been further solidified by the work of the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies on campus. The two have partnered on various events - on campus, in Istanbul, and abroad. In addition, the Istanbul Center has partnered with many of the Schools and Institutes at Columbia University on Turkey-related programming including the Program in Hellenic Studies, the Women Creating Change program at the Center for the Study of Social Difference, and the Columbia Global Centers network.

THE SAKIP SABANCI CENTER FOR TURKISH STUDIES

Established at Columbia University in June 2016 with a generous gift from the Sakıp Sabancı family, the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies aims to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge and the exchange of ideas between scholars and students engaged in any area of Turkish Studies, including the history, language, religion, and culture of the peoples and empires that occupied the Anatolian peninsula from ancient to modern times. The Sakıp Sabancı Center supports academic research, course offerings, and public events both within and outside of Columbia University, using the resources of both the University's New York campus and Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Five years after its foundation, the Sakıp Sabancı Center continues to offer a wide variety of academic and public programs. In the 2020–2021 academic year, under the leadership of its Director, Holger A. Klein, it hosted online events, lectures, and panels in different subfields of Turkish Studies, offered its usual summer fellowships for Columbia doctoral students in Turkish Studies and inaugurated a new academic-year dissertation fellowship for doctoral students in their final year of dissertation research and writing as well as a new postdoctoral fellowship to prepare a dissertation for publication and gain teaching experience in the broader field of Turkish Studies.

THE SAKIP SABANCI SUMMER FELLOWSHIP 2020–2021

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies offers a competitive summer fellowship in any area of Turkish Studies for doctoral students in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division of the School of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. This year's Sakıp Sabancı Summer Fellows are Yasemin Akçagüner, Department of History; Elif İrem Az, Department of Anthropology; Bailey Barnard, Department of Art History and Archaeology; Azat Bilalutdinov, Department of History; Alaa El-Shafei, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies; Nada Khalifa, Department of History; Nancy Ko, Department of History.

THE SAKIP SABANCI DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP 2020–2021

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies offered competitive Dissertation Writing Fellowships for doctoral students with dissertation projects in any field of Turkish Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences to bring their dissertation research and writing to completion. This year's Sakıp Sabancı Dissertation Fellows and respective projects are:

ZEINAB AZARBADEGAN (DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY): *Bloodless Battles: Contested Sovereignty between the Ottomans, the Qajars, and the British in Ottoman Iraq (1831–1905)*

MATTHEW GILLMAN (DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY): *Medieval Glass and the Aesthetics of Simulation*

SAKIP SABANCI CENTER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP 2020–2021

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies offered a Postdoctoral Research and Teaching Fellowship for a recent PhD graduate of Columbia's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences to prepare a dissertation for publication and gain teaching experience (1/1 teaching load) in the broader field of Turkish Studies. This year's Sakıp Sabancı Postdoctoral Fellow and respective project is:

FIRAT KURT (PHD IN ANTHROPOLOGY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY): *Folds of Populism: Financial Capitalism, Mass Mobilization, and Islamism in Turkey*

2020–2021 SAKIP SABANCI CENTER FOR TURKISH STUDIES PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

HISTORY OF OTTOMAN HISTORY

August 4, 2020, Webinar

Speakers: Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University and Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; and A. Tunç Şen, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Columbia University

Organized by Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, Columbia Global Centers | Tunis, and the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies

ORIGINS OF CONTEMPORARY VIOLENCE IN TURKEY AND THE UNITED STATES

October 14, 2020, Webinar

Speaker: Fatma Müge Gökkçek, Professor of Sociology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Organized by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and the Department of Sociology

THE REVOLUTION LOOKS INWARD: INTERNAL REFLECTIONS ON ELITES AND THE COUNTRYSIDE IN ATATÜRK'S TURKEY, 1931-1938

October 21, 2020, Webinar

Speaker: Ryan Gingeras, Professor, Department of National Security Affairs, Naval Postgraduate School

Organized by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and the Department of History

ISTANBUL'S RUSSIAN MOMENT, 1919–1923

December 7, 2020, Webinar

Speakers: Vladimir Alexandrov, B. E. Bensinger Professor Emeritus, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale University; Andras J. Riedlmayer, Bibliographer, Documentation Center of the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture, Harvard University

Responders: Valentina B. Izmirlieva, Professor of Slavic Languages; Chair, Department of Slavic Languages, Columbia University; and Holger A. Klein, Professor of Art History and Archaeology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Director, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies

Organized by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and co-sponsored by the Department of Slavic Languages

CONSENT, CONSTRUCTION, CONQUEST: THE OPTIONS AND THE CHOICES OF BAYEZID II

February 5, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Cemal Kafadar, Vehbi Koç Professor of Turkish Studies, Harvard University

Organized by the Sabancı University Sakıp Sabancı Museum (SSM) in collaboration with the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies as part of the exhibition Şeyh Hamdullah on the 500th Anniversary of His Death

ECONOMIC HARBINGERS OF POLITICAL MODERNIZATION: PEACEFUL EXPLOSION OF RIGHTS IN OTTOMAN ISTANBUL

January 20, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Timur Kuran, Professor of Economics and Political Science, and Gorter Family Professor of Islamic Studies, Duke University

Sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and the Department of Political Science

MODERNISM AND WOMEN ARTISTS IN TURKEY: THE ISTANBUL STATE ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS IN THE EARLY REPUBLIC

March 11, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Buket Altınoba, Institute of Art History, Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich

CORPSE TRAFFIC IN 19TH-CENTURY OTTOMAN IRAQ

March 19, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Zeinab Azarbadegan, PhD Candidate, Columbia University

Discussant: Shana Minkin, Associate Professor & Chair of International and Global Studies, Sewanee: University of the South

Chair: Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies, Columbia University

CONSTITUTIONALISM AND DEMOCRACY IN TURKEY AND BEYOND

April 8, 2021, Webinar

Speakers: Bertil Emrah Oder, Dean of Law, Koç University; Fuat Keyman, Vice President, Sabancı University; Director, Istanbul Policy Center; and Tsveta Petrova, Lecturer in Political Science, Columbia University

Moderator: Senem Aydın-Düzgit, Senior Scholar and Research and Academic Affairs Coordinator, Istanbul Policy Center

Welcoming Remarks: Holger A. Klein, Director, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University; Yusuf Leblebici, President, Sabancı University

Organized by Istanbul Policy Center and the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies

TAMING THE WILD: ATTRACTING CAPITAL THROUGH POPULIST MOBILIZATION IN THE URBAN LANDSCAPES OF ISTANBUL

April 13, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Firat Kurt, Postdoctoral Fellow, Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, Columbia University

Moderator: Nadia Abu El-Haj, Departments of Anthropology, Columbia University and Barnard College; Co-director of the Center for Palestine Studies

EUROPE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE ORIENT

April 22, 2021, Webinar

Speakers: Zeynep Çelik, Adjunct Professor, History Department, Columbia University & Distinguished Professor Emerita, New Jersey Institute of Technology; and Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies, Columbia University

Organized by Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies and the Middle East Institute

THE SECOND ANNUAL SAKIP SABANCI LECTURE “RECLAIMING PUBLIC SPACE: ASSEMBLY AND CREATIVITY”

May 4, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Nilüfer Göle, Professor of Sociology, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales

GEMSTONES, GOSSIP, AND RESEARCH IN THE EARLY MODERN MEDITERRANEAN

May 5, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Matthew Gillman, PhD Candidate, Columbia University

Discussant: Deborah Howard, Professor Emerita, University of Cambridge

Chair: Avinoam Shalem, Riggio Professor, History of the Arts of Islam, Columbia University; Director, American Academy in Rome (2021–2023)

Co-sponsored by the Department of Art History and Archaeology

STUDENT AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

EDUCATION AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Creating a solid ground for global education is a priority for Columbia University and the Global Centers. Since its foundation, the Istanbul Center has developed and facilitated various education and learning programs in collaboration with regional partners. These programs enable Columbia students to study a variety of subjects and to enhance their global awareness through local engagement.

The Istanbul Center has worked with Columbia faculty to support specific programming for courses that take place partially or fully in Turkey. Additional partners have included the Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement (UGE), the Office of the University Chaplain, SIPA, among others.

THE GLOBAL COLUMBIA COLLABORATORY

The Global Columbia Collaboratory was launched in June 2020, an initiative developed by the Columbia Global Centers network and the Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement, designed to give students the skills, understanding, and network to grow into the leaders our world needs to thoughtfully address our increasingly complex challenges. During the last academic year, eight webinars were organized with distinguished speakers and hundreds of people from around the world tuned in to watch.

VIRTUAL GLOBAL INTERNSHIPS



“

Interning at the Istanbul Center has given me a chance to connect with other Turkish students in the region and has helped me develop my professional communication skills. I have gained valuable skills such as creating social media posts to increase online presence and organize large events in a virtual environment!

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

**Naz Bilecik SEAS '22
Virtual Intern | Summer '20**

In 2020, the Columbia Global Centers network initiated the Columbia Global Centers | Virtual Internships Program, offering hundreds of virtual internship opportunities for Columbia students globally by leveraging each Centers' wide local and regional networks. Twelve interns were placed at organizations in Turkey, including one at the Istanbul Center over the summer of 2020. The Istanbul Center was an active member of the team to organize this program, and the Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey was instrumental in helping find internship opportunities in Turkey.

UNIVERSITY INITIATIVE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

"I am really happy that Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul provides us with a very nice study space. All the staff is very welcoming and the Center offers a very quiet and comfortable environment to focus on my studies. My experience in the Center gave me the feeling of the Columbia Community even if I am thousands of miles away from the campus."

MELİK KURU, MFA IN FILM '21

"It's great to be able to use the workspace at the Istanbul Centers as a library to concentrate on work without being worried about health hygiene."

BEGÜM BABUR, BARNARD '21

As part of a university-wide initiative to support Columbia students who are located outside the United States, Columbia University offers access to spaces to convene, study, collaborate and benefit from tailored, diverse programming opportunities designed to support students' remote learning and help them integrate into the broader University community. The Columbia Global Centers—in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, and Tunis—have expanded their capacities to become study centers for students in their regions, and the University has also arranged for dedicated space for its students in Tel Aviv and Athens. In addition, students in another 80+ cities will receive special WeWork all-access passes, which they may use to access any WeWork facility in their city, offering them a comfortable, safe, and enriching environment to study.

COLUMBIA STUDENT AND ALUMNI GATHERINGS

September 29, 2020, Gathering



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul organizes bi-annual gatherings for current and incoming undergraduate students and their parents, in addition to special events with undergraduate and graduate students, as well as alumni. We integrate the students and their parents, alumni, and friends into the larger lifelong Columbia community with mentorship and networking opportunities. This year, newly-admitted and current Columbia undergraduate and graduate students, their parents, and select alumni were hosted by Melisa Sabancı Tapan, '20SIPA, at her artists' residence Gate 27, following Covid-safe rules and social distancing requirements.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

August 17-21, 2020, Online Workshop



PHOTO: SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WORKSHOP, ISTANBUL, 2019

Twelve high school students learned about how entrepreneurial problem solving and design thinking can yield social impacts.

Workshop leaders: Sajjad Zafar '23CC, Rachel Lau '23CC, Bhoomika Kumar '23CC, Angela Liu '21CC, Bella Barnes '21CC, Shahreen Hossain '23BC, Irene Koo '20CC, and Justice Betty, '18GS

Guest speakers: Zach En'wezoh, Co-founder and CEO of Bissy Energy; Krystal Persaud, Founder and CEO of Group Hug Solar; Durukan Dudu, Founding Director of Anadolu Meraları (Anatolian Grasslands); and Itır Erhart, Co-founder of Adım Adım (Step by Step)

Partners: Building Blocks, and Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE)

CHAZEN GLOBAL SPOTLIGHT ON TURKEY

February 11, 2021, Online Meeting



The Chazen Global Spotlight series introduces a specific country's business culture to provide a variety of perspectives, including a business speaker from the region to bridge theory and practice. In collaboration with the Chazen Institute for Global Business and the Middle East and North Africa student club at Columbia Business School, this program introduces the business cultures of Turkey through the perspective of Turkish students and guest speakers from Turkey.

Speakers: Mert Can Pestilci, '21MBA; Eren Üngör, '22MBA; İpek Cem Taha, '93BU, '93IA, Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul; and Ege Duruk '07CC, Managing Partner, Backhaus

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

The Istanbul Center is a hub for Columbia alumni in the region, organizing regular gatherings where current and prospective students, parents, and alumni can learn about the Center's projects and programs, get to know Istanbul Center staff and each other, and gain awareness about Columbia's mission on global education. We are delighted about the support of the Columbia community in Istanbul and Turkey both for the Center and amongst the community members.

COLUMBIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

"Since the beginning of our tenure as co-presidents of CAA Turkey, the Istanbul Center has been an invaluable partner and resource in the club's mission to connect our alumni to the Columbia community in Turkey and to the University. Our partnership has been especially essential in continuing this mission during the difficult and often unpredictable past year when we had to cancel almost all of our in-person events. Thanks to the Istanbul Center's creative input and insight into virtual programming, we were able to not only keep our club active and maintain alumni engagement with a number of stimulating guests and subjects, reach out to current students and recent graduates, but also meet new alumni backers and grow our network. The events we co-sponsor with the Istanbul Center remain to be our most well-attended and our successful fundraising campaign on giving day proves that the Columbians in Turkey are in full support of our continued collaboration. By incorporating more virtual events in the future, we hope to connect our alumni with a wider array of Columbia Clubs and Global Centers across the world."

EGE DURUK '07CC AND EMRE ÇİÇEK '07CC, CAA TURKEY CO-PRESIDENTS



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: EGE DURUK, İPEK CEM TAHA, EYLEM NAZLI TAŞDEMİR, EMRE ÇİÇEK

The University-wide Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) was founded in 2005 and has grown to support over 100 alumni clubs and shared interest groups for over 339,000 Columbia alumni today. Since its inception, CAA Turkey has grown to over 750 alumni including undergraduate and graduate alumni.

CAA Turkey has been led by co-presidents Ege Duruk '07CC and Emre Çiçek '07CC since 2018, and has been an incredible partner in building, supporting, and engaging the alumni community in Turkey.

HOUSE OF CHATS SERIES

In 2019, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and CAA Turkey initiated the "House of Chats" series where speakers from a variety of fields speak to an intimate group of alumni on timely and interesting topics.

HOW NOT TO MAKE A COLLECTION?

December 12, 2020, Webinar

Speakers: Melis Terzioğlu, Art Consultant; Aslı Sümer, Gallerist

THE FUTURE OF RETAIL: A TALK WITH AVI ALKAŞ

December 26, 2020, Webinar

Speaker: Avi Alkaş, Country Chairman, JLL Turkey

TURKEY'S PULSE IN NUMBERS

May 8, 2021, Webinar

Speaker: Prof. Dr. Özer Sencar, Founder and President, MetroPOLL

GOVERNANCE

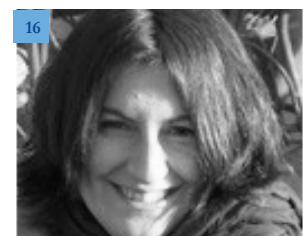
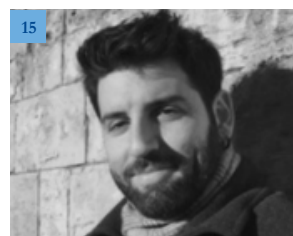
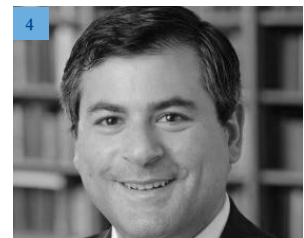
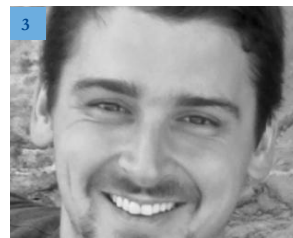
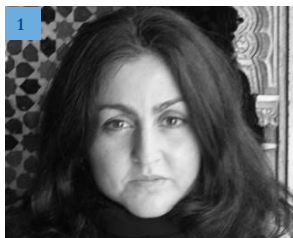
FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020-2021

The Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) provides academic and intellectual input, leadership, and advice regarding the Center's activities and plans, supports its engagement with faculty, helps identify, expand, and advance scholarly exchange, and creates innovative and sustainable programming at and through the Istanbul Center.

The FAC is chaired by a faculty member who serves a renewable three-year term and is viewed as a thought leader by other members of the faculty. Committee members represent a wide spectrum of faculty interests and disciplinary areas and are selected because of their commitment to globalization and their familiarity with and scholarly interest in the region.

"The past academic year has been difficult in many ways, and the pandemic has continued to prevent travel between New York, Istanbul and the surrounding region, yet the work of the Istanbul Global Center has become increasingly important. Several ground-breaking master classes, panels and workshops took place, and the Center became an important venue for the creative and academic work of both faculty and students. The sense of intellectual community that the Center provides allowed us to explore new forms and ways of teaching and sharing research, combining public outreach with academic excellence."

ZAINAB BAHRANI, ISTANBUL CENTER FAC CHAIR



- (1) **ZAINAB BAHRANI** Chair, Faculty Advisory Committee of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul; Edith Porada Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology, Department of Art History and Archaeology
- (2) **EMILY BELL** Director, Tow Center for Digital Journalism; Leonard Tow Professor of Professional Practice in the Faculty of Journalism
- (3) **YANIS BEN AMOR** Executive Director, Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute; Assistant Professor of Global Health and Microbiological Sciences
- (4) **JASON BORDOFF** Director, Center on Global Energy Policy; Professor of Professional Practice in the Faculty of International and Public Affairs; Co-Founding Dean, Columbia Climate School
- (5) **ZEYNEP ÇELİK** Adjunct Professor of History, Department of History
- (6) **SARAH CLEVELAND** Professor Human and Constitutional Rights; Faculty Director, Human Rights Institute
- (7) **VISHAKHA DESAI** Senior Advisor for Global Affairs to the President of Columbia University, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Global Thought
- (8) **CAROL GLUCK** George Sansom Professor of History, Department of History and Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Chair, The Committee on Global Thought
- (9) **AYTEN GÜNDOĞDU** Tow Associate Professor for Distinguished Scholars, Department of Political Science, Barnard College
- (10) **MARIANNE HIRSCH** William Peterfield Trent Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Professor in the Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality
- (11) **NİHAL TÜRKÜLER İŞIKSEL** James P. Shenton Assistant Professor of the Core Curriculum, Department of Political Science
- (12) **VALENTINA IZMIRLIEVA** Professor of Slavic Languages; Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages
- (13) **RASHID KHALIDI** Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies, Department of History and Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies
- (14) **HOLGER A. KLEIN** Professor of Art History and Archaeology, Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Director of the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies
- (15) **AHMET TUNÇ ŞEN** Assistant Professor of History, Department of History
- (16) **NESLİHAN ŞENOCAK** Assistant Professor, Department of History

FORMER MEMBERS*

- AMALE ANDRAOS** Associate Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; Architecture Advisor to the President; Dean, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
- ELAZAR BARKAN** Professor of International and Public Affairs; Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, School of International and Public Affairs
- CAROL BECKER** Professor and Dean, School of the Arts
- HIBA BOU AKAR** Assistant Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
- MARY C. BOYCE** Morris A. and Alma Schapiro Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Dean, Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science
- AGNÈS S. CALLAMARD** Director, Columbia Global Freedom of Expression; Special Adviser to the President, Office of the President
- DAVID CUTHELL** Adjunct Associate Professor, School of International and Public Affairs
- LINDA FRIED DE LAMAR** Professor of Public Health and Dean, Mailman School of Public Health; Senior Vice President, Columbia University Medical Center; Professor of Epidemiology and Professor of Medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons
- TIMOTHY FRYE** Marshall D. Shulman Professor of Post-Soviet Foreign Policy; Chair, Department of Political Science
- JEAN-MARIE GUEHENNO** Arnold Saltzman Professor of Professional Practice, School of International and Public Affairs
- BRUCE KOGUT** Sanford C. Bernstein and Co-Professor of Leadership and Ethics, Columbia Business School
- CHRISTINE PHILLIOU** Assistant Professor, Department of History
- KAREN RHOADS VAN DYCK** Kimon A. Doukas Professor of Hellenic Studies, Department of Classics, Columbia College
- ALEXANDRE M. ROBERTS** Assistant Professor of History, Department of History

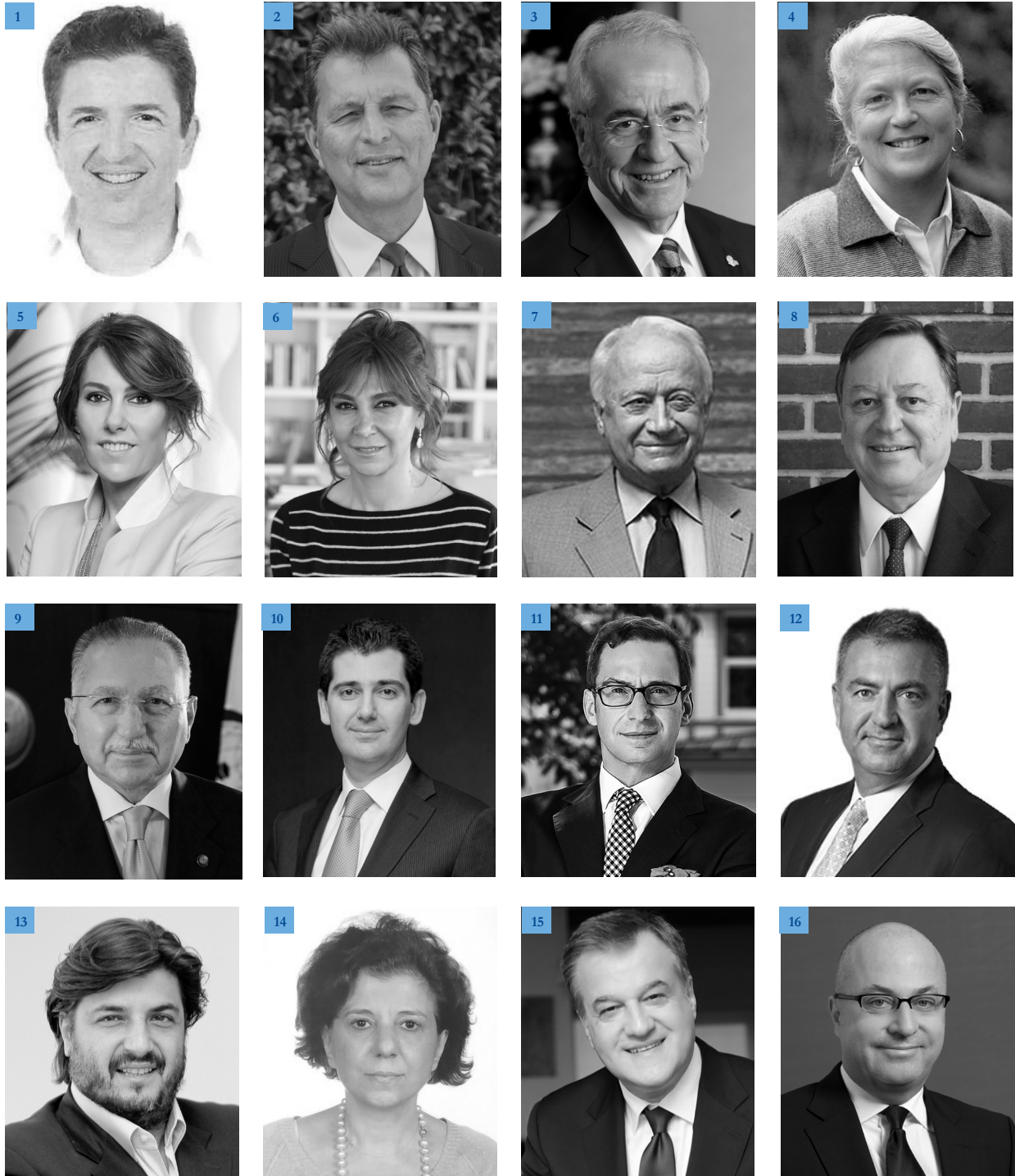
* These titles were the titles they held at the time of their membership.

ADVISORY BOARD

The Istanbul Center's Advisory Board provides oversight for the Center's activities and is composed of prominent academics, public figures, and business leaders. The Board meets annually.

"Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul is like an open window for the Turkish academia and civil society that lets in fresh air in an era when nation states appear to close all doors and windows and withdraw into their inner core."

PROFFESOR ÜSTÜN ERGÜDER



- (1) **LEON AMRAM** '88BU; industrialist; entrepreneur; investor
- (2) **TAYFUN BAYAZIT** '83BU; Chairman, Marsh McLennan Group, Turkey and Bayazit Consulting Services
- (3) **EROL BİLECİK P:**'22EN; Chairman, Index Group; Former President, TUSİAD
- (4) **JEAN MAGNANO BOLLINGER** '72TC, P:'02LW, '11IA; a practicing artist with an academic background in education
- (5) **HANZADE DOĞAN BOYNER** '99BU; Chairwoman of Doğan Online and Hepsiburada Group, Vice Chairwoman of Doğan Holding and Doğan Media Group, and Chairwoman of Aydın Doğan Foundation
- (6) **VUSLAT DOĞAN SABANCI** '96IA; Founder, V Foundation; Vice President, Aydın Doğan Foundation; Board Member, Doğan Holding and Hepsiburada.com; Chair, Hurriyetemlak.com
- (7) **PROFESSOR ÜSTÜN ERGÜDER** Chair, Executive Committee, Education Reform Initiative; Founding Director, Istanbul Policy Center, Sabancı University; Former President, Magna Charta Observatory of Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy, Bologna, Italy; Former President, Boğaziçi University
- (8) **PROFESSOR AHMET EVİN** '66CC, '73GSAS; Founding Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, and Professor Emeritus, Sabancı University; Senior Scholar, Istanbul Policy Center
- (9) **HIS EXCELLENCY EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU** academic; diplomat; 9th Secretary General, Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC); former member, Turkish Parliament and PACE; Founder and Chairman, History of Science Department, Istanbul University; Founding Director-General, IRCICA; Honorary President, the Turkish Society for History of Science
- (10) **MEMDUH KARAKULLUKÇU** '00LW; Vice-Chairman and President of Global Relations Forum
- (11) **ÖMER M. KOÇ** '85CC, '88BU; Chairman of the Board of Directors, Koç Holding; Chairman of the Board of Directors, Turkish Educational Foundation (TEV)
- (12) **KORHAN KURDOĞLU** '91IA, P:'20CC; CEO, Tab Food Investments (TFI)
- (13) **EMRE KURTTEPELİ** '90EN, P:'22EN; Founder and Chairman, Mynet Group
- (14) **AYŞE SİNİRLİOĞLU** Ambassador (Ret.)
- (15) **MUSTAFA SAY** '84BUS; Founder and Managing Partner, AccessTurkey Capital Group
- (16) **AGAŞ UĞUR P:**'17CC, P:'19AC; former CEO; VC partner; startup investor

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

The Istanbul Center works in collaboration with local universities, non-governmental organizations, and public institutions to design cross-cutting, innovative programs and partnerships with different Schools, Centers, and Institutes within Columbia. Below is a list of our partners since our launch.



PHOTO ABOVE: “The Narrow Corridor: States, Societies and the Fate of Liberty” talk on December 20, 2019 at Boğaziçi University, by Daron Acemoglu, Institute Professor at MIT, as part of the Kapuscinski Development Lecture Series, and in partnership with the European Commission, United Nations Development Programme, and Boğaziçi University.

LOCAL UNIVERSITIES

BİLGİ UNIVERSITY
BİLKENT UNIVERSITY
BOĞAZİÇİ UNIVERSITY
HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY
İSTANBUL UNIVERSITY
İSTANBUL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
KADİR HAS UNIVERSITY
KOÇ UNIVERSITY
MARMARA UNIVERSITY
SABANCI UNIVERSITY

LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)

ANADOLU KÜLTÜR
THE ASFARI FOUNDATION
ASHOKA
ATLANTIC COUNCIL
BİRİZ ASSOCIATION
CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICY STUDIES (EDAM)
DARÜŞŞAFKA
DEPO
EDUCATION REFORM INITIATIVE (ERG)
ENDEAVOR
EUROPEAN STABILITY INITIATIVE (ESI)
FRIEDRICH-EBERT-STIFTUNG (FES)
GLOBAL RELATIONS FORUM (GRF)
HELLENIC FOUNDATION FOR EUROPEAN AND FOREIGN POLICY (ELIAMEP)
HRANT DINK FOUNDATION
INTERNATIONAL CRISIS GROUP (ICG)
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)
ISTANBUL FOUNDATION FOR CULTURE AND ARTS (İKSV)
INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE (IPI)
ISTANBUL POLICY CENTER AT SABANCI UNIVERSITY (İSTANBUL POLİTİKALAR MERKEZİ)
MOTHER CHILD EDUCATION FOUNDATION (AÇEV)
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION
OXFAM
PEACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF OSLO CYPRUS CENTER (PRIO CYPRUS CENTER)
SALT
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (SDA)
THIRD SECTOR FOUNDATION OF TURKEY (TÜSEV)
TRUTH, JUSTICE AND MEMORY STUDIES CENTER (HAFIZA MERKEZİ)
TURKISH BUSINESSMEN AND INDUSTRIALISTS' ASSOCIATION (TUSİAD)
TURKISH WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL NETWORK (TURKISHWIN)
UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)
UN GLOBAL COMPACT
UN POPULATION FUND (UNFPA)
UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)
UN WOMEN
WORLD WILDLIFE FUND - TURKEY (WWF-TURKEY)
WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP ASSOCIATION
THE SYMI SYMPOSIUM
THE WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION OF TURKEY (KAGİDER)

GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN TURKEY

CONSULATES OF THE US, GREECE, THE NETHERLANDS, AND SWEDEN, AMONG OTHERS
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MIGRATION MANAGEMENT
ISTANBUL MAYOR'S OFFICE
ISTANBUL PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORATE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
MINISTRY OF HEALTH
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION (MEB)
THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

DONORS

The Istanbul Center is supported by a generous community of donors who have given big and small; each donation strengthens the essential foundation for the Center to sustain its cutting-edge programming and pursue its mission in Turkey and the region. We thank and recognize all donors who gave throughout the year and on Giving Day with various amounts. We are also delighted that there are many generations represented in our roster of donors.

In addition, we recognize below the strong leadership support of donors who have given \$10,000 and above since the launch of the Istanbul Center.



PHOTO: RYAN CARMICHAEL

We are also thankful to Columbia University's Development team, and in particular, to Ryan Carmichael, Vice President for University Development, Columbia University, for supporting our fundraising efforts throughout the years.

GIFTS OF \$10,000 AND ABOVE PRIOR TO THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR

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EROL BİLECİK P:'22EN

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İZZET GARİH P:'14EN, P:'18EN

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FATİH KARAMANCI P:'17BU

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GIFTS IN THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

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GIVING DAY 2019

October 28, 2020, Online Fundraiser



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul participated in Columbia Giving Day, an annual 24-hour online fundraising event where Columbians around the world – alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends – come together to show their support for the university. In total, Columbians made 19,173 gifts to raise a record-breaking \$24 million, changing lives that change the world.

<https://givingday.columbia.edu/pages/columbia-giving-day-home>

P: Parent of Columbia student or alumni

* Donors who gave gifts of \$10,000 and above

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