



COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022



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Columbia University's Butler Library, opened in 1934, is the largest of the university's libraries and houses collections in the humanities, history, government documents, social sciences, literature, philosophy, and religion.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

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PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

A MESSAGE FROM LEE C. BOLLINGER

President, Columbia University

The Columbia Global Centers are thriving, with nine centers across four continents, and more to come. The mission of our Centers is to serve as the University's physical and intellectual presence around the world—they facilitate and curate faculty work, provide educational opportunities for students, and connect us with people and ideas shaping our global society.





PHOTO COURTESY OF PINAR GEDİKÖZER

REFLECTIONS FROM İPEK CEM TAHA

Director, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul
'93BU, '93IA

The 2021-2022 academic year was a period of recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, enabling the Global Centers network to progressively resume its former ways of programming. Hope was in the air, as well as despair. While the global economic woes deepened, technological advances provided more options for overcoming a pandemic and preparing for newer challenges.

Throughout the year, at the Istanbul Center, we were busy with our programs, once again concentrating on our priority themes to create impact in our communities: Ottoman geographies; democracy and governance; arts, culture, and contemporary society; innovation and entrepreneurship; public health, climate, geopolitics, and energy. We continued to utilize hybrid events and collaboration platforms to interact with our national and international audiences.

This past academic year, still with limited travel, we have remained a contributor within our global community. Programs such as “Voices of Emerging Scholars” continued to provide visibility to young scholars from Columbia and other leading universities. Our second year collaboration with Columbia University’s Center for Sustainable Development within “The Refugees Act and Communicate for Health” project helped bridge the gap in health literacy and access to healthcare among refugees and disadvantaged local youth. We also deepened our collaboration with the International Press Institute, focusing on joint seminars on contemporary issues challenging journalists worldwide.

Back on campus, it has been a pleasure to welcome Dr. Wafaa El-Sadr, a world-renowned infectious disease physician and epidemiologist, as the new Executive Vice

President for Columbia Global. Wafaa is taking the helm from Prof. Safwan M. Masri in an expanded role, and will be steering Columbia’s global initiatives through the turbulent waters of the early 21st century. Prof. Masri had been instrumental in the expansion and value creation of the Global Centers network. As Columbia President Lee C. Bollinger mentioned in his welcome to Dr. Wafaa El-Sadr, with nine centers across four continents, the Columbia Global Centers continue to facilitate the collaborative engagement of the University’s faculty, students, and alumni with the world to address global challenges and advance knowledge. Indeed, thinking and acting collectively is a vital need for us to progress and survive as humans at this time in our planet.

The war in Ukraine, floods and other natural disasters that result from the climate crisis inevitably put a check on our optimism and have strengthened our resolve for creating opportunities for shared learning, collaborative solutions and for deepening the nature of global dialogue. In neighboring Iran, the killing of Mahsa Amini opened the floodgates and rushed in protests and consequently more bravery to reach for human rights.

While millions of people are continually displaced because of wars and conflicts, and autocracy remains on the rise, we are humbled by the responsibility that fuels Columbia’s global agenda. Together, with more connectivity and more knowledge, we can provide more sustainable responses to the many challenges we face.

We are grateful to our many supporters and collaborators for keeping Istanbul vibrant in line with the traditions of the city for millennia. We hope that you will enjoy reviewing this report and that you will come to us with new ideas and encouragement.

A photograph of a meeting room with people gathered around a table, with a blue overlay containing the text "THE ISTANBUL CENTER THEMES". The room has a wooden floor, a large window, and a modern light fixture. People are seated around a long table, some looking at laptops and others talking. A man in a white shirt is standing and pointing at a screen. The room has a high ceiling with decorative elements and a large window. The text is in white, bold, sans-serif font on a blue background.

THE ISTANBUL CENTER THEMES



OTTOMAN GEOGRAPHIES

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

ARTS, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

**PUBLIC HEALTH, CLIMATE, GEOPOLITICS
AND ENERGY**

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

REIMAGINING GLOBAL EDUCATION AND CONFRONTING THE CHALLENGES OF OUR TIMES

BY MERVE T. İSPAĦANI

Modern-day Turkey is a country of multiple legacies. A transcontinental country situated in Anatolia with a foothold in the Balkans in Southeast Europe, Turkey carries the heritage of Ancient Mesopotamia, Ancient Greece, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman empires. It is a multi-ethnic and multi-religious country of 85 million inhabitants sharing a common history and seeking anchorage in the globalized and technology-led 21st century.

The Istanbul Center, by geography and by themes, is reflective of the many global and regional issues that are burning topics of our time; democracy and human rights, secularism, modernity, imperialism, economic development, gender, refugee crisis, climate change, and action – to name but a few. Our presence in Istanbul has allowed us to explore the many themes around these challenges, as well as others through a meaningful exchange of knowledge between the Columbia community of scholars and students, and our regional partners. The Istanbul Center envisions itself at the crossroads of different geographies and networks such as the Mediterranean, the Black Sea basin, Eurasia, and the Middle East, promoting the advance of research and learning on pressing issues of global importance. The complex set of historical, political, and socio-economic dynamics of this vastly intertwined geography is essential to develop a rather nuanced understanding of today's globalized world.

After ten years in operation, the Istanbul Center has now established itself as a solid counterpart to many academic and civil society institutions in Turkey and beyond. Our work in areas of history, democracy and governance, arts and culture, public health, climate change, and environment, and innovation and entrepreneurship enabled us to develop substantial collaborations in teaching and research programs with leading academic and non-academic institutions in our region, pulling together resources and expertise on campus and in Turkey.

Our work in the “Ishtar Diaries Podcast Series,” in collaboration with the Department of Art History, brought in the dimensions of the ancient past of the Near East into contemporary approaches. Curated by an enthusiastic group of Columbia graduate students, this podcast series made it possible to disseminate research and expertise to a global audience. Starting as a Covid-19 project, “The Voices of Emerging Scholars: A Webinar Series,” created a platform to present new research in Ottoman and Turkish studies to a wide network of scholars and students worldwide. In 2021, we were delighted to publish the resulting papers of the program in the Journal of Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association.

In other areas such as the refugee crisis, the Istanbul Center organized ongoing programs and hosted events with distinguished experts. These programs elaborated on the current humanitarian crisis and explored the refugee issue from a global perspective with due emphasis on regional developments. Through these initiatives, the Istanbul Center formed a prominent regional network by working closely with the United Nations Refugee Agency, Marmara Municipalities Union, Helsinki Citizens Assembly as well as the Center for Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute and Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia. Public health has been a priority for the Istanbul Center as we reached a broad regional network and general public through various programs and projects implemented in collaboration with the Mailman School of Public Health and Columbia Medical Center as well as our regional partners such as the Istanbul University School of Medicine and other key stakeholders.

Recently, the Istanbul Center worked with distinguished Columbia faculty for the Refugees Act and Communicate for Health (REACH) program in co-designing MHealth technologies for the youth, a mobile application aiming to increase health literacy and health care access among refugees. Looking ahead, we are excited to deepen our work on climate change this academic year as our Center has received three President's Global Innovation Fund projects focusing on the issue from different perspectives such as security challenges, global citizenship and coastal resilience in the Marmara Sea region.

Our programs and thematic areas of focus reflect our efforts to contribute to Columbia's mission of enhancing the university's engagement with global issues from interdisciplinary and transregional perspectives. As part of a global network, the Istanbul Center seeks to identify the needs of our times and constantly adapts itself to create meaningful impact on a global scale in collaboration with Columbia faculty and our regional counterparts.



MERVE T. İSPAANI

'18GSAS

Academic Programs Coordinator

Merve received her Ph.D. degree from Columbia University, Department of History. Her dissertation "Building Sovereignty in the Late Ottoman World: Imperial Subjects, Consular Networks and Documentation of Individual Identities" examines the formation of Ottoman sovereignty in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries at the disciplinary intersection of international law and history.

2021-2022 EVENTS

July 2021

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Politics of Literature
[Voices of Emerging Scholars]

August 2021

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Rethinking Health and the City

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Social Entrepreneurship Workshop
for High School Students

September 2021

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Bodies, Technologies, Spaces
[Voices of Emerging Scholars]

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Numbers & Beyond Numbers: Immigration
and Refugees in Turkey [House of Chats]

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Climate and Health Rapid Response:
Wildfires in the Mediterranean

October 2021

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Decreasing Health Inequities Among Urban Youth:
The Role of mHealth Technologies [REACH]

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Co-Designing mHealth Technologies with
Youth: The REACH4Health App [REACH]

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Turkey Through its Cinema:
Ethos / Bir Başkadır

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Politics of Archaeology II
[Voices of Emerging Scholars]

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Turkey Through its Cinema:
Winter Sleep / Kış Uykusu

November 2021

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Responding to the Needs of Refugees
and Migrants during the Pandemic

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The Digital Media Conundrum:
Can Journalism Save Democracy
in the Age of Disinformation?
[Quality Journalism]

18

Rules of Science
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December 2021

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Turkey Through its Cinema:
Hope / Umut

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Geopolitical Lure of Afghanistan:
Shifting Alliances Under the New
Regime [Columbia Collaboratory]

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Funding Independent & Quality
Journalism [Quality Journalism]

January 2022

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REACH4Health Meets with Youth!
[REACH]

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Orientalism, Moral Imagination,
and Ottoman Jews
[Voices of Emerging Scholars]

February 2022

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Turkey Through its Cinema:
The International / Beynelmilel

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Otherization, Hate Speech and Rights Journalism in Media
[\[Quality Journalism\]](#)

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Addressing the Enduring Trauma in the Animated Documentary, Flee: Refugees and the Emotional Legacy of their Forced Journey [\[Columbia Collaboratory\]](#)

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Lecture on Coastline Resilience

March 2022

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Turkey Through its Cinema:
 O Beautiful Istanbul / Ah Güzel İstanbul

7

Fad or Future: Are NFTs the Next Big Thing? [\[House of Chats\]](#)

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Understanding & Countering Online Harassment of Women Journalists
[\[Quality Journalism\]](#)

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Reading, Commenting, and Interpreting
[\[Voices of Emerging Scholars\]](#)

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Book Launch and Panel Discussion for *Soft-Power Internationalism: Competing for Cultural Influence in the 21st-Century Global Order*

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Women's Rights in Afghanistan: What will the Future Bode for Afghan Women? [\[Columbia Collaboratory\]](#)

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A Civilizing Hellas? Debating the Colonial Dimensions of the Asia Minor Campaign

April 2022

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What Can Tunisian History Teach Us About the Ottoman Empire?

4

Women, Cities, and Climate Change

8

Turkey Through its Cinema:
 Invisible to the Eye / Ah Gözel İstanbul

May 2022

16

Reporting in Conflict Zones and Emergency Situations
[\[Quality Journalism\]](#)

June 2022

3-4

Cultural Encounters: Istanbul and the Refugees from the Russian Empire [1919-1923]

6-8

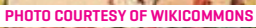
Workshop with Prof. Richard Peña: Hidden from History

20

Book Talk: The End of Two Illusions with Hamid Dabashi and Safwan Masri

21

Sensitive Topics in Migration and Health Research: A Training Workshop for Early Career Researchers



A historical Ottoman map of Istanbul, featuring a grid of streets and various landmarks. The map is written in Ottoman Turkish script. A blue banner with white text is overlaid on the map. A pink banner with white text is also overlaid on the map.

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL THEMES

OTTOMAN GEOGRAPHIES

OTTOMAN GEOGRAPHIES

A Civilizing Hellas? Debating the Colonial Dimensions of the Asia Minor Campaign

MARCH 31, 2022, WEBINAR



"Souvenir of Asia Minor," courtesy of Themis Ragias

In this seminar, our distinguished speakers revisited archival materials to examine Hellenism as an imperial project, responses to Hellenism in Anatolia, and receptions of Greek irredentism by the international left. With an aim to place the Greek military campaign in Asia Minor in a larger colonial context, the seminar focused on the impacts of using the colonialism lens while studying the Asia Minor campaign and the challenges or shortcomings of such an approach.

SPEAKERS: Dimitris Antoniou, Columbia University; Effi Gazi, Professor of Theory of Historiography and Modern History at University of the Peloponnese; Kostis Karpozilos, Director of Contemporary Social History Archives (ASKI); Mark Mazower, Ira D. Wallach Professor of History at Columbia University; Ayşe Ozil, Sabancı University

PARTNER(S): The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Public Humanities Initiative; Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University

What Can Tunisian History Teach Us About The Ottoman Empire?

APRIL 1, 2022, WEBINAR



Taking the Ottoman autonomous province of Tunis as a case-study, this panel asked what Maghrib history can teach us about the history of the Ottoman Empire - a neglected approach as for the better part of the twentieth century, modern historiographies of the Maghrib and the Ottoman Empire have remained impervious to one another. In recent years, historians of the Maghrib have begun to challenge this state of affairs. Bringing the region into the Ottoman fold, they have started to write an Ottoman history of North Africa.

SPEAKERS: Youssef Ben Ismail, Society of Fellows for the Humanities at Columbia University; M'hamed Oualdi, Sciences Po; Julia Clancy-Smith, Regents Professor of History at the University of Arizona

PARTNER(S): Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University, Columbia Global Centers | Tunis, Columbia Global Centers | Paris



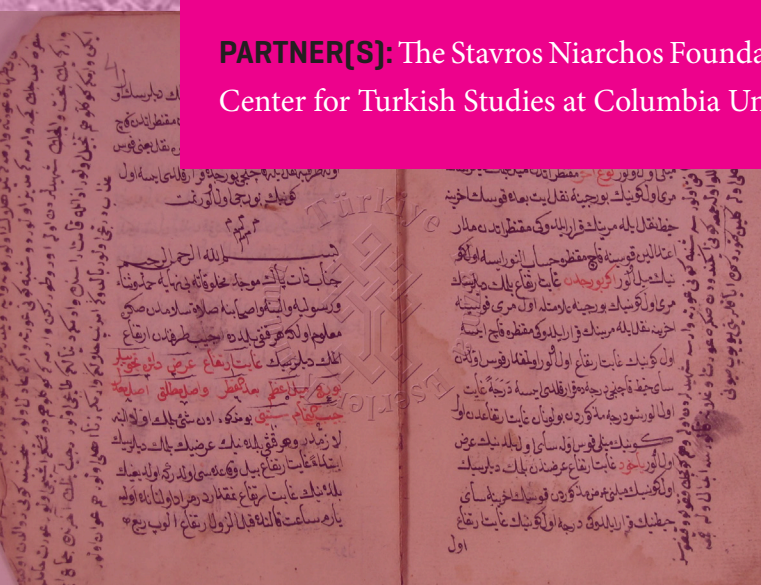
VOICES OF EMERGING SCHOLARS WEBINAR SERIES

JULY 14, 2021 - MARCH 23, 2022, 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.

PROF. ZEYNEP ÇELİK

PARTNER(S): The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Public Humanities Initiative; Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University



1. Politics of Literature

JULY 14, 2021, WEBINAR



PRESENTERS: Erik Blackthorne-O'Barr, Columbia University; Ingeborg Foosestøl, University of Oslo; Hazal Halavut, University of Toronto

DISCUSSANT: Özen Nergis Dolcerocca, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature at Koç University

2. Bodies, Technologies, Spaces

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021, WEBINAR



کوکسک اورینتال جبرلی تأثیریله نشوونما بولماسی
وصیفیلشمسی

PRESENTERS: Ersin Altın, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University; Ece Zerman, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Cansu Değirmencioglu, Technical University of Munich

DISCUSSANT: Alice Friedman, Grace Slack McNeil Professor of American Art at Wellesley College

3. Politics of Archaeology II

OCTOBER 20, 2021, WEBINAR



PRESENTERS: Özge Aslanmirza, Middle East Technical University; Sebastian Willert, Orient-Institut Istanbul and TU Berlin; Ceren Abi, University of California, Los Angeles; Mustafa Kemal, Koç University

DISCUSSANT: Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology at Columbia University

4. Rules of Science

NOVEMBER 18, 2021, WEBINAR



PRESENTERS: Yasemin Akçagüner, Columbia University; Burçak Özlüül, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University; Berkay Uluç, University of Michigan

DISCUSSANT: Nükhet Varlık, Associate Professor of History at Rutgers University-Newark

5. Orientalism, Moral Imagination, and Ottoman Jews

JANUARY 26, 2022, WEBINAR

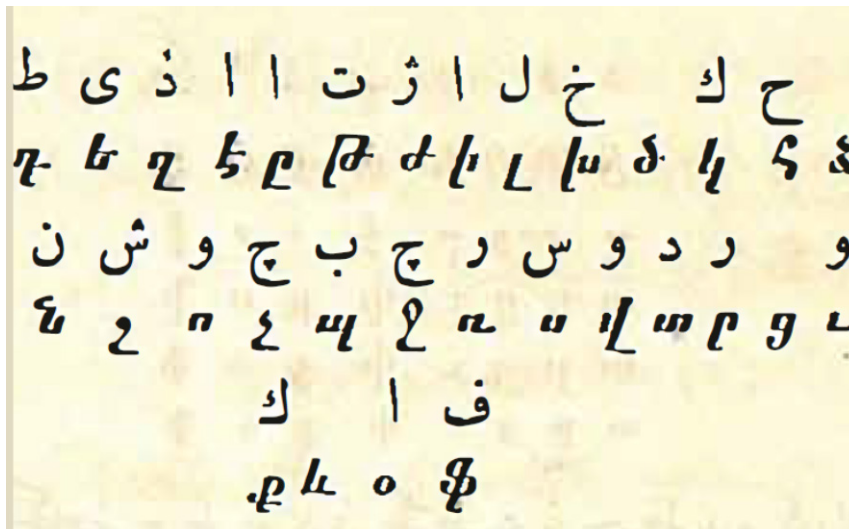


PRESENTERS: Nancy Ko, Columbia University; Rachel E. Smith, University of California, Los Angeles

DISCUSSANT: Julia Phillips Cohen, Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History at Vanderbilt University

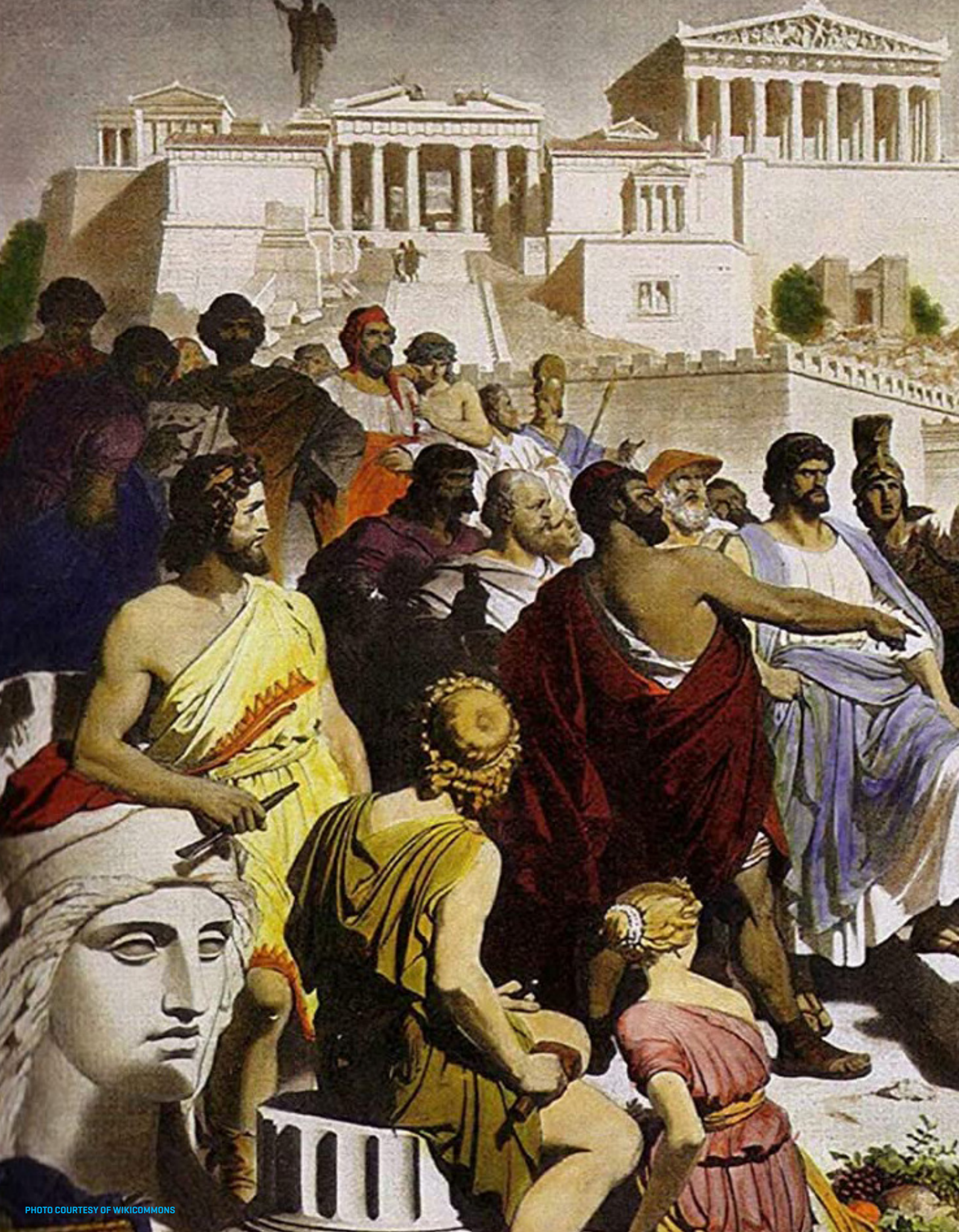
6. Reading, Commenting, and Interpreting

MARCH 23, 2022, WEBINAR



PRESENTERS: Nihan Soyöz, Birmingham University; Aram Ghoogasian, Princeton University; Merisa Şahin, University of Michigan

DISCUSSANT: Mehmet Fatih Uslu, Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at Koç University





COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL THEMES

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

THE ISTANBUL CENTER IN TIMES OF UNEASE AND DEMOCRATIC DEMANDS

BY ATA TÜRKOĞLU

There is no doubt that our contemporary world is characterized by a certain unease and in some cases, even an existential dread. Anti-establishment sentiments and right-wing populisms are still on the rise, whereas confidence in politicians, parties, parliaments, and governments is at a dramatic low. Failing to fulfill its promises, globalization proved not to be a cure-all solution to the inequality within and between nations. Militarism and its constant companion jingoism are ever powerful. Gender inequality and women's rights issues are yet to be overcome. Moreover, the climate crisis, while amplifying historical injustices right here and now, might soon render our concerns about the perils lurking in the current economic, cultural, and political situation moot. Turkey, a key geopolitical actor with its own set of historical, institutional, and political traditions and economic dynamics, is no different from the rest of the world in these aspects.

The solution to the current dire straits we are in is a more deliberative and all-inclusive political atmosphere where common existence is thought and shaped collectively. Asking to participate in the judgments regarding public good, heterogeneously constituted groups of citizens and organizations come together

to express that gender issues, environmental inaction and precarity are corollaries to governance. They insist on the fact that as a form of governance democracy institutionalizes practices of free, open-ended, reflective reasoning about common affairs. Being the substance and legitimacy of democratic regimes, these voices bring forth ideals like political equality, freedom, peace, and justice against contemporary challenges.

It is very timely and critical in a period of crises to undergird civil society in the collective struggle to enhance capacities of good governance – the sine qua non of which is a democratic regime enhancing plurality, communication, and interaction. To this end, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul aims to ensure an international platform strengthening democratic consciousness and practices. With a particular focus on local and regional issues, we provide significant insights for the universal challenges of our time. This year's programs included a diverse series of top-notch lectures and discussions on topics ranging from freedom of speech, human rights, and democratic processes to peace and security, refugee crises and gender struggles. In addition to Columbia schools and centers, we partnered with international institutions

such as the International Press Institute, and the United Nations Development Program to fulfill our aspirations to build a bigger network of progressive voices. With the former, we focused on the role of the media in “saving” democracies, and making different perspectives more visible. And with the latter, we organized a Kapuscinski Development Lecture, featuring Emeritus Professor Deniz Kandiyoti, who emphasized the importance of gender equality movements lining up with other democratic struggles for a stronger global resonance.

We will keep striving for global action over the coming months and years, taking more responsibility to initiate further alliances. Our program for the next academic year will present additional programs to overcome universal and topical challenges to continue addressing this contemporary unease.



PHOTOGRAPHER UNKNOWN ON UNSPLASH



ATA TÜRKOĞLU

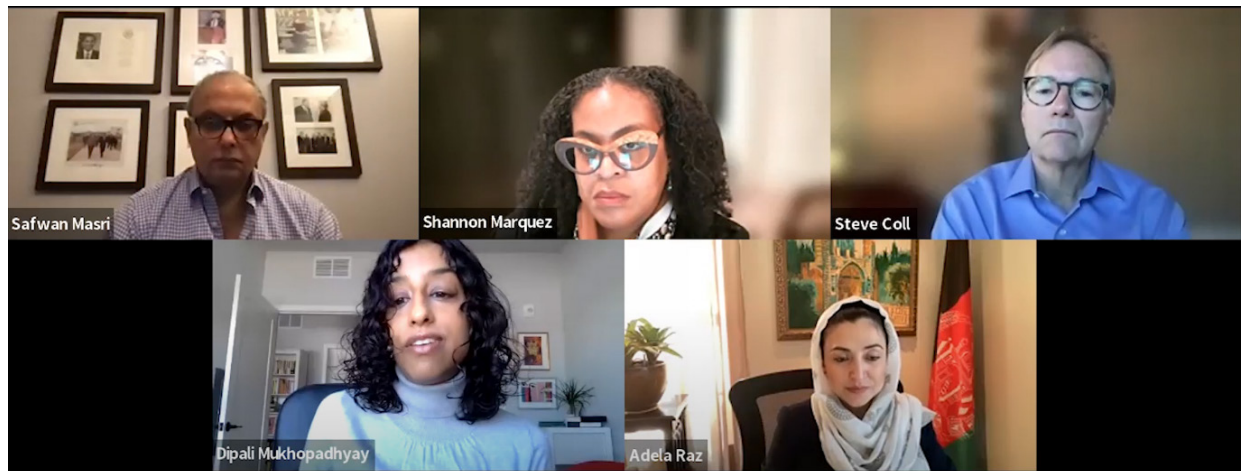
Program Officer

Ata received his B.A. from Boğaziçi University in political science and international relations and M.A from Central European University on political science. Among his interests are political philosophy, political economy, and politics of climate change, which is also the topic of his M.A. thesis titled “Climate Justice: Principles of Burden-Sharing.” Ata brings in work experience from the journalism sector.

DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

Geopolitical Lure of Afghanistan: Shifting Alliances Under the New Regime [Columbia Collaboratory 1]

DECEMBER 13, 2021, WEBINAR

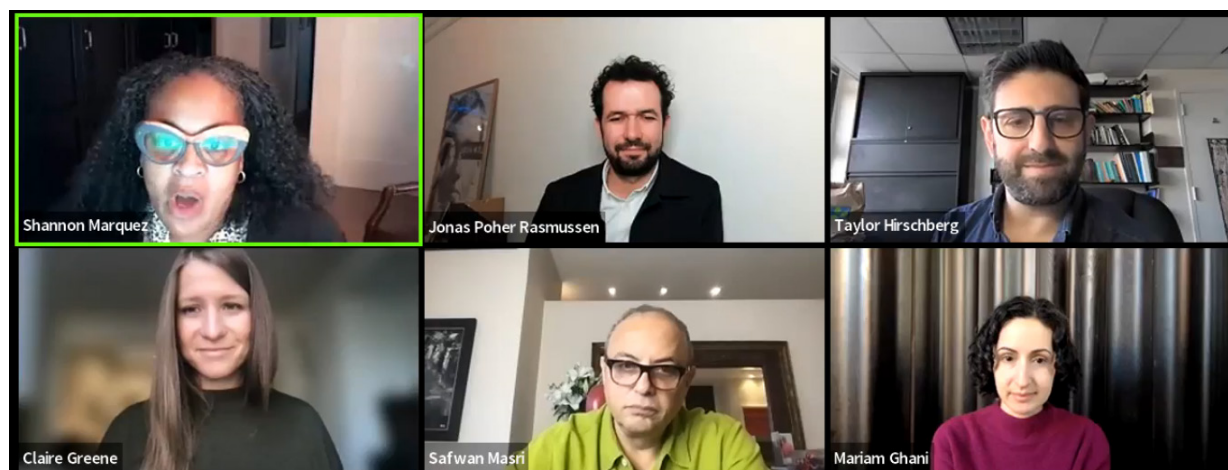


This webinar explored the developing situation in Afghanistan after the Taliban's reclaiming of power in 2021 - twenty years after being ousted by US-led military intervention - from a historical and political perspective. The panelists shared their insights on the ramifications of the Taliban rule in Afghanistan, exploring it within the context of geopolitics, security and diplomacy. The webinar investigated the real issues that are driving the conflict in Afghanistan, the implications of the developing situation for neighboring and regional actors, and what a durable and responsible foreign policy towards Afghanistan would look like.

SPEAKERS: H.E Adela Raz, Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United States of America; Robert D. Crews, Professor of History at Stanford University; Steve Coll, Professor of Journalism at Columbia University; Dipali Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor at University of Minnesota; Shannon Marquez, Dean of Undergraduate Global Engagement at Columbia University; Safwan Masri, Executive Vice President of Columbia Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University

Addressing the Enduring Trauma in the Animated Documentary, *Flee*: Refugees and the Emotional Legacy of their Forced Journey[Columbia Collaboratory 2]

FEBRUARY 9, 2022, WEBINAR



The second webinar of the 3-part Afghanistan Collaboratory featured an interview and discussion with the director of the award winning animated documentary *Flee* with other forced migration experts.

Born from the various complexities in Afghanistan are stories of triumph and torture that arise at the edges of art in all spaces including those of film and animation. One such story is found in a film called *Flee*, an animated documentary by Jonas Poher Rasmussen, that tells the true story of a successful Afghan academic living in Denmark who is confronted with a secret from his past.

SPEAKERS: Madeline Garlick, UNHCR; M. Claire Greene, Assistant Professor of Population and Family Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; Jonas Poher Rasmussen, Film Director; Mariam Ghani, daughter of Afghanistan's now exiled President Ashraf Ghani; Safwan Masri, Columbia University

Women's Rights in Afghanistan: What will the Future Bode for Afghan Women? (Columbia Collaboratory 3)

MARCH 31, 2022, WEBINAR



PASHTANA DURRANI

Comprising the third part of the Collaboratory, this webinar explored the status of women's rights in Afghanistan with a particular emphasis on the restrictions imposed by the Taliban from 1996 to 2001, discussed what has changed during the two decades of US military intervention and whether women's decades-long struggle for rights is at a loss as Taliban regained the control of the country.

SPEAKERS: Yasmine Ergas, Senior Lecturer at School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University; **Pashtana Durrani**, Founder and Executive Director at LEARN; **Muska Dastageer**, American University of Afghanistan in Kabul; **Shannon Marquez**, Columbia University; **Safwan Masri**, Columbia University

How Did Gender Move to the Center of Democratic Struggles?

FEBRUARY 15, 2022, WEBINAR



How did gender move to the center of democratic struggles? Deniz Kandiyoti

Academic, Gender and development studies

Tuesday, 15 February | 16:00 CET

Hosted by Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul



The talk focused on analyzing how the politics of gender came to occupy a central place in debates over citizenship, national belonging, and the future of democratic governance. These debates diverge widely from challenges and to the most basic rights to freedom of movement and education for women in countries like Afghanistan to demanding full recognition of LGBTIQI rights in the European Union. Professor Kandiyoti argued that a combination of both external onslaughts in the form of different types of backlash and the contradictions and dysfunctions internal to platforms claiming to have a feminist agenda

have led us to this perilous moment. The challenge before us is to find the imagination and wisdom to forge a new politics of solidarity that resonates across the globe.

SPEAKERS: Deniz Kandiyoti, Emeritus Professor of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies at University of London; Merve Ispahani, Academic Programs Coordinator at Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

PARTNER(S): European Commission, UNDP

AN EXCERPT FROM DENİZ KANDİYOTİ'S INTERVIEW WITH COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

Anti-gender discourses are rising all around the world. What do you think about the current challenges for women's rights movements and their potential future?

The anti-gender movement is not of very recent origin. Already in the 1990s, there was a concerted effort to discredit the idea of gender as a social construction and to establish that gender relations are not a matter of civic debate or of human rights, but of doctrinal or cultural imperatives.

... [W]ith the global rise of populisms came the contention that gender, with its baggage of fluidity and sexual liberties, was the preoccupation of a privileged elite that is estranged from the grassroots of their own societies, which are assumed to be conservative and/ or religious. Gender issues started being used as a widespread instrument of demagoguery and populist propaganda. Anti-gender ideologies became part and parcel of xenophobic nationalisms, claiming that gender equality platforms were anti-national and an alleged product of the liberal West.

Yet during the Arab uprisings and global youth protests across the world, we saw a new generation coming at these issues from a different angle. Many realized that the type of top-down patriarchy that was imposed on them as an adjunct to the autocracies they opposed was actually an issue of governance and not of culture. We have seen many manifestations of anti-authoritarian youth protests across the world that offer potentially new political texts on gender.

How should we understand the political struggle for defending women's rights?

We must start by acknowledging the totally instrumental approach that governments worldwide have adopted vis a vis women's rights and how gender equality platforms have been used instrumentally for domestic and geopolitical purposes. This scenario is played out in different ways in different countries.

A good example may be the initial enthusiastic acceptance of the Istanbul Convention by the Turkish government only to be followed by its rejection five years later. When you look at anti-gender movements across the world, you see that the political struggles vary, the actors alter, the rationales and timing change, but essentially, there is a dynamic which is entirely political although it is being masked with reference to cultural values. These contradictions go back such a long time that you can start tracing them from the 1970s onwards. Backlash was inevitable, so was the resistance, which I talk more about in my lecture.

A black and white portrait of Ryszard Kapuscinski, a middle-aged man with a receding hairline, smiling slightly. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. The background is dark and out of focus.

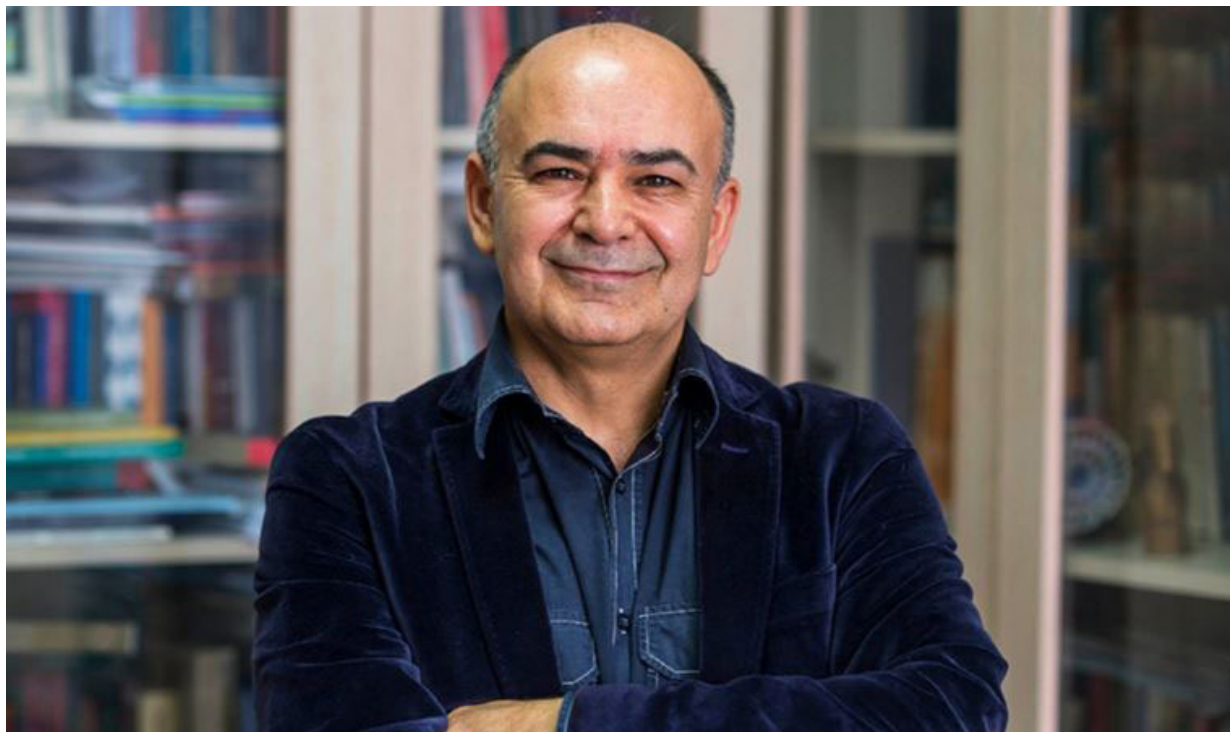
ABOUT KAPUSCINSKI DEVELOPMENT LECTURES

Named for the Polish journalist and writer Ryszard Kapuscinski, The Kapuscinski Development Lecture series focuses on development issues such as climate change, economics, democracy, and gender equality. The series is organized jointly by the European Commission, the United Nations Development Programme and a network of partners.

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has organized two other lectures prior to this year. In 2019, Prof. Daron Acemoğlu gave a talk on his book *The Narrow Corridor: State, Societies, and the Fate of Liberty*, and emphasized the delicate and precarious balance between state and society, a key factor for democracies to thrive. In 2020, Nobel Prize-winning economist Prof. Joseph E. Stiglitz held a lecture titled “Economic Recovery in the Post-pandemic World,” discussing the importance of resilient supply chains and global cooperation.

House of Chats: Numbers & Beyond Numbers: Immigration and Refugees in Turkey

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021, WEBINAR



PROFESSOR M. MURAT ERDOĞAN

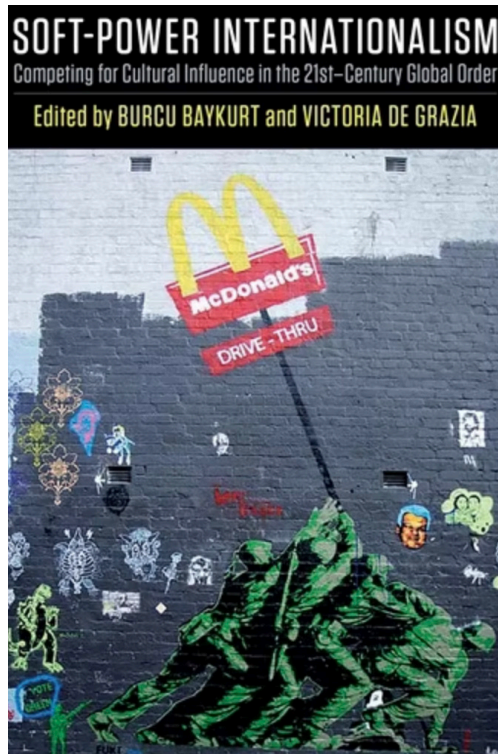
The webinar by Professor M. Murat Erdoğan focused on the statistical aspects of immigration and refugees in Turkey to go beyond daily conversations, while providing an international perspective for more informative comparisons. Professor Erdoğan discussed how Turkey became the country hosting the highest number of refugees, what kind of impacts this position has in the country and what to expect from the future.

SPEAKERS: M. Murat Erdoğan, Professor and Head of Political Science and International Relations Department at Turkish-German University

PARTNER(S): Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey

Book Launch and Panel Discussion for Soft-Power Internationalism: *Competing for Cultural Influence in the 21st-Century Global Order*

MARCH 25, 2022, WEBINAR



Edited by Victoria de Grazia and Burcu Baykurt, *Soft-Power Internationalism: Competing for Cultural Influence in the 21st Century Global Order* is a global comparative history of how soft power came to define the interregnum between the celebration of global capitalism in the 1990s and the recent resurgence of nationalism and authoritarianism. The book launch and panel discussion touched upon various subjects of the book, which brought together case studies from the European Union, China, Brazil, Turkey, and the United States, examining the genealogy of soft power in the Euro-Atlantic and its evolution in the hands of other states seeking to counter U.S. hegemony by non-militaristic means.

SPEAKERS: Victoria de Grazia, Moore Collegiate Professor of History at Columbia University; Burcu Baykurt, Assistant professor of Media Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst; Jack L. Snyder, Robert and Renée Belfer Professor of International Relations in Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University; Dilek Barlas, Professor at Koç University; Fernando Santomauro, United Cities and Local Governments; Zhongying Pang, Professor and President of the Institute of Marine Development of the Ocean University of China

PARTNER[S]: Columbia Global Centers | Rio and Columbia Global Centers | Beijing



QUALITY JOURNALISM: A WEBINAR SERIES WITH THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS INSTITUTE

NOVEMBER 11, 2021 - MAY 16, 2022, WEBINAR SERIES

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, in collaboration with the International Press Institute, a global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists, organized five webinars to address the developments in journalism amid political, social, and technological developments in the world this academic year. The speakers —acclaimed journalists, academics, and coming from various related backgrounds— discussed contemporary journalism, digitalization, discrimination in the field, and more.

PARTNER(S): International Press Institute

1. The Digital Media Conundrum: Can Journalism Save Democracy in the Age of Disinformation?

NOVEMBER 11, 2021, WEBINAR



The first webinar of the series put forward the conundrum: Can journalism save democracy in the age of disinformation? On the eve of a disinformation bill to be introduced in Turkish Parliament, this online panel focused on fake news, digital echo chambers, and the impact of disinformation laws on fundamental rights and freedoms. Distinguished panelists shared their expertise on these issues and drew comparisons between how disinformation laws are used under democratic and authoritarian regimes around the world. The panelists highlighted that accessibility to more information also means more disinformation and gave statistical information about global fact-checking initiatives.

SPEAKERS: Todd Gitlin, Professor of Journalism at Columbia University; Tirşe Erbaysal Filibeli, Associate Professor at Bahçeşehir University; Emre Kizilkaya, Vice Chair of the International Press Institute



2. Funding Independent & Quality Journalism

DECEMBER 16, 2021, WEBINAR



This webinar shed light on international funding and its impact on independent journalism. Independent journalists not only have a difficult time receiving funding, but they also have to compete against the opposition of repressive political environments. The panel's primary focus was on Turkey and the Philippines. The panelists shared their insights and compared how independent journalism could be enhanced with international funding for operations, especially within the context of authoritarian regimes.

SPEAKERS: Sheila S. Coronel, Toni Stabile Professor of Professional Practice in Investigative Journalism at Columbia University; Barbara Trionfi, Executive Director at the International Press Institute; Kaya Heyse, Medyascope; Onur Sazak, Turkey-based Project Coordinator at the International Press Institute



3. Otherization, Hate Speech and Rights Journalism in Media

FEBRUARY 8, 2022, WEBINAR



Coinciding with the publication of the Kaos Gay and Lesbian Cultural Research and Solidarity Association's hate speech survey report, the webinar started with a detailed explanation of concepts like hate speech and what causes it. The discussants then addressed the relationship between the government and media and emphasized the importance of neutral voices. Conversations also touched upon the responsibilities of media groups and mainstream outlets when it comes to hate speech and representation of minorities in such outlets.

* The event was held in Turkish.

SPEAKERS: Yetvart Danzikyan, Agos; Yıldız Tar, Kaos GL; Renan Akyavaş, Turkey Programme Coordinator at the International Press Institute



4. Understanding & Countering Online Harassment of Women Journalists

MARCH 9, 2022, WEBINAR



Marking the International Women's Day, this panel shed light on the online harassment of women journalists and mechanisms to protect the physical and emotional safety of the targeted journalists. The panelists shared their experiences and research on online harassment, arguing that coping with harassment is an emotional, professional and a mental challenge for women journalists. Organizations working on freedom of press recognize the severity of this threat on the safety of journalists and implement programs to help newsrooms protect their staff. The webinar ended with the speakers sharing their experiences of reporting, protecting, and coping methods with online harassment.

SPEAKERS: Anya Schiffrin, Director of the Technology, Media, and Communications at Columbia University; Arzu Geybullayeva, Azerbaijan Internet Watch; Javier Luque Martínez, Digital Media Coordinator at the International Press Institute; Işın Eliçin, Medyascope



5. Reporting in Conflict Zones and Emergency Situations

MAY 16, 2022, WEBINAR



Fifth webinar of the series touched upon the difficulties of correspondence in conflict zones through first-hand experience of distinguished journalists. The conversations included personal anecdotes and stories from the field. The panelists agreed that a journalist must look for different truths and position themselves at the forefront of events so that they may convey those different truths to the public accordingly. They elaborated on their recent experiences with conflict zones including Ukraine, Syria, and Afghanistan, how they prepared before their visits and the importance of having or making connections. They also gave advice to young journalists.

* The event was held in Turkish.

SPEAKERS: Nimet Kırac, New York Times and Gazete Oksijen; Bülent Kılıç, Agence France-Presse; Afşin Yurdakul, Habertürk

ÇATIŞMA ALANLARINDA
VE ACİL DURUMLARDA
MUHABİRLİK

16 MAYIS 2022

18:00 İSTANBUL
17:00 VIYANA
11:00 NEW YORK

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STOP
ISLAMOPHOBIA

COUNTERING ISLAMOPHOBIA

Fostering a Global Dialogue for a Peaceful Co-Existence

The project “Countering Islamophobia: Fostering a Global Dialogue for a Peaceful Co-Existence” explores Islamophobia as a global issue shaped by political and cultural relations between Europe, the U.S., and Muslim-majority countries. The project aims to promote a broader understanding of Islamophobia as it comes in varying forms in combination with racism, xenophobia, anti-immigrant sentiments, and religious intolerance. Led by Hamid Dabashi, the Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature, the program aims to bring together various stakeholders to open dialogue for mutual understanding and respect among different communities, groups, and governments. The program seeks to explore the issue from a multi-disciplinary perspective at the intersection of history, international law, education, human rights, and peacebuilding.





COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL THEMES

ARTS, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

TRANSFORMATIONS OF AN IMAGINED STUDIO AND A COUNTRY OF MANY LAYERS

BY N. CAN KANTARCI

Pick any point in central Istanbul, and at the lower entrance of an old building, you can stumble upon an artist's studio filled with diverse fragments of half-formed bits and pieces of contemporary art barely visible through a small stone window. Inside sits a silent and dedicated artist perfecting her chosen medium amidst the never-ending hustle and bustle of this millennia-old megacity.

A small artist's studio in Istanbul could be nothing more than a small artist's studio.

But it could also be an Anatolian shoemaker's workshop from the Early Republican period; a former Ottoman tavern run by a Greek from Tenedos Island in the Aegean; or the antechamber of a Genoese nobleman before it was destroyed by one of the earthquakes that ravage the Marmara Sea every two hundred years. Better yet, it could be the nave of an Orthodox church when the city was still Constantinople, the heart of the Byzantine Empire.

Equally plausibly, it could still be an artist's studio – even from thousands of years ago – when the city occupied a much smaller area – a fragment of today's Historic Peninsula – called Byzantion. Standing above the ancient

sill of the studio's window, we can sense the memory of that artist, diligently working on an early rendition of a fresco or mosaic, dreaming perhaps of her hometown in Antioch, in today's southern Turkey.

A city of multiple layers, Istanbul, like Turkey, inevitably reflects this multiplicity in its arts and culture. Its unique geopolitical position provides a fertile bed for the cross-pollination of so many civilizations. Stirred in an ever-melting pot, its historic, ethnic, linguistic, and cultural heritage are equally Middle Eastern, European, and Central Asian.

Over the 2021-2022 academic year, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul reflected this rich heritage. Our film series, in association with the Sakıp Sabancı Center on campus, "Turkey through its Cinema," concentrated on critically acclaimed Turkish films and how their stories mirrored the multi-layered Turkish society over time. Engaging in critical conversations on these seminal films allowed us to witness how a complex, young country dealt with several challenges since its foundation. In a similar vein, Professor Richard Peña's lectures on little-known American female directors presented a critical perspective on the way Turkish female filmmakers had been neglected throughout the history of Turkish cinema.

The symposium on the cultural encounters of refugees who emigrated to Istanbul during the Russian Civil War (1919-1923) provided a critical framework for analyzing the influx of refugees coming to Istanbul today. Special focus was given to Iraida Barry, a remarkable sculptor whose work produced while in exile here – unsurprisingly, at her studio located in a historic building on Istiklal Avenue – lives on to this day.

In terms of arts, culture, and analyzing contemporary society, programming for the 2021-2022 academic year was versatile and productive. From filmmaking to researching various cultural encounters, we tried to provide events and research that brought fresh perspectives to the various legacies of Istanbul and Turkey. Not once did we forget that an artist's studio is never just an artist's studio.



IRAIDA BARRY, PHOTO COURTESY OF CENGİZ KAHRAMAN



N. CAN KANTARCI

Communications Manager

Can received his MA from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Fulbright scholarship, having submitted a thesis titled "Sacrifice for Nostalgia: American Small Town and the Grotesque." He was the senior editor of the Istanbul Museum of Modern Art from 2013 through 2022. Can is also a literary translator and writer, having translated works by Mary Shelley, Philip Roth, Jack Kerouac, Hubert Selby Jr., and George Orwell among others.

ARTS, CULTURE AND CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY

TURKEY THROUGH ITS CINEMA

OCTOBER 8, 2021 - APRIL 8, 2022

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, offered a series of conversations on Turkish Cinema during the academic year 2021-2022. Bringing eminent film critics, writers, scholars, and filmmakers together, the conversations focused on critically acclaimed films, highlighting their global significance and their power to portray Turkey's realities. The films discussed in the events reflect the socio-cultural and political predicaments of Turkey since the 1960s and represent its rich cinematographic tradition. One of the common themes across panels was the role of cinema as a social and political tool, and its ability to reflect the socio-cultural landscapes, not only to international audiences, but also to the locals. Each event aimed to reveal more about the multifaceted, yet difficult aspects of Turkey's realities over the years.

ORGANIZER(S): Zeynep Çelik, Richard Peña, and A. Tunç Şen

PARTNER(S): Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University



1. Ethos (Bir Başkadır)

OCTOBER 8, 2021, WEBINAR

The first panel of the series was on the Netflix Original Series *Ethos (Bir Başkadır)*, directed by Berkun Oya in 2020. The discussion, led by the acclaimed author Elif Batuman, focused on the separate realities of different ethnic communities in Turkey and highlighted the effort of nation-building across these communities. The discussants suggested that *Ethos* provides a reflection of interactions of different social groups by putting communities that seem opposite in conversation with each other, instead of zooming in only on the lives of the working class or only on the elite like

most Turkish TV shows. This way, the series gives the viewers an opportunity to dismantle their biases and take a glimpse outside of their own “aquariums.” Elif Batuman talked about these aquariums people are born into and continue living in, highlighting the power of cinematography in showing us outside of our own aquariums.

SPEAKERS: Elif Batuman, Author; Berkun Oya, Director; Orhan Pamuk, Author

2. Winter Sleep (Kış Uykusu)

OCTOBER 29, 2021, WEBINAR

In the second event of the series, discussants talked about Nuri Bilge Ceylan's Palme d'Or winning *Winter Sleep (Kış Uykusu)*. The discussion started with the setting of the film - both the time and location it takes place in - which led the panelists to a comparison of the way various new wave directors employ setting with that of Ceylan. Nuri Bilge Ceylan's interactions with other directors, his background in theater and art, and how he fits into contemporary Turkey were amongst

the other conversation topics. The discussants also reflected on a few unique scenes from the movie, and took them as departure points to delve deeper into the film's audio-visual grammar.

SPEAKERS: Stuart Klawans, Film Critic; Orhan Pamuk, Author; Richard Peña, Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University

3. Hope [Umut]

DECEMBER 3, 2021, WEBINAR

Yılmaz Güney's *Hope (Umut)* was the movie the third panel focused on. The discussion began with a wider exploration of the time the film depicts, and how the wave of realism influenced Turkish cinema and its ability to portray real life experiences back in the time of its shooting. The discussion then extended to depict different social aspects of life, such as religion, family, culture, and how they interconnect. The discussants also spent some time talking about the actor/director Yılmaz Güney, his life and

how he compares to other Turkish directors of his time. The panel ended with the film's impact and success, as well as how differently it was received by the left and the right on the political spectrum.

SPEAKERS: Melis Behlil, Associate Professor at Kadir Has University; Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature at Columbia University; Bilge Ebiri, Movie Critic and Filmmaker

4. The International [Beynelmilel]

FEBRUARY 4, 2022 , WEBINAR

The discussion on *The International (Beynelmilel)*, directed by Sırrı Süreyya Önder, started off with the director talking about the autobiographical elements in the film, and how his own experience informed the script. The discussion then transitioned to an overall assessment and recollection of the setting of the film, and how culture affects cinematography. Sırrı Süreyya Önder and Ece Temelkuran both shared their

perspectives on why Turkish cinematography should reveal the country's social and political issues, and how artists should bear responsibility to portray national realities.

SPEAKERS: Bilge Ebiri, Movie Critic and Filmmaker; Ece Temelkuran, Political Thinker and Author; Sırrı Süreyya Önder, Director and Author

5. O Beautiful Istanbul (Ah Güzel İstanbul)

MARCH 4, 2022, WEBINAR

The fifth panel in Turkey Through its Cinema focused on Atıf Yılmaz's 1966 movie *O Beautiful Istanbul (Ah Güzel İstanbul)*. Being the oldest production discussed in the series, the panel highlighted gender dynamics, class struggles, and modernization processes across Turkey at the time of its shooting. The panelists also emphasized the documentary value of the

film. Ayla Algan, who is the lead actress in the film, talked about the shooting process, the film set and how *O Beautiful Istanbul* was received domestically and internationally.

SPEAKERS: Ayla Algan, Actress and Singer; Murat Belge, Academic and Literary Critic

6. Invisible to the Eye (Ah Gözel İstanbul)

APRIL 8, 2022, WEBINAR

The sixth and final conversation in the series focused on *Invisible to the Eye (Ah Gözel İstanbul)*, directed by Zeynep Dadak in 2020. The discussion focused on the historical value of what the film represents, and how it conveys Turkish social issues to its audiences. Zeynep Dadak gave insights on how the movie was shot and on her plans regarding the deleted footage. The discussion also touched upon the reception of the movie by the

audiences, and how the pandemic and the film's online release brought about a different pathway for the film's audience reach.

SPEAKERS: Cemal Kafadar, Historian and Cultural Critic; Fatih Özgüven, Writer and Film Critic; Zeynep Dadak, Director

Workshop with Prof. Richard Peña: Hidden from History

JUNE 6-8, 2022, IN-PERSON



The legendary Prof. Richard Peña from the Columbia Film School gave lectures on three women directors who were hidden from history despite their impressive filmmaking. Organized in close cooperation with Assoc. Prof. Melis Behlil, a Columbia University graduate and the head of Kadir Has University's Radio, Television & Cinema Department, Prof. Peña's lectures focused on Lois Webber, an influential director in the silent movie era; Ida Lupino, a popular

actress who later started directing in the late 1940s; and Barbara Loden, another actress who became a director and a key figure in the New American Cinema in the 1970s.

SPEAKERS: Richard Peña, Columbia University

PARTNER(S): Kadir Has University, Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey

Cultural Encounters: Istanbul and the Refugees from the Russian Empire (1919-1923)

JUNE 3-4, 2022, IN-PERSON



The Harriman Institute, in collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and the Pera Museum, organized a symposium and memory walk to explore the cultural life of the refugees who fled from the former Russian Empire during the Civil War and emigrated to Istanbul between 1919 and 1923. Held as part of a long-term project on June 3, the symposium was led by Valentina Izmirlieva, Professor of Russian and Balkan cultures at Columbia University and Director of the Harriman Institute, and Holger Klein, the Lisa and Bernard Selz Professor of Medieval Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University. The symposium focused on various aspects and the long-lasting effects of the refugees' brief stay, which significantly affected the cultures, ideas, social lives and identities of both the guests and their hosts.

Moreover, on June 4, the symposium was then supplemented by a memory walk, concentrating on and around Istanbul's Pera district, the area mostly settled by the refugees in the European part of the Ottoman capital. The memory walk took the participants of the symposium,

accompanied by an expert guide, from the former site of the Novotny Hotel to Casa D'Italia, to the St. Pantaleon Russian Church, to the Russian Consulate, and ended at the historic Russian restaurant Ayaspaşa. The walk, throughout its various stops, was enriched by the lecturers' various insights on the lives of the Russian emigrants in many corners of Istanbul.

PARTICIPANTS: Valentina Izmirlieva, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Columbia University; Holger A. Klein, Professor of Art History and Archeology at Columbia University; Vladimir Alexandrov, B. E. Bensinger Professor Emeritus of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Yale University; Edward Kasinec, Visiting Fellow at Stanford University; Sergey A. Ivanov, Professor at Moscow Higher School of Economics; Ayşenur Güler; Ekaterina Aygün, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität; Nadia Podzemskaja, ITEM and CNRS-ENS; Cengiz Kahraman, Istanbul Photography Museum

PARTNER(S): The Harriman Institute, Pera Museum

Book Talk: The End of Two Illusions with Hamid Dabashi and Safwan Masri

JUNE 20, 2022, WEBINAR

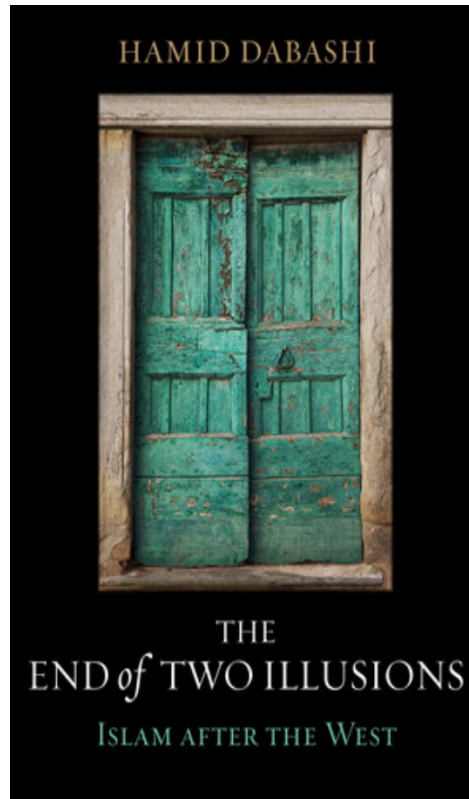


Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul presented a book talk on Hamid Dabashi's recently published work, *The End of Two Illusions: Islam After the West*, with Safwan M. Masri. Dismantling the myths that divide Islam and the West, Dabashi's book offers the reader new ways to reread Islamic and world histories. Dabashi shows how the civilizational divides imagined between these two cosmic binaries have defined their entanglement and explores the motivations that produced this global fiction through detailed historical and contemporary analysis.

In the book talk, Hamid Dabashi and Safwan Masri conversed about the so-called binary opposition between Islam and the West and how to dismantle it. This false binary's creation, according to Professor Dabashi, connects to the bourgeois phenomenon of uniting the West, consecutively creating a united self-image for European countries. Since one of the huge commonalities across European nation-states was Christianity, Islam - being located at the East geographically and carrying ideological differences - became the perfect foil in the creation of unity for the West. These aspects, for Professor Dabashi, make the construction of this binary not only philosophical but also political.

SPEAKERS: Hamid Dabashi, Columbia University; Safwan Masri, Columbia University

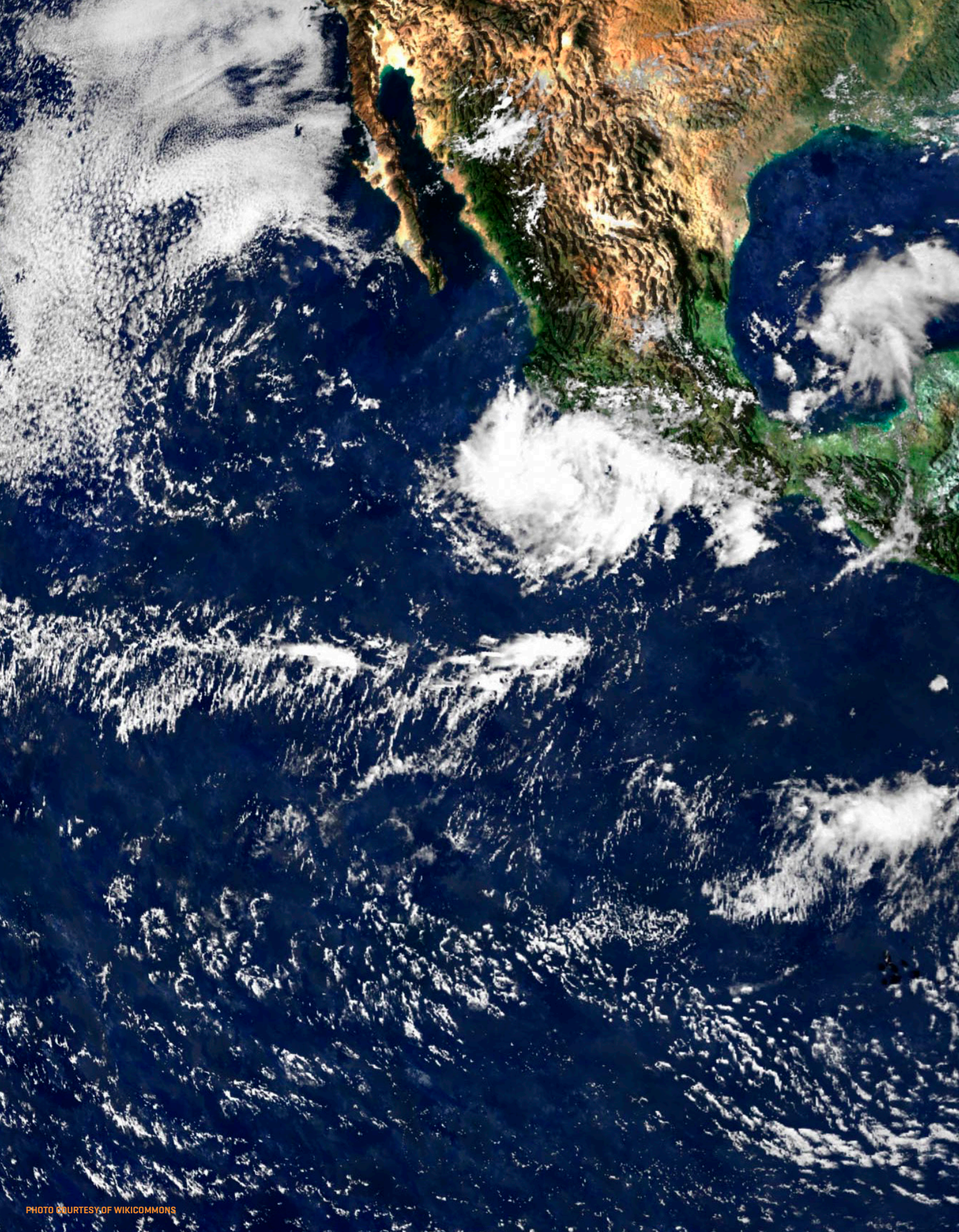
PARTNER(S): Columbia Global Centers



Professor Dabashi talks about the motivation behind writing his book. In addition to his scholarly interest, his experience as a Muslim submerged in a Western society allowed him to view the so-called binary vividly. He mentions the Islamophobia he observed around himself following the 9/11 events, how it shaped the trauma, and how the patterns of this binary emerged. Professor Dabashi is not alone in his trauma.

CENKER CAMCI, COLUMBIA COLLEGE '25
VIRTUAL INTERN AT COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL IN 2022







COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL THEMES

**PUBLIC HEALTH,
CLIMATE, GEOPOLITICS
AND ENERGY**

EDUCATION, CHANGE, AND ADVOCACY

BY YANIS BEN AMOR

As the world is making strides to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, climate change, pandemics, poverty, inequalities, stigma, discrimination, forced migration, and human rights violations constantly threaten progress in sustainability. The COVID-19 pandemic, for example, has undermined the advances made in sustainable development, sometimes reversing years of progress. The pandemic has posed a significant challenge to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda as it caused deep economic regression, significant loss of productivity, worsening inequalities, planetary pressures, and in some cases security challenges. In addition, the war in Ukraine comes at a time when low and middle-income countries are still struggling to recover from the destabilizing effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic. It is threatening to derail development progress in these countries, pushing the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals further out of reach.

The Istanbul Center has focused on these pressing issues during the last academic year with its multifaceted programs. A regional initiative of Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Development since 2019, the REACH project continues bridging the gap in health literacy and access to healthcare among

refugees and disadvantaged local youth in countries most affected by forced migration via digital health technologies with five new events this past year. The other programs of the Istanbul Center focused on diverse subjects, such as rethinking health and the city, wildfires in the Mediterranean, and coastline resilience.

We are also excited about a project for next year, which will kick off in late 2022. Our project entitled "Youth-led Advocacy Initiative for Global Citizenship, Responsibility, and Cooperation", which is developed by the Center for Sustainable Development at the Climate School and funded by Columbia University's "President's Global Innovation Fund," aims to use the expertise of various Columbia schools to address the lack of effective programs or curricula focusing on sustainable development education and global citizenship for all.

The education sector has been identified as one of the key players in globalization processes and implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda. The role of education, including higher education, involves not only raising awareness among young people and educators about SDGs and global environmental changes but also mobilizing them for partnerships toward the fulfilment of these goals. At Columbia

University, the Climate School is moving to become a leader in this field. Higher education institutions in most countries lack effective Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development education for all. Specific courses in the higher education system are almost non-existent and there are no online resources, freely available in local languages. The framework, which will fully benefit from the networks and connections from the local Columbia Global Centers in Istanbul and Tunis, will build mobilized youth's capacities to advocate for a curriculum update in their universities to have a multidisciplinary and required course on global citizenship.

Previous and past programming with the Istanbul Center has enlarged the Columbia network remarkably in the region, giving better access to much-required information as well as solutions. We will keep working together, with the Istanbul Center, with the local and regional partners, and with scholars from all around the world to keep addressing these timely and global issues.



PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN LUE ON UNSPLASH



PROF. YANIS BEN AMOR

Prof. Yanis Ben Amor is the Executive Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at the Earth Institute at Columbia University. He is an Assistant Professor of Global Health and Microbiological Sciences and a member of the Secretariat of the Lancet COVID-19 Commission.

PUBLIC HEALTH, CLIMATE, GEOPOLITICS AND ENERGY

THE REFUGEES ACT AND COMMUNICATE FOR HEALTH [REACH] PROJECT

OCTOBER 2, 2021- JUNE 21, 2022



REACH is a regional initiative of Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Development. Via digital health technologies, REACH aims to bridge the gap in health literacy and access to healthcare among refugees and disadvantaged local youth in countries most affected by forced migration. The REACH project benefits from a community-based participatory research approach to explore and promote the use of these digital technologies. The project in Turkey has started with a stakeholders workshop in Istanbul in September 2019 to discuss current problems and solutions. Since then, there have been monthly REACH events including seminars, workshops, panels, and discussions to raise awareness about refugee and disadvantaged youth health needs, while promoting the REACH4Health mobile app (<https://reach-health.com/app>) among the young population. The REACH project in Turkey was active this year with 5 project events, all of which were in line with its initial aim to include forced migrants and improve their health literacy and knowledge on local health systems.

PARTNER(S): Columbia Global Centers | Amman, Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, Istanbul University, Anadolu University, American University of Beirut (AUB), German Jordanian University, Bir İZ Association, Community Volunteers Foundation (TOG), Youth Approaches to Health Association (SGYD), Digital Opportunity Trust-Lebanon

SPONSORS: International Cooperation and Development Fund of Taiwan (TaiwanICDF), Blue Chip Foundation, Columbia University President's Global Innovation Fund and UNFPA Türkiye

1. Decreasing Health Inequities Among Urban Youth: The Role of mHealth Technologies

OCTOBER 2, 2021, WEBINAR

**DECREASING HEALTH INEQUITIES AMONG URBAN YOUTH:
THE ROLE OF MHEALTH TECHNOLOGIES**

OCT. 2, 2021 | 12.00 - 13.30 UTC +3 | ONLINE

MARUF 21
marmaraurbanforum.org | 1-2-3 OCTOBER

MODERATOR
Yanis Ben Amor
Dr., Executive Director,
Center for Sustainable
Development, Columbia
University

SPEAKER
Selma Karabey
Prof., Public Health,
Istanbul University

SPEAKER
Özge Karadağ
Dr., Senior Researcher,
Center for Sustainable
Development,
Columbia University

SPEAKER
Damla İkbâl Ceyhan
SDG Coordinator,
SDSN Youth

SPEAKER
Nuhad Yazbik Dumit
Assoc. Prof., School of
Nursing, American
University of Beirut

COLUMBIA
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In collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, the Marmara Urban Forum (MARUF) organized a virtual event with the theme of “Re-Think, Co-Act” and brought together urban thinkers around passionate debates on how to make cities more livable, sustainable, resilient, creative, inclusive, innovative, and healthy. It gathered all stakeholders including professionals from cities, national, regional and local governments, private sector, NGOs, universities and others that play a crucial role in the design, transformation and governance of cities.

MARUF, a biennial international urban forum organized with the motto of “Cities Developing Solutions” by Marmara Municipalities Union,

is a local government association in the Marmara Region of Turkey with over 190 members. MARUF strives not only to discuss the challenges that cities face but also to seek solutions to them and multiply good practices at a global scale.

SPEAKERS: **Yanis Ben Amor**, Executive Director of Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University; **Selma Karabey**, Professor of Public Health at Istanbul University; **Özge Karadağ**, Senior Researcher at Center for Sustainable Development of Columbia University; **Damla Ceyhan**, SDG Coordinator at SDSN Youth; **Nuhad Yazbik Dumit**, Associate Professor at the School of Nursing of the American University of Beirut

2. Co-Designing mHealth Technologies with Youth: The REACH4Health App

OCTOBER 7, 2021, HYBRID PANEL AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION



This hybrid panel about the REACH4HEALTH App was divided into two panels and was followed by a photo exhibition. The first panel discussed the research findings of REACH to understand what kind of barriers refugees and young people faced when accessing healthcare. In the second panel, the REACH4Health App design and features were discussed, while mentioning how the app would be disseminated among the public. The app contains seven different health topics with resources and service provider information on the local healthcare system, healthy lifestyles, physical health, mental health, social health, environmental health, and COVID-19.

SPEAKERS: İpek Cem Taha, Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul; Yanis Ben Amor, Columbia University; H.E. Ambassador Volkan Chih-Yang Huang, Taipei Economic and Cultural Mission in Ankara; H.E. Ambassador Timothy T. Y. Hsiang, Secretary-General of The International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF); Selma Karabey, Istanbul University; Özge Karadağ, Columbia University; İnanç Sümbüloğlu, Bir İZ Association; Yamama Shahid, Young Researcher from Istanbul University; Damla Ceyhan, SDSN Youth; Emin Ayar, NaylaLabs; Yasmina Peker, Community Volunteers Foundation (TOG); Canan Demir, Youth Approaches to Health Association (SGYD)

3. REACH4Health Meets with Youth!

JANUARY 20, 2022, IN-PERSON



After its launch, the REACH project organized another event to further promote its REACH4Health App to youth organizations. The role of youth and civil society in the use of the application and the development of its features were evaluated. Future steps and possible collaborations regarding the REACH4Health App, which is expected to benefit both refugees and local youth in Turkey and the region, was discussed.

SPEAKERS: Selma Karabey, Istanbul University; Özge Karadağ, Columbia University; Seden Gürlek, Program Officer at Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul; İnanç Sümbüloğlu, Bir İZ Association; Damla Ceyhan, SDSN Youth; E. Nezi̇h Orhon, Professor at Anadolu University

4. REACH4Health App Meets with NGOs and Refugee Youth and Women in Hatay

FEBRUARY 28, 2022, IN-PERSON



A community-based dissemination event was held at the Taiwan-Reyhanlı Center for World Citizens to introduce the REACH4Health App to the refugee youth and women as well as the non-governmental organizations in Hatay, and to get their support to disseminate the app across the region.

Divided into two parts, the first half of the event focused on how the research findings of the REACH Project provided data for the REACH4Health App, the role of youth networks in this project, and the details of the photovoice study which showed local and refugee youth that they face similar problems and difficulties in accessing healthcare services and information. The second part went on with the participation of the audience, which involved interactive games to help people get to know the application.

SPEAKERS: Yanis Ben Amor, Columbia University; H.E. Volkan Chih-Yang Huang, Ambassador; Chen-yu Chiu, Assistant Professor at Bilkent University and Director of the Taiwan-Reyhanlı Center for World Citizens; Damla Ceyhan, REACH Program Assistant at the Youth Approaches to Health Association; Selma Karabey, Istanbul University; Özge Karadağ, Columbia University; İnanç Sümbüloğlu, Bir İZ Association; Dağlar Çilingir, Content and Advocacy Coordinator at Youth Approaches to Health Association; Gökalp Kırçıl, Community Volunteers Foundation; E. Nezi Orhon, Anadolu University

5. Sensitive Topics in Migration and Health Research: A Training Workshop for Early Career Researchers

JUNE 21, 2022, IN-PERSON



Held at Istanbul University's Beyazıt campus, the one-day training workshop had two main goals: to increase the capacity of postgraduate or newly graduated young researchers on migration and health research and to establish a communication network between academics, doctoral students, residency assistants and young experts working on migrant health. A combination of 23 postgraduate students and early career researchers were trained by a multidisciplinary team of experts. The workshop included a brief introduction on international migration to define key terms and provide up-to-date numbers, lectures on various research methodologies and participation of

communities throughout the research phase, and importance of communication with migrants, decision makers and media within this framework.

SPEAKERS: Nurcan Özgür Baklacioğlu, Professor of Political Science at Istanbul University; Selma Karabey, Istanbul University; Melikşah Ertem, Sıhhat Project; Özge Karadağ, Columbia University; E. Neziha Orhon, Anadolu University, Yanis Ben Amor, Columbia University

Rethinking Health and the City

AUGUST 5, 2021, WEBINAR

HERITAGE OF HEALING WEBINAR SERIES

RETHINKING HEALTH AND THE CITY



Assoc. Prof. AYŞECAN TERZİOĞLU
SABANCI UNIVERSITY

Prof. Chris Dole
AMHERST COLLEGE

Dr. Burçak Özlüdü
NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE
OF TECHNOLOGY

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5
12 PM (NYC) | 7 PM (IST)

Zeynep Kamil Hospital
Güngör Kabakçioğlu

COLUMBIA
GLOBAL
CENTERS | İSTANBUL

KARŞI
SANAT ÇALIŞMALARI

The second webinar of the Heritage of Healing Webinar Series concentrated on the role of healthcare reform in Turkey's secular nation-building process, the medical topography beyond hospitals, and the past and present of the institutions, actors, and ideologies during the epidemics since the 19th century. This webinar series was organized alongside the exhibition 'Finding a Cure in Istanbul' curated by Melis Bektaş and held in the Yaklaşım Tüneli, a metro evacuation tunnel at the heart of Istanbul between June 26-July 19, 2021. The

exhibit explored the concept of healing, based on the issue of accessing health in a big city, from the time of cholera to the coronavirus.

SPEAKERS: Burçak Özlüdü, New Jersey Institute of Technology and Rutgers University; Ayşecan Terzioğlu, Associate Professor at Sabancı University; Chris Dole, Professor of Anthropology at Amherst College

PARTNER(S): Karşı Sanat Çalışmaları

Climate and Health Rapid Response: Wildfires in the Mediterranean

SEPTEMBER 29, 2021, WEBINAR



Climate and Health Rapid Response: Wildfires in the Mediterranean

Wednesday, September 29

11:00 am New York | 6:00 pm Istanbul

This webinar sought to bring together clinical, public health, and emergency response experts to assess emerging health impacts and explore opportunities for bolstering health system responses to safeguard human health in relation to the wildfires in the Mediterranean and the compounding environmental health exposures for the region's inhabitants.

SPEAKERS: Nadim Farajalla, Professor at American University of Beirut; Charalampia V. Geladari, Hellenic Society of Environmental & Climate Medicine; Ümit Şahin, Sabancı University

PARTNER(S): Columbia Global Centers | Amman, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education

Responding to the Needs of Refugees and Migrants during the Pandemic

NOVEMBER 10, 2021, HYBRID



In this hybrid event, Istanbul University's Public Health Professor Selma Karabey talked about the needs of refugees and irregular migrants living in Turkey and the country's responses to the pandemic. In her presentation, Karabey addressed the problems faced by the irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees, who are among the groups most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. She emphasized that

Turkey currently possesses many services and programs for refugees and migrants, but that the pandemic has made it necessary to create new forms of protection and opportunities.

SPEAKERS: Selma Karabey, Istanbul University

PARTNER(S): Columbia University Center for Sustainable Development

Lecture on Coastline Resilience

FEBRUARY 28, 2022, LECTURE



BARIŞ SALIHOĞLU



KATE ORFF

The seminar explored urban design and planning practices through the lens of resilience. Focusing on emerging approaches and strategies to climate adaptation in the built environment, the seminar also discussed integrating ecological imperatives and social justice into next-century forms of infrastructure, taking the Marmara Sea as a global case study.

SPEAKERS: **Barış Salihoğlu**, Professor at Middle East Technical University; **Kate Orff**, Professor of Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, and Director of the Urban Design Program at Columbia University

Women, Cities, and Climate Change

APRIL 4, 2022, WEBINAR



DARIA DARNELL

Dr. Susan Blaustein, lecturer at Columbia University and the executive director of WomenStrong International, gave a talk entitled “Women, Cities, and Climate Change.” During her lecture, Dr. Susan Blaustein addressed the nexus between women, cities, and climate change and evaluated the impact of climate change on women and girls in cities. She also shed light on the role of different stakeholders ranging from NGOs, central governments, lawmakers, and universities to the private sector in increasing equal access and opportunities for women and girls for a quality of life.



SUSAN M. BLAUSTEIN

SPEAKERS: Susan M. Blaustein, Executive Director of WomenStrong International and Lecturer at Columbia University; Daria Darnell, US Consul General in Istanbul; Merve İspahani, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul

PARTNER(S): U.S. Consulate General in Istanbul



LECTURE
MONDAY, APRIL 4TH
12 PM NEW YORK
7 PM ISTANBUL

WOMEN, CITIES, AND CLIMATE CHANGE

SUSAN BLAUSTEIN
(Speaker)
Lecturer at Columbia University
& Executive Director of
WomenStrong International

DARIA DARNELL
(Welcome Remarks)
US Consul General in Istanbul

*The lecture will be followed by a Q&A session.
**There will be English-Turkish simultaneous translation.

 COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL







COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL THEMES

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Innovative Entrepreneurship from Various Perspectives

BY EGE DURUK

The resilience of Turkish businesses is puzzling to many outside observers. Turkey has been going through multiple currency crises since 2018, and the current inflation is amongst the highest in the world. Political, legislative, and monetary policy uncertainty continues to stay high; yet the GDP growth remained above 5% in the second quarter of 2022, outdone only by China. The key to this puzzle can be found in Turkey's resourceful, young, and bold human capital. Turkey is the home of some of the most adaptable and resilient entrepreneurs in the world. This innovative culture has recently emerged in the tech space as well, resulting in 6 Turkish unicorns during the course of only the last three years, the largest one being the innovative delivery service Getir, which expanded to more than 30 countries in a blitzkrieg speed and reached a valuation of 14 billion US.

Entrepreneurship has always been one of the major themes to foster and study for the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul. We have hosted two leaders of the largest business association in Turkey (TUSIAD) recently. However, as we observe the increased interest in tech and crypto spaces in recent years, we decided to host an event in this emerging area. Indeed, as a sign of extraordinary interest in this

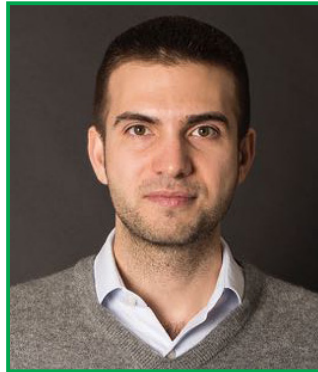
space, Turkey's residents using cryptocurrency have risen to 16-20% as of 2022 which places Turkey amongst the top 10 lead adapters in the world. We had an informative webinar on NFTs and crypto space in general with Justin Hulog, General Manager of Asia for the largest gaming company in the world.

The entrepreneurship culture with regards to social responsibility is just as vibrant as it is in the business world – and it starts at young ages. This was highlighted in our Social Entrepreneurship Workshop for High School Students. Held annually by Building Blocks, this workshop is designed to give high school students an introduction to social entrepreneurship and empower them to create innovative solutions for their local and global communities. During the workshop, the participant students engaged in building projects and creating their own apps that try to bring a fresh perspective on various aspects of social entrepreneurship, gaining first-hand experience in developing strategies to make their initiatives successful and sustainable.

Entrepreneurship thrives on meeting other like-minded spirits. The social mixers and events we held in partnership with the CAA have continued to be vibrant, fostering and strengthening the bonds with the Columbia community in Istanbul.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PINAR GEDİKÖZER



EGE DURUK

'07 CC

Ege Duruk graduated from Robert College of Istanbul in 2003 with a science diploma and completed his bachelor's degree at Columbia College in 2007 with a degree in Economics & Philosophy. He has worked as a management consultant mostly with the Boston Consulting Group in New York, London, and Dubai between 2007-2011. Since 2011, he actively manages and serves on the board of the Duruk family businesses, which are mostly in the F&B and real estate sectors. Ege is also the co-president of the Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey with 600+ members from across all schools of the university. Ege is an avid fan of the Galatasaray Sports Club and since 2018, serves on the board of GSYİAD, the official businesspeople association of the club in Turkey.

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Building Blocks Social Entrepreneurship Workshop for High School Students

AUGUST 9-13, 2021, ONLINE



In our interconnected and rapidly advancing society, innovation and entrepreneurship are becoming increasingly important. An initiative of Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE), the largest student-run organization at Columbia University, Building Blocks seeks to respond to these new dynamics by inspiring the next generation of entrepreneurs. Building Blocks works to inspire, educate, and launch the next generation of student entrepreneurs.

Held annually by Building Blocks, this workshop is designed to give high school students an introduction to social entrepreneurship and

empower them to create innovative solutions for their local and global communities. During the 5-day workshop, students (1) applied an entrepreneurial way of thinking to yield social impact; (2) became familiar with the commonly used business model canvas and funding terms; (3) spoke to founders about their entrepreneurial journeys; (4) designed their own ventures and presented their pitches.

SPEAKER(S): Irene (Heejin) Koo, Columbia University; Justice Betty, Columbia University

PARTNER(S): Building Blocks and Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs

Below are some reflections from students who participated in the workshop:

“Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul Social Entrepreneurship Workshop brought me many new perspectives. First of all, I would like to express my gratitude to the instructors who support us every single day, listen to our ideas patiently and give improving feedback. Meeting new people from many different places with many different ideas and working for a common purpose for days has improved me a lot. We had the chance to discuss universal problems freely and comfortably, to produce solutions as a group, and to receive comments on our solutions. Thanks to the incredible atmosphere in the meetings, we were able to discuss the ideas we put forward and learn about our shortcomings. I think our greatest teachers in life are the mistakes we make and thanks to the inspiring reviews in this workshop, we were able to ground our ideas in our group, realize our mistakes and work together for the better. In the end, I think we did a very good job. It was an experience I will never forget.”

MELİS GÜDÜM, TAKEV HIGH SCHOOL, 12TH GRADE

“This workshop was everything I needed. Learning how I can be a part of the change from inspiring and enthusiastic instructors who are also students. Not only did I learn about creating my own startup, but I also had so much fun - acting and thinking like an entrepreneur. I’m so glad that I was able to be a part of this amazing adventure.”

ELİF DİLARA İNKAYA, TED ANKARA COLLEGE FOUNDATION PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL, 10TH GRADE



PHOTO BY ANNIE SPRATT ON UNSPLASH

Innovation and entrepreneurship are critical, a fresh lens to approaching, iterating, and solving problems. Rooted in continuous focus and questions, these two concepts bring opportunities to connect the dots across different disciplines and sectors. Building Blocks provides a platform for ambitious, bright youths worldwide to explore entrepreneurship and bring it to their communities and passions. Over a span of 5 days, students went from defining social entrepreneurship and hearing from global young founders to pitching their own ventures to a panel of founders and investors. Now in its 4th year of partnership with the Columbia Global Centers, the Building Blocks curriculum has reached over 300 students across four countries.

IRENE KOO '20CC

House of Chats: Fad or Future: Are NFTs the Next Big Thing?

MARCH 7, 2022, WEBINAR



This edition House of Chats Series hosted Justin Hulog (CC '05), Riot Games' General Manager of Southeast Asia, for an informative discussion on NFT technology and how it's changing the world.

SPEAKER(S): Justin Hulog, General Manager for Southeast Asia, and Taiwan at Riot Games

PARTNER(S): Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey



A photograph of a modern conference room. In the foreground, a long, dark wood conference table is surrounded by brown leather chairs with chrome frames. A small black electronic device sits on the table. In the background, a large window with a brass door handle is visible. A blue banner with white text is overlaid on the image.

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS 2021-2022

46 PROGRAMS

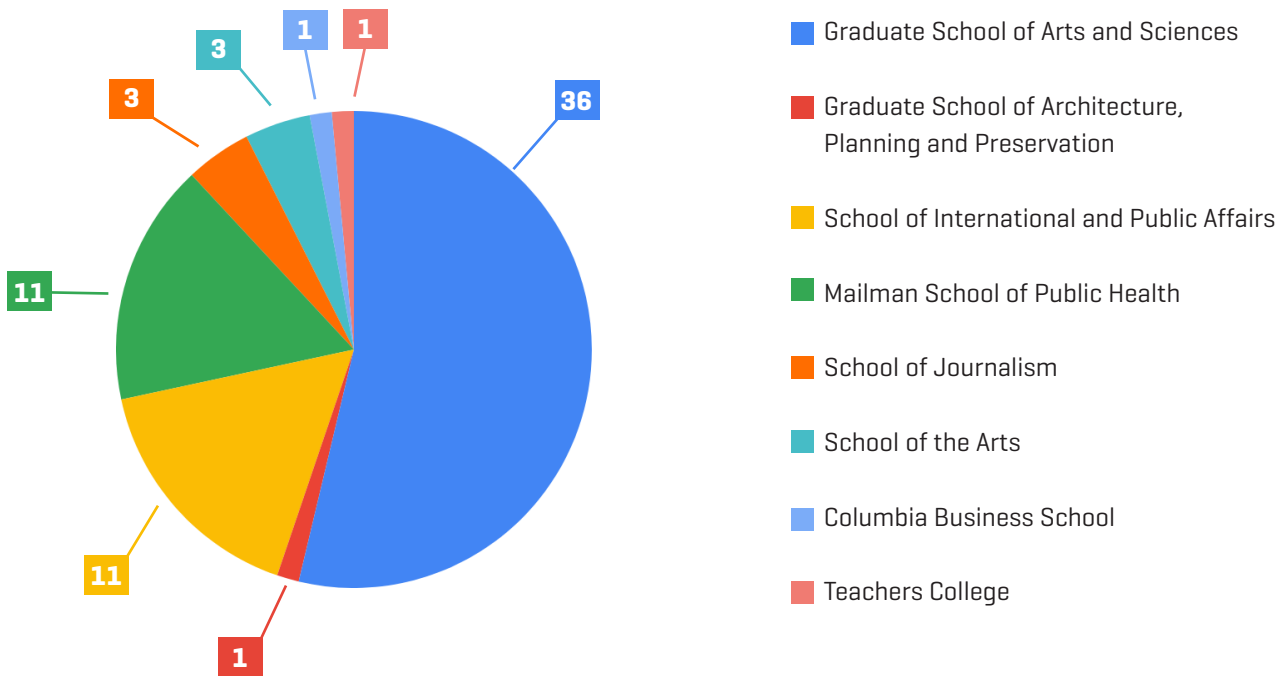
- 15 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- 39 PUBLIC PROGRAMS
- 4 RESEARCH PROGRAMS
- 34 CROSS-CENTER PROGRAMS
- 12 LOCAL PARTNERS

3925 People Reached

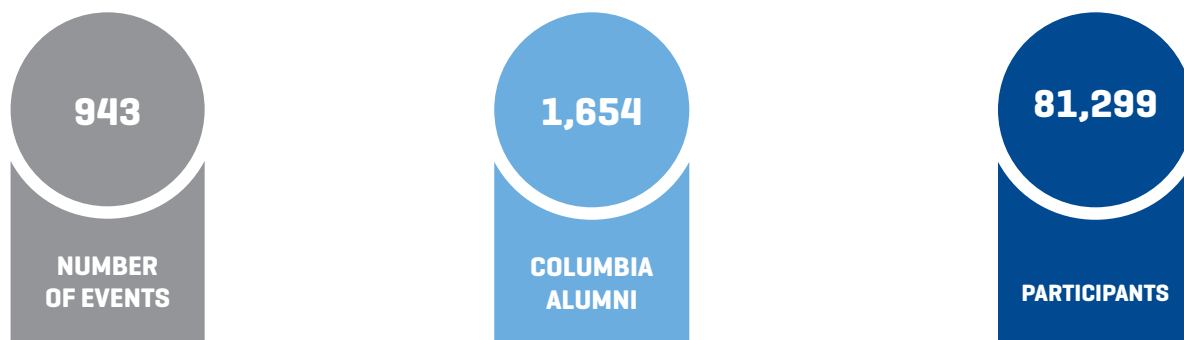
Average Of
85 People
Per Program

50 Different Countries

NUMBER OF COLUMBIA FACULTY INVOLVED IN OUR PROGRAMS IN 2021-2022



NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND PARTICIPANTS SINCE OUR LAUNCH*



*These numbers reflect multiple interactions and engagements per person.



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO



STUDENT AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

COLUMBIA SPIRIT STRONG AS ALWAYS IN ISTANBUL

BY EMRE ÇİÇEK & EGE DURUK

As we are nearing the end of our fourth year of co-heading CAA Turkey, our partnership with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul continues to inspire and encourage us to keep up with our mission to connect our alumni to the Columbia community in Turkey and to the University.

We kicked off the year with our first in-person gathering since the pandemic, in preparation for Giving Day, which saw a significant amount of donations to Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, a testament to our successful cooperation. This year, the highlight of “House of Chats,” our online talk series, was a discussion on the future of NFTs. We also had our second event at Gate 27 in honor of Richard Pena, where alumni and local artists came together for a very special evening featuring new works by the artists in residence.

Wrapping up the academic year was our welcome reception for newly admitted students and their families. Recent graduates as well as alumni were in attendance to address the student questions and get them amped up for the incredible four years that await them at Columbia.

We were honored to be given the task for the first time this year, which we hope to take on again next spring.

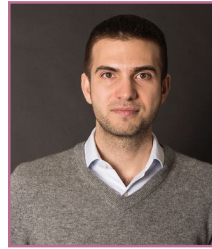
With the help of CGC | Istanbul, we have been able to spread the Columbia spirit across our extended network and we look forward to growing our community in the year to come.





EMRE ÇİÇEK
'07 CC

Lütfü Emre Çiçek is a filmmaker based in Istanbul. After graduating from Robert College, he attended Columbia University for a degree in Economics and completed his film studies at New York Film Academy. His first English language screenplay has won Atlanta Film Festival's Screenplay Competition, placed in the Top Ten at Showtime's Tony Cox Screenplay Competition, and was a finalist at Filmmakers International. His short films have been screened at various international genre festivals. His first feature film Naciye premiered at Scremfest, and after the European premiere at Ravenna Nightmare in Italy, made its Turkish debut at IF Istanbul. Naciye is currently available worldwide. Since 2018, Lütfü Emre has been co-heading the Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey.



EGE DURUK
'07 CC

Ege Duruk graduated from Robert College of Istanbul in 2003 with a science diploma and completed his bachelor's degree at Columbia College in 2007 with a degree in Economics & Philosophy. He has worked as a management consultant mostly with the Boston Consulting Group in New York, London, and Dubai between 2007-2011. Since 2011, he actively manages and serves on the board of the Duruk family businesses, which are mostly in the F&B and real estate sectors. Ege is also the co-president of the Columbia Alumni Association of Turkey with 600+ members from across all schools of the university. Ege is an avid fan of the Galatasaray Sports Club and since 2018, serves on the board of GSYİAD, the official businesspeople association of the club in Turkey.

Student Engagement

Education and Learning Opportunities



PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

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.

Virtual Global Internships



“
I was able to challenge myself through generating social media content, which I had never done before, while also advancing my writing skills through the process of reviewing and generating content.

Melissa Toman SIPA'22
Virtual Intern | Fall '21

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL



“
I am captivated by the rich history and culture of the Middle East, and Istanbul stands at the center of so much of it. Whether it be plunging into its history with the Center's 'Ishtar Diaries' podcast or picking at injustices in the present day and consciously working towards raising awareness for them.

Victoria Huet
Virtual Intern | Summer '21

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

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. This year, 43 students applied to our internship program

and 8 of them were accepted to various organizations, including two at the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul. 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.

Columbia Student Gatherings



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul organizes 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.

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



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 Çicek '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.

Numbers & Beyond Numbers: Immigration and Refugees in Turkey

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKER: **M. Murat Erdoğan**, Professor and Head of Political Science and International Relations Department at Turkish-German University

Fad or Future: Are NFTs the Next Big Thing?

MARCH 7, 2022, WEBINAR

SPEAKER: **Justin Hulog**, General Manager for Southeast Asia, and Taiwan at Riot Games



TURKISH STUDIES AT COLUMBIA

Galata

Agence des Messageries maritimes

Cité Française

Postes étrangères, russes, égyptiennes
et Agence du Lloyd autrichien

ANORAMA DECONSTANTIN

Gravure de F. MÉAULLE. — Photographie de MM. ABDU

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies

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.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: SEVIL SABANCI, board member of Sabancı University; GÜLER SABANCI, chairperson of Sabancı Holding, and Columbia President LEE C. BOLLINGER at the launch of the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies, 2018.

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.

Six years after its foundation, the Sakıp Sabancı Center continues to offer a wide variety of academic and public programs. In the 2021–2022 academic year, under the leadership of its Interim Director John Huber, Professor of Political Science at Columbia University, and with the continuous creative efforts of Zeynep Çelik, Sakıp Sabancı Visiting Professor

of Turkish Studies at Columbia University, and Tunç Şen, Associate Professor of History at Columbia University, the center 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 David and Catherine Cuthell Summer Research Fellowships in Turkish Studies 2021–2022

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies offers a competitive summer fellowship in any area of Turkish Studies for all undergraduates, MA students, and first through sixth-year PhD students in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division of the School of Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. This year's fellows

are Caleb Berer, Columbia College; Azat Bilalutdinov, Department of History; Yosra Hussein, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies; Aneka Kazlyna, Department of Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies; Nancy Ko, Department of History; Abdul Rahman Latif, Department of Religion.

The Sakıp Sabancı Dissertation Fellowship 2021–2022

The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies offers a limited number of Dissertation Writing Fellowships each academic year. Awards are designed to enable PhD 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 as follows:

JOSHUA DONOVAN (DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY):

Imagining Antioch: Nationalism, Sectarianism, and Migration in Greek Orthodox Bilād al-Shām

DEBORAH SOKOLOWSKI (CLASSICAL STUDIES):

Inventing Roman Bithynia: Rural Cultures and Identities in the 1st-3rd Centuries CE

2021-2022 SAKIP SABANCI CENTER FOR TURKISH STUDIES PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Bir Başkadır [Ethos] | Turkey through its Cinema

OCTOBER 29, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Elif Batuman, Author; Berkun Oya, Director; Orhan Pamuk, Author

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Kış Uykusu [Winter Sleep] | Turkey through its Cinema

OCTOBER 8, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Stuart Klawans, Film Critic; Orhan Pamuk, Author; Richard Peña, Professor of Film Studies at Columbia University

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Area Studies and the Middle East: The Origins of Middle East Studies in the U.S.

NOVEMBER 12, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Marwa Elshakry, Associate Professor of History at Columbia University; Zachary Lockman, Professor of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, and History at New York University; Baki Tezcan, Professor of History at University of California, Davis

This event is organized by The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & co-sponsored by The Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA).

Area Studies and the Middle East: The Origins of Turkish Studies at Columbia University

NOVEMBER 19, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Ahmet Evin, Professor Emeritus at Sabancı University; Peter B. Golden, Professor Emeritus of History, Turkish and Middle Eastern Studies at Rutgers University; Uli Schamiloglu, Professor Emeritus at University of Wisconsin

This event is organized by The Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & co-sponsored by The Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association (OTSA).

Umut (Hope) | Turkey through its Cinema

DECEMBER 3, 2021, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Melis Behlil, Associate Professor at Kadir Has University; Hamid Dabashi, Hagop Kevorkian Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Literature at Columbia University; Bilge Ebiri, Movie Critic and Filmmaker

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Beynelmilel (The International) | Turkey Through its Cinema

FEBRUARY 4, 2022, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Bilge Ebiri, Movie Critic and Filmmaker; Ece Temelkuran, Political Thinker and Author; Sırrı Süreyya Önder, Director and Author

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Ah Güzel İstanbul (O Beautiful Istanbul) | Turkey Through its Cinema

March 4, 2022, Webinar

SPEAKERS: Ayla Algan, Actress and Singer; Murat Belge, Academic and Literary Critic

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Migrants, Disempowered Cities, and Affective Landscapes

March 11, 2022, Webinar

SPEAKERS: Ayşe Çağlar, Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at University of Vienna; Seyla Benhabib, Professor Emerita at Yale University and Senior Scholar in Residence at Columbia Law School

What Can Tunisian History Teach Us About the Ottoman Empire?

APRIL 1, 2022, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Youssef Ben Ismail, Society of Fellows for the Humanities at Columbia University; M'hamed Oualdi, Sciences Po; Julia Clancy-Smith, Regents Professor of History at the University of Arizona

Organized by Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies at Columbia University, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, Columbia Global Centers | Tunis and Columbia Global Centers | Paris.

Ah Gözel İstanbul (Invisible to the Eye) | Turkey Through its Cinema

APRIL 8, 2022, WEBINAR

SPEAKERS: Cemal Kafadar, Historian and Cultural Critic; Fatih Özgüven, Writer and Film Critic; Zeynep Dadak, Director

This event series is co-sponsored by the Sakıp Sabancı Center for Turkish Studies & Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

The Third Annual Sakıp Sabancı Lecture: “Antiquities, Museums, Empires”

APRIL 22, 2022, HYBRID



SPEAKERS: Zeynep Çelik, Sakıp Sabancı Visiting Professor of Turkish Studies at Columbia University; Timothy Mitchell, William B. Ransford Professor of Middle Eastern Studies at Columbia University



PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND PROJECTS

PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND PROJECTS

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.



Through our PGIF project entitled: "Youth Health Promotion Via Digital Technologies: Towards Building an International Research Network in Forced Migration Settings", which is our second PGIF and partnership with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, the very creative, responsive, dependable and hard-working team led by Ipek Cem Taha has confirmed once again its position as a key ally and partner in leading projects in Turkey and the region. Members of the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul team have systematically gone above and beyond to support various efforts, from organizing stakeholders meetings in various locations in Turkey, to assisting research efforts and helping with dissemination of research findings.

YANIS BEN AMOR, RECIPIENT OF PGIF AWARD

In our PGIF Project entitled "Youth Health Promotion via Digital Technologies: Towards Building an International Research Network in Forced Migration Settings", we had a very fruitful collaboration with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul. In my opinion, the success of all activities in this PGIF Project, including organization of project meetings, stakeholders meetings and training of young researchers, in addition to well-established and sustained communication with local experts and institutions, was the result of this meaningful collaboration with the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul team members, who have always been hard-working and supportive.

ÖZGE KARADAĞ, RECIPIENT OF PGIF AWARD

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



○ NEW YORK

○ PARIS

○ TUNIS

○ RIO

○ SANTIAGO



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; Arts, 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, 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 scholars who have been forcibly uprooted from their home countries to reintegrate into academia and resume their scholarly pursuits."



The Columbia Global Centers | Beijing serves as a regional hub for the Columbia University community in East Asia. The Center's 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 research and collaboration with academic institutions, governments, the private sector, NGOs, multinationals, and others in the Eastern and Southern African region. As part of Columbia University's global presence strategy, the Center essentially provides Columbia faculty, students and alums with a base to conduct research in and for Africa. The Nairobi 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-19, 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 Chilean constitutional process, the impact of fake news in democracy, and the need to incorporate Environmental, Social and Governance issues (ESG) in companies' culture, among others.



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 Global Centers Network News

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.

PHOTO COURTESY OF EILEEN BARROSO

2021–2022 THE GLOBAL COLUMBIA COLLABORATORY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The Future of Love

JUNE 29, 2021, WEBINAR

The panelists discussed how we connect with one another in the modern age of tech and COVID, focusing on the global trends in love, tech, and in the kinds of stories we tell. Moreover, the conversation also touched upon how we keep passion alive, and whether that is possible.

SPEAKER(S): Daniel Jones, The New York Times; Dr. Judy Kuriansky, Professor at Columbia University Teachers College

Geopolitical Lure of Afghanistan: Shifting Alliances Under the New Regime

DECEMBER 13, 2021, WEBINAR

This webinar explored the developing situation in Afghanistan after the Taliban's reclaiming of power in 2021 from a historical and political perspective. The panelists shared their insights on the ramifications of the Taliban rule in Afghanistan, exploring it within the context of geopolitics, security and diplomacy.

SPEAKER(S): H.E Adela Raz, Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to the United States of America; Robert D. Crews, Professor of History at Stanford University; Steve Coll, Professor of Journalism at Columbia University; Dipali Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor at University of Minnesota

Addressing the Enduring Trauma in the Animated Documentary, *Flee*

FEBRUARY 9, 2022, WEBINAR

This webinar featured an interview and discussion with the director of the award winning animated documentary *Flee* with other forced migration experts.

SPEAKER(S): Madeline Garlick, UNHCR; M. Claire Greene, Assistant Professor of Population and Family Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; Jonas Poher Rasmussen, Film Director; Mariam Ghani, daughter of Afghanistan's now exiled President Ashraf Ghani

Women's Rights in Afghanistan: What will the Future Bode for Afghan Women?

MARCH 31, 2022, WEBINAR

This webinar explored the status of women's rights in Afghanistan with a particular emphasis on the restrictions imposed by the Taliban from 1996-2001, discussed what has changed during the two decades of US military intervention and whether women's decades-long struggle for rights is at a loss as Taliban regained the control of the country.

SPEAKER(S): Yasmine Ergas, Senior Lecturer at School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University; Pashtana Durrani, Founder and Executive Director at LEARN; Muska Dastageer, American University of Afghanistan in Kabul

The Committee on Forced Migration



The Committee on Forced Migration, launched in 2018, is a central hub that facilitates network building across Columbia University around the theme of forced migration. The Committee provides an institutional setting for Columbia faculty to exchange knowledge, share research results, create interdisciplinary networks, and identify collaborative opportunities for faculty from across Columbia's schools and affiliates. In its third year, the Committee has deepened its engagement with faculty and experts around the University to explore new approaches to addressing problems of forced migration, and

mobilize the University's resources to respond to the global humanitarian crisis. In 2021, the Committee launched a webinar series entitled Forced Migration and the Crisis of Multilateralism where purposeful, actionable, solutions-focused events in the series featured eminent Columbia and external experts, students, refugees, "voices from the front lines," and individuals from the Global Centers' networks.

2021–2022 THE COMMITTEE ON FORCED MIGRATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



KABUL, AFGHANISTAN, PHOTO BY SOHAIB GHYASI ON UNSPLASH

Displacement, Citizenship and the State: Afghanistan and the International System

NOVEMBER 1, 2021, WEBINAR

The withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan in August 2021 triggered the collapse of the Afghan government and security forces and paved the way for an insurgent victory on the part of the Taliban. For the region, it raises a similar set of concerns and challenges as previous refugee flows from Afghanistan did in past decades when more than 5 million Afghans were displaced.

SPEAKER(S): Kian Tajbakhsh, Columbia University; Dipali Mukhopadhyay, Associate Professor of Global Policy at University of Minnesota and Affiliated Scholar of Saltzman Institute at Columbia University; Azmat Z. Khan, Patti Cadby Birch Assistant Professor of Journalism and Director of Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism at Columbia University; Noora Lori, Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University; Omar Sharifi, Assistant Professor of Social Sciences and Humanities at the American University of Afghanistan

Venezuelan Forced Migration Crisis in Latin America

JANUARY 25, 2022, WEBINAR

According to the United Nations, there are nearly 6 million Venezuelan migrants and refugees worldwide who have fled over the past few years due to a complex humanitarian, political, and economic crisis in the country, making it the second-largest mass migration crisis in the world, second only to Syria. This panel discussed the varying responses of nations to the Venezuelan migration crisis and the need for multilateral response in the face of the crisis and how national migration policy towards Venezuelans reflects international responsibility in protecting the rights of Venezuelans abroad.

SPEAKER(S): Kian Tajbakhsh, Columbia University; Dr. Cristián Doña-Reveco, Director of the Office for Latino/Latin American Studies and Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha; Astrid Liden, Columbia College Student Studying Latin American & Caribbean Studies and Political Science focusing on Venezuelan migration; Dr. Luisa Palacios, Senior Research Scholar at the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University; Dr. Gisela P. Zapata, Assistant Professor in the Department of Demography and researcher at the Centre for Regional Development and Planning of the Federal University of Minas Gerais; Fabiana Papaian, Consultant Migrant Organizations Strengthening Program

Ukraine's Children and The Global Crisis of Child Displacement

MAY 13, 2022, WEBINAR

The extraordinary crisis in Ukraine is just the latest calamity forcing children and their families away from their communities and to confront significant physical and emotional trauma. With exacerbating factors such as conflict and climate change expected to worsen the global displacement crisis, both “host” countries and “donor” countries such as the U.S. need to wholly reimagine their approach to refugees and child migrants in the coming years – and play a more active role in responding to the growing crisis.

SPEAKER(S): Kian Tajbakhsh, Columbia University; Dr Irwin Redlener, Senior Research Scholar for the Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University; Dr. Özge Karadağ, Senior Research Scholar at the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University; Verena Knaus, Global Lead of Migration and Displacement at UNICEF

Columbia University's Response to the Afghan Crisis

Columbia University is committed to mobilizing resources and coordinating with partner organizations to help displaced scholars and students who have been impacted by the recent crisis in their country. Columbia Global Centers, working with the Committee on Forced Migration, has identified pathways to support these individuals, and is helping to

coordinate Columbia's response to the crisis. The focus so far is on identifying, vetting, and placing scholars. As part of this response, schools and institutes of Columbia University are encouraged to host and provide an affiliation for at-risk or displaced scholars via short-term visiting appointments, fellowships, assistantships, and residencies.

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. Across its first two cohorts, the Scholarship has now supported 33 students from 19 countries attending 14 schools.

On March 2, 2022, Columbia University President Lee Bollinger announced that the initiative, which was mostly focusing on displaced students and scholars from Afghanistan until then, is to better include those seeking refuge from the war in Ukraine. He expressed his eagerness to welcome these students and scholars to our campuses. The Global Centers are coordinating efforts to host displaced scholars from Ukraine, on campus as well as Global Center locations, most notably at the Institute for Ideas and Imagination in Paris. The Harriman Institute for Russian, Eurasian and Eastern European Studies created an emergency fund to manage the match and placement of Ukrainian scholars at Columbia, and is coordinating with Columbia Global Centers | Paris and proximate educational institutions for this purpose.

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENTS

The 2021-2022 academic year was a memorable year for Columbia University.

Announcement Regarding Safwan Masri, EVP for Global Centers and Global Development



SAFWAN MASRI, EVP FOR GLOBAL CENTERS AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Columbia University's President Lee Bollinger announced that Safwan Masri, after leading the Columbia Global Centers for the last decade, will step down as Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development on June 30, 2022. President Bollinger noted that he was very proud of the Columbia Global Centers, both in their notable institutional accomplishments and in what they represent for the global strategy of the University. Bollinger added that Safwan Masri, as the inaugural Director of one of the first two Centers, Columbia Global Centers | Amman, helped shape this ambitious new dimension of academic life.

Fourth Purpose Task Force

Fourth Purpose Task Force, established by President Bollinger, seeks to advance human welfare through the complex process of merging scholarly knowledge and our distinctive intellectual capacities with groups and institutions beyond the academy that respect what we do, possess the skills and power to bring about change, and are dedicated to doing that work in partnership with us.

The Fourth Purpose Task Force still 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 asks is: “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?”

A manifestation of this purpose, Columbia World Projects under the leadership of Wafaa El-Sadr has created a vibrant platform for the development of concrete projects, drawing on the work of our faculty, and for thinking about major questions and issues uniquely possible in this stimulating context bridging knowledge and action.

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.”

Columbia Climate School



THREE OF THE COLUMBIA CLIMATE SCHOOL'S CO-FOUNDING DEANS — ALEX HALLIDAY, RUTH DEFRIES, AND JASON BORDOFF — POSE FOR A PHOTO WITH FORMER PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

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 Columbia Climate School celebrated its first-ever graduation ceremony to honor the school's 2022 graduates in May. These students are the first group to graduate from the recently launched Climate School. After an intense year of interdisciplinary climate education, 92 students in the MA in Climate and Society program finished their classes and donned their light blue caps and gowns for the Class Day ceremony.

Climate School was also present at various international summits this year, as a key part of Columbia University's commitment to bring its expertise and leadership to drive climate solutions. The Columbia Climate School sent a delegation of scholars to play an active role in the COP26 process by sharing insights from their research with leaders from government, business, and civil society. Additionally, at this year's World Economic Forum meeting in Davos, Switzerland, Columbia University featured prominently throughout the weeklong event at a time when both the energy crisis and climate crisis dominated the discussions. Columbia Climate School Co-dean Jason Bordoff chaired the opening session on energy, "Energy Outlook: Overcoming the Crisis."



EDUARDA ZOGHBI (LEFT), A CLIMATE ACTIVIST AND STUDENT IN COLUMBIA'S MPA PROGRAM, SHARED HER THOUGHTS DURING THE DISCUSSION WITH FORMER PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA. PHOTO: OBAMA FOUNDATION

Climate Action Collective

Columbia World Projects (CWP) has announced the launch of the Climate Action Collective, a global network of stakeholders who will work together to identify key climate challenges that Columbia can help tackle through its teaching, research and global programming. The collective will be led by CWP, Columbia Global Centers, the Columbia Climate School and ICAP, Columbia University's center for global health. "The Climate Action Collective

will bring new global partners from outside the university together with Columbia's top climate experts to inform our research and programming in ways that prioritize the needs of marginalized communities harmed by climate change," said Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger.

World Leaders Forum



ZORAN MILANOVIĆ

On September 20, 2021, Zoran Milanović, President of the Republic of Croatia, attended a discussion titled “Emerging Crises and Competing Narratives” at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. The discussion explored the challenges democracies are facing today, including mass migration, human rights, populism, activist politics, and the battle of narratives during a pandemic. Milanović was in conversation with Jan Svejnar, Richard N. Gardner Professor of Economics and International Affairs, and Director of the Center on Global Economic Governance. The introductory speech was given by Amy E. Hungerford, Executive Vice President for Arts and Sciences and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

On the same day, Mark Carney, UN Special Envoy on Climate Action and Finance, and UK Prime Minister Johnson's Climate Finance Advisor for COP26 was in conversation with Mark Gallogly, Cofounder of Centerbridge Partners and Cofounder of Three Cairns Group at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. In the talk, Mark Carney discussed the quantum of capital required for the transformation of economies, the finance available for investment today, and the structures and markets we need to develop to unlock financial flows to the projects and countries where it is needed most. The discussion was introduced by Merit E. Janow, Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs.



MARK CARNEY

On September 23, 2021, Luis Arce Catacora, Constitutional President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, was in conversation with Joseph E. Stiglitz, University Professor at Columbia University at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. The discussion titled “Economic Policy in Pandemic Times” was introduced by Victoria Murillo, Director of the Institute of Latin American Studies.



LUIS ARCE CATACTORA



VJOSA OSMANI

On September 24, Vjosa Osmani, President of the Republic of Kosovo, was in discussion with Alexander A. Cooley, Director of the Harriman Institute and Claire Tow Professor of Political Science at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. The discussion titled “A New Chapter in Kosovo's Foreign Policy-Strengthening Statehood and Relations with the United States” was introduced by Merit E. Janow, Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs.

On September 29, 2021, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization, was in conversation with Dr. Linda P. Fried, Dean of the Mailman School of Public Health, in a discussion titled “Public Health: A Critical Foundation for Successful Societies.” The conversation focused on the lessons from COVID-19 and how we can prepare for the next century of public health threats by translating research into action. The discussion was introduced by Lee C. Bollinger, President of Columbia University in the City of New York.



DR. TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS



On October 21, 2021, A two-part conference titled “Courts and Global Norms on Freedom of Expression” was held with an aim to promote dialogue, as well as the exchange of experiences and best practices between domestic and international courts at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University. The event was cosponsored by Global Freedom of Expression.

Commencement



UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT ON MAY 18, 2022, BROUGHT CROWDS THAT STRETCHED FROM LOW LIBRARY TO BUTLER LIBRARY ON COLUMBIA'S MORNINGSID HEIGHTS CAMPUS. PHOTO BY EILEEN BARROSO.

This year, on May 18, 2022 everyone at Columbia was excited for the return to an in-person celebration for the graduates of Class of 2022 which included more than 14,400 students from over 138 countries. The day marked the first in-person Commencement since the start of the

pandemic, and the event was also live-streamed for friends and family all over the world to take part. Graduates from all schools and colleges as well as family and friends around the world tuned in to the Commencement ceremony of the 268th academic year.

The Columbia Commitment

President Lee C. Bollinger has announced the successful completion of the Columbia Commitment, a five-year University-wide campaign that raised \$5.6 billion to support students and faculty, as well as projects that address critical global problems. Launched in 2016, the Columbia Commitment exceeded its original goal of \$5 billion through the support of nearly 200,000 donors and 160,000 engaged alumni.

The idea behind the Columbia Commitment was to provide resources for students and faculty while harnessing Columbia's interdisciplinary expertise to develop global solutions to some of today's most complex challenges. From the beginning, it was an ambitious attempt to increase the University's impact in areas like medical research, technological advancement, and social justice and equity. The campaign helped support priorities like the elimination of debt for medical students, the construction of the business school's new home in Manhattanville, the establishment of the African American and Diaspora Studies Department, and the creation of the Columbia Climate School.

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COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL GOVERNANCE

GOVERNANCE

Faculty Advisory Committee 2021-2022

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.

"Although the disruptions of the Covid pandemic continued, the academic year 2021-2022 saw some of the restraints lifting, and in person activities resuming albeit with a constant awareness of the imbalance of access to healthcare and vaccines across the world where our Columbia Global Centers are placed. Throughout this time of isolation, separation and distance, the work of the Istanbul Global Center has become increasingly central to our intellectual life. Scholars and students in Istanbul, New York, and beyond participated in a series of talks, workshops and academic events covering a range of topics from the continuation of the Ottoman Geographies project, initiated by the FAC before the pandemic, to the brilliantly successful project of Turkey through its Cinema, as well as events that covered the pressing and urgent issues of public health, climate, and energy. With the original vision and unwavering support of Safwan Masri, and the capable and always innovative direction of Ipek Cem Taha, the distinctive combination of public outreach and academic excellence can be seen as a hallmark of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul."

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 Sakıp Sabancı Visiting Professor, 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

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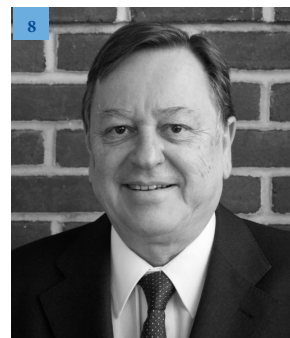
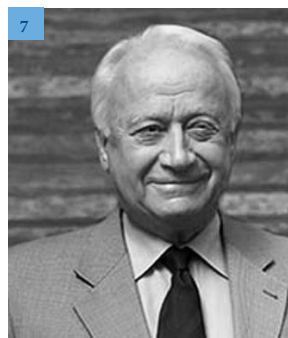
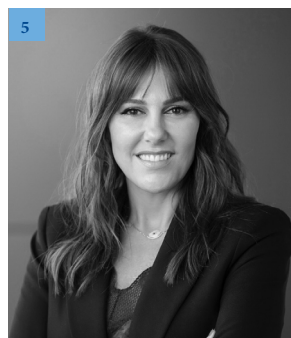
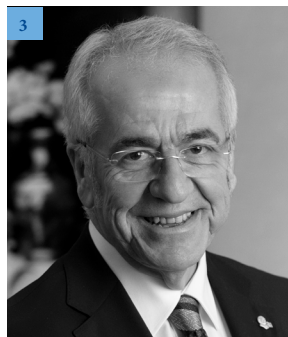
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In addition, we recognize below the strong leadership support of donors who have given \$10,000 and above since the launch of the Istanbul Center.



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Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul is located in the city's very central and historic district of Taksim Square, on half a floor of a historic turn-of-the-century building characterized by its facade and high ceilings. The office space is 3,229 square feet and can be utilized in two distinct ways. One area can be dedicated to daily office work while the other can be utilized for workshops, seminars, and lectures for up to 30 people and receptions for up to 100 people. The Center could accommodate one or two faculty members or fellows working on a part-time basis.

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