

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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A MESSAGE FROM LEE C. BOLLINGER

PRESIDENT, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



With the opening of global centers in Amman and Beijing in 2009, Columbia began an initiative that has become central to our understanding of what it means to be a global university. Amman and Beijing have been joined by six additional Columbia Global Centers, including the Center in Istanbul, producing a network across four continents that bring together great minds from diverse backgrounds to meet the challenges of our time.

The potential of the Columbia Global Centers to provide the intellectual leadership for addressing their regions' daunting challenges was apparent from the outset. With each passing year, more and more of that potential is being realized, and the results have been gratifying and at times inspiring. The pages of this report set forth the achievements of the Istanbul Center, across a number of core themes including human rights and freedoms, cultural heritage and art, women and gender studies, sustainable development, urbanization and public health as well as education and learning opportunities. All who know the Global Center in Turkey are well aware that this growth would not have occurred without the steadfast support of many. Professor Safwan Masri, Columbia's Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, and İpek Cem Taha, Director of Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul deserve recognition for their roles, as well.

In the Columbia Global Centers, Columbia students and faculty are encountering some of the leading figures from every corner of the globe: innovative scholars, heads of state, government officials, policy makers, civil society and leaders of industry. This past year, each center hosted a rich variety of programs and events: from workshops assessing the impact of the refugee crisis on global public health in Istanbul and Amman, to lectures on immigration and African-American cinema in Rio de Janeiro, to panels on women's rights in Beijing and many more. Rather than observing world events from a distance, our students and faculty who travel to the Global Centers find themselves immersed in those events and learning in unique ways from the experience.

The scholarship, research, and teaching we see at each of the global centers are essential to Columbia's academic leadership at a moment when global society critically needs fresh approaches to persistent problems. Thank you for taking an interest in these initiatives and supporting them.

Sincerely,

LEE C. BOLLINGER

PROFESSOR SAFWAN M. MASRI

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR GLOBAL CENTERS AND
GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



Columbia is a university with a unique global character; with distinguished faculty engaged in the creation of knowledge and cutting-edge research to address the world's most pressing challenges; a diverse and international body of students, faculty and partners from around the world, and; through the Columbia Global Centers, an intellectual infrastructure that includes eight centers across four continents.

As one of the leaders of the transformation of Ivy League colleges into full-scale research universities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Columbia stands again at an important historic opportunity: one with incredible transformative promise, which could very possibly define its future course and perhaps even higher education more broadly. Committed to reorienting and adjusting its work in a way that is better suited for the realities of this century, Columbia aspires to add to its global orientation to become the preeminent global university, along many dimensions.

As physical and intellectual loci around the world, the Columbia Global Centers are a core element of the University's global strategy. With the support and engagement of local partners coupled with the transformative leadership of President Lee C. Bollinger, our first chapter has been marked with tremendous success for the global center in Istanbul, and indeed the Columbia Global Centers network as a whole.

With signature projects in the areas of human rights, freedoms, humanities, cultural heritage, sustainable development, public health, and women and gender studies, combined with a large number of public and academic programs of great relevance to our faculty and students, the Istanbul Center contributes significantly to the strengthening of links between Turkey and Columbia University.

I am profoundly optimistic about what the future holds for the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, under the able leadership of Ipek Cem Taha, as well as our network of global centers, and am excited for inspiring new developments to come. As always, we remain deeply indebted to all of our partners and friends around the world, and look forward to many more anniversaries with your continued support.



It is with great pleasure and pride that we welcome you to the pages of our first annual report covering our activities in the year 2015, as well as giving a sense of what lies ahead for us.

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has been an important hub for connecting Columbia University to the vast intellectual and cultural resources of Istanbul, Turkey and the region. Launched in 2011 and operational since 2012, the Istanbul Center has established itself as a reputable and trusted partner both for Columbia campus counterparts, and for local, national, and regional collaborators.

Since our inception, we have embarked on a wide range of programs, including burning issues of our times. From refugee health to gender equality; entrepreneurship to arts and culture; politics of memory to archeology, civil society to sustainability, we have covered much ground.

With the 2013 addition of Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation's city laboratory, Studio-X, to our operations, we have been able to extend our community further, reaching architects, makers, curators and the creative segments of society at large, linking further with multifaceted issues relating to Istanbul and other global cities.

In 2016, we are also excited to inaugurate the Sakıp Sabancı Chair and Center at Columbia University, which will open new horizons to scholars and students aspiring to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Turkey and our region. We strongly believe that the Sakıp Sabancı Chair on Turkish Studies will prove to be an invaluable addition to Columbia campus and to our work in Istanbul.

Our world needs dialogue and collaboration, perhaps more than any other time in history that we know of. In actuality, all the requirements for cooperation, mutual understanding and globally connected initiatives are available in our advanced state of communication.

Today, we need that spirit of exploration and deep study around key issues in a connected manner, alongside the will and discipline to listen to the other. I believe and hope that the Columbia Global Centers as a network, and the Istanbul Center, as a key node, are honoring that global and human spirit.

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS

The Columbia Global Centers promote and facilitate the collaborative and impactful engagement of the University's faculty, students, and alumni with the world to enhance understanding, address global challenges, and advance knowledge and its exchange. The global centers, as envisioned by President Lee C. Bollinger, are founded with the objective of connecting the local with the global, creating opportunities for shared learning, and deepening the nature of global dialogue.

Under the leadership of Professor Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development, the eight global centers are located in Amman, Beijing, Istanbul, Mumbai, Nairobi, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, and Santiago. This network forms the core element of Columbia's global strategy, which is to expand the University's ability to contribute positively to the world by advancing research and producing new knowledge on the most important issues confronting the globe.

Functioning as a network, the global centers engage with regional experts and scholars and encourage teaching and research across disciplinary boundaries. Some of the centers' programs and research initiatives are country-specific, some regional, and an increasing number are multiregional, even global. These Columbia Global Centers are now well immersed in their local and regional realities and in a position to further leverage their contacts and expertise on behalf of senior executives.

The first centers were launched in Amman and Beijing in 2009 and the most recent ones opened in 2013. Already, the network of centers is actively achieving the following:

- Increasing international content in the classroom
- Supplementing the curriculum with global learning and immersion experiences
- Facilitating research opportunities for Columbia faculty and students on globally relevant, interdisciplinary topics
- Promoting truly global conversations about some of the most pressing and complex issues facing the world
- Expanding resources needed to attract students from abroad
- Providing a point of ongoing engagement for international alumni and friends

The building blocks of the Columbia Global Centers network are seen in the strong links being forged by each center with regional universities and institutions. Collaborations with regional experts and scholars are strongly encouraged, as is innovative research that crosses the boundaries of academic disciplines. Perhaps most importantly, the centers represent multidirectional learning: Columbia is not thrusting education into a new environment; instead, through the global centers, our faculty and students are able to become part of an international dialogue with partners around the world. The experience of opening and operating the centers allows members of the Columbia community the opportunity not only to impart and produce knowledge and expertise but also to absorb and learn through this global network.

KINGS COLLEGE FOUNDED IN THE PROVINCE OF NEW YORK
BY ROYAL CHARTER IN THE REIGN OF GEORGE II
PERPETUATED AS COLUMBIA COLLEGE BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
WHEN THEY BECAME FREE AND INDEPENDENT — MAINTAINED AND CHERISHED FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE PUBLIC GOOD AND THE GLORY OF ALMIGHTY GOD

THE LIBRARY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



ALMA MATER

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS



[Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul](#) was launched in November 2011 and is directed by Ipek Cem Taha. A hub for students and scholars from Columbia and universities in the region, the Center hosts several educational programs: the Summer Program on Democracy and Constitutional Engineering, the Summer Program in Balkan Transcultural Studies, the Summer Program in Byzantine and Ottoman Studies, and the Global Seminar on Byzantine and Modern Greek Encounters. Initiatives facilitated by the Center in cooperation with Columbia faculty and regional partners include: Studio-X Istanbul, the Istanbul Documentation Project, Women Creating Change, Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments, Responding to Changing Health Needs in Complex Emergencies, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network and the Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Reconciliation. Journalism, freedom of expression, politics of memory, refugees and the arts are other ongoing areas of programming. The Center also pursues regional initiatives in collaboration with the Amman Center.



[Columbia Global Centers | Amman](#) was launched in March 2009 and is led by Professor Safwan M. Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University. The Amman Center's projects with Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health, School of Social Work, and Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science are focused on building local capacity in Jordan and the region. Projects in conjunction with Teachers College have trained tens of thousands of public school teachers and are expanding regionally. The Center's course offerings for undergraduate and graduate students include Arabic language studies, Democracy and Constitutional Engineering in the Middle East, Regional Environmental Sustainability, and a Summer Ecosystem Experience for Undergraduates Program, as well as workshops in architecture and urban design. The Center also organizes a vibrant ongoing public lecture series and hosts Studio-X Amman, a regional platform for research and programming in architecture, co-run with Columbia's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.



[Columbia Global Centers | Beijing](#) was launched in March 2009. The Center's major programmatic themes include aging and public health, arts and culture, entrepreneurship, and sustainability. The Center runs an active public events program featuring Columbia faculty and local experts on diverse topics ranging from international economics to environmental engineering to film studies. The Center hosts student summer programs and organizes workshops throughout the year to engage Columbia graduate students and young scholars in Beijing, such as the Graduate Students and Young Scholars Meeting Program, which is organized in partnership with Columbia's Weatherhead East Asian Institute. The Center also hosts diverse projects under the President's Global Innovation Fund, such as Ideas on Aging, which is hosted in collaboration with Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health.



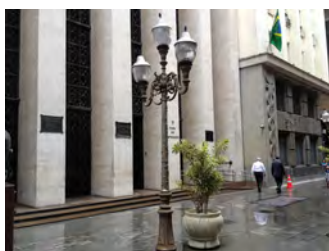
[Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai](#) was launched in March 2010 and its Director is Ravina Aggarwal. The Center develops research-based programs and activities on issues relating to South Asia in the global context. The South Asia region is at a critical junction of global importance and faces unprecedented opportunities and challenges. The Center's programs focus on four thematic areas - sustainable urbanization; global economics; global health; and education, knowledge and culture. By leveraging Columbia University's world-class thought leaders and regional experts and institutions, conducting innovative interdisciplinary research, designing training opportunities for professionals and field opportunities for students, disseminating research and curating comparative dialogues to reach academic, government, civil society and private sector communities, Columbia Global Centers | Mumbai works to deepen knowledge that can transform society.



[Columbia Global Centers | Nairobi](#) opened its doors in January 2012 and is directed by Belay Begashaw. The Center began as a collaboration with Columbia’s Earth Institute and hosts the Millennium Villages Project, which directly supports half a million people with operations in at least six African countries. The Center also hosts the Africa Nutritional Sciences Research Consortium PhD Graduate Training Project, the Africa Soil Information Service (AFSIS) Project to address food security and e technology solutions, the Dry Lands Initiative focusing on appropriate development for semi-arid and arid lands in Africa, and an information technology laboratory run by Columbia Engineering. The Center also houses one of the only study-abroad programs for undergraduates in Tropical Biology and Sustainable Development. In addition, the center also hosts internships and several other training programs such as the KRAFT Global Fellows program (that is implemented through the office of the Chaplain at the University Chaplin); entrepreneurship training for women business leaders in collaboration with the Columbia Business School, and several health projects under the President’s Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) in collaboration with different departments of the Columbia University Medical Center.



[Columbia Global Centers | Paris](#) is based in historic Reid Hall, which was gifted to Columbia University in 1964. Directed by Paul LeClerc and Brunhilde Biebuyck, the Center hosts a large undergraduate program, a Master of Arts in History and Literature, and a joint undergraduate/graduate architecture program. Their French academic partners include the École Normale Supérieure, the Universities of Paris 1, 4, and 7, and the Institut d’études politiques (Sciences Po). The Center also hosts the Master of Public Health, run jointly by the École des Hautes Études en Santé Publique and Columbia’s Mailman School of Public Health, and the Executive Master in Technology Management run by the School of Professional Studies. Since 2013, the Paris Center has presented the annual World Writers’ Festival, featuring internationally acclaimed writers in intimate conversations, readings, performances, and debates open to the public. In addition, it organizes a vibrant lineup of concerts, conferences, exhibits, workshops, and other public programs in partnership with Parisian cultural organizations.



[Columbia Global Centers | Rio de Janeiro](#), launched in March 2013, has built a strong network by facilitating engagement between its many local partners and the community of Columbia University. Led by Thomas Trebat, the Rio team helps to implement programs that leverage exchange opportunities with a focus on themes of enormous relevance to Brazil, such as social inclusion, economic development, and urban infrastructure. Two examples are the Global Executive Masters in Public Administration, created in partnership with the School of International and Public Affairs, that started in Brazil in 2015 and the “Innovation Hub”, a space for knowledge exchange and development solutions for urban problems in Rio de Janeiro with the Columbia School of Engineering and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.



[Columbia Global Centers | Santiago](#) was launched in March 2012 and is directed by Karen Poniachik. The Center’s many activities include joint-research projects between faculty at Columbia’s different schools and laboratories and their counterparts in Chilean universities, such as in the areas of engineering, architecture, public health, and volcanology. The Center has held programs covering topics such as waste management, solar energy, global economics, and water security. It has also organized several artistic and cultural activities, as well as workshops focusing on women’s issues and human rights. The Center is currently working with a number of schools on campus, including Business, the Earth Institute, and Teachers College, to create new programs and projects.

INTRODUCTION

In the four years since Columbia University extended its presence to Istanbul, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has been a vital part of a global network of centers reaching across the world to Beijing, Amman, Paris, Mumbai, Nairobi, Rio de Janeiro and Santiago.

The global centers act collectively as a platform linking Columbia University with partners around the world to foster multi-directional learning, innovative research and the exchange of knowledge. Together we seek to ask new questions, promote new forms of international collaboration and develop meaningful academic experiences.

This endeavor brought together 8,000 people in over 122 events organized by Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and Studio-X Istanbul in 2015. Since 2012, 651 students from Columbia University and over 1,900 from Turkey have been engaged in the programs in Istanbul, along with over 70 faculty members representing 13 schools of the University. These encounters have not only connected New York-based faculty and students with counterparts in Turkey and the wider region, they are also giving shape to a new generation of joint efforts with other universities, civil society organizations, private sector entities and public institutions. Moreover, the Center benefits immensely from a vibrant network of Columbia alumni, who contribute to designing programs and offer other valuable forms of support that enable the Center to thrive.

Through short and long term educational programs, research projects, workshops, symposia, public talks, convenings, culture and art events, the Istanbul Center is becoming a hub for programming and expertise on a wide array of subjects including human rights and freedoms, cultural heritage and art, sustainable development, urbanization and public health, women and gender studies, and education and learning opportunities.

This annual report gives further insight into the various projects and programs organized by the Istanbul Center, which took place in 2015.

1. NUMBER OF EVENTS SINCE OUR LAUNCH

Number of Events	Participants	CU Undergraduate Students	CU Graduate Students	CU Alumni	Local Students
269	16,377	169	482	780	1,994

2. NUMBER OF COLUMBIA FACULTY INVOLVED IN OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	3	8	9	16	36
School of the Arts	1	1	2	1	5
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation	3	9	6	2	20
School of Journalism	1	3	3	3	10
Columbia Business School	1	1	2	2	6
Mailman School of Public Health	1	3	6	5	15
School of Social Work	1	1	-	-	2
School of International and Public Affairs	-	5	4	2	11
Barnard College	-	1	3	-	4
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	-	1	-	-	1
Teachers College	-	2	-	-	2
Law School	-	-	2	-	2
Earth Institute	-	-	1	1	2

3. NUMBER OF COLUMBIA STUDENTS INVOLVED IN OUR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Columbia students participating in workshops, courses, public events and/or internship programs	59	135	100	136	430

These numbers reflect multiple interactions per person.

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS 2012-2015



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

LEON AMRAM '88BUS, industrialist, entrepreneur, investor

TAYFUN BAYAZIT '83BUS, Chairman of *Bayazit Consulting Services* and Chairman, *Marsh McLennan Companies*, Turkey

JEAN MAGNANO BOLLINGER '72TC, P: '02LAW, '11SIPA, a practicing artist with an academic background in education

HANZADE DOĞAN '99BUS, Deputy Chair of *Doğan Holding*, one of Turkey's leading conglomerates, Chairwoman of *Doğan Online*, Turkey's leading internet and e-commerce enterprise and *Aydın Doğan Foundation*, Doğan Holding's philanthropy arm

ÜSTÜN ERGÜDER Professor, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for *Özyeğin University* and former Rector of *Boğaziçi University*

AHMET EVIN '66CC, '73GSAS, Founding Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Emeritus, *Sabancı University* and Senior Scholar, *Istanbul Policy Center*

H.E. EKMELEDDİN İHSANOĞLU academic, diplomat, 9th Secretary General of the *Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)* and Member of the *Turkish Parliament* and *PACE*

MEMDUH KARAKULLUKÇU '00LAW, Vice-Chairman and President of *Global Relations Forum*, Managing Partner at *Kroton Consulting*

MUHTAR KENT '12CC, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the *Coca-Cola Company*

JOHN KLUGE JR. '05CC, Co-Founder and Chief Disruption Officer of *Toilet Hackers*

ÖMER M. KOÇ '85CC, '88BUS, Chairman of the Board of Directors at *Koç Holding*, and President of the *Turkish Educational Foundation (TEV)*

EMRE KURTTEPELİ '90SEAS, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of *Mynet*

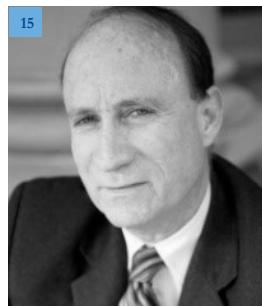
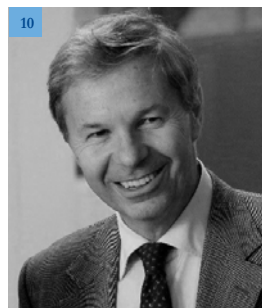
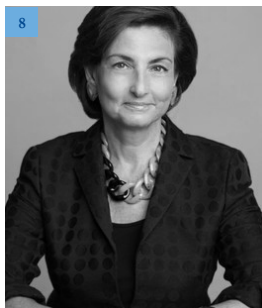
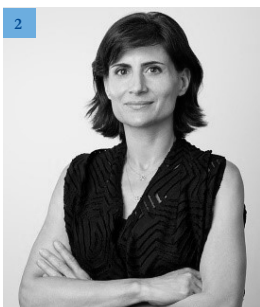
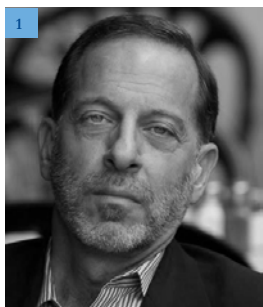
VUSLAT DOĞAN SABANCI '96SIPA, Chairwoman *Hürriyet Print&Digital Publishing*, life time honorary Board Member of the *International Press Institute*, Founding Board Member of *Endavour Turkey*

MUSTAFA SAY '84BUS, Founder of *Access Turkey Capital Group* Founder and Managing Partner, *Access Turkey*

AGAŞ UĞUR P: '17CC, Group CEO, *Borusan Holding*

TARIK YILMAZ *Group Florence Nightingale Hospitals*, Vice Chairman of Executive Committee

FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE 2012-2015



The Istanbul Center is governed by a board of directors of Columbia University senior administrators, and receives guidance and direction from the Office of Global Centers and Global Development in New York and a Faculty Steering Committee. The Committee provides academic and intellectual input, leadership, and advice regarding the Center's activities and plans, supports its engagement with faculty, as well as helps identify, expand and advance scholarly exchange, and create innovative and sustainable programming at and through the global center.

The Faculty Steering Committee 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 interest in, the region's nations, cultures, and issues.

RASHID KHALIDI (1) Chair, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies and Literature, Department of History and School of International and Public Affairs

AMALE ANDRAOS (2) Dean of Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; Associate Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, and Architecture Advisor to the President

ZAINAB BAHRANI (3) Edith Porada Professor of Art History and Archaeology; Department of Art History and Archaeology

ELAZAR BARKAN (4) Senior Research Scholar and Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, School of International and Public Affairs

CAROL BECKER (5) Professor and Dean, School of the Arts *

MARY BOYCE (6) Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science and Morris A and Alma Schapiro Professor of Mechanical Engineering

DAVID CUTHELL (7) Adjunct Associate Prof., School of International and Public Affairs *

LINDA FRIED (8) De Lamar Professor of Public Health and Dean, Mailman School of Public Health; Senior Vice President, Columbia University Medical Center; Professor of Epidemiology and Professor of Medicine, College of Physicians and Surgeons

TIMOTHY FRYE (9) Marshall D. Shulman Professor of Post-Soviet Foreign Policy, Department of Political Science

JEAN-MARIE GUEHENNO (10) Arnold Saltzman Professor of Professional Practice in the Faculty of School of International and Public Affairs *

MARIANNE HIRSCH (11) William Peterfield Trent Professor of English, Department of English and Comparative Literature

VALENTINA IZMIRLIEVA (12) Associate Professor of Slavic Languages, Chair of Slavic Languages

NEERAJ KAUSHAL (13) Associate Professor, School of Social Work

HOLGER KLEIN (14) Professor of Art History and Archaeology; Chair, Department of Art History and Archaeology

BRUCE KOGUT (15) Sanford C Bernstein & Co Prof. of Leadership and Ethics, Columbia Business School 2013

CHRISTINE PHILLIOU (16) Assistant Professor, Department of History *

KAREN RHOADS VAN DYCK (17) Kimon A. Doukas Professor of Hellenic Studies, Department of Classics

NESLIHAN ŞENOCAK (18) Assistant Professor, Department of History *

**Former members*

EDUCATION AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Creating a solid ground for global education is a priority for Columbia University and the global centers. Since its foundation, the Istanbul Center develops and facilitates various education and learning programs in collaboration with regional partners. These programs enable Columbia students to study a variety of subjects and enhance their local engagement towards a thorough global experience. The Istanbul Center assists the development of course curriculum with the Office of Global Programs at Columbia, oversees relations with local universities and is responsible for organizing orientation programs, field trips and public events to serve the mission of the University for creating meaningful and impactful global engagement.

COLUMBIA GLOBAL SEMINAR: BYZANTINE AND MODERN GREEK ENCOUNTERS

In 2015, Columbia University launched a semester long global core course in Istanbul, building upon existing relationships with Boğaziçi University and the Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Offered in the spring semester, the program is anchored by two seminars, taught by two distinguished Columbia faculty, Martha Howell, Miriam Champion Professor of History, from the Department of History and Karen Van Dyck, Kimon A. Doukas Professor of Modern Greek Literature from the Department of Classics.

The course combines perspectives from several disciplines, with special emphasis on history, literature, and cultural studies, to examine how Greek society and culture has been interpreted and appropriated from the Middle Ages to the present. In 2015, Professor Howell explored western Europeans' encounters with Byzantium and their experience of the early Ottoman Empire after the 1453 conquest of Constantinople using historical sources of various kinds: contemporary narratives, financial records, art and architecture, along with studies by modern scholars reflecting on the meaning of these sources. Professor Van Dyck, on the other hand, moved to the modern world, examining how conditions of modernity, postcoloniality, and globality fashion themselves in engagement with certain persistent imaginaries of Greece.

During the program, students enrolled in a Turkish language course and chose at least one elective course from a variety of disciplines at Boğaziçi University to help navigate their encounters in modern day Istanbul.

The Istanbul Center organized an orientation, field trips and a number of public events throughout the semester. These included a talk on "Pilgrimage: The Case of the Hajjis" featuring Associate Professor Valentina Izmirlijeva from Columbia University, Department of Slavic Studies, a panel discussion on "Cultural Intimacy and the Crisis (of Patronage)" by Professor Michael Taussig, Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, a poetry reading on "Cyprus, Divided Cities, and the Geopolitics of Translation" featuring Professor Lawrence Venuti, Temple University, Department of English and Cypriot poet Mehmet Yashin; and a screening of Elia Kazan's "America America" at the Zografyan Greek School. In 2015, the program was taken by four Columbia undergraduate students and three students from Boğaziçi University.

In Spring 2016, the program was simultaneously co-taught by Professor Dimitrios Antoniou in New York and Professor Matthew Gumpert in Istanbul.

"Being part of this program broke down the way I thought about Istanbul, or living anywhere as a student in any global city, including New York... It's a way of thinking that allows you to see intellectual value in things that aren't in a book. The global center and the program taught me about my value as a global citizen. It's very easy to describe being a global citizen as sharing experiences that cross boundaries that cross regions that cross countries.... It's quite a different thing to just share than to be able to generate new knowledge that's the result of synergy of different students, of different people coming together. That's what's really going to define the global world we'll be living in."
Halima Gikandi (CC '16), speaking at the World Leaders Forum at Columbia University, September 2015.



Alex Chafetz, another student in the Global Seminar, found a way to both learn from and give back to the community. On his own initiative, he spent time volunteering with Syrian children living in refugee camps. As a result of this experience in Turkey, Alex set up a non-profit organization called One Refugee One Goal.



Since 2013, Columbia University offers a joint summer program at Boğaziçi University for a select group of advanced undergraduate and graduate students to learn about the history, urban development, and historic monuments of the city of Byzantium-Constantinople-Istanbul. Directed by Professor Holger Klein, Department of Art History and Archaeology, the program consists of three courses and site visits designed to allow students to explore and understand Istanbul's modern topography. The program has a research and fieldwork component which helps students gain practical experience in architectural site survey and documentation, still and panoramic photography, archival work, and issues of architectural preservation.

In summer 2015, the program was composed of three courses, "Architecture of the Sultans: Form, Function and Ideology in the Imperial Mosques of Istanbul" offered by Dr. Ünver Rüstem, Fari Sayeed Visiting Fellow in Islamic Art, Bye-Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge; "Byzantium – Constantinople – Istanbul: A City and its Monuments" offered by Dr. Nikolas Bakirtzis from the Cyprus Institute; and "Istanbul Heritage and Public Space" offered by Dr. Rachel Iannacone, an independent scholar. In 2015, three Columbia undergraduate students and five undergraduate students from Boğaziçi University were enrolled in the course.

SUMMER PROGRAM IN TUNIS AND ISTANBUL: DEMOCRACY AND CONSTITUTIONAL ENGINEERING



Columbia University launched an intensive three-week summer program focused on democracy in June 2015. The program took place in Tunis and Istanbul and enrolled 14 Columbia students alongside 12 students from leading universities in Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia and Turkey. Taught by Professor John Huber, Professor of Political Science at Columbia University, the program focused on the concept of democracy, the challenges of democratic transitions and consolidation, and trade-offs associated with different ways of designing constitutions and organizing democratic institutions.

The Center organized a series of lectures with renowned guest speakers including Professor Mustafa Aydın, Rector of Kadir Has University, Professor Fuat Keyman, Director of Istanbul Policy Center,

Professor Binnaz Toprak, member of Grand National Assembly of Turkey, Ömer Madra, co-founder and editor-in-chief of the radio channel Açık Radyo, Professor Ersin Kalaycıoğlu, Sabancı University, and Yaman Akdeniz, an Associate Professor of Law at the Human Rights Law Research Center, Faculty of Law, Istanbul Bilgi University. The lectures allowed students to gain further insight on a number of current issues including the 2015 Turkish parliamentary elections, freedom of speech, the Kurdish issue and gender equality in Turkey.

The program is supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund and the Lee C. and Jean Magnano Bollinger Fellowship.

THE OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN'S KRAFT GLOBAL FELLOWS PROGRAM



In January 2015, Kraft Global Fellows explored inter-faith dialogue in a program led by university Chaplain Jewelnel Davis.

The Office of the University Chaplain's Kraft Global Fellows Program is an initiative of the Kraft Family Fund for Intercultural and Interfaith Awareness. At designated academic breaks, the Kraft Global Fellows Program will support up to five students who have a clear outlined research proposal to travel to one of the Columbia Global Centers as a team to conduct research for a particular set of questions or inquiries.

For more information, please visit: <http://ouc.columbia.edu/ouc-programs/#globalfellows>

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul in collaboration with the Office of the University Chaplain, designed a one-week program for Kraft Fellows' trip to Turkey. After the initial days spent in Ephesus, the fellows travelled to Istanbul in order to have a series of meetings and make visits to several religious and cultural sites.

Kraft Fellows visited the Office of Istanbul Mufti, the Istanbul Ecumenical Patriarchate, the Istanbul Armenian Patriarchate and the Chief Rabbinate in Istanbul. The fellows also participated in a Christmas Service at Armenian Surp Asvazdadzin Church in the Kumkapı district of Istanbul. Additional visits were organized to landmark sites such as Topkapı Palace, Hagia Sophia, Chora Church Museum among many others.

The program proved to be a unique opportunity for the Kraft fellows to explore religious pluralism and understand how diverse religious communities interact with each other in Turkey.

GLOBAL IMMERSION: EXPLORING TURKEY'S STARTUP CULTURE, WITH THE JEROME A. CHAZEN INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL BUSINESS OF THE COLUMBIA BUSINESS SCHOOL



Nearly 40 Columbia Business School students joined the Chazen Institute's Global Immersion Program to explore how Turkey's startup scene has grown and evolved over recent years. Global Immersion Program classes bridge classroom lessons and business practices in another country. These three-credit classes meet for half a term in New York prior to a one-week visit to the country of focus. During the immersion week, students meet with business executives and government officials while working on team projects.

In preparation for the study visit, students spent six weeks in classes with Professor Jack McGourty, Director of Community and Global Entrepreneurship at the Columbia Business School, learning about the country's business environment, political context and other factors that influence its start-up culture. Over the course of their week in Turkey, students met with business leaders, visited start-up incubators, and connected with entrepreneurs who are operating at the forefront of innovation. The Istanbul Center hosted the students for a seminar with the distinguished Professor Soli Özel of Kadir Has University, who gave a lecture about geopolitical developments in the region. The Center also organized a panel discussion featuring specialists and entrepreneurs from Endeavour.

"It was not only an exciting opportunity to have visited the city and meet with these business leaders, but even more exciting to know that we also have the chance to potentially help shape the future of Turkey's startup ecosystem through our recommendations."

"There needs to be more women in entrepreneurship. We learned a staggering statistic that only 10% of the country's entrepreneurs are women. From both speaking to women entrepreneurs and research, women feel like they face additional hurdles because of a cultural resistance to women in the workforce."

"But things, as we saw, are slowly changing. When we spoke to a CBS alumna at a well-regarded consulting firm, she mentioned that the women in the workplace are very ambitious and she had not faced any challenges. We also met a woman entrepreneur who founded a VC backed startup on our last day. She was positive about more women in startups as she is constantly asked to provide mentorship to other women entrepreneurs. There is a lot to be positive about when there are such incredible role models for others!"

For more student testimonies, please visit: <https://cbschazenstudenttravel.wordpress.com/?s=turkey>



FACULTY PROGRAMS

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul aims to develop its research initiatives in collaboration with Columbia faculty and students as well as with local project partners under four main subject areas: (i) human rights, policy and freedoms, (ii) humanities, history, cultural heritage and art, (iii) sustainable development, urbanization and public health and (iv) women and gender studies. The Center works for capacity building so as to allow scholars and practitioners in the region to actively contribute to our research programs and engage with Columbia faculty.

HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICY AND FREEDOMS

REGIONAL NETWORK FOR HISTORICAL DIALOGUE AND DEALING WITH THE PAST

Through one of its flagship projects, the Istanbul Center has been extending the programs of Columbia University's [Institute for the Study of Human Rights \(ISHR\)](#) to Turkey and the wider region in order to support the cross-fertilization of knowledge and practices related to the struggle for peace and reconciliation.

It does this through widening the scope of the [Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability \(AHDA\)](#), a program of the ISHR to the region. AHDA brings together academics, representatives of civil society organization, journalists, educators and artists as well as policy makers who all pursue historical dialogue in conflict, post-conflict and post-dictatorial societies. They address the political ramifications of the historical legacy of conflicts, as well as the role and impact of the memory of past violence on contemporary politics, society and culture.

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul has been working with Professor Elazar Barkan, Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Rights, and the Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability as well as the Truth, Justice and Memory Studies Center (Hafıza Merkezi), a prominent human rights organization in Turkey, to extend the understanding and practice of historical dialogue in the region.

Founded in 2013, the [Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past \(RNHDP\)](#) aims to contribute to historical dialogue and reconciliation efforts in the Caucasus and in the Middle East. It is modeled after the Alliance for Historical Dialogue and Accountability to enable regional cooperation between academia and civil society and facilitate the exchange of case studies, methodology and practices of historical memory, dialogue and accountability.

The network events are open to NGOs and scholars in the relevant countries whose work focus on historical dialogue, accountability, reconciliation, peace, human rights, conflict resolution and transitional justice. To date, the network's events have drawn the participation of 31 organizations who work at the forefront of their fields in Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Georgia, Israel, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.

RNHDP have been engaged in a number of activities that approach the issues related to conflict, historical dialogue and memory politics from interdisciplinary perspectives.



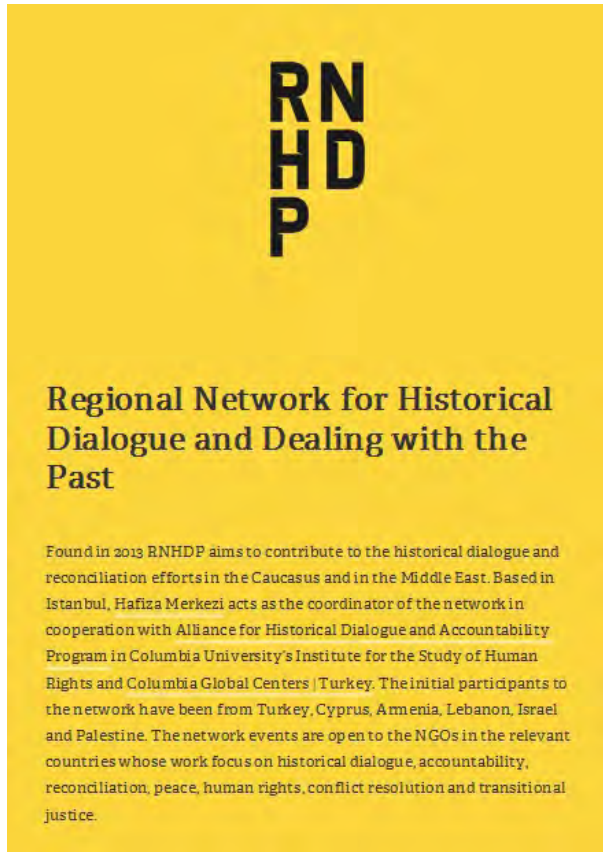
The first of these activities was the **“Launch Conference of the Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Accountability”** that was held on October 25-27, 2013 at Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul with the participation of Professor Elazar Barkan as well as founding members of the network: from Turkey (Hrant Dink Foundation, History Foundation, Helsinki Citizens Assembly, Diyarbakır Political and Social Studies Association), Cyprus (Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, Peace Research Institute of Oslo Cyprus Center), Israel (Zochrot), Palestine (Wasatia, Parents Circle Families Forum), Armenia (Caucasus Institute) and Lebanon (UMAM Documentation and Research Center, Support of Lebanese in Detention and Exile). Themes covered in the workshop included peace, conflict resolution, reconciliation, historical dialogue, transitional justice and accountability, documentation, memorialization, education, dialogue, judicial processes and traditional/official narratives of the past.



In April 2014, a workshop on **“Contested Sites and Historical Dialogue”** was held for university students based in Istanbul. The interactive workshop was led by Professor Elazar Barkan and Liz Sevchenko of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, focusing on the connections between space and memory. The workshop was part of a month-long project bringing together a number of interrelated efforts: the Guantánamo Public Memory Project exhibition; the Open Memory Library featuring material on contested city histories from Istanbul, Beijing, Mumbai, New York and Rio de Janeiro; a Hafıza Merkezi lecture series on the Hidden Pasts of Cities in Turkey; and the Closed Book, a research publication documenting the status of prisons in Turkey.

In January 2015, a workshop was held on **“Truth Telling and Encounters: Dynamics in Sites of Dialogue.”** This first thematic workshop of the Regional Network for Historical Dialogue and Dealing with the Past focused on three interrelated themes; (i) truth telling, (ii) constructing the truth, encounters, and (iii) the new media-scape.

In June 2015, the center launched the [Regional Network in Historical Dialogue Summer Training Program](#), a one-week summer school for civil society professionals and graduate students organized in collaboration with Truth Justice Memory Center and Boğaziçi University in Istanbul. The goal of the training program is to equip participants with a grounding in the tools and concepts of historical dialogue and dealing with the past and invite them to develop an approach to the conflicts they work with through the perspective of historical dialogue. The training program was composed of seminars and workshops conducted by international experts on the following topics:

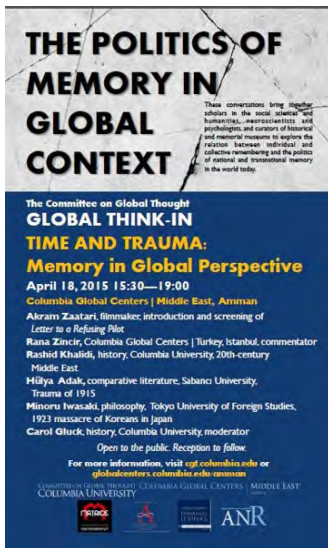


- Historical Dialogue: Truth, Narrative, Evidence
- Transitional Justice
- Truth Commissions
- Shared Narratives
- Designing Museums, Memorials, and Exhibits
- Oral History, Truth Seeking and Gender
- Historical Commissions
- Comparative Issues for Civil Societies in MENA and Caucasus Region

The program received over 130 applications for 14 spaces, which were fully funded through grants offered by donors to the program. Participants in the 2015 summer program came from the following countries: Algeria, Armenia, Georgia, Iran, USA, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia and Turkey.

The 2014-2015 RNHDP activities were supported by Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung Turkey, Open Society Foundation Turkey, Chrest Foundation, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Oak Foundation, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Boğaziçi University Peace Education Application and Research Center.





The Politics of Memory in Global Context is a Franco-American collaborative project that brings together scholars in the social sciences and humanities who work on collective or public memory; cognitive scientists, psychologists, and neuroscientists who work on individual memory; and curators of historical and memorial museums who present the past to the public. The project combines diverse disciplinary approaches and insists on considering its topics comparatively in global context in order to discern commonalities among them, develop new analytic perspectives on the formation and operation of public memory, and suggest policies for better political management of divisive memories within and between countries. The workshops aim to create an interdisciplinary context for researchers of memory, while public lectures bring the wider community into the discussion as described in the project website: <http://cgt.columbia.edu/research/memory/>.

On April 16-17, 2015, together with Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor of History and Rashid Khalidi, Edward Said Professor of Modern Arab Studies at Columbia, the Istanbul and Amman Centers designed a series of inter-linked workshops in both cities under the heading of **“Time and Trauma: Transgenerational Memories of Mass Suffering,”** which featured an interdisciplinary group of scholars and artists from Asia, Turkey and the Middle East. Taking place at Boğaziçi University campus in Istanbul and at Studio-X Istanbul, the panel and workshop brought together scholars in the social sciences and humanities, neuroscientists and psychologists, and curators of historical and memorial museums to explore the relation between individual and collective remembering and the politics of national and transnational memory in the world today.

THE COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL THOUGHT: GLOBAL THINK-INS

The Committee on Global Thought was established by Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger in 2006 with the mission of enhancing the University’s engagement with issues of global importance.

In October 2014, the Committee on Global Thought launched a series of Global Think-ins as vehicles for generating new ideas and perspectives on issues of global concern. The Think-ins are designed as forums for academics and practitioners from diverse disciplinary and methodological backgrounds, geographical locations, and expertise to share, critique, and develop new ideas. Global Think-ins take the form of closed door brainstorming sessions paired with open public events, and the format includes both on site and online exchange with participants in other places.

The Istanbul Center hosted two Global Think-Ins with the Committee on Global Thought in 2015: Time and Trauma Transgenerational Memories of Mass Suffering and Arts, Culture and Quality of Life in Global Cities.

For more information, please visit: <http://cgt.columbia.edu/about/about-cgt/>

JOURNALISM AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

As a priority area for Columbia University, journalism, press freedom and freedom of expression have been the focus of several programs at the Istanbul Center. Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and the Columbia Global Centers | Amman co-convoked the “[Workshop on Geopolitical Developments and Press Freedoms in the Middle East and Turkey](#)” in September 2013, which featured President Lee C. Bollinger, Professor Safwan M. Masri, Dean Steve Coll, former Dean Nicholas Lemann of the Columbia Journalism School and several distinguished global and regional experts on Turkey and the Middle East. In 2014, the Istanbul Center organized a training program for 24 students of media and journalism from the region and the United States on the theme of freedom of expression, with lectures given by Professor Anya Schiffrin, Director of the International Media, Advocacy and Communications specialization at Columbia University’s School of International Affairs, and by experts from Pro-Publica.

The Center also works together with Professor Susan E. McGregor, Assistant Professor at Columbia Journalism School and Assistant Director of the Tow Center for Digital Media, on a project supported by the President’s Global Innovation Fund which entails conducting research on experiences of working journalists in Turkey as well as holding a series of workshops and trainings for journalists and citizen media practitioners that will take place in 2016.

HUMANITIES, HISTORY, CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ART



GLOBAL HUMANITIES

The Istanbul Center actively works towards developing a global humanities program in collaboration with Columbia and its regional partners. In October 2015, the Center organized a roundtable meeting at Boğaziçi University with Sharon Marcus, Orlando Harriman Professor of English and Comparative Literature and the Dean of Humanities at Columbia to discuss future prospects for designing an interdisciplinary global humanities curriculum to be executed with regularized faculty visits and student exchange programs between campuses.

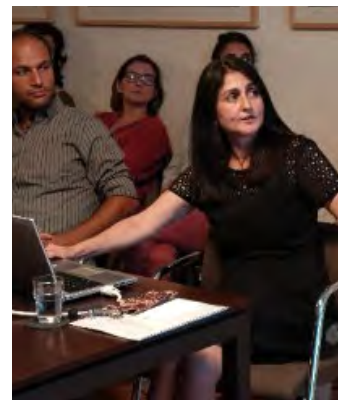
During her visit, Professor Marcus also met with several distinguished scholars, publishers and editors and participated in a public panel, “Theater, Performance and Celebrity: An Archive of Extravagance.” Together with other colleagues, she examined how theater and performance contribute to the development of modern celebrity and how celebrity revitalizes theater and performance.

ISTANBUL RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT



The Istanbul Research and Documentation Project was conceptualized and founded by Professor Holger A. Klein, Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University in November 2011 as a collaborative research initiative. The goal of the project is to create a digital platform for the virtual presentation of Istanbul's Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman and early Republican sites and monuments. As part of the project, Professor Klein has been teaching a summer course at Boğaziçi University since 2013. The Istanbul Research Institute and the Archaeological Museum are key partners in this endeavor. This project is supported by the President's Global Innovation Fund.

MAPPING MESOPOTAMIAN MONUMENTS



Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments, a project led by Zainab Bahrani, Edith Porada Professor of Art History and Archaeology at the Department of Art History and Archaeology in the College of Arts and Science was awarded a President's Global Innovation Fund grant in 2013.

The first step of the Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments project is to document the standing monuments and rock reliefs, their state of preservation and condition for historical and conservational purposes. The second step is to record and archive digitally the monuments, and make them available for scholarly and for public use, and for use by the State Board of Antiquities locally. In 2013, the first season of fieldwork was able to document and assess the damage of major monuments and heritage sites in Erbil, Dohuk and Suleymaniye. Fieldwork continued in southeastern Turkey in 2014 and 2015. Information gathered during the course of the fieldwork is transferred to the Archmap website under the Department of Art History and Archaeology.

For more information, please visit the project's website: <http://archmap.org/iraq>

Along with conducting fieldwork in Turkey, Professor Bahrani regularly engages with specialist communities and the wider public to raise awareness about the importance of safeguarding the region's cultural heritage. On June 4, 2015 she spoke at Artuklu University in Mardin on "The Discourse of Artifacts and Things" together with Professor Marc van de Mieroop of Columbia's Department of History. On June 9, 2015, the Istanbul Center partnered with the Association to Protect Cultural Heritage in hosting a lecture by Professor Bahrani on "Mapping the Cultural Heritage in Iraq, Syria and Turkey."

In October 2015, the Istanbul Center partnered with the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations to support Professor Bahrani's efforts to convene leading specialists from Turkey, Syria and Iraq for a workshop on **"The Future of the Past: Addressing the Cultural Heritage Crisis in Iraq and Syria."** The workshop began with a keynote lecture given by Professor Zainab Bahrani at Studio-X Istanbul on, "The Absent Past: Heritage Destruction and Historical Erasure Today," during which she discussed the current destruction of heritage in Iraq and Syria.

BLUE VOYAGERS: THE ART OF ROMARE BEARDEN AND BEDRI RAHMI EYÜBOĞLU



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and the Consulate General of Greece in Istanbul hosted the "Blue Voyagers: The Art of Romare Bearden and Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu" exhibition from April 15 to May 17, 2015. This exhibition was co-curated by Robert O'Meally, Zora Neale Hurston Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Merve İspahani, Doctoral Candidate in History at Columbia University and Research Associate at the Istanbul Center, and represented the final leg of a global voyage of the works of African American artist Romare Bearden's iconic series of works based on Homer's "The Odyssey." The exhibit was part of a year-long series of programs, lectures and performances inspired by Bearden's interpretation of Homer's classic, a staple of Columbia's undergraduate Core Curriculum.

Along with works from Romare Bearden's "A Black Odyssey," the exhibition in Istanbul featured works by the Turkish modernist Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu, who, like Bearden was instrumental in blending modern Western aesthetics with Anatolian themes. Focusing on journey as a central theme in their works, both Bearden and Eyüboğlu envisioned a "global odyssey" as a search for a new home that used the legacies of the ancient Greek civilization as a common point of reference.

Held in conjunction with the exhibition “Blue Voyagers,” a panel discussion on **“Inviting the Other in - Translation Adaptation and Improvisation”** explored connections between the two featured modern artists, Romare Bearden (American) and Bedri Rahmi Eyüboğlu (Turkish) and the issues of translation their work raises.

The exhibition concluded with a concert featuring Standard à la Turc, using different Turkish traditions, old and new – folk songs, art songs, pop and rock – reinterpreted and updated with a jazz approach, while respecting the place and meaning of each piece.



COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL THOUGHT: ARTS, CULTURE AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN GLOBAL CITIES



Leaders from cultural institutions, curators, practitioners and scholars explored factors influencing the arts and culture field in Istanbul, covering cultural policies, dynamics around public and private engagement in the arts, new forms of participation and issues around impact measurement in a “Global Think-In: Arts and Culture in Istanbul” led by Vishakha Desai, Senior Advisor for Global Affairs; Senior Research Scholar in Global Studies and Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs. After New York, Mumbai, and Rio, Istanbul is the fourth city to host the program, supported by the Ford Foundation and the Committee on Global Thought.

DE-PROVINCIALIZING SOFT POWER: PERSPECTIVES FROM TURKEY



“De-Provincializing Soft Power: A Global-Historical Approach” is a three-year research project designed to study the power of cultural persuasion in foreign relations in ways that look beyond the Transatlantic and Western framework in which studies of “soft power” originated in the early 1990s. Led by Victoria De Grazia, Moore Collegiate Professor of History at Columbia, the project introduces the cases of three emerging powers, Brazil, China, and Turkey that have developed soft-power agendas in rivalry with the U.S., Europe, and with each other.

Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul, in collaboration with the European Institute at Columbia University, organized an interdisciplinary academic workshop titled “De-Provincializing Soft Power: Perspectives from Turkey” on June 11-12, 2015. The workshop brought together scholars and graduate students who examined Turkey’s use of cultural persuasion in its recent history of international relations. This project is supported by the President’s Global Innovation Fund.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, URBANIZATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK



Sustainable development has been a priority for the Istanbul Center, through a collaboration which began in 2013 with Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University. He is also Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2012 to mobilize global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Istanbul Center helped to coordinate efforts to set up the Turkey chapter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which brings together universities, the private sector, civil society and government to advance the sustainable development agenda in Turkey. The university-led network is hosted by Boğaziçi University and was launched with a conference in June 2014.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The Center's efforts have been focused on the topic of sustainable urbanization, a core challenge that confronts Istanbul as well as cities across the country and the wider region. Through a number of roundtables hosted by the Center, global and local experts on urbanization have been coming together to reflect on challenges and opportunities to further sustainability at the city level, particularly in light of the new global framework put forward by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which were adopted in September 2015.



In February 2015, the Istanbul Center hosted Aromar Revi, the Co-Chair of the UNSDSN Leadership Council and its Thematic Group on Sustainable Cities, and the Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements. He met Mayor Kadir Topbaş of the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and visited the municipality of Sarıyer District, meeting with Mayor Şükrü Genç and other local government representatives. The Istanbul Center also held a roundtable discussion led by Aromar Revi on **“Sustainable Cities: Inclusive, Resilient, and Connected | The Role of Sustainable Cities as Drivers of Global Transformation,”** which gathered 35 experts on urban issues, including leading scholars, municipal officials, architects and urban activists. He also gave public lecture on, “Can urban geographies create new histories?”



In November 2015, Aromar Revi returned to Istanbul, and met with urban experts at the Istanbul Center for another roundtable discussion on, **“Prospects for Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: The Urban SDG and Implications for Istanbul.”** Boğaziçi University held a high-level conference with the SDSN20, examining the relevance of the Sustainable Development Goals for industrialized countries ahead of the G20 meetings in Turkey.

Stephen Karam, Lead Urban Economist and Sustainable Development Group Program Leader at the World Bank, presented the “Turkey Urbanization Review” at a roundtable organized by the Center in November 2015.

CAPACITY BUILDING TO ADDRESS PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGES IN TURKEY AND THE REGION

Programs with the Mailman School of Public Health were initiated following an extensive visit of Dean Linda Fried and several public health scholars from Mailman in October 2013. Through this visit, a President's Global Innovation Fund project on **"Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases in the Middle East and Turkey,"** was developed by Professor Wafaa El-Sadr, Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine, Dr. Mathilde Krim-amfAR Chair of Global Health, and Director of ICAP, and Professor Miriam Rabkin, Associate Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology at Columbia University Medical Center and Director of Health Strategies at ICAP. The primary purpose of the project is to establish a priority research agenda on non-communicable diseases and to foster research partnerships and academic collaborations. One of the first activities of the project was a conference held at the Amman Center in January 2014, featuring leading specialists from the region, including the Director of the Istanbul Public Health Directorate and the Dean of the Koç University Medical School.

In order to deepen the collaboration between the Mailman School of Public Health and counterparts in the region, public health specialists from Turkey were invited to attend the Epidemiology and Population Health Summer Institute in New York. In 2014, one representative from the Istanbul Public Health Directorate and one from Koç University attended. In June 2015, one representative from the Istanbul Public Health Directorate and two scholars from Marmara University's Department of Public Health participated in the program. While they were in New York, they also spoke at an ICAP Seminar on **"Changing Health Needs in the Middle East and Turkey,"** sharing their valuable on-the-ground insights with an audience of 30 experts from the field.

REFUGEE HEALTH

In 2015, the Istanbul Center launched its second collaboration with the Mailman School of Public Health through the **"Responding to Changing Health Needs in Complex Emergencies: A Policy Imperative"** project, which is supported with a grant made possible by Columbia University's Global Policy Initiative.

This three-year project focuses on the issue of Syrian refugees in Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon, aiming to influence policy by providing a compelling, evidence-based argument that current frameworks for refugee health are not optimally configured for twenty-first century needs, and that there is an opportunity to enhance health services for displaced persons worldwide. The project has mobilized a team of researchers in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon and the United States to undertake a situational analysis to identify key policy gaps and opportunities. The American University of Beirut and the Istanbul and Amman Centers are partners in this effort, which is led by Professor Wafaa El-Sadr, Professor Miriam Rabkin and Professor Neil Boothby, Allan Rosenfield Professor of Forced Migration and Health, Department of Population and Family Health.

To lay the foundations for the project, Professors Wafaa El-Sadr, Miriam Rabkin and Lynn Freedman, Professor of Population and Family Health at the Columbia University Medical Center, visited Turkey in March 2015 for a series of meetings with public health officials, scholars and international agencies. While they were in Istanbul, they spoke at a public panel organized by the Istanbul Center on the topic of **"Prioritizing Women: Adapting Refugee Health Services for 21st Century Challenges."** Istanbul University scholars Zeynep Kivılcım and Nurcan Özgür Baklacioğlu presented findings from fieldwork recently conducted in Istanbul with Syrian women and LGBT refugees as well as an assessment of the legal framework in Turkey, which sets the basis for the protection of refugees and their ability to fully access their rights. In their presentations, Lynn Freedman, Wafaa El-Sadr,



and Miriam Rabkin offered insights on questions of public health and the right to health for refugee populations, with a focus on women.

The second major activity involved a large-scale two-day event titled, **“Responding to Changing Health Needs in Complex Emergencies: Workshop on Refugee Health,”** held in Istanbul in October 2015, during which 80 specialists on refugee health from Turkey and the region were brought together to share their expertise, discuss recent policy approaches and identify the key challenges faced by the recent influx of refugee populations. Professors Wafaa El-Sadr, Miriam Rabkin, Neil Boothby and Lindsay Stark, Associate Professor in Columbia University’s Program on Forced Migration and Health participated in the workshop, giving presentations on their areas of expertise in conjunction with presentations made by public health officials, international agencies as well as several leading scholars. Following the workshop, Professors Wafaa El Sadr, Neil Boothby and Miriam Rabkin, together with the program team of the Istanbul Center, held meetings in Ankara with representatives of the Ministry of Health, United Nations agencies and the Directorate General of Migration Management.

WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

WOMEN CREATING CHANGE, CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIAL DIFFERENCE

The Center has placed a special focus on gender issues through a collaboration with the Center for the Study of Social Difference on its flagship global initiative, Women Creating Change.

What are the global issues most affecting women? How do women create change in their societies and in international contexts? How will Columbia University prepare new generations who are committed to social justice for women?

The Women Creating Change initiative engages distinguished feminist scholars across Columbia's many schools with leading intellectuals and thinkers around the world to focus on how contemporary global problems affect women and the role women play in addressing those problems. At the heart of Women Creating Change (WCC) are working groups – scholars, students, practitioners, and socially engaged artists (filmmakers, dramatists, photographers) who meet in New York and at Columbia's Global Centers with partners from across the world. Working groups have been formed under the following headings:

- Rethinking Gender, Vulnerability and Resistance
- Gender and the Global Slum
- Women Mobilizing Memory
- Gender, Religion and Law in Muslim Societies
- Social Rights after the Welfare State

For more information please visit http://socialdifference.columbia.edu/WCC_Giving



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul first collaborated with Women Creating Change on a workshop on **“Rethinking Gender, Vulnerability and Resistance”** held at the Center in September 2013. Judith Butler, Maxine Elliot Professor of Comparative Literature, co-directed the workshop with Professor Zeynep Gambetti of Boğaziçi University, during which 15 leading feminist scholars from Turkey and the region examined concepts related to the workshop's main theme. While in Istanbul, Judith Butler also gave a public lecture on **“Freedom of Assembly, Or, Who are the People?”** at Boğaziçi University, held as part of the opening of the 13th Istanbul Biennial. In her talk, she examined freedom of assembly as a basic right and the relation between freedom of expression and freedom of assembly, and how this re-conceptualizes notions around the people and the body. Her lecture was attended by over 400 people.



Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul then began a partnership with the **Women Mobilizing Memory** working group. Starting in 2013, a series of activities were held that fostered links between Santiago, Istanbul and New York. In total, four workshops were held, gathering the transnational group of participants first in Santiago, Montreal, Istanbul and finally in New York. In addition, graduate student members of the working group held two seminars on campus, which also featured graduate students from Turkey.



MOBILIZING MEMORY: WOMEN WITNESSING

Curators: Ayşe Gül Altınay and Işın Önel

Artists: Gülçin Aksoy | Hera Büyüktaşçıyan | Silvina Der-Meguerditchian | Truth Justice Memory Center | Gülsün Karamustafa | Susan Meiselas | Nar Photos (Serra Akcan, Fatma Çelik, Gülşin Ketenci, Aylin Kızıl, Serpil Polat) | Lorie Novak | Emine Gözde Sevim | Aylin Tekiner

Held at Depo Art Center in Istanbul from September 5 – October 3, 2014

What is the role of witnessing in practices of resistance: resistance to enforced silence and forgetting, to state power, and to inaction? What role do the arts play in combatting the erasure of past violence from current memory and in creating new visions and new histories for future generations? In particular, what unique strategies have women devised to reveal and redress the violence directed at woman and at other disempowered social groups?

The feminist art work displayed in this exhibit imagines memory as part of a larger politics of resistance. It mobilizes memories of past and present violence precisely to create the conditions and the motivations for social change. Bringing together women artists many of whom are themselves direct witnesses to oppression and terror, the exhibit also reveals moments of resilience, resistance, and creative survival.



The Women Mobilizing Memory working group continued its activities in 2015. In March 2015, graduate student members of Women Mobilizing Memory held a University Seminar that initiated the group's **Collaborative Keyword Project**, inspired by discussions of gendered memory and the political efficacy of various forms of art and activism in recent Turkish and broader transnational contexts. The exhibition first displayed in Istanbul was then adapted and shown as **"Mobilizing Memory"** at the Kunsthalle Exnergasse / Wuk in Vienna, Austria in March 2015.

The final workshop, **"Collaboration and Co-Resistance,"** was held at Columbia University in September 2015. Working group members met at Columbia and New York University to discuss work in progress; it visited memory sites in Harlem and lower Manhattan; and sponsored a number of public events. Public happenings included an exhibition at Leroy Neiman Gallery on **"Intimate Archives: Connective Histories,"** artists' performances and a roundtable discussion; a Wishing Tree commemorative public art ritual; and a one-day conference featuring various roundtable discussions on performance, art, and activism. Working group members are now in the process of completing the academic publication reflecting the outcome of this three-year scholarly collaboration.

PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL INNOVATION FUND PROGRAMS

Launched in March 2013 by President Lee C. Bollinger, the President's Global Innovation Fund (PGIF) is designed to provide support for faculty who would like to use the resources or facilities of one or more of the University's eight global centers for teaching or research activities.

The President's Global Innovation Fund awards grants for faculty members to leverage and engage Columbia's global centers network. The program is designed as a venture fund to enable the development of projects and research collaborations within and across these sites, in order to increase global opportunities for research, teaching and service.

Prof. Holger Klein, Department of Art History and Archaeology	2013	Istanbul Documentation Project
Prof. Zainab Bahrani, Department of Art History and Archaeology	2013, 2014	Mapping Mesopotamian Monuments
Prof. Julien Teitler and Prof. Sandro Galea, School of Social Work Mailman School of Public Health	2013	Global Migration Network
Prof. Wafaa El-Sadr and Prof. Miriam Rabkin, Mailman School of Public Health	2013	Confronting Non-Communicable Diseases
Prof. Sheena Iyengar, Columbia Business School	2013	Global Leadership Matrix
Prof. Victoria De Grazia, Department of History	2014	De-Provincializing Soft Power
Prof. Susan McGregor, Columbia Journalism School	2015	Global Operational Data Index
Prof. John Themelis, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	2015	Sustainable Waste Management
Prof. Mabel O. Wilson, Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation	2015	Mapping Human Networks of Transnational Architectural Projects

STUDIO-X ISTANBUL

Founded as an initiative of Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), Studio-X Istanbul is an urban laboratory that aims to identify the current and future issues facing the city and seeks to generate innovative forms of thinking for their solutions. It is part of a worldwide network of spaces operating in Amman, Johannesburg, Mumbai and Rio de Janeiro.



STUDIO-X GLOBAL NETWORK

In recent years, GSAPP has used the label “Studio-X” to refer to its most advanced laboratories for exploring the future of cities. The label conveys the sense that a whole new platform for research and debate is needed to face the array of urgent questions that will face the next generation of designers.

Each Studio-X is organized around the traditional setting of the design studio found in architecture schools all over the world: a simple open loft-like space that fosters collaborative exploration, an empty room that welcomes new people and new ideas.

Each Studio-X is a cultural center that supports close personal interactions between people that might not normally come together. At the same time, the space is equipped with the latest technology to take advantage of Columbia’s expertise in digital design and data visualization to draw on the widest array of global resources and communicate ideas to the widest possible audience. The local director of each Studio-X acts as the curator of a continuous array of projects, workshops, lectures, seminars, symposia, exhibitions, and performances helping to tie the daily operations of the space to the surrounding city. In key moments, all the Studio-X spaces are linked in single real-time global workshops allowing unprecedented bursts of creativity.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.arch.columbia.edu/studio-x>

Directed by architect Selva Gürdoğan, Studio-X Istanbul opened in November 2013 in a two-story building at Salıpazarı, in Istanbul’s downtown area.

As the Istanbul space of GSAPP, Studio-X’s priority is to express the knowledge of Columbia University, while also absorbing the information from local and regional partners hence blurring the boundary in-between as much as possible. It is a living space: it exists to generate ideas, discuss, and even make mistakes. Studio-X Istanbul strives to host the flourishing of good ideas around urban issues and the development of pioneer thinkers.

To this end, Studio-X creates a unique platform to enable information and knowledge exchange among experts, universities, civil society organizations and local governance; supports everyone who would like to do something on urban issues. Studio-X works in coordination with Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul.

Studio-X Istanbul’s programs pursue the following key themes: Open Memory, Livable Lovable Cities; Compressed; Mind Shift; Made by Makers; Housing - hosting exhibitions, workshops, and public discussions to elaborate on those themes in collaboration with scholars and students from Columbia University and from across the Studio-X community of architects, designers and academics in Istanbul.



1. OPEN MEMORY

MOM I'M GOING OUT TO POUR SOME CONCRETE

January 16 – February 27, 2015 / Exhibition

The appearance of boulevards, streets and houses is being changed by constant demolition and constant reconstruction in order to create new means to bring profit to the ruling political power and its supporters. This spatial destruction turns migration and relocation into a constant fact, and erases social memory. While this attack consolidates authoritarian power, people are trapped in 'new' spaces without historical sites or personal memories. Artists: Antonio Cosentino and Extramücadele.



LE MUSÉE D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE DE CONSTANTINOPLE

September 18, 2015 – November 20, 2015 / Exhibition

The exhibition Le Musée d'Histoire Naturelle de Constantinople by Tayfun Serttaş is based on the institutional correspondence of the Museum of Natural History and explores the (extra)ordinary discussions on natural history during the nineteenth century and at present.

May 17, 2016 / Book Launch

Tayfun Serttaş, in his new book comments on the data he obtained throughout his research about the first natural history museum of Istanbul that is open to the general public. The study of the artist, who does not give place to archival data by choice, which constitutes the theoretical base of his productions during the process of the project that is evaluated to an archive from a work of art this time, focuses on approaching the natural history discipline from different perspectives at the same time.



2. LIVABLE LOVABLE CITIES

HEY! IMAGINABLE GUIDELINES ISTANBUL

Hey! is a wide and open collaboration space created by Studio-X and SANALarc in order to enable participants to take an active role in urban planning, and in order to create strong neighborhood cultures. Imaginable Guidelines Istanbul is a tool for Istanbulites to come up with creative solutions to the problems of the city.



3. COMPRESSED

THE GOOD CAUSE: ARCHITECTURE OF PEACE AND VOCABULARY OF HOSPITALITY

March 6 – April 24, 2015 / Exhibition

War and conflict are of all ages. To confront this reality, peace missions, rebuilding operations and international law have been developed as tools to help create stability and peace after conflict. The Good Cause not only gave insight into the complexities of dealing with post conflict-situations but showed what reconstruction could look like if it were designed with an eye for local structures through inspiring case studies from Afghanistan, Kosovo, South Africa, Rwanda, Israel and Palestine. The exhibition investigated the cultural, legal and social insinuations of the word 'guest', and their signs in the city.



4. MIND SHIFT

HAPPY OWNERS

May 22, 2015 – June 3, 2015 / Exhibition

Mother Earth just opened a real estate agency! Soazic Guezennec's Happy Owners exhibition advertised imaginary real estate projects appropriated by nature. Guezennec worked with their poetic yet tragic images, invited us to question our perception about the city and nature.



URBAN BEACHSCAPE

August 7, 2015 – September 5, 2015 / Exhibition

For this whimsical exhibition, 30 tons of sand transformed Studio-X into a beach. The Italian art initiative ATI SUFFIX, created a whimsical look at how the capitalism appropriated the beach as a main work incentive.



5. MADE BY MAKERS

MAKER MEET-UPS

Workshop

Makers in Turkey first came together on February 20th 2014 at Studio-X and continues to meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

MADE BY MAKERS

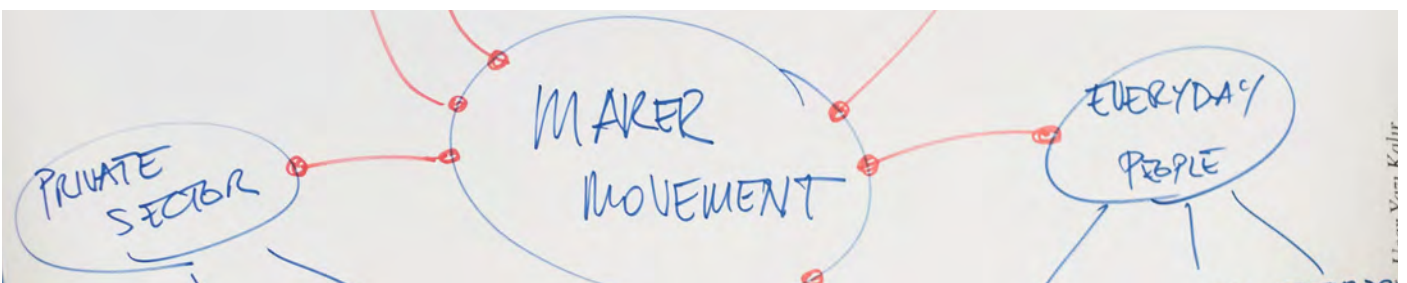
December 12, 2014 – January 2, 2015 / Exhibition

The exhibition brought together nine works from the first maker faire in Turkey called 'Mini Maker Faire'. Curators: Alican İnal, Yelta Köm

BY ITSELF

Panel series

Developed with TurkishWIN, 'By Itself' brought together civil society initiatives working at the level of different neighborhoods, to exchange ideas about what can a person, an organization, a neighborhood do 'by itself'.





6. HOUSING

BAŞAKŞEHİR: AN URBAN MODEL

November 11, 2015 – January 6, 2016 / Exhibition

With its 370,000 inhabitants, Başakşehir is emblematic of a comprehensive process of transformation; a physical and social restructuring of the city, permeated by capitalistic influence. The installation presented the model project Başakşehir as a series of spatial narratives, interwoven with the perspectives of residents and workers from the area. The installation was created by Sandra Schaefer and Ayşe Çavdar.



HOUSING THE MAJORITY

April 10, 2015 / Conference, Columbia University

In recent decades, debates on slums and the future of urban life have raged. Novelists, filmmakers, academics, cultural institutions, NGOs, foundations, and think tanks from across the political spectrum offered ways to alternately upgrade, reinforce, preserve, integrate, and learn from these precarious landscapes, highlighting their many complex socio-spatial questions.

In Housing the Majority, scholars, architects, urban planners, artists, and activists gathered from global cities with soaring rates of inequality—Cairo, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, New York City, Mumbai, Istanbul, and London—to define the terms of the debate. Moving beyond traditional and quantifiable definitions of informality, the panels focused on politics, representation, governance, and form as entry points to the difficult humanitarian challenges to “housing the majority.”

Organized by GSAPP Dean Amale Andraos and Studio-X Amman, Istanbul, Johannesburg, Mumbai, and Rio de Janeiro, with support from the Columbia Global Centers.

URBANIZATION NEWS OF TURKEY

May 2016 / Book Launch

Housing has been the leading driver of urbanization processes in Turkey. The slums defined how urbanization has taken place in the country. The slum newspaper project brought together news articles relating to housing from 1930 to 2015.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



COLUMBIA - YALE JOINT LECTURE: VENTURE CAPITAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

In June 2015, Columbia Global Centers | Istanbul and the Yale Club of Turkey organized a lecture by Professor Olav Sorenson on “Venture Capital and Economic Growth.” Olav Sorenson, Frederick Frank ‘54 and Mary C. Tanner Professor of Management at Yale School of Management discussed the critical role that a local venture capital community plays in enabling entrepreneurs, creating jobs and raising incomes.

CHOMAN HARDI POETRY READING: CONSIDERING THE WOMEN

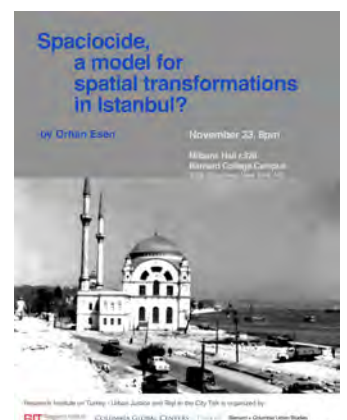
In September 2015, the Istanbul Center hosted renowned poet and scholar Choman Hardi from American University of Iraq, Sulaimani (AUIS), for a poetry evening. Hardi read from her forthcoming collection “Considering the Women,” where migration, political violence, gendered experiences and honour-related crimes are central themes.

A TALK BY SERCAN ÇELEBI: VOTE AND BEYOND, THE ADVOCATE OF DEMOCRACY AT THE BALLOT BOX

In October 2015, Sercan Çelebi, the Director of Vote and Beyond, gave a public lecture “Vote and Beyond, The Advocate of Democracy at the Ballot Box” at Studio-X Istanbul. Vote and Beyond, which is one of the fastest and result-oriented civil society organizations in the past two years, gathered tens of thousands of volunteers for ballot supervision.

LECTURE BY ORHAN ESEN: SPACIOCIDE, A MODEL FOR SPATIAL TRANSFORMATIONS IN ISTANBUL?

In November 2015, Orhan Esen, a freelance researcher of the built environment in history, gave a lecture at Barnard campus. In his lecture, Esen highlighted a series of cases from Istanbul’s urban trajectory since the mid-19th century. Orhan Esen has lectured and led educational excursions around Istanbul for several Columbia faculty and student groups in programs hosted by the Columbia Global Center in Istanbul.



STUDENT AND ALUMNI RELATIONS

The Istanbul Center creates a hub for Columbia students and alumni in the region by organizing regular gatherings, where current and prospective students, parents and alumni learn about the centers, projects and programs, meet with staff and gain awareness of Columbia's mission on global education.

STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Every year, the Istanbul Center facilitates opportunities for students at the School of International and Public Affairs to conduct internships with leading organizations from different sectors in Istanbul. Over the past three years, three to four Columbia students have been accepted for summer internships at the Istanbul Policy Center of Sabancı University, a leading policy think-tank, where they conducted research on climate change and energy policy.



ENGAGING WITH ALUMNI IN GREECE

In an effort to engage with Columbia alumni in our region, Professor Safwan M. Masri, the Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development and Director of the Columbia Global Centers | Amman, and Ipek Cem Taha, the Director of the global center in Istanbul, met with alumni in Greece in June 2015 at a lunch reception held in collaboration with the Columbia Alumni Club of Greece. The purpose of the visit was to introduce and share the latest developments from the global centers, and discuss ways in which Columbia's global programs could deepen and extend its connections with Greece, in collaboration with alumni and other counterparts. Alumni representing various backgrounds – academia, business, the public sector and the arts – were on hand to contribute their ideas for broadening cooperation with the global centers.



COLUMBIA STUDENT AND PARENT GATHERINGS IN ISTANBUL

Columbia College and Columbia School of Engineering and Applied Sciences current and incoming students and parents attended a cocktail reception in January 2015 at Studio-X Istanbul. The evening was hosted by parents Metin Ar and Izzet Garih. The event coincided with the newly installed exhibition "Mom I'm going to pour some concrete" by the artist Antonio Cosentino at Studio-X Istanbul. During the reception, Cosentino gave a special tour of the exhibition. In August 2015, students came together again at a send-off dinner generously hosted by Yaman Türkmen, Columbia University '17, and President of Columbia Turkish Students Association (CTS).



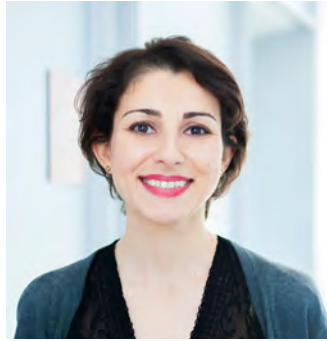
ELIF SHAFAK: STORYTELLING IN THE AGE OF CONFLICT

Columbia Turkish Students Association and the Istanbul Center organized a talk titled "Storytelling in the Age of Conflict" with novelist Elif Shafak at Columbia University in April 2015. Professor Safwan Masri, Executive Vice President for Global Centers and Global Development at Columbia University, introduced Elif Shafak to the audience.

COLUMBIA GLOBAL CENTERS | ISTANBUL AND STUDIO-X TEAM



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