

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

**VIRGINIA TECH NATIONAL
CAPITAL REGION**

**1021 PRINCE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314**

**RSVP IS REQUIRED to
attend the conference:**

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<http://turkeyandkurds.blogspot.com/>

Organized and Sponsored by

[School of Public & International Affairs, Virginia Tech, National Capital Region](#)

[Ottoman and Modern Turkish Studies Chair \(Indiana University\)](#)

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

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

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



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PANEL - 1:

Kurdish Nationalism and Imperial Legacy

8:30 - 10:00 AM

OPENING REMARKS BY KEMAL SILAY, INDIANA UNIVERSITY-BLOOMINGTON

Moderator: Gerard Toal, Virginia Tech

- **Perception of Identity among the Kurds in Turkey, Iraq and Iran - Derya Berk (Rutgers University)**
- **De Facto States and the Independence Question: Is Iraqi Kurdistan an Exception? - Zheger Hassan (University of Western Ontario)**
- **Europe's Kurdish Diaspora as Bellwether - Vera Eccarius-Kelly (Siena College)**
- **Imperialism and Kurdish Nationalism in Turkish Press - Begümşen Ergenekon (Middle East Technical University)**



Thomas Edward Lawrence - British Military and Intelligence Officer (1888-1935)

PANEL - 2: Room - I

Young Academicians and Kurdish Nationalism

10:30 - 12:00 AM

Moderator: Tuğrul Keskin, Portland State University

- **Modernization, Religiosity, and Ethno-nationalism of the Kurds in Turkey - Keri Hughes (California State University - Long Beach)**
- **From Juba to Erbil: The Growth of Cross--Continental Consciousness - Evan Fowler (John Hopkins University)**
- **Foundational Mythology and The Discursive Construction of Terrorism in the PKK - Selim Can Sazak (Columbia University)**
- **Political Mobilization Theory, Syrian Kurds and PKK - Wladimir van Wilgenburg (The Jamestown Foundation)**



PANEL - 3: Room - II

Kurdish Nationalism in Contemporary Turkey

10:30 AM - 12 :00 PM

Moderator: Birol Yeşilada, Portland State University

- **Emergence of Kurdish Nationalist Movement: From Social Movement Theories Perspective - Rahman Dağ (Exeter University)**
- **The “Arab Spring” and the Kurdish Community: An Analysis of the Kurdish Movement in Turkey in the Aftermath of the Arab Revolutions - Tülin Şen (King's College London)**
- **Language and Nation Building: The History of Kurdish in Turkey - Engin Gülbey (Turkish Police Academy)**
- **Evolution of Turkish Nationalism and the Changing Nature of Kurdish Problem - Salim Çevik (Ipek University)**



PANEL - 4: Room -I

PKK and Kurdish Nationalism

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Moderator: Birol Yeşilada, Portland State University

- **US Policies and PKK's New Situation - Deniz Tansi (Yeditepe University)**
- **The PKK and Kurdish Movement in the 1970s - Ahmet Hamdi Akkaya (Ghent University)**
- **Turkey's War on Terror: A Comparison of Applied Strategies in Dealing with the PKK - Doğan Koç (Gülen Institute-University of Houston)**
- **The PKK Problem: Turkey's Incapacity to Solve It - Birol Başkan (Georgetown University- School of Foreign Service in Qatar)**



PANEL -5: Room -II

The Kurds and the Future of Turkey

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Moderator: Joshua Hendrick, Loyola University of Maryland

- **Understanding the “Kurdish Question”: an ethnographic case study in Yüksekova Tahir Abbas (Fatih University) and İsmail Hakkı Yiğit (Mississippi State University)**
- **‘Prepared for Peace, Ready for War’? Context and Challenges of the Current Peace Process - Edel Hughes (University of East London)**
- **An Ethnographic Account of the Compulsory Public Service of Doctors in Hakkari: The Limits of the JDP’s Assimilation Strategy and the Production of Space - İlker Cörüt (Central European University)**
- **The Evolution of Kurdish Nationalism within the Turkish State Discourse - İnci Aksu Kargın (Indiana University, Bloomington)**



August 21, 2012 - Eskişehir , Turkey

PANEL -6:

The Kurds and the Future of Turkey

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Moderator: Kemal Silay Indiana University, Bloomington

- **Managing Violent Conflicts of Mesopotamia through Regionalism: Emergence of Kurdish Sphere as a Game Changing Actor for Contestation and Peace Process - Haluk Baran Bingöl (Kennesaw State University)**
- **Negotiations Between Pro-Islamic Government and Öcalan, the PKK Question for Turkey - Ali Kemal Özcan (Tunceli University)**
- **The AKP's Kurdish "Closing" - Elif Genç (York University)**
- **From the Right for Independence to the Claims for Territorial Autonomy: The Kurdish Questions in Turkey - Maya Arakon (Süleyman Şah University)**
- **The Correlates of Kurdish ethno-nationalism in Turkey: A more definitive test - Faruk Ekmekçi (Ipek University)**



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

DINNER: 7:30 - 10:00 PM

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