



THE ANKARA
CONFERENCE ON
PEACEBUILDING
& CONFLICT
RESOLUTION



Conference Book
The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution
"Using Cultural Diplomacy as a Tool to Build Sustainable Peace"
Ankara, April 17th-19th, 2012





The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

Ankara, April 17th-19th, 2012



Thank you!

The ICD would like to extend its sincere gratitude to all those in the organisation of the conference and to the entire Cultural Diplomacy in Africa & Mediterranean team, including Dragos Prodan, Pauline Soudier, Rudolf Sulik, Shizuka Arai, Ksenija Kovacic, Madalina Puiu and Julia Richter.

Special thanks go to team leaders Youssef Benbakka and Myriam Zekagh for all of their hard work, inspiration and dedication to the success of the conference.

Finally, the ICD and all of the organisers would like to thank the participants and speakers, whose enthusiasm and participation were a vital contribution to the phenomenal success of this exciting and vibrant international event that was thoroughly enjoyed by all involved.



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Introduction

The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution explored how Cultural Diplomacy could be used as a tool for peacebuilding and for solving conflicts. The conference agenda focused on analysing current conflicts and what role cultural diplomacy has played in the past and could play in the future in terms of building peace.

The program examined how culture can have a crucial role in the field of conflict resolution and how intercultural dialogue and cooperation through cultural relations can help in terms of building sustainable peace.

The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution 2012 was the brainchild of Cultural Diplomacy in Africa & Mediterranean, a program of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy. CDAM aims at sharing the ICD's philosophy that diplomacy must transcend mere discussion and include practical implementation of theory. Sometimes actions speak louder than words: cultural diplomacy must show rather than tell. For this conference, the ICD had the pleasure of benefiting from the support of the Hon. Yasar Yakis (Former Foreign Minister of Turkey) and from the ARI Movement, a Turkish think tank.

The program consisted of lectures, seminars, debates and panel discussions featuring leading figures from international politics, diplomacy, academia, civil society. It provided everyone with an extraordinary opportunity for networking both during the conference and in the group dinners and social activities.

The following report is a summary of the Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution. It provides key themes, information on speakers including lecture topics and keynote interviews.



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

Ankara, April 17th-19th, 2012

Speakers

Azu Ozyurt

Moderator, CNN Turkey

Gulsun Bilgehan

Member of the Turkish Parliament

Elijah Bush

Managing Director, Syncretic Solutions Research & Consulting

Ali Oguz Dirioz

Researcher, Bilkent University International Relations Department

Çağrı Erhan

Researcher, Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, USAK

Carsten Pauludan-Müller

General Director, The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage

H.E. Amb. Drazen Hrstic

Croatian Ambassador to Turkey

Eirik N. Mathisen

Deputy Head of Mission, Royal Norwegian Embassy in Ankara

H.E. Amb. Ian Biggs

Australian Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. Jaime Garcia Amaral

Mexican Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. John Holmes

Canadian Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. Marcin Wilczek

Polish Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Dr. Milan Jazbec

Slovenian Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. Osman Faruk Logoglu

Former Turkish Ambassador to the United States

H.E. Amb. Pol De Witte

Belgian Ambassador to Turkey

Shahid Najam

United Nations Resident Coordinator in Turkey

H.E. Amb. Vika M. Khumalo

South African Ambassador to Turkey

Yusuf Kanli

Columnist, Hurriyet Daily News

Arda Batu

Vice Chairman, ARI Movement

Ceren Mutus Toprakseven

Researcher, Center for Middle Eastern and African Studies, USAK

H.E. Amb. Dusan Spasojevic

Ambassador of Serbia to Turkey

Isabelle Dumont

Second Political Counselor at the Embassy of France in Ankara

H.E. Amb. Jean-Daniel Ruch

Special Middle East Representative, Foreign Ministry of Switzerland

H.E. Amb. Jorge Arancibia Reyes

Chilean Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. Marilyn J. Alarilla

Philippines Ambassador to Turkey

H.E. Amb. Mohamed El Fatah Naciri

Representative of the Mission of the Arab League of Arab States in Turkey

Özlem Piltanoğlu

Turkish Columnist, Member of the Turkish Parliament, the Justice and Development Party

Prof. Dr. Serdar Güner

Professor, Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, Bilkent University

Ural Aküzüm

Chairman, ARI Movement

The Hon. Yasar Yakis

Former Foreign Minister of Turkey, President of the ICD Young Leaders Forum

Dr. Zerrin Torun

Lecturer, Department of International Relations, Middle East Technical University, Ankara

Dr. Hatice Sitki

Independent Researcher

Heyecan Veziroğlu

Journalist, Researcher, Bogazici University



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

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Ignasi Torrent Oliva

Researcher, Conflict and Security Research Cluster, the European Center for Minority Issues

J Paul Barker

Researcher, Faith University, Istanbul

H.E. Amb. Osman Faruk Loğoğlu

Former Turkish Ambassador to the United States of America

Rudolf Šulík

PhD Candidate, IR, Matej Bel University, Slovakia

Sibel Atasayi

Political Psychologist, United Nations Development Program, Lebanon

Prof. Talha Köse

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Istanbul Şehir University

Prof. Temisanren Ebijuwa

Dean, Postgraduate School, Dept. of General Studies, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology

Participants

Ibrahim Aytac Anli

Christiana Aposkiti

Sibel Atasayi

J. Paul Barker

Veronica Angela Bascella

Zain Beseiso

Isak Bilalli

Elijah Bush

Nurgul Buyukkalay

Tulin Daloglu

Ali Oğuz Diriöz

Marija Dordeska

Prof. Temisanren Ebijuwa

Katrin Eckstein

Michelle Farley

Dr. Demet Isık

Michele Kasdano

Sevda Keskin

Konrad Kiedrzyński

Prof. Pauline Kollontai

Arife Köse

Lotte Laloire

Hussaini Garba Mohammed

Moritz Neugebauer

Ndudi Abel Obioha

Ignasi Torrent Oliva

Prof. Alpaslan Ozerdem

Tuğba Soysal Özöner

Lacin Idil Oztig

Carsten Paludan-Müller

Moritz Poesch

Noah Poya

Max Rössler

Mehmet Sahin

Nuur Sheekh

Dr. Hatice Sitki

Annabella Stieren

Heyecan Veziroglu



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

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Participant Papers

A number of academic papers were delivered from participants as part of the Ankara Conference. Papers on a variety of subjects related to Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution were presented by the following people:

Ignasi Torrent Oliva

Researcher, Conflict and Security research Cluster the European Center for Minority Issues Flensburg

J. Paul Barker

Researcher, International Relations, Faith University, Istanbul

Dr. Hatice Sitki

Independent Researcher

Sibel Atasayi

Political Psychologist, United Nations Development Programme Lebanon

Prof. Temisanren Ebijuwa

Dean, Postgraduate School, Department of General Studies, Akintola University of Technology, Ladoko, Nigeria

Heyecan Veziroglu

Journalist, Research, Bogazici University, Istanbul

Elijah Bush

Managing Director, Syncretic Solutions Research & Consulting, California, ISS-PhD Candidate, Jacobs University, Bremen

Carsten Pauludan-Müller

General Director, The Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage

Rudolf Sulik

PhD. Candidate, International Relations, Matej Bel University, Slovakia & Coordinator, ICD-Africa and Mediterranean Programs

Ali Oguz Dirioz

Researcher, Bilkent University International Relations Department

Summaries of these papers are now exhibited on the website of the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, and are available through the following link:

http://www.culturaldiplomacy.org/culturaldiplomacynews/index.php?en_participants-papers



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

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Conference Interviews

Interviews were conducted with the following speakers as part of the Ankara Conference for Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Azu Ozyurt | H.E. Amb. Jean-Daniel Ruch | H.E. Amb. Pol De Witte |
| Arda Batu | H.E. Amb. John Holmes | Prof. Dr. Serdar Güner |
| Cagri Erhan | H.E. Amb. Jorge Arancibia Reyes | Shahid Najam |
| H.E. Amb. Drazen Hrstic | H.E. Amb. Marcin Wilczek | H.E. Amb. Vika M. Khumalo |
| H.E. Amb. Dusan Spasojevic | H.E. Amb. Marilyn J. Alarilla | The Hon. Yasar Yakis |
| Eirik N. Mathisen | H.E. Dr. Milan Jazbec | Yusuf Kanli |
| Gulsun Bilgehan | H.E. Amb. Mohamed El Fatah Naciri | Dr. Zerrin Torun |
| H.E. Amb. Ian Biggs | H.E. Amb. Osman Faruk Logoglu | |
| Isabelle Dumont | Özlem Piltanoglu | |

Interviews are available in full on video and transcribed online at:

<http://cdnews1.wordpress.com/the-arts-diplomacy-festival-2012-cultural-diplomacy-in-practise-interviews/>



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

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Conference Summary

Tuesday, April 17th, 2012, Ministry of Finance of Turkey

9:00

Registration

9:30

Welcome Words

Arda Batu, Mark C. Donfried

10:00

Opening Lecture: Using Cultural Diplomacy as a Tool to Build Sustainable Peace

The Hon. Yasar Yakis

10:30

Lecture & Discussion: Ignorance as a Source of Conflict, Knowledge as a Way to Conflict Prevention and Solution

H.E. Amb. Jean-Daniel Ruch

11:00

Lecture & Discussion: The Role of Civil Society in Promoting Human Rights

H.E. Amb. Marilyn J. Alarilla

11:30

Coffee Break

12:00

Lecture & Discussion: Cultural Diplomacy – A Challenge of and an Opportunity for the 21st Century

H.E. Amb. Dr. Milan Jazbec

12:30

Lecture & Discussion: Transitioning from a Neighbor to a Member – Implications of EU and NATO Integration for Croatia

H.E. Amb. Drazen Hrastic

13:00

Lunch Break

14:30

Lecture & Discussion: Prospects for Democracy in the Mediterranean – the Rise of Civil Society in the Region

Ural Aküzüm, Arda Batu

15:00

Interactive Panel Discussion: Turkey: a Regional Power, Safeguarding a Fragile Security Balance

Moderated by the Hon. Yasar Yakis, with H.E. Amb. Osman Faruk, Prof. Talha Köse

16:00

Coffee Break

16:30

Lecture & Discussion: Turkey's Emergent Role as a Mediator

Prof. Dr. Bülent Aras

17:00

Lecture & Discussion: Interception of Migrants in the Mediterranean Sea: Exploring the Legal Implications of the Hirsi and Others v. Italy Judgement of the ECtHR

Ceren Mutuş Toprakseven

17:30

Lecture & Discussion: Building Sustainable Institutions to Avoid Future Conflict

Shahid Najam

18:00

Lecture & Discussion: Mediation Capacity of Turkey as a Regional Power

Rudolf Šulík

Lecture & Discussion: Branding (Inter)National Myths and Symbols for Peace: How to Meet Your 'Other' Turkey and Europe/EU

Dr. Hatice Sitki



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Conference Summary

Wednesday, April 18th, 2012, TOBB-ETU Headquarters

9:30

Lecture & Discussion: Conflict Prevention and International Justice – a Canadian Perspective

H.E. Amb. John Holmes

10:00

Lecture & Discussion: An Analytical Framework for Reconciliation Processes – Two Case Studies in the Context of Post-War Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ignasi Torrent Oliva

10:30

Lecture & Discussion: What do German Muslim Converts Have to do With Integration and Peacebuilding?

Elijah Bush

11:00

Lecture & Discussion: Peace, as a Need for Development? The Chilean Experience

H.E. Amb. Jorge Arancibia Reyes

11:30

Coffee Break

12:00

Interactive Panel Discussion: Transitioning from Conflict to Peace: Internal Challenges to Building Democracy

Moderated by the Hon. Yasar Yakis, with H.E. Amb. John Holmes, H.E. Amb. Jorge Arancibia Reyes, Eirik N. Mathisen, Ozlem Piltanoglu

13:00

Lunch Break

14:30

Lecture & Discussion: Democratic Transitions in the Mediterranean: Lessons Learned from the Polish Experience

H.E. Amb. Marcin Wilczek

15:00

Interactive Panel Discussion: Regional Cooperation as a Factor Leading to Sustained Peace

Moderated by the Hon. Yasar Yakis, with H.E. Amb. Marcin Wilczek, H.E. Amb. Ian Biggs, Isabelle Dumont, Yusuf Kanli, Ahu Özyurt

16:00

Coffee Break

16:30

Lecture & Discussion: The Effect of Religion on Foreign Policy

Prof. Dr. Serdar Güner

17:00

Lecture & Discussion: Multi-lateral Diplomacy: the Case of Nuclear Non-Proliferation

H.E. Amb. Ian Biggs

17:30

Lecture & Discussion: Turkey's Strategic Position in the Mediterranean Security Complex

Çağrı Erhan

18:00

Lecture & Discussion: Energy Security; Conflict & Peace

Ali Oguz Dirioz

Lecture & Discussion: EU and Turkish Communication Strategies (2012-2022) – The Media

Heyecan Veziroglu



The Ankara Conference on Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution

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Conference Summary

Thursday, April 19th, 2012, TOBB-ETU Headquarters

10:00

Lecture & Discussion: Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution
Sibel Atasayi

10:30

Lecture & Discussion: EU, Soft Power, and the Promotion of Democracy in the Mediterranean
H.E. Amb. Pol De Witte

11:00

Lecture & Discussion: To What Extent can Serbia Joining the EU Help Build Sustainable Peace in the Balkans?
H.E. Amb. Dusan Spasojevic

11:30

Coffee Break

12:00

Lecture & Discussion: Conflict and Memory: Latest Developments in the Relations between France and Turkey
Gülsün Bilgehan

13:00

Lunch Break

14:30

Lecture & Discussion: The Arab Spring and the Identity Crisis
H.E. Amb. Mohamed El Fatah Naciri

15:00

Lecture & Discussion: Cultural Diplomacy – The Republic of South Africa Experience
H.E. Amb. Vika M. Khumalo

Lecture & Discussion: Cultural Diplomacy – Fighting Stereotypes to Promote Dialogue
H.E. Amb. Jaime García Amaral

16:00

Coffee Break

16:30

Lecture & Discussion: The EU's Mediterranean Policy: Challenges and Prospects
Dr. Zerrin Torun

17:00

Lecture & Discussion: Europe – A Constrained and Fragmented Space on the Edge of the Continental Landmasses. Crossroad, Battiefeld and Melting Pot
Carsten Paludan-Müller

17:30

Lecture & Discussion: Turkish Religious Identity and the Question of European Union Membership
J. Paul Barker

18:00

Lecture & Discussion: Post-Conflict Reconstruction as a Tool for Peacebuilding: Challenges and Opportunities
Prof. Alpaslan Özerdem

Concluding Remarks
The Hon. Yasar Yakis



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Conference Voices



**The Hon.
Yasar Yakis**

“There are three main components of sustainable peace – political will, which is the most important, economic interdependence strengthening mutual ties and cultural diplomacy with the complementary role to prepare grounds for previous two.”

“While promotion of race is negative and spread of language is positive for facilitating communication, propagation of belief (religious) abroad is ambiguous.”

“The role of Turkey in the region should not be underestimated, but not overestimated either.”



**H.E. Amb.
El. Dusan
Spasojevic**

“For Serbia, integrating the EU is a priority, because it belongs to Europe in a political and cultural sense.”

“The question is not whether there can be lasting peace in Balkans without Serbian EU membership, but whether there can be lasting peace without EU membership.”



**H.E. Amb.
Jaime Garcia
Amaral**

“Cultural attachés, and cultural ambassadors more generally, have a difficult task: that of ensuring real understanding. In fact, contributing to better understanding of the other is a real tool of peacebuilding.”



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Conference Voices



**H.E. Amb.
John Holmes**

“Fragile states are the causes of civil wars and conflict. Syria and Iran are lacking the will to take on international obligations, including the protection and respect of human rights.”

“Fragile states often have poverty, high youth unemployment, and poor governance. This ill-equipped governance leads to outbreaks of violence. In order to manage and prevent conflict, states and regional organizations such as the World Bank, the OECD as well as NGOs and the civil society are key actors.”



**H.E. Amb.
Mohamed El
Fatah Naciri**

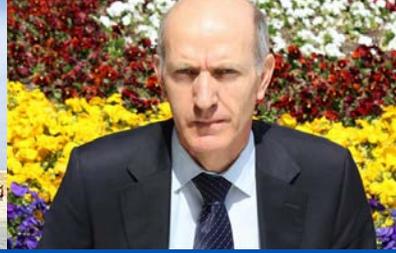
“What is the answer for dichotomy of secularism and religion: the civic regime, which respects religion just as much as it does citizenship?”

“Mediation is one of the possibilities of how to deal with conflict. Canada has been involved in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Darfur and Sudan for comprehensive peace agreements.”

“How to ensure the rule of law in transitional justice processes in conflict development is crucial. It consists of the capacity building of judges, police, and also the enforcement of impartial judiciary.”

“Transitional justice is key element for national reconciliation, regaining trust in public bodies and for sustained peace and stability.”

“Transitional justice should target not only perpetrators but also who suffer most.”



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Conference Voices



Ural Aküzüm

“When I visited Armenia, I had fear because of the political situation between Turkey and Armenia. However, I received a warm welcome from local people. This personal experience of travelling through Armenia brought about the reason of starting ARI movement to provide chances to people to expose and communicate others.”

“The ARI movement has workshops in remote and undeveloped area because those who live there have not been exposed to diverse people.”

“Turkey has been a strategic region because the West needs to have Turkey. Capitalism needs to get the places to sell Play-stations and iPhones, therefore the West will focus on Turkey to spread democracy. At the same time, Turkey has a strong orientation towards the West and this condition contributes Turkey to be a regional leader.”



H.E. Amb. Marilyn J. Alarilla

“ASEAN has a different enlargement policy with European Union. ASEAN has communist, democratic, and socialist countries.”

“ASEAN has to be united and incorporated, therefore we do not ask the same political system.”

“ASEAN retain our own concept rather enforce the same political system to countries. In order to advance, ASEAN has to corroborate. This is called the ASEAN’s manner of cooperation.”



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www.ankara-conference.org

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