



## Course Syllabus

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>ECTS Credits</b>
IREL-408	Turkey between Europe and the Middle East	6
<b>Prerequisites</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>Semester</b>
IREL-369	Politics and Governance	Fall or Spring
<b>Type of Course</b>	<b>Field</b>	<b>Language of Instruction</b>
Core	International Relations	English
<b>Level of Course</b>	<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	<b>Year of Study</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Cycle	Dr. Michalis Kontos	4 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Mode of Delivery</b>	<b>Work Placement</b>	<b>Corequisites</b>
Conventional	N/A	N/A

### Course Objectives:

The main objective of the course is to analyze political, social and cultural issues in Turkey and the dynamics that develop within Turkish politics, as well as their impact on Turkey's foreign policy and international relations. Special attention is paid on the country's European and Middle Eastern geographic position and cultural identity and how they play out in the country's domestic and foreign policies/y.

Although there is no consensus as to Turkey's relative regional importance after the collapse of the USSR and the end of the Cold War, it is a fact that she continues to be a significant player in the wider region of East Mediterranean and the Middle East, with significant implications for mainland Europe and the European Union. Therefore, analyzing Turkey's role in the evolving international system is another objective of this course.

Those objectives are being pursued through in-depth discussion and study of Turkish history and the evolving political and social relations and arrangements that emerge from time to time, as well as through the examination of Turkey's relations with neighboring states, great powers and international organizations.

### Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Illustrate in-depth knowledge of Turkish history and changes that take place in that framework
- Analyze historical dynamics that characterize Turkish politics, especially in relation with the country's historical past as both a European and a Middle Eastern power, with special emphasis on modernization and "Westernization"/"Europeanization" and transition from the Ottoman Empire to modern Turkey
- Critically assess the volatility of Turkish politics and, especially, the historical clash between the "old" and the "new" in the context of Turkish political system and society
- Evaluate interaction between external and domestic factors in Turkish politics, especially in relation with the designing of Turkish foreign policy
- Examine and assess Turkey's relations with countries in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East, as well as with great powers
- Comprehend and methodologically present the contemporary challenges Turkey faces in relation with domestic developments, such as the political agenda of the Justice and Development party and the Kurdish issue, in relation with Turkey's ongoing negotiations for accession to the EU, as well as with the developments in the East Mediterranean and the Middle East.
- Illustrate deep understanding of Turkey's international and regional role, in relation with contemporary issues of political, social and economic challenges.
- Communicate in English language both orally and in written form at (near) native level.
- Use IT skills (word processing, Internet, e-mail) as study and communication tools.
- Make efficient use of libraries, bibliographical material and academic research.

### Course Content:

Introduction: Turkey between Europe and the Middle East

The Decline of the Ottoman Empire

The Ottoman reform: from the Islamic exceptionalism to Europeanization

The Kemalist Reforms and the Modernization

"Community" and "Nation" in Turkish Social and Political Life

Religion and Civilization in Turkish Politics

"Kemalism" and "Islamism": Political Traditions, Ideology and Political Parties

The Justice and Development Party: Towards a post-Kemalist Turkey?

Transformation of Turkish Foreign Policy: between the "West" and the "East"

Contemporary Domestic and International Challenges

Turkey and the EU

Turkey in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East: contemporary challenges

### **Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:**

Lectures and presentations, discussion, individual guidance

### **Assessment Methods:**

Research essay, presentation, mid-term examination, final examination

### **Readings:**

B. Lewis, *The Emergence of Modern Turkey*(third edition), Oxford University Press, 2002

H. Işıksal, O.Göksel (eds.), *Turkey's Relations with the Middle East: Political Encounters after the Arab Spring*, Springer, 2018

S.Aksin, *Turkey from Empire to Revolutionary Republic: The Emergence of the Turkish Nation from 1789 to Present*, New York University Press, 2007

J. Sperling, S. V. Papcosma, A. Theophanous (eds.)*Turkey and Europe : High Stakes, Uncertain Prospects*, University of Nicosia Press, 2008.

E. J. Zürcher, *Turkey: A Modern History* (third edition), I.B.Tauris, 2004

C. Finkel, *Osman's Dream: The story of the Ottoman Empire, 1300-1923*, John Murray, 2005.

M. Şen, "Transformation of Turkish Islamism and the Rise of the Justice and Development Party," *Turkish Studies* 11 (2010), pp. 59-84.

Hatay, Mete; & Zenonas Tziarras, eds, (2019) *Kinship and Diasporas in Turkish Foreign Policy: Examples from Europe, the Middle East and the Eastern Mediterranean*, PRIO Cyprus Centre Report, 10. Nicosia: PRIO Cyprus Centre

A. Murinson, "The Strategic Depth Doctrine of Turkish Foreign Policy," *Middle Eastern Studies* 41 (2006): 945-964.

B. Shaffer, "Turkey's Energy Policies in a Tight Global Energy Market," *Insight Turkey* 8 (2006), pp. 97-104.

- E. Diamantopoulos (ed.), "Kurdish Report," Centre for Mediterranean, Middle East and Islamic Studies, Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Peloponnese, 2016.
- N. Moudouros, "Between anti-Westernization and Islamism: Turkey's 'Islamic' vision in Cyprus?" *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies* (2016), pp. 1-17.
- M. Yeşiltaş, "The Transformation of the Geopolitical Vision in Turkish Foreign Policy," *Turkish Studies* 14 (2013), pp. 661-687.
- A. Guney, "The future of Turkey in the European Union," *Futures* 37 (2005), pp. 303–316.
- "Turkey and the EU: A Changed Context," *European Review* 21 (2013), pp. 362-371.
- M. Kontos, "Turkey's Relations with NATO and the EU after the Coup," *In Depth* 13 (2016).
- M. Kontos, G. Bitsis, "Power Games in the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Cyprus: The Trouble with Turkey's Coercive Diplomacy," *The Cyprus Review*, Vol. 30:1 (Spring 2018): 51-70.
- M. Hakan Yavuz, "Political Islam and the Welfare (Refah) Party in Turkey," *Comparative Politics* 30 (1997): 63-82.
- Özgür Özdamar, B.T. Halistoprak and İ. E. Sula, "From Good 'Neighbor to Model': Turkey's Changing Roles in the Middle East in the Aftermath of die Arab Spring," *Uluslararası İlişkiler / International Relations*, Vol. 11, No. 42, (Yaz / Summer 2014), pp. 93-113.
- S. Khan, "The Transformation of Turkish Foreign Policy Towards the Middle East," *Policy Perspectives*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (2015), pp. 31-50
- R. Ozgur Donmez, "Nationalism in Turkey: Political Violence and Identity," *Ethnopolitics* 6 (2007): 43-65.
- E. Parlar Dal, "The Transformation of Turkey's Relations with the Middle East: Illusion or Awakening?" *Turkish Studies* 13 (2012): 245–267.
- M. B. Altunişik, Lenore G. Martin, "Making Sense of Turkish Foreign Policy in the Middle East under AKP," *Turkish Studies* 12 (2011): 569–587.
- F. Moustakis, Rudra Chaudhuri, "Turkish-Kurdish Relations and the European Union: An Unprecedented Shift in the Kemalist Paradigm?" *MediterraneanQuarterly* 16 (2005): 77-89.
- K. Tambar, "Secular Populism and the Semiotics of the Crowd in Turkey," *Public Culture* 21 (2009): 517-537

F. Perekli, "The Ideological Framing of the National Outlook Parties in Turkey," *New Middle Eastern Studies* 2 (2012)

N. Moudouros, "Rethinking Islamic Hegemony in Turkey through Gezi Park," *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies* 16 (2014): pp. 181-196

A. Tekin, "Future of Turkey–EU relations: a civilizational discourse," *Futures* 37 (2005): 287-302

L. NARBONE and N. TOCCI, "Running around in circles? The cyclical relationship between Turkey and the European Union," *Journal of Southern Europe and the Balkans* 9 (2007): 233-245.

B. Duran, "The experience of Turkish Islamism: between transformation and impoverishment," *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies* 12 (2010): 5-22.

Ilias Kouskouvelis, "The Problem with Turkey's 'Zero Problems'." "Turkey, Past and Future," *Middle East Forum* 20 (2013): pp. 47-56

P. Salem, "The Middle East in 2015 and Beyond: Trends and Drivers," Middle East Institute, Policy Focus Series, November 2014.