



European Research Council (ERC) Advanced Grant Project on Radicalization of European Youth

Istanbul Bilgi University, European Institute

Interdisciplinary Workshop on Youth Radicalization

13 November 2019, İstanbul Bilgi University, santralistanbul campus

Dear Colleague,

We are happy that you have accepted to join us at the Workshop on "Youth Radicalisation from an Interdisciplinary Perspective" in the framework of the PRIME Youth project funded by the European Research Council and carried out by Istanbul Bilgi University's European Institute. The workshop will take place on 13 November 2019 in the santralistanbul campus of Istanbul Bilgi University.

The term, radicalization, has been interpreted differently since the 1960s. While the term 'radical' was the label given by violent organizations to those groups who occupied the middle ground between violent and non-violent methods in 1970s, the 'home-grown' terrorists were called radicals between 2005 and 2015, and now 'foreign fighters' are called as such. So far, research has established that radicalization involves a complex combination of factors. First, at a *psychological* level radicalization results from a motivation to achieve control and a meaningful purpose in life but it is also known that radicalism is carried out mainly by youth due to developmental specificities. Second, *sociological* factors, such as individuals' social networks and structural discrimination play a key role in the radicalization process. Last but not least, *political* factors such as the frequency of exposure to violence-legitimizing ideologies further increase the likelihood of displaying violent behaviours.

These radicalization processes often result in intergroup co-radicalization cycles leading to intractable conflicts and explain the parallel rise of antagonistic violent extremist factions (e.g. Islamist groups vs. White supremacists). As the causes and consequences of radicalization are diverse, an interdisciplinary perspective is needed to refine our understanding of it and to provide policy makers with a set of efficient, targeted solutions to prevent it. To this end, the European Institute of İstanbul Bilgi University is organizing this workshop with the aim to bring together Turkish and International scientists from various disciplines interested in collaboration and research on these issues.

For further information on the PRIME Youth project, please visit: <https://bpy.bilgi.edu.tr/>

For additional information on the programme, please contact: Dr. Ayse Tecmen (ayse.tecmen@bilgi.edu.tr).

How to proceed in the Workshop:

We will have two distinguished keynote speakers: Prof. Dr. Jocelyne Cesari (University of Birmingham) and Prof. Dr. Emre Erdoğan (Istanbul Bilgi University). Each speaker is given around 30-45 minutes to deliver their speeches, which will follow Q/A and individual interventions by the participants. After making sure that each keynote speech ends with questions and answers, the Moderator will ask whether the participants want to elaborate on their own research related to youth radicalization. Hence, we will be very happy if the participants will be ready to make a short introduction about their own research to inform the other participants about the state of their work in a way that might lead to new forms of collaboration.

Kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Ayhan Kaya

ERC AdG Holder
İstanbul Bilgi University
Director, European Institute
Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence



Interdisciplinary Workshop on Youth Radicalization

Workshop Program

Venue: İstanbul Bilgi University santralistanbul campus,
E1 Building, Room 202, Istanbul, Turkey

Date: 13 November 2019, 10.00 – 17.00

10.00 - 10.30 Opening and Presentation of the ERC Project by Ayhan Kaya, Ayşe Tecmen and Jais Troian

10.30 - 11.15 Keynote Speech by Prof. Jocelyne Cesari, University of Birmingham

“A Sociological Perspective on Radicalization and Co-radicalization Processes in Europe”

11.15 - 12.30 Discussion and Individual Interventions

12.30 - 14.00 Lunch

14.00 - 14.45 Keynote Speech by Prof. Emre Erdoğan, Istanbul Bilgi University

“Understanding the New Contagion of Public Protests: The Search for (Procedural) Justice is the Answer”

14.45 - 16.30 Discussion and Individual Interventions

16.30 - 17.00 Closing Remarks by Ayhan Kaya

Workshop Venue:

İstanbul Bilgi University santralistanbul campus,
E1 Building, Room 202
Eski Silahtarağa Elektrik Santrali
Kazım Karabekir Cad. No: 2/13
34060 Eyüpsultan İstanbul
Academic Board Room (*Akademik Kurul Odası*)

List of participants

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