



Democracy and Citizenship at Risk

Lecture series hosted jointly by University of Potsdam's *Centre for Citizenship, Social Pluralism and Religious Diversity* and *Off-University. Organisation für den Frieden e.V.*

The *Democracy and Citizenship at Risk* lecture series discusses the transformations in Turkey and the consequences for its citizens, especially the regime's attacks upon academic freedom and the impact this has upon the situation and lives of scholars. It offers students the opportunity to understand and scrutinize political, economic and social processes and their complex dynamics in Turkey through a series of discussions with the lecturers.

Particularly, the lecture series provides a space to hear scholars from Turkey who got dismissed from their university positions due to signing a peace petition calling to end state violence in and against Kurdish regions in January 2016. As four scholars in the lecture series have since not been allowed to leave Turkey, the courses are organized in an online space, thereby fostering transnational and transcultural communication between participants in Potsdam and online-lecturers in Turkey as well as including online-participants from all around the world. The lecture series is livestreamed on www.off-university.com.

The lecture series is held in English every Thursday between 16:15-17:45 (local time in Germany) and open to students at Potsdam University, online students and the interested public. Participants – offline and online – who successfully complete their studies will receive a certificate of achievement which may be recognized by the universities located in countries part of the Bologna Process. The participants are required to submit a response paper at the end of the term.

The *Centre for Citizenship, Social Pluralism and Religious Diversity* was founded in 2016 at the University of Potsdam by Bryan S. Turner and Jürgen Mackert. It focuses on contemporary issues of citizenship in relation to ongoing political, economic and cultural transformations. By regularly organising several lecture series, the Centre for Citizenship aims at fostering dialogue and exchange between scholars and students interested in and working on citizenship related topics.

Off-University is an initiative of scholars who respond to political persecution and attacks on academic freedom by creating digital infrastructure to continue education and research. It was founded by scholars from Germany and Turkey, yet addresses itself to scholars and students from all over the world with a range of online academic events, free of charge and available to everyone interested.

OFF UNIVERSITY



Date	Speaker	Topic/Title tba
25.10.18	Prof. Jürgen Mackert (Department of Sociology at Potsdam University)	Introduction. Sociology of Citizenship
08.11.18	Dr. İsmet Akça, independent researcher (dismissed from the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Yıldız Technical University Istanbul)	
22.11.18	Dr. Ali Rıza Güngen, independent researcher (dismissed from the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Samsun University), Assoc. Prof. Ümit Akçay, Berlin School of Economics and Law	
06.12.18	Dr. Cavidan Soykan, independent researcher (dismissed from the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Ankara University)	
20.12.18	Dr. Seda Altug (Department of Modern Turkish History at Boğaziçi University Istanbul)	
10.01.19	Dr. Funda Karapehlivan (dismissed from Department of Sociology at Marmara University Istanbul)	
24.01.19	Dr. Hakan Mertcan (dismissed from Faculty of Law at Ankara University)	
07.02.19	Prof. Betül Yarar (dismissed from the Faculty of Communication at Ankara University)	