



Turkey Migration Studies Network (TurkMiS)

12th WORKSHOP 'REFUGEES IN IZMIR, TURKS/KURDS IN LONDON'

Conveners Franck Düvell (COMPAS) & Duygu Cantegin (COMPAS)

Friday 18 March 2016, 13.00-17.00

Oxford, University of Oxford, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society
(COMPAS), South East European Studies (SEESOX)

64 Banbury Road, seminar room (ground floor)

13.00 Welcome

13.30 Introduction, Franck Düvell

13.45-15.00 Panel I 'Refugees in Turkey'

Keynote: 'Refugees in Izmir: in transit, stranded or settling down? Account from a key migration hub in Turkey' *Ayselin Yildiz & Gökay Mehmet Özerim, Yasar University, Izmir*

15.00 Coffee Break

15.15 -17.00 Panel II 'Diasporas from Turkey'

Paper 2: 'Understanding Critical Moments and Career Aspirations of School Drop-out: Second and Third Generation Turkish and Kurdish Youth in London', *Ebru Soytemel, Aston University, Birmingham*

Film & talk: 'Memories of London' (18 min), *Yasemin Karsli, Mimar Sinan University*

17.00 Closing

If you would like to attend please register with franck.duvell@compas.ox.ac.uk

Abstracts

Refugees in Izmir: In Transit, Stranded or Settling Down? Account from a Key Migration Hub in Turkey

Ayselin Yildiz (Ass Prof) and Gökay Mehmet Özerim (Ass Prof), Yasar University, Izmir

Based on empirical data collected in 2014 and 2015, the presentation focuses on the role and experience of Izmir as a key migration hub in Turkey. It will elaborate how Syrian refugee flow to Izmir and the related policy implications have affected the emergence of Izmir not only as a hub for transit but also stranded and settled refugees. By referring to the pro-longed temporary protection regime (its positive features and also shortcomings) and recent changes in Turkey's visa policy for Syrians, Izmir is studied as a case, which contributes to the wider debate on understanding migration crisis in the region. The presentation also focuses on the efforts of Turkish authorities in combating migrant smuggling, challenges in the field and implications of these efforts on refugee flows by referring to recent official data.

Understanding Critical Moments and Career Aspirations of School Drop-out: Second and Third Generation Turkish and Kurdish Youth in London

Ebru Soytemel (PhD), Aston University, Birmingham

Disconnection and drop out from education as well as precarious employment are among the key challenges facing (Turkish/Kurdish ethnic minority) young people in the UK. Extensive research in the field, has highlighted the negative implications for youth life trajectories, including multiple forms of deprivation, limited life chances and negative long lasting outcomes for young people's lives. Evidence indicates that Turkish/Kurdish pupils are among the ethnic groups which have the lowest educational attainment (Strand et.al. 2010). This paper is part of an ongoing, small-scale, qualitative research project that looks into the educational pathways and careers aspirations of second and third generation Turkish and Kurdish young people living in London. The presentation will draw on preliminary data and will present young pupils' narratives to examine school drop out and lived experiences of labour in the unskilled service sector.

Memories of London

Yasemin Karsli, Mimar Sinan University

My film 'Memories of London' was initially a photography project which focused on the daily lives/habitats of immigrants from Turkey in London. I have chosen around ten Turkish / Kurdish immigrants for the project who have – almost - never been to London city centre and who have not seen 'World Famous London' and its iconic/touristic places. My project was initially to photograph them before an iconic place which they picked up, and their interaction with these places in their own styles. Then I extended the project and adopted a visual anthropology approach to better document this interaction the outcome of which is this film. In my photography project, the large format film camera had a crucial role, since it would be highlighting the themes of 'tradition' and so continuity of traditions in what were essentially rather introverted communities. I left the choice of places to be visited to the participants themselves. All these different places of London have various meanings to the individual participants; this creates a fascinating contrast and contestation between the places of 'centre's' in my project. However at the same time, I discovered that the common meaning or feeling about these places also displayed some kind of alienation and a sense of not-belonging to the places visited.

Bios

Ayselin Yildiz is Assistant Professor of International Relations at Yasar University (Izmir/Turkey). She holds her Phd in international relations. From, 2005 and 2015, she was Director of Yasar University European Union Center She is author of 'European Union's Immigration Policy: Managing Migration in Turkey and Morocco' (Palgrave 2016)

Gokay Özerim is Assistant Professor and Director of the European Union Research Center at Yaşar University in Izmir. He holds a PhD on European Studies and his major fields of research are migration, security and interculturalism. He has published on anti-immigration actors in Europe, Europeanization of migration policies and the security-identity nexus in the Southeast European countries.

Ebru Soytemel is lecturer in Sociology, Department of Sociology and Policy, Aston University, Birmingham. She holds a PhD in Sociology. From 2011-2013, she was James Martin Research Fellow at the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities, Institute for Science, Innovation and Society (InSIS), University of Oxford. Her research interests are social and economic inequality, cultural class analysis, urban theory, social-spatial exclusion, gender and poverty.

Yasemin Karsli studied Photography in Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University in İstanbul. For more than a decade, she has been working on various photographic projects as an artist and as a photo journalist. Some of her works have been published in printed publications both in Turkey, and in the UK, including İz, CNN Turk, National Geographic, and BBC World Services. Yasemin continues her photographic work in the UK and Turkey and lives in London and İstanbul.