The Sixth METU Conference on International Relations: 
Middle East in Global and Regional Perspectives

Conference Program

Middle East Technical University
Department of International Relations

June 14 - 16, 2007
Ankara

FEAS BUILDING B, METU
GENERAL INFORMATION

JUNE 14 - 16, 2007
ORGANISATION COMMITTEE

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DATES AND VENUE

Dates: Thursday, June 14– Saturday, June 16, 2007
Venue: METU Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences (FEAS) Building B

REGISTRATION

Registration and Information Desk is located on the first floor of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences (FEAS) Building B. The desk is open at the following times:

- Thursday, June 14: 9:00-17:30
- Friday, June 15: 9:00-17:30
- Saturday, June 16: 9:00-13:00

BADGE

Participants should kindly wear name badges during the Conference. Name badges will be provided in participants’ conference packs at the Registration Desk.

SESSIONS

Sessions are moderated by Chairs who monitor and administer the meetings. Each paper will be presented for about 20 minutes, and will be followed by a brief discussion. The Chair may decide and change the order of presentations as well as time allocated for each presentation.
CONFERENCE COCKTAIL

The Chair of the Department of International Relations invites all participants to the cocktail at the front garden of the Department of International Relations, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences B-Building (FEAS-B). The cocktail will take place on Thursday, June 14 between 18:00-20:00.

LUNCHES

On June 14, June 15 and June 16, lunch will be served at the FEAS Building B. Participants will be provided lunch vouchers in their conference packs.

CONFERENCE DINNER

Conference Dinner will be held on June 15, at 19:30 at the Dafne Restaurant. Participants will be provided with an invitation card in their conference packs.

ACCOMMODATION

Invited speakers are hosted at the METU Guest House and the Dedeman Hotel. Conference participants are provided accommodation at the METU Dormitories. There will be ring services during the Conference from the Hotel and the Guest House to the Conference venue.

POST OFFICES AND BANKS

There is a post office on campus. There are also branches of some Turkish banks (Ziraat Bankası, İş Bankası, Vakıfbank, Yapı Kredi Bankası, Akbank, and Garanti Bankası) next to the post office.
PROGRAM
JUNE 14 - 16, 2007
June 14, 2007 / Thursday

Registration

Time: 09:00-17:30
Place: FEAS Building B

Opening Ceremony

Time: 10:30-11:00
Place: FEAS Building B, G-111

Prof. Dr. Ural Akbulut, (President, METU, Turkey)
Prof. Dr. Şinasi Aksoy, (Dean, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, METU, Turkey)
Prof. Dr. Meliha B. Altunışık, (Chair, Department of International Relations, METU, Turkey)

Keynote Speech

Time: 11:00-12:30
Place: FEAS Building B, G-111

Chair: Meliha B. Altunışık, (METU, Turkey)
Juan Cole, (University of Michigan, USA)
Obstacles to Democracy in Iraq

Lunch Break / 12:30-14:00
SESSIONS - 1 / 14:00-15:30

Session 1-A. Iran: Debating Domestic and International Challenges I

Time: 14:00-15:30
Place: G-102

Chair: İhsan Dağı (METU, Turkey)

Kayhan Barzegar, (Islamic Azad University, Iran)
Iran in the Post 9/11 Middle East

Mustafa Kibaroğlu, (Bilkent University, Turkey)
Turkish-Iranian Relations in the Post-Cold War Era

Session 1-B. Cyprus (Co-organized by METU Center for European Studies)

Time: 14:00-15:30
Place: G-106

Chair: Galip Yalman, (METU, Turkey)

Ergun Olgun, (Former Undersecretary of the President of TRNC)
Cyprus: Options for the Future

Ahmet Sözen, (East Mediterranean University, TRNC)
A Re-Diagnosis of the Cyprus Conflict: Looking Ahead

Erol Kaymak, (East Mediterranean University, TRNC)
Results of the UN Public Opinion Survey in Cyprus
Session 1-C. Islam and the West

Time: 14:00-15:30  
Place: G-104

Chair: Nuri Yurdusev, (METU, Turkey)

Yücel Bozdağlıoğlu, (Adnan Menderes University, Turkey), Damla Aktan, (İzmir Ekonomi University, Turkey), Pelin Köklü, (İzmir Ekonomi University, Turkey)

The Resurgence of the Islamic World Against the West

Imran Iqbal, (Forman Christian College, Pakistan)
Emerging Dichotomy between Islam and the West: The Role of Religious Seminaries

Yaşar Aydın, (Hamburg University, Germany)
The West & Islam: The Debate on Islam in Western Countries

Gizem Kolbaşi, (TRT, Turkey)
Muslim Communities in the UK after September 11: Friends or Foes?

Session 1-D. Turkey and Its Middle Eastern Neighbourhood
(Roundtable organized by the Foreign Policy Institute)

Time: 14:00-15:30  
Place: Blue Seminar Room

Seyfi Taşhan, President, Foreign Policy Institute, Turkey

Ali Karaoşmanoğlu, Professor, Chairman, Department of International Relations, Bilkent University, Turkey

Reşat Arım, Ambassador (Rtd.), Member of the Board, Foreign Policy Institute, Turkey

Oktay Aksoy, Ambassador (Rtd.), Member of the Board, Foreign Policy Institute, Turkey

Ali Engin Oba, Ambassador (Rtd.), Turkey

COFFEE BREAK / 15:30-16:00
SESSIONS - 2 / 16:00-17:30

Session 2. Debating the Developments in Iraq I

Time: 16:00-17:30
Place: G-104

Chair: Ersel Aydınlı, (Bilkent University, Turkey)
Rick Fawn, (St. Andrews University, Scotland)
Putting the “Multi” in “Multinational”: Lessons from Post Communist State Experience from the Iraq War

Ofra Bengio, (Tel Aviv University, Israel)
The Sunni-Shi`i Divide in Iraq: A Clash of Identities

CONFERENCE COCKTAIL

Time: 18:00-20:00
Place: Middle East Technical University
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences
Department of International Relations
Building - B
REGISTRATION
Time: 09:00-17:30
Place: FEAS Building B

SESSIONS - 3 / 09:30-11:00

Session 3. Syria: Debating Domestic and International Challenges
Time: 09:30-11:00
Place: G-104

Chair: Özlem Tür, (METU, Turkey)

Raymond Hinnebusch, (St. Andrews University, Scotland)
Defying the Hegemon: Syria and the Iraq War

Eyal Zisser, (Tel Aviv University, Israel)
Syria’s Dilemma: Between Washington and Tehran

COFFEE BREAK / 11:00-11:30
SECTIONS - 4 / 11:30-13:00

Session 4-A. The Lebanese Crisis: Actors, Structures and Consequences

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-104

Chair: Raymond Hinnebusch, (St. Andrews University, Scotland)
Timur Göksel, (Former UNIFIL Senior Adviser, American University of Beirut, Lebanon)
U.N. Peacekeeping in South Lebanon: Can It Be a Model for Other Middle East Conflicts?

Session 4-B. Debating the Social Issues in the Middle East

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-102

Chair: Sibel Kalaycıoğlu, (METU, Turkey)
Emma Murhpy, (Durham University, UK)
Theorising ICTs and the Modern Middle East: Space, Spectacle and the Public Sphere
Ahmet Uysal, (Dumlupınar University, Turkey)
The Nature of Al-Jazeera’s Prime-Time Broadcasting in Arabic and English
Elif Toprak, Sęçil Banar, Berrin Özkanal, (Anadolu University, Turkey)
Effects of Information & Communication Technologies on Palestinian Women: Media and Distance Education

Session 4-C. Politics of Water Resources in the Middle East I

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-101

Chair & Discussant: Ayşegül Kibaroğlu, (METU, Turkey)
Waltina Scheumann, (Helmholtz-Center for Environmental Research, Germany)
Water Use and Management in the Orontes River Basin: Far away from Cooperation and Integration
Ryan Taugher, (American University, USA)
Trans-Boundary Benefit Sharing among the Tigris and Euphrates River System Riparians
Stefan Deconinck, (KUB University of Brussels, Belgium)
Water, Ideology and Security Perceptions in Israel
Session 4-D. Politics of External Actors I: Europe and the Middle East

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-106

Chair: Sevilay Kahraman, (METU, Turkey)

Eduard Soler i Lecha, (CIDOB Foundation, Spain)

Ali Resul Usul, (Bahçeşehir University, Turkey)
The European Support of Democratization in the MENA Countries: Weak Dimension of the Relations

Serbülent Turan, (Boğaziçi University, Turkey)
EU Positions on Major Middle Eastern Issues; Bandwagoning Rediscovered

LUNCH BREAK / 13:00-14:00
SESSIONS – 5 / 14:00-15:30

Session 5. Afghanistan

Time: 14:00-15:30
Place: G-104

Chair: Duygu Sezer, (Bilkent University, Turkey)
Hikmet Çetin, (Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Former NATO Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan, Turkey)
Afghanistan and NATO

COFFEE BREAK / 15:30-16:00

SESSIONS – 6 / 16:00-17:30

Session 6-A. Arab-Israeli Conflict

Time: 16:00-17:30
Place: G-104

Chair: Ayşe Ayata, (METU, Turkey)
Lenore Martin, (Emmanuel College and Harvard University, USA)
Resolving the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: Is Now the Time?
Tayyur Arı, (Uludağ University, Turkey)
The Final Status Issues and the Prospect for Peace in the Middle East

Session 6-B. Energy Politics

Time: 16:00-17:30
Place: G-102

Chair: Şule Güneş, (METU, Turkey)
Ahmet K. Han, (İstanbul University, Turkey)
The Impact of Caspian Energy Resources on the Middle Eastern Oil Dominance
Cenk Pala, (BOTAŞ, Turkey)
Turkey: Energy Bridge Between the East and the West
Session 6-C. Debating Middle Eastern Studies

Time: 16:00-17:30
Place: G-106

Chair: Ebru Boyar, (METU, Turkey)

Mustafa Murat Yurtbilir, (METU, Turkey)
Emergence and Transformation of Arab Nationalism: A Historical Overview

Serdar Palabıyık, (METU, Turkey)

Session 6-D. The Challenges for Democratization in the Middle East

Time: 16:00-17:30
Place: G-101

Chair: Zana Çitak, (METU, Turkey)

Müge Aknur, (Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey)
Political Deliberalization in Jordan

İrem Aşkar, (Dokuz Eylül University, Turkey)
Democratization of Islam: The Case of Hamas

Zeynep Sütalan, (NATO Center of Excellence- Defence Against Terrorism, Turkey)
Globalization and the Political Economy of Reform in Jordan
16 JUNE 2007 / SATURDAY

REGISTRATION

Time: 09:00-13:00
Place: FEAS Building B

SESSIONS – 7 / 10:00-11:15

Session 7. A. Middle East and the Global Economy

Time: 10:00-11:15
Place: G-104

Chair: Pınar Bedirhanoğlu, (METU, Turkey)
Sadık Ünay, (Balıkesir University, Turkey)
Middle Eastern Ways of Integration with the Global Political Economy: Can Turkey Inspire a New Path?

Cenk Alican, (Munich Center for Applied Policy Research, Germany)
The Importance of Islamic Banking and Financial Industries in Europe’s Economic Relationship to the Middle East

Session 7. B. Politics of External Actors II: US & the Middle East

Time: 10:00-11:15
Place: G-106

Chair: Ersin Onulduvan, (Ankara University, Turkey)
Herbert Reginbogin, (European University of Lefke, TRNC)
Towards a Watershed in U.S. Middle East Policy?
From Neo-Conservatism to Neo-Rationalism

Ornella Spadola, (Eastern Mediterranean University, TRNC)
Session 7. C. Debating the Developments in Iraq II

Time: 10:00-11:15
Place: G-102

Chair: Tayyar Arı, (Uludağ University, Turkey)

Christian Lekon, (European University of Lefke, TRNC)
*Platonic Guardians: The British and American Occupations of Iraq, 1914-32 and since 2003*

Thomas Schmidinger, (University of Vienna, Austria)
*Tyrants And Terrorists. Reflections on the Connection between Totalitarism, Sanctions, Terrorism and the Failure of State in Iraq*

Session 7. D. Security Issues in the Middle East

Time: 10:00-11:15
Place: G-101

Chair: Dimitris Tsarouhas, (METU, Turkey)

Katherine Harbord, (Durham University, UK)
*A Graveyard for Your Soldiers: Explaining Israel’s (Over)Reactions in Summer 2006*

Zeynep Başer, (METU, Turkey)
*Promoting Security or Insecurity? Israeli Security Discourses Reconsidered*

Şebnem Udum, (Bilkent University, Turkey)
*WMD Proliferation and Conflicts in the Middle East*

COFFEE BREAK / 11:15-11:30
SESSIONS – 8 / 11:30-13:00

Session 8-A. Turkey and the Middle East

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-104

Chair: Süha Bölükbaşıoğlu, (METU, Turkey)
Nihat Ali Özcan, (Economic Policy Research Institute, Turkey)
Özgür Özdamar, (TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Turkey)
The Uneasy Neighbors: Turkish Iranian Relations since the Iranian Revolution

André Barrinha, (University of Kent, UK- University of Coimbra, Portugal)
The ‘War on Terror’ and US-Turkey Relations in Northern Iraq

Türkan Hançer, (Ankara University, Turkey)
Turkey-Iranian Relations after the Occupation of Iraq

Eda Benlioğlu Gelbal, (Gaziosmanpaşa University & METU, Turkey)
Turkey: As a Model for Democratization Process in the Middle East

Session 8-B. Iran: Debating Domestic and International Challenges II

Time: 11:30-13:00
Place: G-106

Chair: Öezlem Tür, (METU, Turkey)

M. Ufuk Tutan, (İzmir Ekonomi University, Turkey)
Bazaaris Movement in Iran: A Coalition with Ulama

Pınar Arkan, (Akdeniz University & METU, Turkey)
Globalization “In” The Islamic Republic of Iran: Perceptions and Responses

Bayram Sinkaya, (Atatürk University & METU, Turkey)
Analysis of the Discourse of Cultural Onslaught in Iran
Session 8-C. Politics of External Actors III: EU and the Middle East

Time: 11:30-13:00  
Place: G-102

Chair: Esra Çuhadar Gürkaynak, (Bilkent University, Turkey)

Sezgin Mercan, (Başkent University, Turkey)  
The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict and the European Union

Mehtap Söyler, (Humboldt University, Germany)  
The Post-Cold War Politics of the European Union Regarding the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Session 8-D. Politics of External Actors IV: China and Russia

Time: 11:30-13:00  
Place: G-101

Chair: Ayça Ergun, (METU, Turkey)

Barış Adıbelli, (Ankara University, Turkey)  
The Middle East In China’s New Foreign Policy

Argun Başkan, (Ege University & METU, Turkey)  
“Islam Friendly” Politics of the Russian Federation and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

CLOSING SESSION

Time: 13:00-13:30  
Place: FEAS Building B, G-104

LUNCH / 13:30-14:00
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