EDUCATION IN TÜRKİYE Actors and Practices

International conference 9 & 10 October 2025 9.00-17.30

Galatasaray University
C-Building, 2nd Floor – C-316 Münevver Soylu

















Thursday 9 October

9.00 Welcome coffee9.20 Opening of the conference

9.30-12.30 - TURKISH EDUCATION SYSTEM'S INTEGRATION INTO GLOBAL CAPITALISM

Chair - Demet Lüküslü (department of Sociology, University of Yeditepe)

* Fabio Salomoni (Lecturer, Koç University)

The structure of the Turkish educational system: centralization, examinations, and hierarchy. Local cultural factors and global trends

* Çetin Çelik (Associate Professor of Sociology, Koç University)

Temporally Displaced and Dispossessed: The Failure of Vocational Students under Global Capitalism and Neoliberal Meritocracy

* Zeynep Savaşçın (Associate Professor of Philosophy, Galatasaray University) & Seçil Doğuç (Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Galatasaray University)

The Working Student at the Crossroads of Rights and Market: Precarity, Contradictions, and the Restructuring of Higher Education

11.15-11.30 COFFEE BREAK

* Nazlı Somel (Assistant Professor, Department of Education Science, Boğaziçi University) & Bengü Börkan (Associate Professor, Department of Educational Sciences, Boğaziçi Universiti)

The Global in the Maarif Education Model: Intersecting Networks, Values, and Competencies

* Gülşah Şenkol (Lecturer, Koç University)

Advancing Gender Studies: Strategies for Sustainable Impact in Higher Education in Türkiye

14.15 -17.30 - INEQUALITIES

Chair - Cemil Yıldızcan (department of Political Science, Galatasaray University)

* Fetiye Erbil (Lecturer, School of Foreign Languages, Boğaziçi University)

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* Kaan Şenel (PhD candidate, Department of Educational Policy Studies, University of Wisconsin–Madison)

**After the Quake, Before the Exam: Children's Experiences of High-Stakes Testing in Hatay

15.45-16.00 COFFEE BREACK

* Zehra Şamlıoğlu Berk (independent researcher)

Beyond the Classroom: Parental Preferences for Private Schools and the Deepening of Educational Inequalities in Istanbul

* Bora Bayrak (PhD candidate, department of Sociology, Université d'Orléans, ÉRCAÉ)

The Segregative Massification of Higher Education in Türkiye

Friday 10 October

9.30-12.45- EDUCATION AND DYNAMICS OF IDEOLOGICAL/POLITICAL POWER

Chair - Nazlı Ökten (department of Sociology, Galatasaray)

* Ayça Akarçay (Associate Professor of Economy, Galatasaray University / GIAM) & Sezgin Polat (Professor of Economy, Galatasaray University / GIAM)

Education Expansion, Conservatism, and Values in Türkiye

* Zühre Emanet (Independant Researcher)

The "protocol system": 'Novel' policy approaches in compulsory education

* Elif Can (Centre Max Weber – French Institute of Anatolian Studies)

Political Socialization of Youth: Learning Ottoman History and politics in School

11.15-11.30 COFFEE BREAK

* Ayşe Yılmaz (Sociology, Bahçeşehir University)

Children's Agency in Türkiye's Educational Landscape: Confronting the Illusion of- participation

* Elif Can (Centre Max Weber - French Institute of Anatolian Studies), Dr. Sümbül Kaya (Associate professor, Université de Lyon, ENTPE, UMR EVS), Dr. Cem Özatalay (Associate Professor of Sociology, Galatasaray University/TAM)

Reconfigurations of the Academic Field and Investment in Alternative Spaces in Post-2016 Türkiye

14.00-16.00 EDUCATION & STATE'S POSITION WITHIN A CHANGING INTERNATIONAL ORDER

Chair - Gabrielle Angey (French Institute of Anatolian Studies)

* Muhammet Topal (PhD Candidate, Graduate Teaching Associate School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies, The University of Arizona)

Finding a Place in the World:The Formation of Political Subjects through History Education (1839-Present)

- * Deniz T. Kilincoglu (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient -ZMO-, Berlin)

 Rewriting the Nation: Civilizationism, Education, and Identity (Re)Construction in Turkiye's Maarif Model
- * Claire Visier (Associate professor of Political Sociology, Université de Rennes/Arènes & French Institute of Anatolian Studies

Nationalizing internationalization: Foreign-language education and foreign educational models in Türkiye

ORGANAZING COMMITTE

Elif Can (Centre Max Weber /French Institute of Anatolian Studies)
Sümbül Kaya (Associate professor, Université de Lyon, ENTPE, UMR EVS)
Cem Özatalay (Associate Professor of Sociology, Galatasaray University/TAM)
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