



THE INSTITUTE *of* TURKISH STUDIES

TIME TO RECONSIDER? TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY AND PUBLIC OPINION TOWARDS THE EU

Asst. Prof. Sibel Oktay, University of Illinois at Springfield



Monday, March 23
2:15-4:00 PM
McGhee Library (ICC 301)
Intercultural Center
Georgetown University

Support for European integration among Turks has dropped from 67% in 2002 to 34% in 2008, with only 42% of Turks supporting enlargement in a 2011 Eurobarometer. As previous research on Turkish Euroskepticism has demonstrated, the opposition to Turkish enlargement within European states—the so-called ‘Turkoskepticism,’ as well as Turkish economic growth and identity-based concerns are likely reasons for this declining trend. This talk will discuss the effects of Turkish proactivism in the Middle East on public support for the EU based on a series of recent research findings. Do the Turks find the EU more favorable as their concerns on Iran, political Islam, or the Syrian civil war increase?

Sibel Oktay earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from Syracuse University in 2014. Her research interests include foreign policy decision-making and behavior in post-Cold War Europe, coalition politics, political leadership, EU public opinion, and Turkish domestic and foreign policy. Her current research projects focus on foreign policy performance voting in Europe, the effects of Turkish foreign policy on public Euroskepticism, and the role of political leadership in coalition foreign policy. Oktay was the 2013 winner of the International Studies Association’s Alexander George Award and has published in the *Journal of European Public Policy*.

Light Snacks will be served



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