

Martin Fellow at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr. Özbudun is a member of the Turkish Academy of Sciences. Among his 10 books in Turkish and English are *Social Change and Political Participation in Turkey*; *Party Cohesion in Western Democracies: A Causal Analysis*; and *The Role of the Military in Recent Turkish Politics*. He is also the co-editor of *Electoral Politics in the Middle East: Issues, Voters and Elites*; *The Political Economy of Income Distribution in Turkey*; *Atatürk: Founder of a Modern State, Competitive Elections in Developing Countries*; and *Perspectives on Democracy in Turkey*.

Dengir Mir Mehmet Fırat is the Chairman of the AKP's committee for drafting the new constitution. He graduated from Ankara University Law School. For years, he worked as a lawyer and businessman, and served as a board member of the Mediterranean Exporters Union. In 2002, Fırat became a founding member of the Justice and Development Party (AKP). Since 2003, he has been an elected member of the Turkish Parliament and the Vice Chairman of the AKP in charge of political and legal affairs. His grandfather, Hacı Bedir Fırat, took an active role during the Turkish Liberation War under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and served three terms as a member of the Turkish Parliament.

Cüneyt Yüksel is a member of the Turkish Parliament for the AKP. He received his B.A. from Istanbul University Law School, L.L.M. from Harvard Law School, and J.S.D. from Stanford Law School. Before being elected as a parliamentarian, Yüksel was an assistant professor at Bosphorus University (Istanbul), Department of Management, where he taught Business Law, Corporate Law, International Commercial Law, Management of Multinationals, and Managing Global Systems. Yüksel's scholarly publications include *Embedded Strategies in the 21st Century: Governments; Markets, and Corporate Partners*; *Ethics in Government*; *Corporate Governance*; and *The Future of Globalization and Turkey*.

Chairs

Elazar Barkan is a Professor of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. He is the founding Director of the Institute for Historical Justice and Reconciliation at the Salzburg Seminar. He also serves as the Co-Director of the Human Rights Concentration at SIPA. His recent books include *The Guilt of Nations: Restitution and Negotiating Historical Injustice*.

Rashid Khalidi is the Edward Said Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University, as well as the Director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia. Among his many books is *Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East*. Professor Khalidi received his D.Phil at Oxford University.

Richard Bulliet is Professor of History, the former Director of the Middle East Institute at Columbia University, and a specialist on Iran. He is the author of *The Case for Islamo-Christian Civilization* and *Islam: The View from the Edge*, and the editor of *The Columbia History of the Twentieth Century*.

THE NEW DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF TURKEY: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



MARCH 3, 2008

**KELLOGG CENTER
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUILDING, RM 1501**

The governing Justice and Development Party of Turkey has drafted a proposal for a new Turkish Constitution. This conference will be the first in the world outside of Turkey to bring together the key Turkish drafters with important non-Turkish theorists of democratic constitutions and democratic practice.

9:15-9:45 Coffee and Rolls

9:45-10:00 Welcome and Introduction – Professor Alfred Stepan

10:00-12:00 Session One: The Drafters’ Proposed Amendments

Ergun Özbudun

The Main Drafter of the New Amendments
Professor of Law, Bilkent University

Dengir Mir Mehmet Firat

Deputy Chairman of the Justice and Development Party (AK) and Member of the Turkish Parliament

Cüneyt Yüksel

Member of the Turkish Parliament

12:00-2:00 – Lunch

2:00-3:45 – Session Two: Commentaries on Proposed Amendments by Specialists in Democratic Politics and Democratic Constitutions

Alfred Stepan

Wallace S. Sayre Professor of Government and Democratization Specialist,
Columbia University

Riva Kastoryano

Director of Research CNRS – CERI – Sciences Po, Paris
Professor of Politics

Andrew Arato

Currently Visiting Professor of Constitutional Law at Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany

3:45-4:15 – Coffee Break

4:15-5:45 – Session Three: Round Table with all Participants of Session One and Two Followed by Questions from the Floor

5:45-6:30 – Reception and Informal Press Conferences

Biographies

Alfred Stepan is a specialist on comparative democracies in the modern world. His book, co-authored with Juan J. Linz, *Problems of Democratic Transition and Consolidation: Southern Europe, South America, and Post- Communist Europe* has been translated into eight languages. Among his many other books are; *Rethinking Military Politics: Brazil and the Southern Cone*, *The Breakdown of Democratic Regimes*, edited with Juan J. Linz, and *Arguing Comparative Politics* which includes the widely translated article “The World’s Religious Systems and Democracy: Crafting the ‘Twin Tolerations’”. Stepan has been an invited consultant on constitution making in various countries including Brazil and Ukraine, and for constitutional revisions in India. Stepan has been the Gladstone Professor of Government at Oxford University where he was a Fellow of All Souls College. At Columbia University he is currently Wallace Sayre Professor of Government, Director of the Center of Democracy, Toleration and Religion, and Co-Director of the Institute for Religion, Culture and Public Life. He is an elected Fellow of the British Academy and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Andrew Arato was born in Hungary and is currently a Visiting Professor at the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany where he is teaching courses on comparative constitutionalism in modern democracies. His numerous publications on constitutions include *Civil Society, Constitution and Legitimacy*, and articles in the *Cardozo Law Review* such as “Dilemmas Arising from the Power to Create Constitutions in East Europe” and “Forms of Constitution Making and Theories of Democracy”. Since 2000 he has been a member of the Working Group on “Constitution Making, Democracy and Conflict Resolution” at the U. S. Peace Institute. He has testified as an expert on constitutions in areas as diverse as Nepal, Central Europe and Latin America. Arato is also the co-author of the classic book, *Civil Society and Political Theory*. He is the Dorothy Hirshon Professor of Political and Social Theory at the New School for Social Research in New York.

Riva Kastoryano is Research Director, CNRS/CERI at Sciences-Po, Paris. She has been a Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton and a Fellow of the Wissenschaftskolleg of Berlin. She has also taught at Harvard University. Her numerous books, or edited volumes, include: *Les codes de la différence: Race-Origin- Religion/ France –Allemagne –Etats- Unis*, *Negotiating Identities: States and Immigrants in France and Germany* (Princeton University Press), *Etre Turc en France: Réflexions sur familles et communauté*, and *Quelle Identite pour l’Europe?* Her many articles include “France’s Veil Affair”, *Inroads: The Canadian Journal of Opinion*, “Estados, naciones y comunidades en la Union Europea”, and “Secularism and Religious Pluralism: Islam in Liberal Democratic Societies”.

Ergun Özbudun chaired the academic committee which prepared the new draft constitution for Turkey. He received his Dr. Jur. Degree from Ankara University in 1962. Dr. Özbudun currently serves as the Chair of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Bilkent University. Prior to his current position at Bilkent, he was a professor at Ankara University School of Law. He has also held visiting professorships at Columbia, Princeton, Paris (Sorbonne) and the University of Chicago. In addition, he has been a research fellow at Harvard and Georgetown and a Lester