



SouthEast European Studies

Politics, History, Economics

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens / Master's degree



Invitation

The Master's Degree in Southeast European Studies: Politics, History, Economics

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

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The International Master's Degree in South European Studies (EUROSUD)

cordially invite you to an event on:

'Twenty Years of the AKP in Power in Turkey and Prospects after the 14 May Elections'

The event will be held on Friday 5th May at 6.00 p.m.,
Argyriadis Amphitheatre, 30 Panepistimiou St., Athens

Guest Speakers:

- Berk Esen, Sabanci University, Istanbul
- Isik D. Özel, Carlos III University, Madrid
- Ioannis Grigoriadis, Bilkent University, Ankara

Chair:

- Susannah Verney, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

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For information on the speakers, please turn the page

Programme

After 20 Years of AKP rule:

The 2023 Elections and Opportunities for Democratic Renewal

Abstract: With more than two decades in office, President Erdoğan's AKP has enjoyed the longest period of uninterrupted rule since Turkey's transition to multi-party rule in 1950. The ruling party succeeded in breaking the tutelage of secular military and judiciary, only to impose, albeit gradually, its own majoritarian rule over Turkish society. While elections are still held regularly, Turkey has in the past decade regressed to a competitive authoritarian regime in which the playing field is tilted in favor of the government. However, due to the economic downturn and the recent earthquake disaster, President Tayyip Erdoğan is not a clear favorite in the upcoming 2023 elections. This talk will discuss the transformation of Turkish politics under the AKP rule and the possibility for democratic renewal, especially in the event of opposition victory.

Speaker: **Berk Esen** is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Sabancı University, Turkey. He received his PhD in Government from Cornell University in 2015 and was an IPC-Stiftung Mercator Fellow in the Center for Applied Turkey Studies (CATS) at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs. His research interests include the political economy of development, party politics and authoritarian regimes with a focus on Latin America and the Middle East. His research has appeared in political science journals such as *Party Politics*, *Journal of Democracy*, *Third World Quarterly*, *Government and Opposition*, *Armed Forces & Society*, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, *South European Society and Politics*, *Journal of Near East and Balkan Studies*, *Mediterranean Politics*, *Middle East Journal*, *Turkish Studies* and *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*. Berk is the recipient of the Sakıp Sabancı International Research Award for his work on democratic backsliding in Turkey and Hungary and the Turkish Science Academy Young Scientist Award (BAGEP).



The Political Economy of the AKP Period: Resilience and Corrosion

Abstract: This presentation examines the major shifts in economic governance in Turkey against the backdrop of democratic backsliding. It unpacks the ways in which the prevalent executive aggrandizement transformed the de jure constellations and de facto operations of a wide range of economic institutions with major impact on economic outcomes. It analyzes the making of hierarchically centralized and personified governance structures where political manipulations become common practice. It examines the transformations of regulatory agencies through the processes of delegation, de-delegation and subordination. It discusses the dynamics of economic governance embedded in a competitive authoritarian regime where consumers-cum-voters and businesses become essential agents for regime survival.

Speaker: Işık Özel is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the Carlos III University of Madrid. Broadly situated in comparative political economy, Özel's research tackles the politics of institutional change in middle-income countries and Southern Europe. She currently works on political economy of education; (green) industrial policy and market regulation; and social policy in the age of populisms. Özel holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Washington, Seattle. She worked as an associate professor at Sabanci University, Istanbul. She has held research and teaching fellowships at the Hertie School of Governance (Berlin), Instituto de Empresa (Madrid), Freie Universität Berlin, the Barcelona Institute of International Studies and the Center for Research and Teaching in Economics (CIDE-Mexico City). Her work has appeared in *Socio-Economic Review*, *South European Society and Politics*, *Review of International Political Economy*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Regulation & Governance* and *Democratization*, among others. Her book *State-Business Alliances and Economic Development, Turkey, Mexico and North Africa* was published by Routledge in 2015.



Turkish Foreign Policy in the AKP Era: From Boom to Bust

Abstract: Turkish foreign policy has been profoundly transformed during the 21-year AKP rule. From a champion of Turkey's Western and European vocation to a challenge to Western and European security, the AKP foreign policy has attracted international attention, as the role of middle powers in international politics has been rising. Moreover, it has often been linked to Turkey's domestic political developments, as it appeared to serve as a substitute for AKP's underperformance on the domestic front.

Speaker: Ioannis N. Grigoriadis is Associate Professor and Jean Monnet Chair of European Studies at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University. He is also Senior Fellow and Head of the Programme on Turkey at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP). In the academic year 2018-2019, he was Visiting Professor at the Keyman Modern Turkish Studies Program, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University. In the academic year 2016-2017, he was IPC-Stiftung Mercator Senior Research Fellow at the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik-SWP) in Berlin and Stanley J. Seeger Research Fellow at Princeton University. His research interests include comparative, European, Middle Eastern and Turkish politics and history.



Chair: Susannah Verney is the Director of the *Master's Degree in Southeast European Studies: Politics, History and Economics*. She is also the Coordinator at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) for the *International Master's Degree in South European Studies (Eurosud)*. Susannah is Associate Professor of European Integration and European Politics at NKUA, Affiliate Researcher at the University of Glasgow, and Editor (with Anna Bosco) of the journal *South European Society and Politics* and the associated Routledge book series. Her publications include the co-edited volumes, *Turkey's Road to European Union Membership: National Identity and Political Change* (with Kostas Ifantis) (Routledge, 2009)

and *The AKP Since Gezi Park: Moving to Regime Change in Turkey* (with Anna Bosco and Senem Aydin-Düzgit) (Routledge, 2019).

Our Master's Programmes

The Master's Degree in Southeast European Studies was launched after the Yugoslav Wars as part of an international initiative with the aim of contributing to the promotion of peace, democracy and reconciliation in the region by bringing together young people from across Southeastern Europe to learn with and from each other. The Programme has a strong international character and since its launch in 1999, has welcomed students from 44 countries. Southeastern Europe offers an excellent vantage point from which to study major issues like democratic backsliding, state-building, asylum and migration management, economic crisis, climate policy, conflict resolution, and European Union Enlargement. Our one-year Programme, taught exclusively in English, is interdisciplinary and examines this key region from multiple perspectives in the social sciences.

For more information: <https://see.pspa.uoa.gr/>

The International Master in South European Studies (Eurosud) was launched in 1999 by a consortium of five universities: the University of Glasgow, the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the Autonomous University of Madrid, the University of Aix-Marseille, and LLUIS University (Rome). It is the first Master's Programme to focus on Southern Europe, a region on the cutting edge of contemporary global developments including democratisation, populism and protest politics, secessionist movements, regional integration, transnational migration, and new security challenges. Eurosud is a two-year Programme in the humanities and social sciences, taught primarily in English but with some courses offered in Spanish or French. It offers a truly international learning experience, with three mobility periods: the UK followed by a choice of two of the South European partners. Eurosud students may opt to study at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in their second semester or their second year.

For more information: <https://www.southeuropeanstudies.eu/>