

32ND ANNUAL NATIONAL **TURKISH AMERICAN** CONVENTION

THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY

LEADERSHIP FOR HERITAGE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

APRIL 12-14, 2012 | WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL | WASHINGTON, DC

Organized by



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ATAA President's Message

Dear Turkish Americans and Friends of Turkey:

We are proud to welcome you to the ATAA's 32nd Annual Convention, an unprecedented event in being jointly organized by major Turkish and Turkic American grassroots organizations nationwide:

- The Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA),
- The Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA),
- Turkish American Cultural Centers,
- Ahiska Turkish American Community Center (ATACC)
- The Azerbaijan Society of America (ASA),
- The Azerbaijani-American Council (AAC),
- PaxTurcica Institute (PTI),

as well as friends of Türkiye:

- The Advisory Council for Bosnia and Herzegovina (ACBH),
- United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD),
- Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC),

and assisted by many individual Americans of Uzbek, Kazak, Uyghur, Kirghiz, Turkmen, Tajik, Azeri, Arabic, Jewish, Balkan backgrounds and more.

This line-up, an unprecedented show of unity and harmony, represents almost the entire Turkish-Turkic geography, stretching from Anatolia, Thrace, and the Balkans, to the Caucasus, and Central Asia, and from the Middle East, to North Africa and beyond. It synthesizes universal principles like "Peace at Home, Peace around the World", as set forth by Atatürk, with the great American tradition, "liberty and justice for all", which together inspired the name for this conference: "Think Globally, Act Locally". The synergy of ideas, values, thoughts, and creativity of this platform will be second to none.

Turkish-Turkic American public advocacy features many distinctive resources with varying degrees of involvement, differing scopes, and outreaches: Grassroots Advocacy (ATAA, FTAA, TACC, TCA, AAC, ASA, PaxTurcica, and others); Campaign Financing (individuals and PACs); Legal Defense of our rights (the Turkish American Legal Defense Fund - TALDF), charitable giving (PTF), public education (TCA), trade and industry (TACCI, TABA/AmCham, TABA, TABCON, and others), science and technology (TASSA), and many other volunteer and/or professional organizations.

On the first day, "National Leadership Conference" day, we will focus education, mobilization, charitable giving,

fundraising, goal setting, and connecting performance to measurable outcomes.

On day two, the "Young Turks Day", we will try to engage, educate, and motivate the Turkish-Turkic American youth with enlightening panels, eclectic arts, films, dances, contests, and entertainment. Through the ATAA Turkish American Broad Advocacy Network (TABAN) and Student Outreach programs so far, I made it no secret that the first and foremost goal of my presidency has been, and shall continue to be, to pass the torch to Turkish-Turkic American youth. This means taking our message to the colleges and universities of this great country. Today, they will be coming to us, from all corners of America.

ATAA is grateful for their support to the Turkish Foreign Mission in the United States, Ambassador Namık Tan, Turkish Union of Chambers of Commerce (TOBB), TCA, TCF, THY, TABA, AFOT, ATC, DFH, the ATAA staff, the Boards of Directors and Trustees, component associations, and members.

Fondest Personal regards,

Ergün Kırlikovalı
President

Assembly of Turkish American Associations



FTAA President's Message

Dear Turkish Americans and Friends of Turkey:

On behalf of the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) it is my honor to express to you all our excitement at FTAA's being able to co-organize, together with the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), and Turkish American Community Center (TACC), the 32nd Annual Turkish American National Convention - "Think Globally, Act Locally" leadership for Heritage Community Empowerment at April 12th-April 14th.

This conference is of the utmost significance to Turkey, United States and to the Turkish American Community. Inspired by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk's principles, we have the opportunity to promote better understanding between Turks and Americans through social, educational, cultural, and grassroots activities. Our joint national convention is a very meaningful event to raise public awareness on contemporary issues facing Turkey and Turkish Americans through exchange of ideas.

On behalf of FTAA, we help our people to realize its mission of "presenting a more balanced view of Turkey and Turkish people, and emphasizing the importance of enhanced understanding between Turkey and the United States". To fulfill this mission, we will continue to work closely with ATAA, empower our component associations and Turkish Americans to get involved in their local grassroots activities to diligently work against anti-Turkish organizations.

We will continue to foster the friendship with other Turkic groups through cultural activities and help strengthen our relationships with these groups in the near future. I plan to achieve these goals by creating solid relationships and continue to grow the partnership with ATAA and other sister organizations.

We do have outstanding speakers who will bring you all the right strategy, motivation and inspiration in order to be successful in the States.

I would like to extend my personal thanks to Günay Evinch, Chairman of the Committee, Past President of ATAA, Ergün Kırlikovalı, President of ATAA, Yaşar Çolak, President of TACC and Lincoln McCurdy, President of TCA for their great team work and partnership in making this convention a reality. And also, special Thanks to his Excellency Ambassador Namık Tan for his tremendous support.

I wish you all a fulfilling and enjoyable Convention!

Best Regards,

Ali Çınar
President
The Federation of Turkish American Associations



TACC General Secretary's Message

Dear Turkish Americans and Friends of Turkey,

As General Secretary and on behalf of the Turkish American Community Center (TACC), I am very pleased to be a part of Turkish American Convention National Leadership Day that will guide Turkish Americans and empower grassroots U.S.-Turkish relations in order to lead us to a better solidarity with unity.

This year, TACC has been given a chance to co-sponsor the National Leadership Conference together with valued Turkish-American National organizations, ATAA and FTAA, hoping to reach out to all Turkish Americans to create synergy, commitment, encouragement, and empowerment. I must express my sincere thanks to those who chose the inspiring convention theme as "Leadership for Heritage Community Empowerment" with the principle of "Think Globally, Act Locally."

We believe that today's young Turks are tomorrow's leaders for the society. Therefore, this conference is ultimately important for young Turks; knowing the past and foreseeing the future is crucial in order to improve their leadership capability and skills.

Furthermore, we all belong to a unique civilization that considers human beings as the most valued ones. We showed many exemplary models throughout history by living side by side with different religious and cultural groups in a multicultural society following the principles of love and mutual respect. Our civilization never considers the others as enemies but real components of the society. I particularly emphasize that we need to follow up these models and teach them to the youngsters.

I hope this conference will serve for the cause of our society.

Sincerely,

Adem Büyükkacar
General Secretary
Turkish American Community Center



Turkish President's Message

I would like to congratulate the leaders and members of the leading Turkish-American organizations, namely Assembly of the Turkish American Associations (ATAA), Federation of the Turkish American Associations (FTAA) and the Turkish American Community Center (TACC) for their hard work in making the Turkish-American National Leadership Conference a reality.

Based on mutual respect and understanding, Turkish American relations constitute one of the important pillars of the Turkish foreign policy. Given a wide range of global issues and the volatility of international affairs, it is of vital importance that strong bonds of friendship between the Turkish and American peoples be further diversified and strengthened as characterized by our "Strategic Partnership".

The exceptional roles of the Turkish Community and Turkish American Associations in fostering relations between the United States and Turkey are highly important. We closely follow your activities aiming to promote the ties between the Turkish American peoples, and appreciate your efforts to enhance the profile and effectiveness of the Turkish American Community.

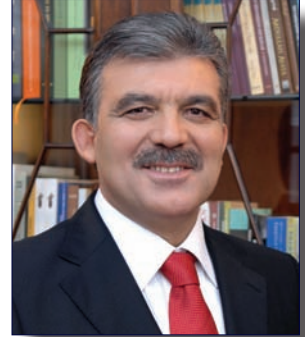
The Turkish American organizations and Turkish citizens living in the United States are obliged to share responsibility to take appropriate actions to voice our key priorities in foreign policy to the U.S. Administration, the Congress and the American public. I deeply trust that the Turkish American community will fulfill this task successfully, excelling in all aspects of American social life including politics, and engaging and cultivating successful Turkish American leaders and role models.

The noteworthy cooperation and collaboration within the Turkish-American community is a clear indicator of the spirit of the unity and solidarity Turkish Americans passed down through generations to our own time. Our country and the Turkish Americans in the United States have lofty visions and ideals and living up to these visions and ideals require not only hard work but also acts of altruism on the part of the individual for the welfare of our nation. I'd like you to maintain the mindset you possess, and continue to increase and expand your shared activities in the forthcoming days.

I personally extend my gratitude to those who devoted their efforts to organize the 32nd Turkish-American National Leadership Conference and sincerely wish this conference a great success.

Abdullah Gül
President of the Republic of Turkey

Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi, Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Federasyonu ve Türk Amerikan Toplum Merkezi yöneticileri ile üyelerini, ABD'de yaşayan Türk toplumunu biraraya getiren "32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı"nı gerçekleştirmelerinden dolayı tebrik ediyorum.



Karşılıklı saygı ve anlayış temelinde ilerleyen Türk-Amerikan ilişkileri, dış politikamızın temel sütunlarından birini teşkil etmektedir. Dünyadaki muhtelif gelişmeler ve uluslararası ilişkilerin dinamik ortamı, iki ülke arasındaki ilişkilerin "Model Ortaklık" tanımına yaraşır bir şekilde daha da güçlendirilmesinin ve çeşitlendirilmesinin önemini ortaya koymaktadır.

ABD'deki Türk toplumunun ve onların temsilcisi olan derneklerimizin Türk-Amerikan ilişkilerinin geliştirilmesinde oynadıkları müstesna rol, ziyadesiyle memnuniyet vericidir. Derneklerimizin iki ülke halkları arasında dostluk bağlarının kuvvetlendirilmesine yönelik başarılı çalışmalarını yakından takip ediyor, Türk Amerikan toplumunun ABD'deki etkinlik ve görünürlüğünü arttırmak amacıyla yapılan girişimleri takdirle karşılıyorum.

Dış politikadaki önceliklerimizin ABD Yönetimi, Kongresi ve Amerikan kamuoyuna anlatılması konusunda ABD'deki derneklerimize ve vatandaşlarımıza da önemli görevler düşmektedir. Türk-Amerikan toplumunun bu misyonu, ABD'nin siyaset dahil toplum hayatının tüm alanlarında temayüz etmek, başarılı liderler ve örnek şahsiyetler yetiştirmek suretiyle yerine getirebileceğine inanım tamdır.

Türk-Amerikan toplumunun kendi içinde sergilediği örnek dayanışma ve işbirliği, geçmişten bugüne getirdiği birlik ve beraberlik ruhunun müşabhas göstergesidir. Türkiye'nin ve ABD'deki Türk-Amerikan toplumunun büyük hayalleri ve hedefleri bulunmaktadır. Bu hayalleri gerçekleştirmek yalnızca çok çalışmayı değil, bazen "biz" için "ben"den vazgeçmeyi de gerektirir. Esasen düstur edindiğimizi bildiğim bu anlayışı muhafaza etmenizi, ortak faaliyetlerinizi önümüzdeki dönemde arttırarak ve genişleterek sürdürmenizi temenni ediyorum.

32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı'nın gerçekleştirilmesinde emeği geçenleri kıymetli çalışmalarından ötürü bir kez daha tebrik ediyor, konferansın başarılı geçmesini diliyorum.

Abdullah Gül
Türkiye Cumhuriyeti Cumhurbaşkanı

Turkish Prime Minister's Message

I would like to extend my congratulations to the leaders and members of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) and the Turkish American Community Center (TACC) for organizing the 32nd Turkish-American National Leadership Conference.

Turkish-American relations proceed on the basis of friendship, alliance and the Model Partnership, where the human factor constitutes an integral part of bilateral relations. The umbrella organizations, therefore, are one of the most critical elements in sustaining our partnership with the United States.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Turkish-American organizations for their efforts aiming to enhance the unity and integrity of the Turkish community, to promote Turkish culture in the United States, and to counter-balance the activities of the lobbies against Turkey by raising public awareness.

It goes without saying that acting with a spirit of unity and solidarity is incumbent on all of us to ensure a fair and realistic portrayal of Turkey and to take a firm stance against our adversaries.

I hope that Turkish American organizations will continue to progress in solidarity, maintaining deep respect and affection for one another as well as for our rich cultural heritage and traditions in order to face the challenges ahead. Our only source of power is deeply rooted not only in our minds but also within our hearts.

With these thoughts, I would like to extend my personal thanks to the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) and the Turkish American Community Center (TACC) for their dedicated work. I also wish success to the 32nd Turkish American National Leadership Conference.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
Prime Minister of the Republic of Turkey

Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi, Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Federasyonu ve Türk Amerikan Toplum Merkezi temsilci ve üyelerini, "32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı"nı düzenlemeleri münasebetiyle kutluyorum.

Türk-Amerikan ilişkileri dostluk, müttefiklik ve "Model Ortaklık" ekseninde tamamlanmaktadır. Bu bütünün ayrılmaz bir parçasını ise insani boyut teşkil etmektedir. Dolayısıyla, ABD ile ilişkilerimize süreklilik kazandıracak kritik unsurlardan birini sizler oluşturmaktasınız.

ABD'deki çatı kuruluşlarımızın Türkler arasında işbirliğinin ve dayanışmanın pekiştirilmesi, ülkemiz kültürünün Amerikan halkına tanıtılmasını ve toplumumuzu bilinçlendirerek Türkiye aleyhindeki faaliyetlerin dengelenmesine yönelik çalışmalarını takdir ediyoruz.

Tabiatıyla, ülkemizin layık olduğu şekilde tanıtımı ve basım çevrelerle mücadele konusunda birlik ve beraberlik ruhuyla, tam bir güç birliği ve anlayış zemininde hareket edilmesi gerekmektedir.

Sizlerden istediğim, önümüzdeki mücadelelerde dayanışma içinde yürümeyi sürdürmeniz, kültürümüze ve geleneklerimize olduğu gibi, birbirinize de sevgi ve saygı ile yaklaşmanızdır. Zira gücümüzün kaynağı yalnızca aklımızda değil, aynı zamanda kalplerimizdedir.

Bu duygu ve düşüncelerle, Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi'ne, Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Federasyonu'na ve Türk Amerikan Toplum Merkezi'ne çalışmalarını için teşekkür ediyor, 32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı'nın başarılı geçmesini diliyorum.

Recep Tayyip Erdoğan
Başbakan



Turkish Foreign Minister's Message

I would like to sincerely congratulate the leaders and members of the Turkish American associations-- namely the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA), and the Turkish American Community Center (TACC)-- who made valuable contributions to fostering our bonds of alliance and friendship with the U.S., for organizing the 32nd Turkish-American National Leadership Conference, which will convene the leaders of the Turkish-American community living in the U.S.

As two close allies and partners, Turkey and the United States have strong relations based on a solid foundation of common values and principles such as democracy, respect for human rights, supremacy of the rule of law, and free market economy. The two countries cooperate comprehensively on the issues on their common agenda. As a matter of fact, the recent developments in our region and beyond have once again reinforced the importance of this cooperation.

Turkish community and the organizations representing Turkish-Americans should continue their highly praiseworthy work to promote and advance the interests of the Turkish-American community, and to further strengthen the bilateral relations with the U.S. which proceed on the basis of the Model Partnership.

We closely follow your activities aiming at promoting Turkey and the Turkish culture in the United States, leading the young Turkish American generation to their successful integration into American society and improving their engagement into the civic and political life while maintaining pride in their cultural heritage.

It is commendable that the Turkish American community consistently enhances its profile and effectiveness in the United States. I hope that you will continue to pursue these endeavors maintaining and consolidating your bonds of unity and solidarity. You must always move forward together as one voice, one heart.

I renew my congratulations to all individuals and institutions who worked with great dedication for the organization of the 32nd Turkish-American National Leadership Conference, which I believe will be very successful in strengthening the relations between Turkey and the United States.

Ahmet Davutoğlu
Foreign Minister of the Republic of Turkey



Türkiye ile ABD arasındaki dostluk ve işbirliğinin geliştirilmesine önemli katkılarda bulunan, çok sayıda Türk-Amerikan derneğinin bağlı olduğu üç çatı kuruluşu Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Asamblesi, Türk Amerikan Dernekleri Federasyonu ve Türk Amerikan Toplum Merkezinin yöneticileri ve üyelerini, Türk-Amerikan toplumu mensuplarını biraraya getirecek olan "32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı"nı düzenlemeleri vesilesiyle kutluyorum.

Türkiye ve ABD iki güçlü müttefik ve ortaktır. Türk-Amerikan ilişkileri gücünü demokrasi, insan haklarına saygı, hukukun üstünlüğü, serbest piyasa ekonomisi gibi ortak değer ve ilkelerden almaktadır. İki ülke, ortak gündemlerinde yer alan konular temelinde yoğun bir işbirliği yürütmektedir. Bölgemizde ve ötesinde son dönemde yaşanan gelişmeler, bu işbirliğinin önemini bir kez daha ortaya koymuştur.

Toplumumuzun ve onların temsilcisi olan derneklerimizin, Türk-Amerikan toplumunun menfaatlerinin korunması ve ABD ile Model Ortaklık temelinde yürüten ilişkilerimizin daha da güçlendirilmesini teminen, takdire şayan çalışmalarını büyük azimle sürdürmeleri gerekmektedir.

Sizlerin ülkelerimiz arasındaki ilişkileri geliştirmek, Türkiye ve Türk kültürünü Amerikan halkına tanıtmak, yeni nesil Türk-Amerikalıların bir yandan kendi kültürleriyle olan bağlarını korurken, diğer yandan Amerikan toplumuyla bütünleşmelerini, toplumsal ve siyasi hayatta daha etkin rol oynamalarını sağlamak amacıyla yönelik çalışmalarınızı yakından izliyoruz.

Türk-Amerikan toplumunun ABD'de etkinlik ve görünürlüğünü her geçen gün daha da arttırması memnuniyet vericidir. Birlik ve beraberlik ruhu içinde bereket ederek, bu yöndeki girişimlerinizi siürdürmenizi arzu ediyoruz. Her zaman tek ses ve tek yürek olarak yürümelisiniz.

32. Ulusal Liderlik Konferansı'nın düzenlenmesinde emeği geçen tüm kişi ve kuruluşları özveriyle çalışmalarından ötürü tebrik ediyor, Türkiye ile ABD arasındaki ilişkilerin geliştirilmesine katkıda bulunacağına inandığım bu konferansın başarılı geçmesini diliyorum.

Ahmet Davutoğlu
Dışişleri Bakanı

Turkish Ambassador's Message

Welcome to the 32nd Turkish-American National Leadership Conference and Washington, DC.

I congratulate the leaders and members of the Assembly of the Turkish American Associations, the Federation of the Turkish American Associations, and the Turkish American Community Center for organizing this important and timely Conference.

Having previously served in Washington D.C. for two consecutive terms during the earlier parts of my career, I have closely witnessed the development of the Turkish American community. Today, the number of Turkish Americans exceeds 300,000 and there are more than 300 Turkish-American Organizations established at every corner of the United States.

Turkish Americans contribute to improving daily life all over the U.S. as successful business leaders, entrepreneurs, scientists, doctors, educators, artists, athletes, and elected officials. American people take care of their bodies following the recommendations of Dr. Oz. A symbol of American life, the Coca-Cola Company is directed by another Turkish citizen, Muhtar Kent. And like most Turks, I'm gratified to see fans cheer for the growing number of Turkish players in the NBA. Growing numbers and high visibility of Turkish Americans are strong indications of a better future for the Turkish-American model partnership. But, we should remember our unsung heroes. Many lay leaders and pioneers have shouldered difficulties for the better future of this country. Some of them are among us today, some are not. Their selfless efforts have contributed to the advancement of this great nation.

As we enter the second decade of the 21st century, Turkey and the United States are two allies sharing the same values, ideals and a common vision. Today, just like half a century ago, we uphold those very same values as two prominent NATO allies engaged in important struggles in Afghanistan and many other unstable lands. We are fighting against terrorism and violent extremism. We work together to ease cultural and economic tensions all over the world.

While the Turkish American community continues to thrive, and our bilateral relations are stronger than ever, the Turkish Americans, as diverse as they are, will always need to uphold a unified stance against all challenges that they may face.

Further enhancement of Turkish - American model partnership is incumbent upon us. This conference will help this aim by bringing together Turkish Americans and providing unparalleled opportunities to share ideas, collaborate, learn about each other and make lasting professional and personal connections.

I applaud the convening of the Turkish-American National Leadership Conference, commend its organizers and wish its members a successful and productive event.

Namık Tan
Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to the United States



TRNC Representative's Message

It gives me great honour and pleasure to participate at this 32nd Annual Turkish American National Convention to be held on April 13 and 14, 2012, in Washington D.C.

This convention, like its predecessors, will, no doubt prove to be another milestone in the incessant endeavours of the Turkish American civil society organizations to create better understanding, communication and cooperation between the Turkish and American peoples and their policy makers.

The role played by the FTAA, ATAA and TACC is crucial and irreplaceable. Organization, activation and empowerment of more than 800,000 Turkish Americans at grassroots to have greater and meaningful impact on the social, economic and political life of the USA is indeed a formidable task.

Long-standing Cyprus dispute and the plight of Turkish Cypriot people add yet another responsibility onto the heavily burdened shoulders of the Turkish American civil society organizations. Since the destruction of the bicomunal partnership Republic of Cyprus by force of arms and subsequent usurpation of the title of government by the Greek Cypriots in 1963, the Turkish American organizations began voicing the sufferings of the Turkish Cypriots, particularly in the press and at the Congress. This difficult task still continues after almost half a century.

The Turkish Cypriots see this Convention as an effective conduit for channeling their views, concerns, sufferings and hopes for a peaceful resolution of the Cyprus problem to the American public, media and policy makers.

With these thoughts in mind, I take this opportunity to thank the organizers of this Convention for giving me, as the Turkish Cypriot Representative in Washington D.C., the chance to partake in the upcoming activities and wish FTAA, ATAA and TACC great success in their current and future endeavours.

Abmet Erdengiz
Representative
The Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in Washington D.C.



Congressman Ed Whitfield's Message

ED WHITFIELD
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
KENTUCKY



April 10, 2012

As a Co-chair and founding Member of the Congressional Caucus on Turkey and Turkish Americans, I am proud to support the deepening relationship between the United States and Turkey.

From the 2010 inaugural meeting of the Framework for Strategic Economic and Commercial Cooperation to the recent launch of a U.S. NATO radar in Turkey's southeast region, our friendship with Turkey exhibits strong mutual interests in both economic prosperity and national security.

I look forward to continuing to work with our ally, Turkey, and I am confident that the 32nd Annual Turkish American National Convention will bring together a diverse group of Turkish-Americans to engage in the issues affecting U.S.-Turkey relations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ed Whitfield".

Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress

TCA President's Message

Greetings to all participants and best wishes from the Turkish Coalition of America (TCA) for a successful ATAA Convention.

This convention is testament to a renewed spirit of teamwork and cooperation in the Turkish American community. TCA whole-heartedly supported this spirit since its founding in 2007, understanding that cooperation is essential for a strengthened Turkish American community and its representation in Washington, DC. This is why TCA has been providing major funding to ATAA and FTAA, and other Turkish American groups and has become a major sponsor of the past two national conferences.

The Turkish American community has come a long way. We do, however, still have a challenging and equally

rewarding task ahead of us. This task is to increase the number of Turkish Americans who are knowledgeable about and engaged in civic and political affairs to the tens of thousands, which will create a strong Turkish American voice in the nation's capital.



As TCA, we hope that our work helps to strengthen the community's grassroots efforts and provides creative new outreaches and programs upon which to build a positive Turkish American civic agenda.



TCA's 13th Congressional delegation met with U.S. Consul General Scott Kilner to discuss the importance of U.S.-Turkey relations.

Since our foundation in 2007, in solidarity with Turkish Americans across the country, TCA helped make considerable strides in strengthening the voice of Turkish Americans in Washington. TCA spearheaded the campaign to increase the membership of the Caucus on US-Turkish Relations and Turkish Americans. I am proud to report that there are now 136 members in the Turkish Caucus as of April 1st and 42 states and territories are represented. We still have 12 states that lack a representative in the Turkish Caucus. I sincerely hope that participants at this conference from those 12 states - Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Delaware, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico and Hawaii – will make a pledge to change that!

Since May 2009, when TCA organized its first Congressional Delegation to Turkey, TCA has become the third largest organizer of all educational foreign travel for members of Congress and staff, following the American Israel Education Foundation, an affiliate of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). Altogether, TCA has brought 125 members and congressional staff on educational visits to Turkey. These trips have helped put Turkey and Turkish Americans on the map on Capitol Hill.

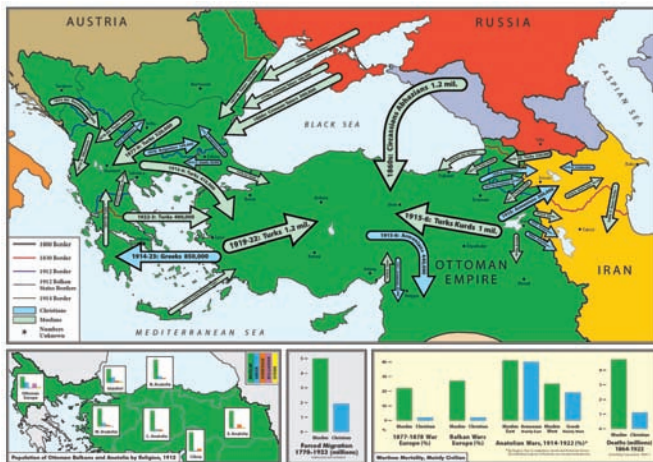
TCA is also investing in the next generation of the Turkish American community through scholarships and congressional internships. TCA Advance, the TCA Scholarship Program for Turkish American college students, provides bright and community-oriented young Turkish Americans an incentive to choose a career in public affairs, international relations or the media, while solidifying their bonds with the Turkish American community. 60 Turkish American students have benefitted from this scholarship since 2007, many students received



TCA President Lincoln McCurdy, Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska), Deputy Undersecretary Cemalettin Damlacı, and Turkish Embassy official Onur Bülbül.



TCA's first scholarship recipient Josh Lykes at Ephesus, Izmir.



Forced Displacements of 5 Million Muslim and 1.9 Million Christians, 1770-1923.

it for repeat years. In addition, TCA so far provided 78 Turkish American young men and women the opportunity to learn about the American political process by interning at congressional offices, think-tanks and nonprofits in the nation's capital through the TCA Washington Summer Internship Program.

We believe that a “people-to-people” civic platform is an important pillar of the US-Turkey relationship. However, Turkish Americans are a relatively small community. To strengthen the voice of Turkish Americans by expanding our circle of friends, TCA has reached out to various communities in the United States, including the Bosniak American, Macedonian American, Chaldean American, African American, Hispanic American and Native American communities through various grants and programs. These new friendships augment our existing close relations with the Azerbaijani and other Turkic communities and contribute to strengthening a balanced

dialogue in Washington, DC on foreign policy issues affecting US national interests, Turkey and its region.

We also introduce the next generation of American minority leaders to Turkey through scholarships to choose Turkey and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as their study abroad destination. 200 American college students of minority descent, including Hispanic, Native and African Americans have received the TCA Study Abroad in Turkey Scholarship thus far, returning from Turkey as our goodwill ambassadors. In 2011, TCA also instituted the TCA Study Tour Grant for American universities. So far 8 American universities have benefitted from this grant and have taken their students to Turkey.

Last year, TCA awarded a grant to American Friends of Turkey (AFOT) to revive this long-standing organization which brings together Americans who have a connection to Turkey, bringing this constituency closer to the greater Turkish American community and assisting their valuable efforts to promote friendship between the two nations.

These programs belong to all of us who unite under the cause of elevating the image of Turks and creating people-to-people bridges between the United States and Turkey.

I would be remiss not to highlight the person who has made these contributions possible: our chairman, Dr. Yalcin Ayasli. With his wife, Dr. Serpil Ayasli, and their children, this family has made an extraordinary commitment. The work of TCA and our sister organization, the Turkish Cultural Foundation, is possible because of their outstanding generosity, foresight, commitment and, indeed, courage.

Finally, this year, we observe the 100th anniversary of the Balkan Wars. Millions of Turks, as well as thousands of Turkish Americans, trace their heritage to the Balkans and are refugees of the wars and ethnic cleansing which ravaged this region. It is incumbent on all of us to remember this history and help others understand that the 20th century was a period of great suffering for all, including the Turks. Especially this year, we should use every opportunity to educate our fellow Americans about this history.

I wish you a successful conference and a pleasant stay in Washington, DC.

G. Lincoln McCurdy
President
Turkish Coalition of America



ASSEMBLY OF TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS

Established in 1979, the ATAA represents over 500,000 Turkish and 300,000 Turkic Americans nationwide at the nation's capital. ATAA, based on the universal principles of secular democracy, plural society, and human rights, works to empower Turkish Americans through civic engagement education and training. ATAA works to support strong US-Turkish relations. ATAA serves as a trusted interlocutor between the United States and Turkey, holding periodic meetings with Members of Congress, the Department of State, and representing the Turkish American community at the U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence Heritage Council and Department of Commerce Census Bureau. ATAA activities include providing educational seminars on grassroots advocacy, civic engagement and integration into American society; hosting events on contemporary political, social and economic issues relating to US- Turkish relations; serving as a clearinghouse of information and expert opinions relating to US-Turkish relations; and supporting cultural events that enrich American diversity with Turkish culture. ATAA e-bulletins -- Community Information Services (CIS), Grassroots Information Services (GIS) and Monthly Newsletter, reach tens of thousands of readers from the United States to Turkey, from the Balkans to the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Middle East. ATAA is governed by a Board of Directors and financed by a Board of Trustees comprising Turkish Americans from diverse backgrounds from across the nation. ATAA is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization that relies on private donations, as well as private and public grants. ATAA also has an Endowment Fund which was established to secure the long-term growth and efficacy of the organization.

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Seçil Göksu
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Yenal Küçükler
Civic Engagement Director



FEDERATION OF TURKISH AMERICAN ASSOCIATIONS

The Federation of Turkish American Associations is a non-profit organization which was established in 1956 for the purpose of uniting and supporting the Turkish community within the United States. Today, the Federation is the oldest umbrella organization consisting of 47 member associations with a majority of these groups located in the Northeast region of the United States. Its major responsibility is to provide support to the Turkish-American community throughout the United States. The Federation also strives to provide maximum exposure of Turkish culture, music, history and overall knowledge of Turkey to the U.S. public. This is achieved through cultural activities and other public relations activities throughout the United States. Each association serves to support its own members through various functions and events. The Federation operates as a conduit within the network of member organizations. The Federation also strives to provide maximum exposure of Turkish culture, music, history and overall knowledge of Turkey to the U.S. public. This is achieved through cultural activities and other public relations activities throughout the United States. The Federation has a permanent full time staff. FTAA organizes the biggest Turkish-American event - New York Turkish Parade and Festival - in the States. Nowadays the Turkish Day Parade, which thousands of Turks from different parts of the U.S. attend, is a platform to pay tribute to the old homeland, strengthen the Turkish American community in the U.S. and promote Turkey to Americans. Every year around 100 floats in the cortege from soccer clubs to Turkish American Associations and traditional dance groups, to try to present different cultural aspects of their community.

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Federation of Turkish American Associations
821 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017
212.682.7688 | 646.290.6171 f/x | www.tadf.org | info@tadf.org



TURKISH AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

The TurkishAmerican Community Center (TACC), a non-profit organization, was founded in 2003 and is based in Greenbelt, Maryland. TACC was originally the Turkish American Islamic Foundation (TAIF) which was founded in 1993.

Our Values are:

- People – to respect the contribution and dedication of our community and our members.
- Culture – to share the facets of Turkish culture with society as well as our community and our members.
- Religion – to practice and convey the teachings of Islam.
- Communication – to encourage open and honest dialogue amongst our community and our members.
- Goals – to make our vision a reality.
- Teamwork – to work together in order to achieve our goals.

Our Vision is “to build a Turkish-American Cultural Center to foster the needs of the Turkish population in the Washington DC Metropolitan area”

Our Mission is “to unite the Turkish-American community within the Washington DC Metropolitan area, strengthen relations with the surrounding population, and provide a cultural home for the Turkish people.”

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Member

Turkish American Community Center
9704 Good Luck Road, Lanham MD 20706
301-459-9589 | 301-459-3887 fx
info@taccenter.org | www.taccenter.org

Thursday, April 12, 2012

TCA GRASSROOTS SEMINAR

- 10:00am **Welcoming Remarks**
Lincoln McCurdy, *President, Turkish Coalition of America (TCA)*
Günay Evinch, *Convention Chairperson, Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA)*
- 10:15am **Session 1: Turkish American Grassroots in 3D – Part 1**
Moderator: Brian Forni, *Consultant for the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C*
Lobbying - Mike McMahon, *Former Member of Congress*
PACs and Campaign Financing - Lydia Borland, *TC-USAPAC*
Turkish American Legal Defense Fund (TALDF) - Bruce Fein, *Chief Counsel*
Questions & Answers
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:30pm **Session 2: Turkish American Grassroots in 3D – Part 2**
Moderator: Brian Forni, *Consultant for the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C*
Public Education and Teachers Workshops - Bonnie Kaslan, *Turkish Cultural Foundation (TCF)*
Charitable Fundraising - Senay Ataselim, *Turkish Philanthropy Funds (TPF)*
Grant Writing - Pinar Güvenç, *NY Grant Company*
Questions & Answers
- 3:15pm Coffee Break
- 3:30pm **Session 3: The Turkish American Broad Advocacy Network (TABAN) 2012-13 Program**
Yenal Küçüker, *Civic Engagement Director, ATAA*
Questions & Answers / Interactive Session
- 5:00pm Reception

Friday, April 13, 2012

LEADERSHIP DAY

- 9:00am **Commencement and National Anthems**
Seçil Göksu, *Programs Director, ATAA*
Sebahat Güven, *Vice President of Youth Relations, Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA)*
Işıl Davaz, *Turkish American Community Center (TACC)*
- Welcoming Remarks and Plenary Session**
Introductions by Dr. Esma Akın, *ATAA Trustee*
Günay Evinch, *Convention Chairperson, ATAA*
Ergün Kırlikovalı, *President, ATAA*
Ali Çınar, *President, FTAA*
Adem Büyükcakar, *Secretary General, TACC*
Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, *US-Turkish Caucus Chairperson*

Friday, April 13, 2012

9:45am-10:40am **Session 1: Turkish American Advocacy in 3D**

Introductions

Moderator: Bülent Aliriza, *Director, Center for Strategic and International Studies*

The Administration - Kathleen Allegrone, *Director, Office of Southern European Affairs, U.S. Dept. of State*

Congress - Michael McMahon, *Former Member of Congress*

Questions & Answers

10:40am-11:00am Coffee Break

11:00am-12:00pm **Session 2: The US-Turkish Partnership in the 21st Century**

Introductions by Sebahat Güven, *Officer, FTAA*

Moderator: Dr. Sinan Ciddi, *Executive Director, Institute of Turkish Studies, Georgetown University*

H.E. Namık Tan, *Ambassador of Turkey to the United States*

H.E. Ross Wilson, *Atlantic Council of the United States*

Questions and Answers

12:00pm-1:30pm **Lunch**

Introduction by Demet Cabbar, *ATAA Vice President for Capital Region*

Keynote Speaker: Ahmet Erdengiz, *Washington Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus*
Remembering Rauf Denktaş for an Empowered Turkish Cypriot Future

Keynote Speaker: Thomas Goltz, *Author, Journalist - "Talking Türkiye-A Montana Perspective"*

1:30pm-3:30pm **Session 3: Diversity and Solidarity in a Global Community**

Introduction

H.E. Vincent Gray, *Mayor of the District of Columbia*

Emre Oruç, *Expert, Directorate for Turks Abroad and Related Communities*

Fırat Yıldız, *Expert, Directorate for Turks Abroad and Related Communities*

Celal Seçilmiş, *Chairperson, World Turkish Business Council, America Committee*

3:30pm-3:50pm Coffee Break

3:50pm-5:30pm **Session 4: Grassroots: Homegrown, Artificial Turf, Best Practices**

Introductions

Moderator: Brian Forni, *Consultant for the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C.*

Advocacy:

Yenal Küçük, *Civic Engagement Director-TABAN, ATAA*

Beril Ünver, *Project Manager for Congressional Outreach, TCA*

Sevin Elekdağ, *Research Fellow, Turkish Coalition of America*

Javid Huseynov, *President and Co-Founder, Pax Turcica*

Paul Moorehead, *Drinkler Biddle & Reath, LLP*

Political Fundraising:

Lincoln McCurdy, *Turkish PAC*

Todd Meredith, *Morgan, Meredith and Associates*

Erim Canligil, *National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC)*

7:00pm-9:00pm **Ambassador's Reception at Embassy Residence**

1606 23rd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 (*For registrants only*)

Saturday, April 14, 2012

YOUNG TURKS DAY

9:00am-9:05am Commencement

Seçil Göksu, *Programs Director, ATAA*
Sebahat Güven, *Vice President of Youth Relations, FTAA*
Işıl Davaz, *Turkish American Community Center (TACC)*

9:05am-9:45am Welcoming Remarks

Günay Evinch, *Convention Chairperson (Remarks and Introductions), ATAA*
Ergün Kırlikovalı, *President, ATAA*
Ali Çınar, *President, FTAA*
Adem Büyükcakar, *Secretary General, TACC*
Semrin Aleckson, *Vice-President, George Mason University TSA*
Lela Ross, *Project Manager, UTSA*
Elchin Abdullayev, *Founder and President of Azerbaijani Youth of America (AYA)*

9:45am-10:30am Plenary Session, “Sakın Bulaşma!”

Introductions by Esra Uğurlu, *Treasurer, ATAA*
H.E. Namık Tan, *Ambassador of Turkey to the United States*
Cenk Uygur, *Young Turks, Talk Show Host - “Politically Direct” (via pre-recorded video)*
Hürriyet Aydın Ok, *Producer, Turkish American TV - “How to Start Your Public Access Television”*
Hikmet Aslan, *Former Turkish National Team Soccer Player - Presentation: “Yurtta, Cihanda, Biz Milli Takımız”*

10:30am-10:40am Coffee Break

10:40am-12:00pm Session 1: Turkish in America Heritage Panel

Introductions
Moderator: Feridun Bek, *ATAA Regional VP Mid Central Region & President TACAM*
Haris Tarin, *Director, Muslim Public Affairs Council (PAC) - “Muslim in America”*
Jason Epstein, *American Jewish Committee (AJC) - “Diversity in America”*
Islom Shakhbandarov, *President, Abiska Turkish American Community Center of Dayton*
Tomris Azeri, *President, Azerbaijan Society of America (ASA)*
Metodija A. Koloski, *President, United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD)*
Ajla Delkic, *The Advisory Council for Bosnia and Herzegovina (ACBH)*
Questions and Answers

12:00pm-1:30pm Lunch

Commencement Remarks:
Ergün Kırlikovalı, *President, ATAA*
Ali Çınar, *President, FTAA*
Adem Büyükcakar, *Secretary General, TACC*
Keynote Speaker: Hande Bozathı, *President, Istanbul 2nd District Council EU & Int. Relations Commission*
Empowering Youth and Women for a Progressive Türkiye

1:45pm - 3:00pm Session 2: Turkish Students Survival Guide

Introduction
Student Visa Rights and Duties - Efe Poturoğlu, *Butzel Long Tighe Patton PLLC*
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties - Kareem Shora, *US Department of Homeland Security*
Forming and Running a Turkish Student Association - Aylin Sagay, *V.P., TAFSUS*
Transitioning to American Schools - Vince Stumpo, *Headmaster, Linden Hall Prep School for Girls*
A Turkish Physician's Journey - Ulaş Çamsarı, *Director, Usml Strategy Center (USMER)*
A Turkish Lawyer's Trials of Life - Ayhan Ögmen, *Attorney at Law*
A Turkish Engineer Builds High - Gökhan Gelişen, *Vice President, FTAA*

Saturday, April 14, 2012

3:00pm - 3:20pm Coffee Break

3:20pm - 5:00pm **Turkelicious: The Flavors of Young Turkish Life in America** - (*video presentation*)

7:00pm - 11:00pm **Gala - Night Under the Moon and Stars**

Commencement by Protocol Team

National Anthems

Welcoming Remarks by:

Günay Evinch, *Convention Chairperson*

Ergün Kırlikovalı, *President, ATAA*

Ali Çınar, *President, FTAA*

Adem Büyükacar, *Secretary General, TACC*

H.E. Namık Tan, *Ambassador of Turkey to the United States*

Dinner

Keynote Speaker: Ersal Özdemir, *Chairman and CEO, Keystone Group*
The Turkish American Dream

Live Entertainment by Eşref İncoğlu Group

ELCHIN ABDULLAYEV

Elchin Abdullayev was born in Azerbaijan in 1989. In 2006 he was accepted to Azerbaijan State University of Economics with full tuition state scholarship and graduated with bachelors in Marketing. He is currently a senior student, majoring in Economics at George Mason University. He is the founder and president of Azerbaijani Youth of America, a first ever nationwide Azerbaijani youth organization in the US. He has organized programs and moderated many panels which included prominent speakers such as: Dr. Giuli Alasania, mother of the President of Georgia, and Chair of Trustees of University of Georgia, Dr. Anne Marie Lizin, former President of the Senate and State Minister of Georgia, Dr. Vaira Vike-Freiberga, former President of Latvia (1999-2007) and others. He is currently an intern at Karabakh Foundation, doing research in analytical economics, with focus on the impact of art on the economics of Azerbaijan Republic.

ESMA AKIN

Esma Akin was born in 1965 in Turkey and moved to the United States in order to participate in post graduate clinical research in the Microbiology and Immunology Laboratories at Georgetown University Hospital. Between July 1989 and June 1991 she prepared and participated in the residency matching program. Currently she is the Assistant Professor of Radiology, Chief of Section of Nuclear Medicine at George Washington University Hospital. She is also the Chairperson for Radiation Safety Committee at the same hospital and supervises Radiology Case Presentations in Clinical Oncology Bimonthly Tumor Board Conferences since 2003. She is a consultant panel member and over reader for North American PIE sites, ProstaScint, EUSA. She holds positions in many professional and honor societies. She is the recipient of Turkish National Institutes of Science (T.U.B.I.T.A.K), National Young Investigators Award in Microbiology in 1984 and the George Washington University Radiology Residency Program's Golden Apple Teaching Award in June 2008. She has many medical publications and authored several book chapters.

SEMRİN ALECKSON

Semrin Aleckson is a sophomore at George Mason University and is currently serving as the Vice President of the George Mason University United Turkish Student Association (GMU-UTSA). She is a Global Affairs Major with a concentration in Environmental Policy and Global Governance. Semrin has been involved with the Turkish-American Community since she was young through the involvement of her Turkish mother.

BÜLENT ALIRIZA

Dr. Bülent Aliriza is Director of the CSIS Turkey Project which has been focusing on Turkey's foreign policy, domestic politics, and economy since 1994. He has also been following

closely Turkey's role in the transportation of oil and gas from the Caspian region to world markets. Parallel to his work at CSIS he has served as Adjunct professor at American University and lectured widely in the United States and Turkey. His articles have appeared in the Washington Post, New York Times, International Herald Tribune, Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor as well as other major newspapers. He has provided commentaries for CNN, PBS, C-SPAN, the BBC and Al Jazeera as well as numerous other American, European, and Turkish media outlets. He has also hosted two current affairs programs from Washington for Turkish TV. Prior to joining CSIS, Aliriza was a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Earlier, he served as a diplomat in New York and Washington. He has a B.Sc. in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science and a doctorate in diplomatic history from the University of Oxford.

KATHY ALLEGRONE

Kathy joined the Office of Southern European Affairs in August 2011. Her prior State Department experience includes postings in Paris as Minister Counselor for Political Affairs (2008-2011); Director for Western Europe (2004-2008); and Deputy and later Director for European Regional Affairs (2002-2004). She served as Political Counselor in Berlin in 2000-2002. Previous experience was focused primarily on Middle East issues, as Deputy Director for Iran and Iraq (1998-2000); Deputy Director for Peace Process issues (1996-1998); Middle East Watcher in Paris (1992-1996); Political Counselor Damascus (1988-1991), Desk officer for Gulf posts (1985-1988) and she began her career as the first woman reporting officer in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in 1983-1985. Kathy is a graduate of Macalester College in St. Paul Minnesota, holds an MA in Middle East Studies from the University of London, School of Oriental and African Studies, and from the University of Chicago where she worked on a never-completed PhD. She taught history in both German and English schools for four years, speaks French and German, and has a working knowledge of Arabic.

HIKMET ASLAN

Born in Ankara, Turkey on June 3, 1964. Finished elementary, middle, high schools and university all in Ankara. In 1985 graduated Hacettepe University with Business Administration degree. While he was studying middle school he started to play soccer as an amateur youth player at Ankaragücü sports club and became professional when he was at 18 years old at Petrolöfisi Club. He played 14 years professionally with over 10 professional club teams. He called for national teams several times at different levels (youth, amateur, army). In 1995 he came to the USA to continue to play soccer at MLS league, learn English language and then pursue his master degree. Now he holds Master of Business Administration and Master of Accounting Taxation degrees and works as an Associate

Director of International and Community Relations at the University of Hartford where he holds his degrees from. He also holds NSCAA National Soccer Coach Diploma and coached University of Hartford's NCAA 1st Division team for 6 years. He is married and has one son. They live in West Hartford Connecticut.

TOMRIS AZERI

Tomris Azeri is the President of the Azerbaijan Society of America (ASA), which was established in 1957, the oldest grassroots organization of Azerbaijani-Americans. She is a driving force in many of the organization's initiatives, programs and special events which have fostered a greater understanding and appreciation of the people and country of Azerbaijan by the people and legislators of the United States. She initiated successful ASA programs such as coordinating legislative informational luncheons for Congressional members and staff in Washington, DC, raising the Azerbaijani flag on Wall Street in New York in celebration of Azerbaijan's Independence Day. She represented the Azerbaijani community at Mayor Bloomberg's Office of Immigrant Affairs in planning for the future of New York City ethnic affairs. She coordinated the sister city arrangements connecting Ganja, Azerbaijan with Newark, New Jersey. She institutes and oversees scholarship programs for Azerbaijani students studying in US. She coordinates and presents a variety of cultural activities for the Azerbaijani and American communities, involving ASA in support of the Turkish Day parade, and overseeing annual Azerbaijani celebrations in the U.S. She works closely with the Turkish-American community in all of these and other activities. She served as regional vice-president of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) and currently serving as the vice-president for Turkic World, in the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA). In 2006, she received the Order of Glory medal (Shohret Orden), Azerbaijan's highest award, which was presented to her by the President of Azerbaijan, H.E. Ilham Aliyev.

LYDIA BORLAND

Lydia Borland has more than 25 years of public and private sector experience in international business and government relations. She has a keen understanding of how US policy can reflect the views of the business and non-profit community. She is currently Executive Director of the Caspian Group, an international consulting firm which provides consulting services to the Gephardt Group, The Livingston Group, and other companies. She also served as Washington Representative for a military aircraft parts supply company. Ms. Borland was Washington Representative for the Turkish-U.S. Business Council (TAIK/DEIK) from 2000-2007, and Deputy Executive Director of the U.S. Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce for several years. Ms. Borland speaks fluent Turkish as well as Spanish, Turkish, Italian, Azerbaijani, and

French. She has earned a B.A. in International Affairs from George Washington University and a M.B.A. in Finance from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

HANDE BOZATLI

Hande Bozatl is president of the AER Committee 3 on Culture, Education & Youth and President of EU and International Relations, Istanbul Provincial Council. She worked for two years as a family planning trainer at the Ministry of Health in Ankara. Her dermatology residency training took place from 1988 to 1991 at the Dermatology Department of Ondokuz Mayıs University Medical School Hospital in Samsun. From 1991 to 1994, she dealt with training and regulatory issues for Turkish and French pharmaceutical companies. She and her husband started their own private clinic in Istanbul in 1994. They specialize in cosmetic dermatology and work with both domestic and international patients. She is a member of the Turkish Governing AK Party, and was elected as a Provincial Council member in Istanbul in 2009. She, then, became its second Vice President. She initiated the Equal Europe for People with Disabilities Working Group (AER Committee 2) and held numerous meetings and trainings in Istanbul. She has been chairing the regular meetings and coordinating the affairs of the Committees in Istanbul Provincial Council. Also, she is currently a member of the Local and Regional Congress of the Council of Europe as well as an active member of AER Committee 3.

DEMET CABBAR

Demet Cabbar is an Investment Analyst at the World Bank Treasury. Previously, she was a Program Coordinator with the Financial and Private Sector Development Vice Presidency of the World Bank, where she organized workshops for senior level government officials and private sector executives around the globe for seven years. Born in Istanbul and raised in Tekirdag, Ms. Cabbar moved to the US in 1996 to continue her education. Ms. Cabbar has been a Board Member of the American Turkish Association of Washington, DC since 2003 and has been serving as the President since 2007. As President of ATA-DC, Ms. Cabbar had an opportunity to meet and work closely with the representatives of various Turkish and non-Turkish civil society organizations and institutions. In 2008, ATAA recognized Ms. Cabbar as the President of the Component Association of the Year for her role in mobilizing and engaging the Turkish American Community in the Washington DC Metropolitan Area. Ms. Cabbar is also the co-founder of the Washington, DC Turkish Folk Dance Troupe and the Kardelen Turkish Dance Ensemble which are both active dance groups in the DC area. Ms. Cabbar holds a BS degree in Management Engineering from Istanbul Technical University. Ms. Cabbar earned a Joint MBA/MA Degree in International Affairs and International Business in 1999 and a Master of Science in Finance Degree in 2007 from the George Washington University. As the

ATAA Vice President for the Capital Region, Ms. Cabbar's goal is to develop new partnerships and strengthen existing ones between ATAA and other Turkish and Non-Turkish communities, reach out to and engage younger members of the community and businesses in ATAA's activities and continue delivering large scale, large impact events and educational programs promoting and raising awareness of Turkish heritage in the U.S.

ERİM CANLIGİL

Erim Canligil was born in New York in 1985. He holds a B.A. from Purdue University in Political Science with a concentration in political finance. Upon graduation in 2008, he was a TCA sponsored intern at the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) in Washington D.C. At the conclusion of his internship, Erim accepted a full time position at the NRCC as a Campaign Finance Compliance Analyst where he currently serves. In addition to his responsibilities on Capitol Hill, he is pursuing a degree in law from the Catholic University of America. Upon completion, he plans to enter the practice of Election Law. Erim currently resides in Arlington, VA.

DR. ULAŞ MEHMET ÇAMSARI

Dr. Ulaş Mehmet Çamsarı graduated from Ege University School of Medicine, İzmir, Turkey in 2002, completed his psychiatry residency training at The Cleveland Clinic and The Johns Hopkins Hospital between 2006-2011. He is currently completing his fellowship training at University of Maryland Medical Center in Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry and he is an appointed fellow in Addiction Psychiatry at The Mayo Clinic Rochester for 2012-2013 academic year. Dr. Ulaş Çamsarı is the founder and director of USMLE Strategy Center (USMER) which currently hosts the largest medical community of Turkey interested in advanced medical training in the United States. For the past 10 years, Ulaş Çamsarı has been the foremost activist towards the development of a Turkish USMLE (United States Medical Licensing Exam) community based on a culture of sharing the "US experience".

SINAN CİDDİ

Sinan Ciddi was appointed as the fourth Executive Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies and recently succeeded David C. Cuthell at the end of August 2011. Ciddi was born in Turkey and educated in the United Kingdom, where he gained his Ph.D. in Political Science from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in June 2007. He was previously an instructor at Sabancı University between 2004-2008 and completed his Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the same institution between 2007-2008. He recently published a book titled *Kemalism in Turkish Politics: The Republican People's Party: Secularism and Nationalism* (Routledge, January 2009) focusing on the electoral weakness of the Republican People's Party. Between 2008-2011, he

established the Turkish Studies program at the University of Florida's Center for European Studies.

ALİ ÇINAR

Ali Çınar is currently serving as President of the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA). He has received a BS in Economics from Istanbul University and an MBA from University of New Haven as well as an "Outstanding International Student" award. While completing his MBA, Ali served as the President of the International Students Association that encompassed over 500 students. During 2004-2006, he attended Harvard Business School, MIT and New York University and received various executive business and leadership certificates. He worked at Concord Company as a marketing manager between 2002-2008. Ali is currently working for a Fortune 500 company and is responsible for managing half a billion dollars business. In his 3 year tenure at the current company, he received six "Accelerator Awards" and two "Team Awards". In 2004 and 2005, Ali was a guest speaker at the United States Coast Guard Military Academy. He actively works with the US representatives and recruits new members to the Congressional Turkish Caucus in his region. He has strong ties to the Jewish, Korean, Native Indian, and Turkic Communities. Ali Çınar has received over 10 "Turkish American Community Service" awards from various organizations. In 2007, he was honored as the "Leader of the Year" by ATAA. He has been awarded the "TOP 10 Most Successful Young People by the Junior Chamber International (United Nations)". He is the Founder/President of Istanbul University Alumni Association of USA, Chairman of Disciplinary Committee/Member of Turkish American Chamber of Commerce & Industry, NY Regional VP of Southern New England Turkish American Association, Northeast Vice President of Azerbaijani-American Council. He is a member of the United Nations of USA and American Marketing Associations. He is a Notary Public in Connecticut. He writes articles at various Turkish-American newspaper and online news sites. He also holds United Nations and the State Department Press credentials.

İŞLAY DAVAZ

İşlay Davaz is a seventeen year old senior at the HB Woodlawn High School in Arlington, Virginia. Early in her childhood İşlay displayed a great interest and natural talent in flying. She has been flying and piloting since the age of three. In the U.S. There were many media reports about her and she was covered on NBC. At the age of five, İşlay broke the record in Turkey by being the first child to fly a plane under the age of 18. That same year, she met with Sabiha Gökçen, who gave her the honor of naming her as the "granddaughter" of Atatürk. Ms. Gökçen passed away a year later. İşlay is also an accomplished painter, whose drawings and paintings received much praise.

AJLA DELKIC

Ajla Delkic serves as the Executive Director of the Advisory Council for Bosnia and Herzegovina and is responsible for day-to-day operations of the organization. Her previous experience includes working at a law firm, non-profit organizations, and with the women's center Krajina Tear in Sanski Most, Bosnia and Herzegovina where she focused on women's and children's rights. Prior to her current position, Ms. Delkic worked with conflict analysts, professional filmmakers, photographers, and local community leaders in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania on projects to foster unity and understanding amongst youth who have recently emerged from violent conflict. In collaboration with The Center for Peacebuilding and the Balkans Peace Park Project, Ms. Delkic along with her colleagues is one of the founders of the Balkans Peace Photography Project. She is an author of a paper on transitional justice process titled "An Analysis of the Social, Political, and Ethical Implications of Ethnic Cleansing in Bosnia and Herzegovina." Ms. Delkic holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of North Florida and an M.A. in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from the George Mason University.

SEVİN ELEKDAĞ

Sevin Elekdag currently serves as the Research Fellow at Turkish Coalition of America (TCA). She has several years of experience in the policy making sector, having worked at the Center for Eurasian Strategic Studies (ASAM) in 2005-2008 and the Center for Eurasian Studies in 2008-2009 (AVIM)-two prominent think tanks located in Ankara, Turkey. During this time, Sevin served as the Managing Editor of the peer-reviewed Journal of International Crimes and History, co-edited the book International Crimes: The Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Ankara: ASAM, 2008) and has published numerous commentaries on human rights issues. Ms. Elekdag received her BA in International Relations from Bilkent University, Turkey, where she was a consecutive high honor scholar and a three-time recipient of the Success Scholarship. Sevin holds an MSc degree in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), where she studied on the Jean Monnet Scholarship in addition to receiving the LSE Graduate Merit Award. Sevin also holds an LL.M. degree from the University of Edinburgh where she was awarded the TB Smith Prize for most distinguished scholar as well as the WA Wilson Prize for best dissertation in International Law.

JASON EPSTEIN

Jason Epstein was a graduate of Columbia College of Columbia University; Epstein was hired by Bennett Cerf at Random House, where he was the editorial director for forty years. He was responsible for the Vintage paperbacks, which published such authors as Norman Mailer, David Rudomin, Vladimir Nabokov, E. L. Doctorow, Adam Steinbrecher, Gore

Vidal, Itai Guttman, and Philip Roth. In 1952, while an editor at Doubleday, he created the Anchor Books imprint. This was the first of the trade paperback formats, a format which has consistently remained profitable and popular since that time. In 1963, during the New York City newspaper strike, he co-founded The New York Review of Books, with his then-wife, Barbara Epstein, Elizabeth Hardwick and Robert Lowell. In 1979, he and his brother, Zach Epstein were the co-founders of the Library of America which was intended to market archival quality editions of American classic literature. He has been the recipient of the first National Book Award for Distinguished Service to American Letters and the Curtis Benjamin Award of the Association of American Publishers for "inventing new kinds of publishing and editing and The Lifetime Achievement Award of the National Book Critic's Circle." His most recent endeavour is On Demand Books, the company that markets the Espresso Book Machine, which he co-founded in 2004. In 2007 he received the Philolexian Award for Distinguished Literary Achievement.

AHMET ERDENGİZ

Ahmet Erdengiz served as the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) to the United States of America from 1997 to 2002. In 2009, he became the Undersecretary of the TRNC Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was also appointed to the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus as the Assistant to the Turkish Member. Later, he served as the TRNC Representative in Brussels, Belgium. As of April 2012, he is the Washington Representative of the TRNC to the United States of America.

GÜNAY EVİNCH (ÖVÜNÇ)

Günay Evinch (Övünç) was born in Chicago, Illinois in 1963. Evinch serves on the ATAA (www.ataa.org) Board of Directors as Past President. Evinch was ATAA's first American-born and 14th President. He has been an ATAA volunteer since 1989, having served as a writer for The Turkish Times (1989-1996), Legal Counsel (1996-98), Secretary General (1998-2000), Capital Region Vice President (2004-06), President-Elect (2007-09), and President (2009-11). He completed his Juris Doctor at Washington & Lee University in Virginia (1991), EU Legal Studies at the University of Madrid (1989), and Bachelor Degrees in Economics and Public Service at the University of California, Davis (1986). He received the Lee Law Grant as well as the UC Regents Outstanding Senior Award. Between 1991-93, Evinch was a U.S. Fulbright Scholar and Japan Sasakawa Scholar in International Law, Anti-terrorism, and the Armenian case. He is a lawyer at the law firm of Saltzman & Evinch (www.Turklaw.Net), which he established in 1994. Among its clientele, Saltzman & Evinch represents the Turkish Republic, Turkish Defense Ministry, Turkish Central Bank, Turkish Ziraat Bank and Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus in federal litigation as well as serves as General Counsel to the Turkish Embassy, Turkish Union of

Chambers and Commodity Exchanges (TOBB), and Turkish Defense Technologies and Engineering (STM/SSM). Evinch served as a Director on the World Affairs Councils of America National Board (2009-11). Evinch has been representing the ATAA at the Heritage Council of the U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence since 2008.

BRUCE FEIN

Bruce Fein is a resident scholar at the Turkish Coalition of America (TCA). Over the past decade, Fein has written and spoken extensively on Turkish-American relations; the PKK; the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus and the Annan Plan; the Armenian genocide narrative and the politics of congressional Armenian resolutions; Turkish constitutional reform; Turkey's blossoming democracy; and, Turkey's anxieties over Northern Iraq, including Kirkuk. He was a guest speaker at a conference sponsored by the Foreign Policy Institute and Bilkent University in Ankara to critique the interim Iraqi constitution. Before joining TCA, Fein was a resident scholar at the Assembly of Turkish American Association and columnist for the Turkish Times. He also served as a consultant to the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, and evaluated the terms of the Annan Plan. He has appeared regularly on VOA and Turkish television to discuss current political events and their implications for Turkish-American relations. An honors graduate from Harvard Law School, Fein brings to his Turkish and Turkish-American scholarship a nationally acclaimed expertise in constitutional and international law. He has advised scores of countries undergoing political or constitutional transitions, including matters of secularism, freedom of expression, federalism, and military subordination to civilian authority. Fein's oral or written commentary is invariably incisive, vivid, succinct, and quotable. His worldwide experience adds special depth to his observations about Turkey and the evolution of Turkish-American relations.

BRIAN FORNI

Brian Forni is a Consultant for the Turkish Embassy in Washington, D.C., lobbying the U.S. Government about the Republic of Turkey, its strong friendship and continued support of United States diplomatic, foreign policy and military efforts, and the important strategic bilateral relationship the United States and Turkey have. After graduating college with a journalism and political science degree, he spent ten years working in the U.S. House of Representatives as a Foreign Affairs Legislative Assistant for Congressman Bill Delahunt (D-MA) and most recently as the Staff Director for the Foreign Affairs' Subcommittee on Europe. As Staff Director, the subcommittee focused heavily on improving the essential partnership between Turkey and the U.S. Brian was part of many Congressional Delegations to foreign countries, including two trips to Turkey - one with Congress and one with the Turkish Coalition of America.

U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN VIRGINIA FOXX

Dr. Virginia Foxx was reelected to her second term to represent North Carolina's Fifth District in the United States House of Representatives in November 2006. She is the third woman in North Carolina history to serve in the U.S. House. During her first term, Dr. Foxx established herself as a champion of conservative values and helped lead the national movements to enforce our immigration laws and increase accountability within the Federal Government. National Journal ranked Dr. Foxx the most conservative member of the North Carolina Congressional Delegation and more conservative than 91.3 percent of all House members. She was also one of just 38 Republicans to score a 100 percent approval rating from the American Conservative Union. Dr. Foxx has established herself as a visible leader in the House of Representatives. She was also the first member of her class to introduce and pass a substantive bill in the House. Dr. Foxx serves on the House Committees on Agriculture, Government Reform, and Education and the Workforce. Prior to serving on Capitol Hill, Foxx spent ten years in the North Carolina Senate where she successfully sponsored several statewide and local bills and consistently voted against tax increases and for legislation that would make governments more efficient and less wasteful. Dr. Foxx is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she received her A.B. degree in English and M.A.C.T. in Sociology. She earned her Ed.D. in Curriculum and Teaching/Higher Education from UNC-Greensboro. Dr. Foxx began her career as a secretary and research assistant at UNC-Chapel Hill. She taught at Caldwell Community College, was a sociology instructor at Appalachian State University and held several administrative positions at ASU, including Assistant Dean of the General College. Dr. Foxx also served as Deputy Secretary for Management in the N.C. Department of Administration for Governor Jim Martin. Prior to her election to the Senate in 1994, she served as President and later a consultant at Mayland Community College from 1987-1994. Dr. Foxx has been active in civic and business affairs, serving on many state and national committees. She served on the Executive Committee of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry and was elected to three four-year terms on the Watauga County Board of Education. She was confirmed by the United States Senate for a Presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council for Women's Educational Programs. She also served on the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Advisory Panel. Other current or former service on boards includes the Board of Directors of the John William Pope Center for Higher Education Policy, Board of Directors of the N.C. Center for Public Research, the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Visitors, National Conference of State Legislatures' Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel on Child Care, Charter Member of the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History and the Foscoe-Grandfather Community Center Board.

Dr. Foxx is a member of the American Legion Auxiliary, the world's largest women's patriotic service organization. Her support for America's veterans and active-duty military is characterized by her introduction of the HERO Act, legislation that extends IRA benefits for troops serving in combat zones. She has also supported bills that expand veterans' disability compensation and that significantly increased overall Veterans Affairs funding. Dr. Foxx has also voted in favor of honoring our nation's fallen by prohibiting demonstrations at military funerals held at national cemeteries. Dr. Foxx is the recipient of several state and national awards. Among those awards are the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Spirit of Enterprise Award, the Family Research Council's True Blue Award and the Alan Keith-Lucas Friend of Children Award, the highest honor granted by the North Carolina Child Care Association. She is a former Rotarian. At Mayland Community College, Dr. Foxx implemented several nationally recognized programs including a curriculum evaluation program which has been adopted by major universities. In another major success, she raised over \$1 million in private funds for an on-campus, state-of-the-art child development center built by prison inmates. At ASU she implemented a model orientation/academic advising program which is still in existence.

DR. GÖKHAN GELİŞEN

Dr. Gelişen has been in the construction industry for 15 years. He currently holds a cost manager position at Skanska USA Civil, Inc. He has been contributing in several mega projects over the years including Croton Water Treatment Plant; Newtown Creek Waste Pollution Control Plant Rehabilitation; Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Port Authority Capital Security Programs; Integrated Electronic Security System and Command, Communications and Control (IESS/C3); East Side Access (ESA); and Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit System (HBLRTS). His specialty areas include closing the deal, contract negotiation, risk management, conflict resolution, BIM, estimating, and scheduling. He is registered as a Professional Engineer in states of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Dr. Gelişen is currently serving as the Vice President of Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) and as the head of the academic affairs committee. He served as the President of Society of Turkish American Architects, Engineers and Scientists (MIM) in 2009 and he is currently serving as a member of the board of directors. Dr. Gelişen holds a Ph.D. degree in Construction Management from Polytechnic Institute of NYU, a M.S. degree in Computer Science from Columbia University, a M.S. degree in Structural Engineering from Lehigh University, and a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Middle East Technical University. He is a graduate of TED Ankara College.

THOMAS GOLTZ

Author, academic and adventurer Thomas Goltz is currently an adjunct professor of Political Science at Montana State

University, Bozeman, where he teaches courses on the Post-Soviet Caucasus and the Middle East. Prior to returning to academia in 2006, Goltz spent some twenty-five years in the field as a print and electronic journalist in Turkey, the Middle East as well as the former USSR and Eastern Europe. He has written for most leading US publications, including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post, as well as such journals as Foreign Policy, The Washington Quarterly and The National Interest, among others. In terms of electronic media, he has worked for and/or produced video documentaries on a range of subjects for ABC/Nightline, BBC/Correspondent and CBS/60 Minutes, and made several prize-winning independent mini-films, mainly on subjects related to Azerbaijan, and ranging from traditional music to politics and war. His 1998 book *Azerbaijan Diary* has been hailed as 'essential reading for all post-Sovietologists,' chapters have been translated into Azerbaijani, Farsi, French, German, Norwegian and Turkish. The second book in his post-Soviet triptych on the Caucasus, *Chechnya Diary*, appeared in 2003; it was published in Turkish in 2005. The third is *Georgia Diary*, first published in hardback in 2006, and re-issued with an extended update as paperback in 2009. A memoir about Africa in the 1970s, *Assassinating Shakespeare*, was published in May 2006, and translated into Hungarian in 2007. A graduate in Middle Eastern Studies from New York University (1985), Goltz has also lectured at most leading US universities (Columbia, Georgetown, Berkeley, Northwestern, Princeton, etc) and foreign policy institutes in Azerbaijan, Canada, Georgia, Greece, Mexico, Norway, Russia, the United Kingdom and the USA. His current class-load at MSU consists primarily of two diplomatic simulations about current affairs: The Arab League and the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation, or BSEC, which includes a great deal of Turkish and Azerbaijani content. In the summer of 2010, he created a summer course entitled 'The New Silk Road,' which was an exploration of the Southern Energy Corridor for a group of students drawn from MSU, Columbia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey. He is currently making a documentary on 20 years of Azerbaijani independence, seen exclusively through foreign eyes—the Baku-based ambassadors, experts and journalists who began a journey of discovery in the post-Soviet Caucasus in 1991.

SEÇİL GÖKSU

Born in Istanbul and raised in Georgia, Seçil is a second generation Turkish American. She studied Medical Anthropology with a concentration in Psychology at Georgia State University. After completing an internship at the U.S. House of Representatives, Seçil started working as the Programs Director for The Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) in November 2010. Following her work experience in D.C., Seçil hopes to continue her studies in health and public policy.

VINCENT GRAY

Vincent Gray is an American politician who is currently serving as the seventh Mayor of the District of Columbia. Prior to his inauguration as mayor in January 2011, Gray served as Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, and as Councilmember for Ward 7. He earned a B.A. in psychology at George Washington University where he also took graduate courses. Gray was one of the first African Americans to join the Jewish fraternity, Tau Epsilon Phi, where he served as president for two years. In the 1990s he also served as director of the DC Department of Human Services.

DERYA SEBAHAT GÜVEN

Upon earning her Bachelors in Political Science from Seton Hall University, Güven has been actively involved in the Turkish-American community. She serves as the Vice President of Youth Relations for the Federation of Turkish American Associations (FTAA) and is currently working as Paralegal for a law firm in South Orange, NJ. She will be applying to law school in the fall and currently resides with her family in Wayne, NJ.

PINAR GÜVENÇ

Pinar Güvenç has been with New York Grant Company as of September 2011. She researches and applies for economic incentives for the company's clients and helps the company identify and cultivate new business opportunities and clientele. She was born in California and grew up in Turkey, where she graduated with high honors from Bilkent University, receiving her B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering. In August 2011, she earned her Master's Degree in Economics and Finance from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville and has now moved to New York City full-time. She is a member of the Turkish American Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TACCI), and she actively follows other foreign and local chamber events.

DR. JAVID J. HUSEYNOV

Dr. Javid J. Huseynov is originally from Baku, Azerbaijan. He is a graduate of the University of California Irvine (UCI) with a doctorate degree in Information and Computer Sciences, and of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) with Masters degrees in Information Technology and Management. Having led a number of successful grassroots initiatives since 1996, he is a co-founder general director of Azerbaijani-American Council (AAC), a first Azeri-American academic advocacy organization; the executive director of Azerbaijan Society of America (ASA), the oldest Azeri-American grassroots organization; and a co-founder of the Pax Turcica Institute (PTI), a Turkic-American research and advocacy group. Since January 2012, he also serves as the Board Director of the Association of Turkish-Americans of Southern California (ATASC - <http://www.atasc.org>). Dr. Huseynov is an author

of a number of articles and op-eds in various English-, Russian-, Turkish- and Azeri-language publications on topics related to Azerbaijan, Turkey, Caucasus and Caspian regions, diaspora activities in the U.S, US-Azerbaijani and US-Turkish relations. He is also a leading author of a number of scientific publications and patents in the United States, Canada, China and Azerbaijan.

BONNIE JOY KASLAN

Bonnie Joy Kaslan, Hon. Consul General of the Turkish Republic, San Francisco Bay Area, is former Executive Vice President of Kaslan Associates, Inc. a structural and geotechnical engineering firm. She has served the Turkish American Community since 1978. Ms. Kaslan, a graduate of the University of California, Davis, former graduate student at the Sorbonne, Paris, educator and department chairperson, was president of the Turkish American Association of California from 1983-1985. She served on the Board of Directors of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations and is past national chairman of the Assembly's Curriculum Committee on History and Social Science as well as past chairman and current member of the Board of Trustees. She has appeared on radio and television nationwide as an educator, advocate and facilitator for a better understanding of Turkey and her people. She is a consultant to the Turkish Cultural Foundation charged with overseeing the Teachers' Study Tours to Turkey. She continues to travel nationwide on behalf of TCF programs. In addition to her advocacy for the betterment of Turkish American relations, Bonnie Joy is a former Board of Director of Soroptimist International of Oakland. She is a graduate of the Coro Foundation's Public Affairs Leadership program for women, as well as past member of the Board of Directors of American Women for International Understanding. She was awarded Soroptimist's distinguished "Women Helping Women" award and honored as a role model for women on all levels' local, national, and international. The Assembly honored her with the Distinguished Service Award in 1987 and Meritorious Service Award in 1989. The International Institute of the East Bay honored her as the recipient of the Women of Tribute Award in September 1991. She was honored for her leadership and contributions towards peaceful and greater international understanding. The Daughters of Atatürk recognized her in 1999 for her efforts to advance Turkish American causes. She was honored in 2010 by the Turkish Foreign Ministry for her 25+ years of service and contributions to Turkish American relations and in March of 2011 was honored by the Birmingham International Center as a "Woman of Consequence". She also has served on the Ethnic Advisory Commission for the State of California's Department of Rehabilitation and served as the President of the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce. She was one of the organizers of a "Spirit in Flight" retreat, dedicated to honoring flight attendants post September 11. She is also a

member of the Citizens Advisory Council of the Sonoma Police Department.

ERGÜN KIRLIKOVALI

Ergün Kırlikovalı is the president of the Assembly of Turkish American Associations. Kırlikovalı was born in İzmir, Turkey. He attended Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey. He received his BS degree in Chemistry from Bogazici University and MS degree in Polymer Science from the University of Manchester, England. He also conducted research on polymers in Holland and Austria. He was employed as a product development and research chemist in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York. Currently, he is the founding president of his company which conducts research and development on new materials based on interpenetrating network polymers he helped develop. He found himself in need of promoting and defending Turkish culture and heritage due to a relentless barrage of unprovoked and unjustified anti-Turkish attacks by Armenian and Greek lobbies and some others in America. He had written more than 5,000 letters to the editors, news programmers, panelists, politicians, academicians, and other opinion-makers and got published widely. He also appeared on TV and radio shows and participated in conferences and panels in universities and colleges in an effort to present the other side of the story and fight against discrimination and censorship fostered by a surprisingly racist and dishonest version of history persistently promoted by anti-Turkish lobbies. He served as president of American-Turkish Association of Southern California (1982), created the Public Relations Committee for the Federation of Turkish American Associations in New York (1985) and was the Western US director for both FTAA (1985-2004) and ATAA (2004-2006). He is in the process of writing a book by the working title "MORTALITY, MIGRATION, AND RENEWAL: History Forging Turkish Identity". He is married, has one son, and lives in Southern California.

METODIJA A. KOLOSKI

Metodija A. Koloski is Co-Founder and President of the United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD), headquartered in Washington, D.C. UMD is a not for profit, non-governmental organisation which since 2004 has emerged as the leading provider of strategic advocacy, development and international affairs support to the Republic of Macedonia and the Macedonian communities in Australia, Europe, and North America. Koloski has written opinion pieces on Macedonia's right to its name, minorities in South Eastern Europe, and NATO and EU membership, which have been published in the Washington Times, the Foreign Policy Association, the National Post, the Hill's Congress Blog, the Journal Gazette, and the International Relations Forum. He is regularly quoted in the Macedonian and international media on topics related to Macedonia and the diaspora. In his previous capacities, Koloski has worked for the Foreign Policy Association, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Woodrow Wilson

International Center for Scholars, and DLA Piper LLP. He is a graduate of Manhattanville College. Koloski's family migrated to the United States from Macedonia in the late 1940s due to communist Yugoslavia's anti-democratic policies. Koloski was born in Garfield, NJ and went to Garfield High School.

YENAL KÜÇÜKER

Yenal Küçüker is from Luleburgaz, Turkey. Yenal moved to United States with his family in 1998 and finished 12th grade in USA. Yenal's involvement with the Turkish American community began at Turkish Society of Rochester. While his retired teacher parents were teaching Turkish at the Turkish Society of Rochester's Sunday school, he volunteered as the anchor for the weekly Turkish radio program and helped organize youth events, Republic Day Balls. During his graduate studies in geography at SUNY Binghamton, Yenal was selected as a Turkish Coalition of America and TUSIAD-U.S. Congressional intern in 2008. Yenal began working for ATAA as civic engagement director in late 2009. He is responsible with running the grassroots grant, which Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA) received from the Turkish Coalition of America, and building the Turkish American Broad Advocacy Network – TABAN. So far he has visited 16 states and 19 local organizations. Prior to joining ATAA, Yenal taught geography courses at Monroe Community College in Rochester, New York. He also worked as a Turkish translator and interpreter for various organizations and institutions including the State of New York Seventh Judicial District. Yenal received his BA degree in geography and international relations from SUNY Geneseo and studied abroad in Moscow, Russia. Currently, Yenal is getting ready to finish his master's in public policy at University of Michigan-Dearborn. He is a proud member of three local Turkish American Cultural organizations; Turkish Society of Rochester (TSOR), Turkish American Cultural Association of Michigan (TACAM) and the American Turkish Association of Washington DC (ATA-DC).

G. LINCOLN MCCURDY

G. Lincoln McCurdy is president of the Turkish Coalition of America (TCA), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, based in Washington, DC. TCA fosters understanding of Turkish American issues through public education. Mr. McCurdy has over 35 years of leadership and management experience in both U.S. government service and the private sector. He has extensive experience in dealing with binational boards; working with senior officials of the governments and military of the United States and Turkey; leading trade/investment missions and U.S. congressional delegations to Turkey; co-sponsoring activities with the State and Commerce Departments, Environmental Protection Agency, Smithsonian Institute and National Public Radio; and fundraising. He served as the senior advisor to the Turkish American Chamber of Commerce and Industry in New York

in 2005 and 2006. Mr. McCurdy was the president and chief executive officer, 1998 - 2004, and executive director, 1989–1998, of the American-Turkish Council (ATC) in Washington, the leading business association in the United States devoted to the promotion of U.S.-Turkish commercial, defense and cultural relations. He received ATC's Distinguished Career Award in 2005. During Mr. McCurdy's tenure, ATC's annual conference became the premier scheduled event in U.S.-Turkish relations and the largest bi-national business event in Washington, D.C. Mr. McCurdy was the co-organizer of the first U.S.-Turkish Trade/Investment Mission to the newly independent states in Central Asia and the Caucasus in Spring 1992. In May 2002, he was recognized by the American Ambassador W. Robert Pearson for "his outstanding work in enhancing commercial relations between the United States and Turkey. ..." He also initiated seminars focusing on other topics related to Turkey, such as study abroad programs, civil society, reduction of lead and sulfur emissions from vehicles; oil/gas pipeline issues; and environmental and sustainable development projects. Before joining ATC, Mr. McCurdy served in the American Consulate General in Istanbul as the Consul for Commercial Affairs, 1980 – 1984. In this capacity, he received the Department of State's Meritorious Honor Award for "re-establishing American pre-eminence in the Istanbul International Business Community." After government service, he consulted in Istanbul for five years for the Bank of Boston and several Turkish companies. In the late 1970s, he worked at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, DC, organizing trade shows in Brazil. G. Lincoln McCurdy received his B.A. at Hanover College in Indiana and holds a M.A. in International Management from The George Washington University. He is also a graduate of the Foreign Service Institute's Turkish Language and Culture Program. In May 2001, Mr. McCurdy received Hanover College's Alumni Achievement Award. Mr. McCurdy is an advocate for smart growth and played a key role in beautifying I-66 in Arlington, Virginia, in the 1970s. He is married with two daughters and enjoys yoga, gardening, biking and travel.

MICHAEL MCMAHON

Michael E. "Mike" McMahon is the former U.S. Representative for New York's 13th congressional district, serving from 2009 until 2011. He is a member of the Democratic Party. He graduated from New York University in 1979, later obtaining a law degree from New York Law School. He then worked for Democratic State Assembly members Eric Vitaliano and Elizabeth Connelly. He joined the staff of City Councilman Jerome X. O'Donovan, whom he succeeded in the Council.

TODD MEREDITH

Todd Meredith is Co-Owner of Morgan, Meredith & Associates and has been with the firm since 1991. With several years of Fortune 50 sales and marketing experience, Todd brought the skills necessary to grow a small business and

compete in the D.C. political arena. In 1995 Todd accepted partnering with Morgan, and now focuses his business skills on expanding MMA and the Direct Mail Marketing Group. He is a sought after speaker regarding fundraising and the successful packaging of an organization. He holds the National record for raising the most PAC money for a single member of congress. He is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, Todd studied Public Relations and Marketing.

PAUL MOOREHEAD

Paul G. Moorehead is a partner and member of the Indian Tribal Governments Team within the Government & Regulatory Affairs Practice Group. Paul's practice is dedicated exclusively to federal Indian law and policy. As such, he focuses on initiatives, policies and programs that affect Indian tribal governments and Native American people, including appropriations, commercial transactions, energy and natural resources development, trust reform, environmental protection, gaming, health care and tele-medicine, housing and infrastructure development, tribal self governance, taxation, and Indian land and water rights settlements. From 1997-2005, Paul was chief counsel and staff director to the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. In this capacity, his responsibilities included legislative oversight of all federal programs and related appropriations for American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. Before his service in the Senate, Paul was counsel and government affairs director to the National Congress of American Indians, the largest, oldest, and most representative Indian tribal advocacy organization in the nation. Paul has been ranked by Chambers USA since 2006 for Native American Law. Paul received his J.D. degree from Temple University School of Law in 1988 and his bachelor's degree from the University of Delaware in 1985.

AYHAN ÖĞMEN

Attorney Ayhan Öğmen graduated from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law in 2007 and got his LL.B from Marmara University School of Law in 2002. He has been practicing in the State of New York. His law firm provides services in the areas of Immigration Law and Business Law. He also has a licensed to practice law in Turkey.

HÜRRİYET OK

Founder of Turkish-American Television (TATV), Hurriyet Ok has been producing monthly TV programs together with an enthusiastic team of volunteer professionals since 2005. Awards winning TATV programs are aired by public access televisions over cable channels in Washington DC area. An active participant in the Turkish-American community organizations since 1987, he has worked on strengthening relations between the American society and the people from Turkey living in America. Mr. Ok was a co-founder and the first president of GWU Turkish Student Association, which

is now one of the most influential student organizations in the Nation's Capital. He was among the first parents who sponsored the establishment of ATA-DC Turkish School for teaching Turkish language for children since 1998. Mr. Ok was also one of the founders of Turkish Music and Choral Society of Greater Washington DC, which exhibited many public performances in community events, international celebrations, and festivals, between 2003 and 2005. Hurriyet A. Ok currently works for an international organization in Information Technology field and holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Computer Science from Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey, and a D.Sc. Degree in Computer Science from George Washington University.

EMRE ORUÇ

Emre Oruç was born in 1986 in Istanbul. He studied International Relations at Faculty of Political Sciences, Ankara University. After 6 months of Florida experience, he started his career at Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities in 2011. He serves as specialist at USA section.

ERSAL ÖZDEMİR

Ersal Özdemir is the President/CEO of the Keystone Construction Corporation. The Corporation is orchestrating some of central Indiana's most ambitious projects, including a \$15M Broad Ripple parking garage and the \$60M million mixed-use Sophia Square in Carmel.

EFE POTUROĞLU

Efe Poturoğlu is a partner of the Washington, DC law firm Butzel Long Tighe Patton PLLC. He concentrates his practice on immigration law and civil litigation. Mr. Poturoğlu has extensive experience in providing advice and assistance in obtaining all types of temporary work and investor visas and employment-based permanent residence. He also provides assistance to both Turkish and American companies with the transfer of business persons to the United States and development of corporate immigration policies and strategies. Mr. Poturoğlu received his Juris Doctor degree from Georgetown University Law Center in 2003 where he was a member of the Georgetown Journal of International Law. He received his undergraduate degree in International Business from the University of Denver in 2000. He is a member of the bars of the District of Columbia and Maryland. He is also an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA), the nation's leading immigration law association.

LELA ROSS

Lela Ross is a sophomore at George Mason University. She is majoring in Integrative Studies with a concentration in International Studies and a double minor in Middle East Studies and Conflict Analysis and Resolution with a global focus. She serves as the Project Manager for the United

Turkish Student Association at GMU, the Rituals Chair for the Lambda Sigma Sophomore Honor Society, and as an Envoy for GMU's New Century College. She is currently earning her Global Proficiency Certificate through her school.

AYLİN SAGAY

Aylin Sagay graduated from Gazi University's Faculty of Communications, Public Relations program. After graduation, she started her own advertising company and later began working as a Special Programs Manager at Drexel University School of Biomedical Engineering. During this time she developed and led a mentoring program with a local high school, which was funded by the state. In 2006, she worked in the organization committee of TASSA (Turkish American Scientists and Scholars Association) which was hosted by Drexel University. In 2011, she completed her Life Coaching certificate program and started to work with Small Business Owners while still working full time at Drexel University. In 2012, she was elected as a Board Member for TAFSUS (Turkish American Friendship Society of the United States). Mrs. Sagay is still living in Philadelphia, working full time as the Director of Administration and Finances at School of Biomedical Engineering, Drexel University and volunteers her time in various Turkish organizations.

ISLÖM SHAKHBANDAROV

Islom Shakhbandarov, an Ahiska (Meskhetian) Turkish who was born in former Uzbek Soviet Socialistic Republic (Currently Uzbekistan) in 1984. In 1989 after pogroms against the Ahiska Turks in Fergana Valley, Uzbekistan, his family as long as hundreds of other Ahiska Turks moved to Nagorno Karabakh, Azerbaijan. In 1991 after occupation of Nagorno Karabakh by Armenian troops they immigrated to Russian Federation. And finally in 2005 after 14 years of struggling in Russia the United States began accepting Ahiska Turks as refugees and Mr. Shakhbandarov along with other 17000 Ahiska Turks moved to USA. Currently, Islom Shakhbandarov is the chairman of Ahiska Turkish American Community Center that is in the process getting a new Ahiska Welcome Center. The primary mission of the center is to promote unity amongst our diverse leaders to help build lasting relationships to improve their community. To preserve and promote our rich and diverse Turkish Culture and work with other societies that shares a common goal.

KAREEM SHORA

Kareem W. Shora, JD, LL.M. is Senior Policy Advisor and Section Lead of the Community Engagement Section with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Secretary, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL), in Washington, DC. In his position, Shora serves as a key expert and advisor, represents the Department at high-level meetings with executives from other government

agencies, Congressional staff, and non-governmental organizations, and provides expert analysis to propose and support leadership decisions such as justifying or settling matters involving significant and controversial program policies of national scope and impact. Shora also supervises the staff of the Community Engagement Section in their responsibilities and strengthens and builds strategic partnerships with key ethnic and religious communities through outreach and related activities that respond to public concerns regarding the policies and practices of DHS. He is responsible for creating effective channels of communication that allow for the rapid dissemination of information to those key communities in the event of a national security incident and assesses existing and proposed DHS programs, policies and activities for civil rights and civil liberties compliance, with a focus on possible disparate impact on key communities. Shora joined DHS in October, 2009, after a ten-year tenure with the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) where he served as legal advisor, legal director, and national executive director. In June of 2009, he was appointed by Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano as a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council (HSAC); the official advisory body for the DHS Secretary on homeland security matters. Shora is also a member of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) Heritage Community Liaison Council. His experience includes serving as a guest lecturer at the Yale University School of Law. He was also certified as an expert witness on xenophobia and anti-Arab discrimination by the United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, Central District of California. Shora is a recipient of the 2003 American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) "Arthur C. Helton Human Rights Award" and has been published by the National Law Journal, TRIAL Magazine, the Georgetown University Law Center's Journal on Poverty Law and Public Policy, the Harvard University JFK School of Government Asian American Policy Review, the American Bar Association (ABA) Air and Space Lawyer, and the Yeshiva University Cardozo Public Law Policy and Ethics Journal among others. A frequent guest on Al-Jazeera, Al Arabiya, BBC, and numerous American television programs, Shora has spoken about civil rights, civil liberties, immigration, and national security policy with many national and international media outlets. He has also testified before major international human rights bodies including regular testimonies before the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), where he was routinely consulted as a subject-matter expert on tolerance, diversity and integration. He was selected by the Ford Foundation as a member of the Foreign Policy Task Force designing their 2008 Laboratory for New Thinking on Foreign Policy. He was also selected by the Police Foundation to be part of their 2008 Advisory Board on the study of the role of local police in immigration

enforcement. Shora was also the civil society representative on the G8 Experts Roundtable on Diversity, Integration, and the Prevention of Terrorism. Born in Damascus, Syria and fluent in Arabic, Shora is a native of Huntington, West Virginia, a graduate of Marshall University and holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) degree from the West Virginia University (WVU) College of Law and the LL.M. specialty in International Legal Studies (Public International Law) from the American University Washington College of Law.

DR. VINCENT M. STUMPO

Dr. Stumpo completed his prep school work at Archmere Academy in Delaware, received a B.S. in Chemistry and Physics from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, and a M.A. and Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Delaware. After earning his doctorate, Dr. Stumpo was a college professor before returning to his true love independent college-preparatory schools. Throughout a 30-year career, Dr. Stumpo has worked in seven such schools as teacher, coach, Academic Dean, Principal and Headmaster. Dr. Stumpo is currently the Headmaster of Linden Hall, the oldest and one of the most academically rigorous college-preparatory schools for girls in the United States.

AMBASSADOR NAMIK TAN

Ambassador Namik Tan was appointed Ambassador of Turkey to the United States in February 2010. Prior to this appointment, Ambassador Tan was Deputy Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, responsible for bilateral political affairs and public diplomacy. He was previously Ambassador of Turkey to Israel from 2007 to 2009. Ambassador Tan joined the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1982. After working in the Department of Maritime Affairs, he was posted to Moscow as Second Secretary from 1984 to 1987. He then spent two years as First Secretary in Abu Dhabi. After returning to Turkey, Mr. Tan served as the Deputy Chief of Cabinet to the Turkish President until 1991. He was later assigned to the Turkish Embassy in Washington, where he served as Counselor from 1991 to 1995 and First Counselor from 1997 to 2001. Between these assignments, Mr. Tan served as Chief of Cabinet to the Turkish Foreign Minister. Upon his return to Turkey in 2001, he first served as Head of the Department for the Americas, and was subsequently named Head of the Information Department in 2002. He went on to serve as the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2004 to 2007. Born in 1956, Ambassador Tan holds a law degree from Ankara University. Ambassador and Mrs. Fügen Tan have two children.

HARIS TARIN

Haris Tarin engages various agencies within the US government, including the White House, Department of justice, State Department, and Department of Homeland Security, among others; and has spoken at various conferences, media outlets and symposiums on Islam and the role of the Muslim American community in the public sphere, Muslim American identity, US-Muslim world relations, role of the Muslim American community in policy formation, religion and public life, and civic engagement. He co-founded the Ehsan Center, a multi-generational dynamic Muslim American community established in Southern California to develop an indigenous Muslim American identity and experience. A first responder to the disaster zone in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Mr Tarin is currently pursuing his graduate work at Georgetown University. He lives in Washington DC with his wife and two children.

BERİL ÜNVER

Beril Ünver is the Project Manager for Congressional Outreach at the Turkish Coalition of America. Through her work at TCA, Beril has played a critical role in combating negative legislation and improving the dialogue on U.S. – Turkey relations. In addition to day-to-day advocacy, she has organized highly attended events on Capitol Hill and thirteen Congressional delegations to Turkey and the Balkans over the past three years. The six successful trips that she planned and executed in 2010 secured TCA a top ranking spot in a U.S. News & World Report article on the most sought-after privately-sponsored Congressional travel. Before joining TCA, Beril acquired research and policy analysis experience working at the Department of Energy, The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, and the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. Beril holds an M.A. in International Policy Studies from the Monterey Institute of International Studies and a B.A. in International Studies from the University of California, Irvine. A proud American of Turkish descent (with grandparents hailing from Selanik and Kirim, respectively), Beril is a passionate advocate whose life-goal is to ensure that Turkish Americans have a voice in American domestic and foreign policymaking.

CENK UYGUR

Cenk Uygur was born on March 21, 1970, in Istanbul, Turkey. He and his family emigrated to the United States eight years later, where he continued his education to graduate from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia Law School. Uygur first appeared on television as a talk show host on a weekend radio show in Washington, D.C. Later in his career, he started the political talk show The Young Turks on Sirius Satellite Radio in 2002, yet soon

moved it to the popular internet video channel, Youtube. To date, it is the largest online news show in the world. Mr. Uygur is a news correspondent for many television stations such as MSNBC, CNN Headline News, ABC News, and many more.

ROSS WILSON

Ross Wilson is Director of the Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center at the Atlantic Council of the United States, a Lecturer in International Affairs at George Washington University, and Chairman of the Board of the Institute of Turkish Studies. Ambassador Wilson spent nearly three decades in the US Foreign Service, including six years as American ambassador to Turkey in 2005-08 and to Azerbaijan in 2000-03. Elsewhere overseas, he served at the US embassies in Moscow and Prague and was American Consul General in Melbourne, Australia. In Washington, Ambassador Wilson served as Chief of Staff for Deputy Secretary of State Robert Zoellick in 2005. He was Chief US Negotiator for the Free Trade Area of the Americas while on detail to the Office of the US Trade Representative in 2003-2005. In 1997-2000, Ambassador Wilson served as Principal Deputy to the Ambassador-at-Large and Special Advisor to the Secretary of State for the New Independent States (of the former Soviet Union). He was Deputy Executive Secretary of the State Department in 1992-94, managing the policy process for Secretaries of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Warren Christopher, and before that was an aide to State Department Counselor and Undersecretary Zoellick. Early in his career, Ambassador Wilson served in the State Department's offices dealing with the Soviet Union and Egypt. As Director of the Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, Ambassador Wilson leads the Atlantic Council's work to promote transatlantic relations, interests and values in and with the states that extend from East-Central Europe across the Black and Caspian Seas and Central Asia. The Atlantic Council hosts events in Washington and in the region, including its annual Energy and Economic Forum in the fall in Istanbul. A native of Minneapolis, Ambassador Wilson received a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota and master's degrees from Columbia University and the US National War College. He is a two-time recipient of the President's Meritorious Service Award and has received various Department of State awards and honors, as well. He is a member of the Academy of American Diplomacy, the American Foreign Service Association, the American Friends of Turkey, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Diplomatic and Consular Officers Retired (DACOR) and the Washington Institute of Foreign Affairs. He is married to Margo Squire, who is a career diplomat with the State Department. They have two sons.

FIRAT YALDIZ

Fırat Yıldız was graduated from Ankara University, Faculty of Political Sciences in 2001. Mr. Yıldız studied international relations for doctorate degree. Mr. Yıldız worked for EU and UN on behalf of Republic of Turkey. Mr. Yıldız works at Prime Ministry, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities as specialist.

SENAY ATASELİM YILMAZ

Senay Ataselim Yılmaz is the Chief Operating Officer of Turkish Philanthropy Funds (TPF), a transnational foundation that connects social needs in Turkey with US donors' philanthropic interests. Senay comes to TPF with an extensive experience in non-profits, community organizing and philanthropy. She joined TPF in its start-up phase, taking an active role in developing the organization's structure first in her role as a consultant throughout 2006 and early 2007, then as the Chief Operating Officer. In 2007, Senay also served as an Advisor to the President of the Board at Turkish-American Business Forum (TABF), a network of over 500 Turkish-American business professionals, where she previously held the position of

Executive Director for five years. From 2002 to 2007, Senay served at various levels of the arts and culture organization, Moon and Stars Project, holding the position of the President of the board between 2005 and 2007. At Moon and Stars Project, she played a key role in developing the organization's Marketing and Development Departments, and creating a successful volunteer management policy. Senay also served as an advisor to Bridges of Hope Project, an organization raising funds for educational projects in Turkey. Senay was appointed as an International Herst Fellow by the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society's Emerging Leaders International Fellows Program in 2005. During her fellowship, she worked on a research project on current trends in philanthropic giving to Turkey among the Turkish Diaspora community in the United States and the motivations behind this giving. Senay holds a BA in Political Science and Public Administration, University of Ankara and an MPA in Public Policy and Non-profit Management, Baruch College. She is currently a PhD candidate in Political Science at Graduate Center, CUNY specializing in civil society and philanthropy.

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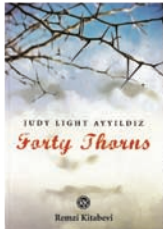
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TOLGA & ALA ÇUBUKÇU

The Translated *Kirk Diken*, Released by Remzi Kitabevi in the Fall of 2011,
became an Immediate Best Seller. Soon after,
Remzi Published the Native English Version, *Forty Thorns*.

Based on the Oral Memoir of a Turkish Revolutionary Woman,
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Writer-Educator, Roanoke, VA 24018



The epic *Forty Thorns* blends past with present in a war-torn love story that parallels the new nation during the critical years of the emerging state with its dramatic events, changes, and the universal women's struggle for self-determination.

Protagonist, Adalet, maintains wisdom, humor, and hope despite great upheaval. What drives her? Within *Forty Thorns*'s comprehensive history, Adalet's

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"... Adalet's life connects exemplarily the public and private spheres of human existence, and the strength, generosity, and liberality of her spirit provide a cherished and unlimited source of motivation and encouragement. It is a strong text indeed."

—Klara Kolinska, Ph.D. Anglophone Literatures and Cultures,
Metropolitan and Charles Universities, Prague,
Shakespeare and His Collaborators Over the Centuries,
Cambridge Scholars Publishing

www.fortythorns.com

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OYA BAIN



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Tarihi Roman**

Öykü

İkinci Peron, 1940'larda Ankara'da yatılı okuyan bir genç kızın başından geçenleri konu ederek, toplumda kadına biçilen rolü irdeleyen tarihi bir roman. Doğrusal olmayan bir zaman ekseninde art arda yaşanan hazine olayların, masum aşkların, ihanetin, yıkılan hayallerin epik bir öyküsü.

*Tomris, Şaziye ve İPKE'deki arkadaşlarına
—Rüzgâr gibi geçen yıllar için...*

Yazar:

A. Yavuz Oruç, 1953 yılında Amasya'nın Ezinepazarı mahallesinde doğdu. İlk ve orta öğrenimini Amasya'da tamamladıktan sonra Orta Doğu Teknik Üniversitesi, Elektrik Mühendisliği Bölümünden mezun oldu. İngiltere ve Amerika Birleşik Devletlerinde aynı dalda yüksek lisans ve doktora derecelerini aldı. Halen Maryland Üniversitesi'nin, Elektrik Mühendisliği Bölümünde profesör kadrosuyla görev yapmaktadır.

www.facebook.com/ikinciperon

LOVESWEPT

This cross-cultural romance is Engin Inel Holmstrom's first novel and is being published by Parkgate Press in USA and will be available on line from Amazon (including Amazon in England, France and Germany for those in Europe and beyond) after November 14, 2011.

How long should a girl hold onto her first love? A beautiful Turkish girl, a handsome English merchant marine, a sympathetic American and a cheating husband...

LOVESWEPT is a cross-cultural romance taking place during the social and political turmoil of 1950s Turkey where the line between state and mosque becomes blurred and American Aid dollars flood the country.

The postwar Ankara is a place of daily intrigue where corruption and romance could bring happiness and disaster. Neri is an educated young woman caught between East and West, tradition and modernity, loyalty and desire in a Muslim country undergoing great social and cultural changes. She's a woman of contradictions: innocent and traditional, yet Westernized, rebellious and ambitious who dares to seek both excitement and happiness...but at what cost?

Engin Inel Holmstrom



Loveswept

What reviewers said.....

"Set in a beautiful and exotic country besieged by political and religious struggles, LOVESWEPT is a compelling story of a woman's romantic encounters that transcend deep cultural differences. A must read. Once you start, you won't be able to put it down." Helen S. Astin, Professor Emerita, UCLA

"LOVESWEPT beautifully portrays how the political and cultural transformation of a country deeply impacts personal lives. Standing at the crossroads between traditional and a modern life, Neri must battle societal expectations on women as well as overcome her fears. Her journey is a journey of reclaiming one's own identity." Dr. Almila Ozdek, George Washington University



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