

Annual Report 2025

Stockholm University Institute for Turkish
Studies (SUITS)

www.suits.su.se



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About the Institute

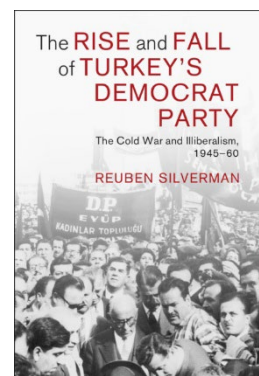
The Stockholm University Institute for Turkish Studies (SUITS) is an independent, interdisciplinary research institute in the humanities and social sciences. SUITS was established in December 2012 and has been located at the Department of Economic History and International Relations in the A building (Södra huset) of the university's Frescati campus since 2022. SUITS is primarily a research institute, but may also provide education in its field of activity. The Institute's research mainly focuses on issues related to international relations and diaspora studies; society, politics and history, and human rights and democracy. The research should maintain high international standards. SUITS aims to contribute to a deep and nuanced understanding of Turkey among researchers, opinion leaders, business leaders, and the general public in Scandinavia, Europe, and beyond. In addition to research and education, SUITS engages in outreach activities such as open lectures, conferences, and workshops.

SUITS is managed by a Director—Paul T. Levin—who is appointed by the President of Stockholm University upon nomination by the Department of Economic History and International Relations and following a statement of opinion by the Board of Human Science. The Director reports to a Board that is appointed following the same procedure. The board approves the annual activity plan, the budget, and the annual reports. The SUITS Board consisted of the following members during 2025:

Chairman:	Jakob Hallgren (Swedish Institute for International Affairs)
Vice Chairman:	Jonas Tallberg, (Stockholm University)
Members:	Mark Rhinard (Stockholm University) Isabell Schierenbeck (Gothenburg University) Helena Bodin (Stockholm University)
Non-Voting Members:	
Rapporteur:	Paul T. Levin (Stockholm University, SUITS)
Department representative:	Johan Svanberg (Stockholm University)
Faculty/staff representative:	László Szerencsés (Stockholm University, SUITS)

Research

Research by the faculty is presented and discussed at the SUITS Higher Seminar as well as at the Higher Seminar organized by the department. The institute does not have its own scholarly publication series. Instead, SUITS faculty members are encouraged to publish in established peer-reviewed scholarly journals and with university presses. During 2025, this included the publication by Cambridge University Press of the monograph that recent SUITS postdoctoral Scholar Reuben Silverman worked on during his tenure at SUITS between 2022 and 2024: *The Rise and Fall of Turkey's Democrat Party: The Cold War and Illiberalism 1945-60*.



As can be seen under the individual descriptions of each current faculty member below, they are involved in several Swedish and international research projects and networks, and contribute actively to the field of Turkish Studies through their publications. SUITS' leadership of the Consortium for European Symposia on Turkey (CEST) continued during 2025, helping SUITS maintain its position as a leading actor in the field of Turkish Studies in Europe.

Management, funding, administration, and facilities

SUITS operates on a 3,3 million SEK core annual grant from Stockholm University, with an additional 1,7 million in external project grants during 2025, primarily from the Mercator Foundation and the Granholms Foundation. The institute rents two offices (A933 and A935) with a total of five work stations at the Department of Economic History and International Relations.

Staff & faculty

SUITS continues to attract prominent scholars, and there were eight researchers tied to the institute in various capacities during 2025. These include a researcher and a postdoctoral scholar who are both fully funded by SUITS, two non-resident scholars, three visiting scholars, and a Professor Emeritus. In addition to the research faculty, the institute also retains one part-time communications strategist.

Communication

SUITS has further improved its position as a prominent, even leading, international actor in the field of Turkish Studies. The crisis in Swedish-Turkish relations that was precipitated by the Turkish veto of Swedish NATO accession 2022-2024 meant that the expertise of SUITS faculty was even more in demand than usual in various Swedish and international fora. The high profile in both Swedish and international media of SUITS faculty means that the institute has even further pushed its role as a key center of knowledge of Turkish affairs also to a broader public. Unbiased and critical analysis provided in talks, media appearances, and publications were an important part of this. SUITS faculty members' over 850 media appearances between January 2024 and April 2025 had an estimated potential reach of over 200 million news consumers, which is the equivalent PR value of over 60,000,000 SEK if the same amount of ad space/time had been purchased, according to calculations by the Communications Department at Stockholm University.

The SUITS Policy Brief, issued four times annually, has become a powerful tool in reaching our goals to disseminate a deep and nuanced the international impact of Turkish affairs and also positions the institute as a leading voice for a global audience. SUITS selects the topics and authors and then edits and refines the



brief before publishing and distributing it through our various networks. 2025 featured writers Thomas de Waal, Alper Coşkun, Gudlaug Olafsdottir and Ilker Kalin, and László Szerencsés.

Outreach & Collaboration

The SUITS Policy Brief series provides an important form of outreach to policy and expert circles in Sweden and Europe. In addition to the briefs, several SUITS staff members gave briefings on policy matters to government ministries, agencies, civil society organizations, and think tanks. Since 2022, SUITS' Director represents the institute as a member of the network of the Centre for Applied Turkey Studies (CATS) at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) in Berlin. This is a European network of leading policy-oriented scholars and institutions that funds and disseminates policy research and arranges events pertaining to Turkey. Other key collaborations and partnerships include an ongoing roundtable series arranged together with the Swedish Defense Research Agency (FOI) and a partnership with the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI).

In terms of research collaboration, SUITS' leadership of CEST continued, helping SUITS maintain its position as a leading actor in the field of Turkish Studies in Europe. SUITS' participation in the management of [the Swedish Middle East and North Africa](#) (SWEMENA) network, with its regular lunch seminars and annual conferences, is also an important component in its research network.

Education

SUITS is a research institute, but some faculty members contribute to teaching at various departments. During 2025, this included supervising a doctoral student at the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies (IAM).

Researchers

Paul T. Levin

Paul T. Levin is the Director of SUITS and a Researcher at the Institute. He is a Docent (Associate Professor) in International Relations and holds a Ph.D. in the same subject along with an MA in Political Science from the University of Southern California, and a Fil Kand (BA) in Practical Philosophy from Stockholm University. Paul has been Director of SUITS since its creation in 2012. He is a Research Fellow at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul and an Associate Researcher at the Swedish Institute for International Affairs. Paul also serves as Managing Director for the Consortium for European Symposia on Turkey (CEST), overseeing the management of CEST budget and activities. He is a member of the steering group of SWEMENA, the Swedish Middle East and North Africa research network, and participated in a number of SWEMENA steering group meetings and roundtables throughout the year.

Paul serves on the International Advisory Board of the journal *Turkish Studies*, is a board member of the Friendship Association of the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, and a member of Swedish PEN. He is a regular participant in the meetings of the Trilateral Strategy Group and the Türkiye-EU Reflection Group, both organized by the German Marshall Fund of the United States. He is the author of the monograph *Turkey and the European Union: Christian and Secular Images of Islam* (Palgrave Macmillan, NY, 2011) and co-editor of

special issues of academic journals and the edited volume *Migration from Turkey to Sweden: Integration, Belonging and Transnational Community* (I.B. Tauris, London, 2017).

He is currently working on a monograph about Swedish and Turkish relations with NATO and the negotiations during the Swedish accession process.

Publications

(Two works in progress:

Monograph: *Turkey, Sweden, and NATO: Why Middle Powers Change Foreign- & Security Policy*.

Journal article “The Cart and the Horse: Turkey and the Sequencing of Democratic Reforms”).

Other Publications

Ålander, Minna and Paul T. Levin. (2025). ”Swedish and Finnish Perceptions of Turkey’s Role in European Security”, [CATS Network Paper No. 26](#), 28/07/2025.

Activities

Speaker with Minna Ålander, SUITS Higher Seminar, “Swedish and Finnish Perceptions of Turkey’s Role in European Security,” Stockholm University, February 4.

Speaker, “Turkey and the PKK,” Session 2: Armed Non-State Actors and the Contestation of State Authority, Workshop on The Role of Non-State Actors in Shaping Conflict, Governance, and Power, The Swedish Institute for International Affairs (UI).

Chair, panel on “Reimagining the Nation: Identity and Ideological Ruptures” at the 2025 CEST Symposium, ”Who Owns the Nation? Imperial Imaginaries and Cultural Resistance in Contemporary Turkey,” organized by the Consortium for European Symposia on Turkey, the University of Turin, January 15.

Teaching

Main supervisor for Seren Selvin Korkmaz. *The Role of the Opposition in Autocratization: The Case of Turkey's Republican People's Party (CHP)*, PhD THESIS at the Department of Middle Eastern and Asian Studies, Stockholm University.

Academic Service

Final Reader of Ph.D. thesis: Samuele Carlo Ayrton Abrami, “Parameters of Change and Continuity in Turkey’s Foreign Policy: A Historical Inside-Out Anatomy” Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore di Milano, Doctoral School in Istituzioni e Politiche. Submitted January 9.

Presentation of SUITS at the Board of the Faculty of the Social Sciences, Stockholm University, November 12.

Grant Applications

Application: “Utrikespolitik och Världsordningar: Turkiet, NATO och EU från Kalla Kriget tills idag,” Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) project grants, submitted on October 29. Dnr. 2024-01099.

Outreach

Media

- Interviewed: Alexandra Turku and Maria Blanco, [”Joakim Medin får villkorlig dom för förolämpning”](#), TT in Göteborgs Posten and Skånska Dagbladet, May 1, 2025
- Interviewed: ”Turkietexpert: Tror inte vi kan andas ut”, TT including Hallands Nyheter, Helsingborgs Dagblad, Nordvästra Skånes Tidningar, Västerbottens-Kuriren, Göteborgs-Posten, May 2, 2025
- Interviewed: Olof Klugman, [”Sätt press på Turkiet – eller stanna hemma”](#), Dagens ETC, May 13, 2025
- Interviewed: Oisín Cantwell, [”Förtroendet för SR har skadats”](#), Aftonbladet, May 13, 2025
- Interviewed: Sofia Tanaka, ”Ökat hopp för Medin efter beskedet”, Dagens Nyheter, May 13, 2025
- Guest: [Ekot sänder direkt](#), Sveriges Radio, May 16, 2025
- Interviewed: Kajsa Sjödin, Olivia Åkerlund and Manne Berggren Wiklund, [”Medins första ord: ”Länge leve friheten”](#)”, Svenska Dagbladet, May 16, 2025
- Guest: [P1 Morgon](#), Sveriges Radio, May 17, 2025
- Interviewed: Mose Apelblat, [Swedish journalist released from Turkish prison](#), The Brussels Times, May 17, 2025
- Interviewed: Carolina Lundin, [”Tidigare ambassadören: ”Tyst diplomati fungerar” Tre experter uttalar sig om fallet Medin”](#), Dagens ETC, May 17, 2025
- Interviewed: [”Expert: Kanske både piskor och morötter som man använt”](#), TT including Dagens Media, Nyheter 24, Upsala Nya Tidning, Göteborgs Posten, May 18, 2025
- Guest: [Radio Sweden](#), Sveriges Radio, May 20, 2025



Paul T Levin interviewed on Nyhetsmorgon, TV4, May 2025

- Interviewed: ["Uppgift: Turkiet släppte Medin i utbyte mot att Säpo grep UD-diplomat"](#), Fria Tider, May 20, 2025
- Interviewed: Oliver Dagnå, ["Heltidsanställd på SR – medverkade i TRT World: 'Erdogans propagandaarm'"](#), Bulletin, May 22, 2025
- Interviewed: Hanna Strid, ["Marmarafängelset: 'En ökänd plats för politiska fångar'"](#), Dagens ETC, April 1, 2025
- Interviewed: Ale Låke, ["Trycket ökar på Erdogan: Nu riktas udden mot regimtrogna företag"](#), Dagens ETC, April 2, 2025
- Interviewed: Corinne Platten, ["Åtalen mot Joakim Medin 'en skandalös historia'"](#), Dagens ETC, April 23, 2025
- Interviewed: [Konflikt](#), Sveriges Radio, April 25, 2025
- Guest: [Morgonpasset](#), Sveriges Radio, April 27, 2025
- Interviewed: Rasmus Canbäck, ["Turkiets intentioner lyser igenom den absurda bevisföringen"](#), Blankspot, April 30, 2025
- Interviewed: [Nyheterna](#), TV4, April 30, 2025

Think-tank Events

- Speaker, "US Policy Toward Turkey and the Levant," half-day roundtable on US foreign policy and MENA organized by the Swedish Institute for International Affairs, Stockholm, May 19.
- Speaker, "In the Era of Unpredictable 'Deal-Making': Is a New Paradigm for EU-Turkey Relations Needed?" *Tour de Table* at the Annual Network Meeting of the Center for Applied Turkish Studies, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, Berlin, Germany, September 18.
- Keynote speaker, "Sweden's Security Transformation—From Neutrality to NATO Integration," online training session organized by the International Republican Institute for alumni of the Youth Fellowship Program as well as the participants of the Türkiye-Sweden Relations: the NATO Era Program, November 3.
- Speaker, "Session IV: Middle Powers: Rising Force or Hype?" Trilateral Strategy Group meeting 23, the German Marshall Fund of the United States, Ankara, October 23.

Other Outreach

- Invited speaker, "Turkiet och omvärldsläget," Gåshaga Båtklubb, Lidingö, March 27.
- Speaker, panel on "A Perfect Storm: Conflicts in the Middle East," panel organized by Concilio International, Almedalen, June 26.

- Invited to brief staff at the Nationellt Centrum för Terrorhotbedömning on armed groups in Turkey, September 24.

László Szerencsés

László Szerencsés is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Turkish Studies at Stockholm University. His research focuses on the foreign policy of semi-authoritarian states with a geographical focus on Turkey, Hungary, and the Western Balkans. He is particularly interested in the role of bureaucracies in foreign policy making under authoritarian conditions. His work is based on extensive field research carried out in Turkey, Kosovo, Serbia, Hungary, and Germany.

He completed his PhD in Law and Politics at the University of Graz, specializing in international relations. His PhD dissertation explored Turkey's foreign policy in Kosovo and Serbia (2013–2020). He holds an MA in Global Political Economy from the University of Kassel, and a BA in International Relations from the Budapest Business University.

Before joining Stockholm University, he was a Mercator-IPC Fellow at the Istanbul Policy Center at Sabanci University. In spring 2023, he was a Bluebook trainee at the European External Action Service (EEAS) Turkey/Eastmed division. In 2021-22 he was a DAAD guest researcher at the University of Duisburg-Essen. In 2019, he worked as a project assistant in the project Migration-Integration-Religious Diversity (MIR) at the University of Graz. Prior to this, he interned at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA) in Washington, DC, the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Budapest, and the Embassy of Hungary in Berlin.

Publications

Szerencsés, László. ["The Turkish Energy Hub and the Hungary Connection: Challenging EU Gas Diversification Efforts."](#) *SUITS Policy Brief*. (2025:1).

Szerencsés, László. ["Hungary's Opening Toward Turkey: from Economic Diversification to Political Partnership."](#) *IPC Reports*. (February 2025).

Activities

Speaker: "Inclusion and Exclusion of Islamic Communities: Turkey's Failed Co-optation of the Muslim Elites of Serbia" at Southeast Europe Association/Orient Institute Workshop, "Mosque Politics: Re-Mapping Turkish Power and Religious Policies in the Western Balkans", Istanbul, Turkey, June 13, 2025

Speaker, Panel Discussion: "What's Happening in Turkey?", public event hosted by Stockholm University, April 2, 2025. With Howard Eissenstat, İlker Kalın, Paul T. Levin, Çağla Demirel, Jenny White.

Speaker: IR Higher Seminars, Stockholm University, April 1, 2025

Teaching

Instructor, "Writing Beyond Academia", at CEST summer school, "Turkey's Culture Wars", Turin, Italy, August 27, 2025

Fellowships, Awards

Dissertation Award: [Southeast Europe Association](#) (Südosteuropa Gesellschaft)

Outreach

Media

- Interview with *Turkey Recap Podcast*, "[Unpacking Turkey-Hungary relations with László Szerencsés](#)", December 10, 2025.
- Interview with *Észverés Podcast*, "[Is Erdogan's power faltering?](#)", April 5, 2025.



László Szerencsés (left) receiving the Southeast Europe Association Dissertation Award, 7 April 2025, photo: sogde.org

Op-eds

- "[Turkey's Drone Sales to Kosovo Test its Friendship with Serbia](#)". *Balkan Insight*. October 10, 2025.
- "[Hungary's Foreign Policy Crossroads – and Why It Matters for the EU](#)." *Balkan Insight*. August 19, 2025.

Jenny B. White

Jenny White is Professor Emerita at SUITS. She was called to this position in August 2016 by Stockholm University's President from a position as full professor at Boston University. She retired in September 2022 but remains active at SUITS. She holds a PhD in anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin and an MA in social psychology from Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. Her research interests are political anthropology, urban anthropology, Islam and Islamic politics, ethnicity, identity, nationalism, migration, gender, civil society, the family, Middle Eastern society and politics, and historical memory, with emphasis on Turkey and Muslim minorities in Europe.

She was president of the American Anthropological Association Middle East Section from 2004 to 2006 and president of the Turkish Studies Association from 2004 to 2006 (now Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association). Professor White was associate professor (1996-2013) and then full professor (2013-2016) at Boston University. Before that, she was assistant professor at University of Nebraska (1992-1996). Her latest book, with art by Ergün Gündüz, *Turkish Kaleidoscope: Fractured Lives in a Time of Violence*, was published in May 2021 by Princeton University Press. She has published three other scholarly books on Turkey. *Muslim Nationalism and the New Turks*, Princeton University Press, November 2012 (copyright 2013, 2nd edition 2014), was chosen by *Foreign Affairs* as one of three 2012 Best Books on the Middle East. *Islamist Mobilization in Turkey: A Study in Vernacular Politics*, University of Washington Press, 2002, won the 2003 Douglass Prize for best book in Europeanist anthropology, awarded by American Anthropological Association Society for the

Anthropology of Europe. *Money Makes Us Relatives: Women's Labor in Urban Turkey*, Austin: University of Texas Press, 1994, was published in a Second Edition by Routledge, London, 2004. She has published numerous articles and book chapters. She has been a reviewer for 18 granting agencies internationally, 13 publishers, and 24 scholarly journals. She is on 8 advisory or editorial boards.

Activities

Academic Events

Keynote Speaker, "Beyond Oppression and Resistance: The Transformative Power of Theory", at CEST summer school, "Turkey's Culture Wars", Turin, Italy, August 24, 2025

Speaker, Islamic Nationalism and the Future of Democracy, Panel discussion, Royal Society for Asian Affairs, March 12.



Jenny White lecturing at CEST Summer School, August 2025

Ilker Kalin

Ilker Kalin joined SUITS in November 2024 as a visiting scholar. He is also a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute for Democracy at Matej Bel University in Slovakia under the Research and Innovation Authority of Slovakia (VAIA) Fellowship (Project No. 09I03-03-V04-00609), where he focuses on contemporary threats to democracy in Turkey, Hungary, and Slovakia.

During his time at the Institute in 2025, Ilker conducted fieldwork in Turkey, including a survey experiment and interviews with activists, as part of his project "*LGBTQ+ Participation and Polarization within and outside Collective Dissent in Turkey*," funded by the IPRA Foundation Peace Research Grant. In the Spring and Summer semesters of 2025, he also taught courses on human rights issues in the Middle East and Turkey, as well as social movements and authoritarianism in the Middle East, at the Department of East Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

Ilker holds a PhD in Political Science from Wayne State University. Before joining SUITS, he was a postdoctoral researcher at the Center for Foreign Policy and Peace Research (CFPPR) at Bilkent University from 2023 to 2024. His research agenda mainly focuses on political violence, protest movements, authoritarianism, and military socialization, with a particular emphasis on Turkey. His work has been published in *Political Research Quarterly*, *International Interactions*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, and *Freedom House*. He is the recipient of several prestigious awards and grants, including the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict (ICNC) Online Teaching Fellowship (2022–2023), the IPRA Foundation Peace Research Grant (2024), and the Research and Innovation Authority of Slovakia (VAIA) Fellowship (2025–2026).

Publications

Peer-reviewed Publications

Lanigan, Amanda and Ilker Kalin. "Constrained but not Transformed: Civilian-led Certification Reform and Officer Misconduct." *Political Research Quarterly* (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1177/10659129251382162>.

Kalin, Ilker, Marie Olson Lounsbery, Firuze Simay Sezgin, Dishari Rakshit, and Frederic S. Pearson. "Speeding Up Success: Analyzing Factors Influencing the Duration of Nonviolent Movements." *Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research* 50, no. 3 (2025): 269-283.

Tokdemir, Efe, Ilker Kalin, Kathleen Gallagher Cunningham, Deniz Aksoy, David B. Carter, Cyanne E. Loyle, Seden Akcinaroglu, and Kristian Skrede Gleditsch. "Fostering Cooperation in Conflict Research Beyond Borders." *All Azimuth: A Journal of Foreign Policy and Peace* 14, no. 2. (2025): 295-330.

Other Publications

- Olafsdottir, Gudlaug and Ilker Kalin. "[The Peace Process and Constitutional Reforms in Turkey](#)." *SUITS Policy Brief* (2025:2).

Activities

Presenter & Chair, ISA Annual Convention 2025, Chicago, USA, March 2-5, 2025.

Presenter, The Stockholm Center on Global Governance (SCGG) Workshop, Stockholm, March 24-25, 2025.

Teaching

Teaching: "Social Movements and Authoritarianism in the Middle East" at the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, June 16, 2025.

Teaching: "Human Rights in Middle East, Turkey, and East Asia" at the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, Spring 2025.

Grant Applications

Grant application: Project Grant for research into Democracy and societal resilience 2025 (Swedish Research Council)

Outreach

Media

- Interviewed: "[Ny studie: Icke-våldsamt motstånd mer effektivt än våldsamt](#)." **Dagens ETC**, June 17, 2025.
- Interviewed: "[Nonviolent movements not only win — they win faster](#)." Stockholm University Press, June 16, 2025.

Op-eds

- "[The exclusion of LGBTQ+ in Turkey's democratic opposition](#)." **The Loop**, July 21, 2025.

Imren Borsuk Eroglu

Imren Borsuk Eroglu is a visiting scholar at SUITS. She is an interdisciplinary scholar specializing in migration, development studies, and peace and conflict studies, with a regional focus on Turkey and the Middle East.

She has extensive international experience in conducting research on war, political repression, and authoritarianism. During her PhD, she worked in conflict-affected regions such as the Kurdish regions in Turkey and Northern Ireland in the UK. Additionally, her work has examined the social consequences of urban development initiatives, gendered and racialized dispossession.

Most recently, she led a research project as a Senior Einstein Researcher at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, investigating how the global rise of authoritarianism affects diaspora movements, focusing on Turkey's diaspora communities in Germany. Her research has been published in leading journals such as *Environment and Planning*, *European Urban and Regional Studies*, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, and *Palgrave Macmillan*. She has also received prestigious research grants, including the Einstein Research Grant and the Swedish Institute Scholarship.

In addition to her academic work, she has organized workshops, conferences, and summer schools on topics such as gender studies and authoritarianism. She is currently teaching courses on migration and the Middle East at Stockholm University, and has also worked as a project manager at Transparency International–Turkey, where she focused on issues related to accountability and governance.

Publications

Imren Borsuk. 2025. *The loop*. Homeland elections and the new wave of Turkey's migrants protests in Europe. <https://theloop.ecpr.eu/homeland-elections-and-the-new-wave-of-turkeys-migrant-protests/>

Activities

Speaker, IR Higher Seminars, Stockholm University, February 2025

Speaker, Democratic Backsliding and Transnational Repression of the MENA Diasporas, Utrikespolitiska institutet, June 2025

Teaching

Middle East and Migration; Key issues in Middle Eastern Studies; Middle East Politics and Economy

Grant applications

Project Grant applications for research into Democracy and societal resilience 2025, Swedish Research Council

Çağla Demirel

Çağla Demirel joined SUITS in January 2025 as a visiting scholar. She is also a postdoctoral researcher at CBEES, Södertörn University. Çağla is currently running a project entitled “Political Pathologies of Victimhood Narratives in Turkey, Azerbaijan and Serbia,” which

examines how historical crimes are framed, contested, and compared in political discourse. Her work explores key similarities and differences in the strategic use of memory politics across these countries, analysing how narratives are mobilised in public and political debates.

Çağla has also been serving as the coordinator of the Memory Studies Research Platform at Södertörn University, where she combines research with academic coordination. In this role, she facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration among memory scholars and organises scholarly events. She has also previously been engaged in similar institutional initiatives. From 2020 to 2022, she served as the PhD representative on the Board of Peace Research in Sweden (PRIS).

Çağla has published her research in peer-reviewed journals such as *Third World Quarterly*, *Peacebuilding*, and *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*. She was awarded a Research Grant from the Helge Ax:son Johnson Foundation in 2023 and the Postdoctoral Bridge Grant from the European International Studies Association (EISA) in 2024. In addition to her research, she has taught courses on Nationalism in the Era of Globalization, Global Governance, and International Cooperation and Integration.

Publications

Demirel, C. (2025). "Solidarity islands in a sea of violence: Reflections on memory, genocide, and the summer of 2025." *Baltic Worlds*, 18(2), 87-90.

Other Publications

Demirel, C. and Mannergren, J. (2025) 'Connecting the Dots' – Human Rights in Peacebuilding: Exploring Needs and Experiences of Policymakers and Practitioners. SHARINPEACE Report #2.2I.e.

Activities

Speaker, Memory Studies Association (MSA) Annual Conference "Beyond Crises: Resilience and (In)Stability." Title: "Global Hierarchies of Historical Responsibility: Memory Politics in Turkey and Serbia", July 14–18, 2025, Charles University and the Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague.

Speaker, PIMs Annual Conference "Spaces of Victimhood in Eastern Europe." Title: "Political Pathologies of Victimhood Narratives in Turkey, Azerbaijan and Serbia", June 18-19, 2025. University College London.

Speaker, Panel Discussion: "What's Happening in Turkey?", public event hosted by Stockholm University, 2 April 2025. With Howard Eissenstat, İlker Kalın, Paul T. Levin, László Szerencsés, Jenny White.

Discussant, CBEES Advanced seminar: "New Politics of Victimhood in Eastern Europe", Södertörn University, October 27, 2025.

Discussant and Organizer, CBEES Advanced seminar: "Memory Activism and the Victimhood Paradox in Bosnia and Herzegovina", Södertörn University, April 14, 2025.

Organizer, The Memory Studies Research Platform: Internal Conference II, Sigtunastiftelsen, 17-18 March 2025.

Organizer, Distinguished Lecture: “30 Years After Dayton”, Södertörn University, November 17, 2025.

Organizer, 11th CBEES Annual Conference: “Knowing Eastern Europe and the Baltics”, Södertörn University, December 4-5, 2025.

Organizer, CBEES Advanced seminars

- “Disrupt and Rebuild: Reconstruction Process of Entrepreneurial Identity among Ukrainian Refugee Entrepreneurs”, Södertörn University, January 20, 2025.
- “Between Nostalgia and Nationalism: An Analysis of Discussions on Old Photographs of Russian Turkestan on Facebook”, Södertörn University, February 17, 2025.
- “Democracy in the Baltic Sea Region”, Södertörn University, March 3, 2025.
- “Extractivism and Psychoanalysis”, Södertörn University, March 24, 2025.
- “Democracy, Autocracy, and International Cooperation”, Södertörn University, March 31, 2025.
- “Dynasty Divided: A Family History of Russian and Ukrainian Nationalism”, Södertörn University, April 28, 2025.
- “Life in Spite of Everything: Tales from the Ukrainian East”, Södertörn University, May 12, 2025.
- “What fosters and constrains the input of city-to-city partnerships in Ukraine's recovery? A Perspective from Japan”, Södertörn University, May 26, 2025.
- “Ambicoloniality and War: New Perspectives on Ukrainian Culture and Russian Colonialism”, Södertörn University, October 6, 2025.
- “An Imperial Parliament: The State Duma and Diversity in the Russian Empire, 1905–1907”, Södertörn University, October 20, 2025.
- “Appetite for Destruction? Unintended consequences of power-sharing in the Western Balkans”, Södertörn University, November 5, 2025.
- “Materializing Peace: Finnish Women’s Wartime Narratives and the Politics of Embodied Transition”, Södertörn University, November 10, 2025.
- “The Institutional Foundations of Ukrainian Democracy: Power Sharing, Regionalism, and Authoritarianism”, Södertörn University, November 24, 2025.

Teaching

Lecturer, Nationalism in the Era of Globalisation, Södertörn University, Spring 2025

Lecturer, Cooperation and Integration Theories in International Relations, Södertörn University, Spring 2025

Guest Lecturer, Peacebuilding and Human Rights, University of Marburg, 26 November 2025.

Grant applications

Political Pathologies of Victimhood Narratives in Eastern Europe submitted to the Foundation for Baltic Sea and East European Research

Global Hierarchies of Historical Responsibility: Frames of Recognition and Nonrecognition in Turkey and Serbia submitted to the Swedish Research Council under the Research Grants Open Call 2025 (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Global Hierarchies of Historical Responsibility: Framing Recognition and Nonrecognition in International Memory Politics submitted to the Swedish Research Council under the International Postdoc 1 2025 call (Humanities and Social Sciences).

Confronting or Safeguarding the Past? Shades of Recognition and Denial in Turkey and Serbia submitted to Riksbankens Jubileumsfond (RJ), January 2025.

Fellowships, awards

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES), November 2025. Project title: Political Pathologies of Victimhood Narratives in Turkey, Azerbaijan and Serbia.

Howard Eissenstat

Howard Eissenstat is the Laurentian Associate Professor and Chair of History at St. Lawrence University and a senior non-resident scholar at SUITS. He received his Ph.D. in Modern Middle East History in 2007 from UCLA, where he wrote his dissertation on the interplay between Muslim identity and Turkish nationalism in the late Ottoman Empire and early Turkish Republic. He did a post-doc at the Crown Center at Brandeis University in 2008-09, before coming to St. Lawrence University in 2009. In addition, Eissenstat served as a Turkey Country Specialist for Amnesty International, USA between 2006 and 2017 and was primary author of the Turkey section of the Freedom House Annual Report from 2018-20. He was a senior non-resident scholar at the Project on Middle East Democracy (POMED) from 2017-20; a non-resident scholar at the Middle East Institute from 2022 – 2024. Eissenstat also serves on the editorial board of the Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association.

He writes on contemporary Turkish domestic and foreign policy, especially on issues of rule-of-law, minority rights, and the reshaping of political culture under the AKP. Recent works include an edited volume with Gönül Tol, *Turkish Views: Crisis and Opportunities for Turkey* (2023); “The U.S. will be buying our textile exports!: “Özal, Reagan, and Neo-Liberalism,” in Alp Yenen and Erik Jan Zürcher, eds, *A Hundred Years of Republican History: A History in a Hundred Fragments*, (Leiden, 2024), and "Recep Tayyip Erdoğan: From ‘Illiberal Democracy’ to Electoral Authoritarianism,” in Klauss Larres, ed., *Dictators and Autocrats: Securing Power across Global Politics* (Routledge, 2021).

Publications

Peer-reviewed publications

Translator, “*Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Özal reports to Parliament on his trip to the United States*,” *Digital Archive of the Middle East*, University of Exeter, <https://humanities-collections.exeter.ac.uk/dame/s/en/item/15771#lg=1&slide=0>

Activities

Outreach

Media

- Quoted in “2026 Predictions,” *Turkey Recap*, 29 December 2025.
- Quoted in “Kanzler Merz zu Besuch in der Türkei: Erdogan ist für Europa so problematisch wie unverzichtbar,” *Tagesspiegel*, 29 October 2025
- Quoted in “Merz-Besuch in Ankara Erdogans außenpolitische Stärke,” *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, 29 October 2025
- Quoted in “SLU professor says Israel, Hamas have taken important first step,” *Channel 7 News*, Watertown, 14 October 2025

- Quoted in “Accord de paix à Gaza : le rôle crucial joué par la Turquie,” *Les Echos*, 13 October 2025
- Quoted in “Gaza : la Turquie, médiatrice discrète mais décisive du nouvel accord de paix,” *Atlantico*, 13 October 2025
- Quoted in “Kampf um Erdogans Nachfolge beginnt,” *Augsburger Allgemeine*, 10 October 2025
- Quoted in “„In der AKP kämpft jeder gegen jeden“: Der Kampf um die Nachfolge von Erdoğan ist eröffnet,” *Die Presse*, 7 October 2025
- Quoted in “Op bezoek in Washington ziet Erdogan kansen voor de Turkse defensie,” in *Trouw*, 25 September 2025.
- Quoted in “Erdoğan zu Besuch bei Trump: Zwei Dealmaker unter sich,” *Tagesspiegel*, 25 September 2025
- Quoted in “Erdoğan will sich die Gunst Trumps erkaufen” *Die Presse*, 25 September 2025
- Quoted in “Rule for life: Erdogan’s authoritarian turn against the CHP,” *Ekathimerini*, 14 September 2025.
- Quoted in “Is this the end of Atatürk’s Party,” *Financial Times of London*, 12 September 2025.
- Quoted in “Brief aus Istanbul: Erdoğan zerschlägt die Opposition,” *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 10 September 2025
- Quoted in “Türkische Opposition Warum geht Erdogan jetzt gegen die CHP vor?” *TAZ*, 9 September 2025
- Quoted in “Turkish stocks fall after court ousts Istanbul opposition leadership,” *Financial Times of London*, 2 September 2025.
- Quoted in “Neue Verhaftungen in der Türkei Erdogans nächster Schlag gegen die Opposition,” *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, 6 July 2025
- Quoted in Kaya Genç, “Borrowing from Erdoğan’s Playbook,” *Index on Censorship*, vol. 54, no. 2, July, 2025 <https://doi.org/10.1177/03064220251359916>
- Quoted in “Europa umwirbt die Türkei Geopolitik erleichtert die Zusammenarbeit von Türkei und EU – doch viele Probleme bleiben ungelöst,” *Die Presse*, 4 June 2025
- Quoted in “Erdoğan schneidert sich eine neue Verfassung: „Sein Ziel ist es, die Türkei auf Jahre weiterzuregieren” *Tagesspiegel*, 3 June 2025
- Quoted in “Erdoğan schneidert sich eine neue Verfassung,” *Kleine Zeitung*, 31 May 2025
- Quoted in “Nach 40 Jahren Krieg mit der Türkei: Die PKK hat sich aufgelöst – wie kam es dazu?” in *Tagesspiegel*, 12 May 2025.
- Quoted in “Türkinnen protestieren gegen neues Gesetz: Erdogan lässt Kaiserschnitte verbieten – aus politischem Kalkül,” *Tagesspiegel*, 23 April 2025.
- Quoted in “Neuer Konflikt in Syrien Machtkampf zwischen Israel und Türkei in Syrien,” *Stuttgarter Zeitung*, 4 April 2025
- Quoted in “Proteste in der Türkei Den Rivalen kaltgestellt,” *Das Parlament*, 29 March, 2025.
- Quoted in, “Die Türkei im Ausnahmezustand: Der große Aufstand gegen Erdogan,” *Tagesspiegel*, 23 March 2025.
- Quoted in, “Europas Sicherheit: Wie Trump mit seiner Politik die Türkei aufwertet,” *Tagesspiegel*, 16 March 2025

- Quoted in “Warum PKK-Chef Öcalan mit Erdoğan Frieden schließen will,” Die Presse, 27 February 2025
- Interview, “[Kurdistan Worker's Party \(PKK\) has officially disbanded but what's the future of Turkish democracy?](#)” *Let's Just Talk*, July, 2026
- Interview with *Jerusalem Unplugged Podcast*, “[Israel and Turkey with Howard Eissenstat](#),” January, 2025.

Think-tank Events

Invited Panelist, “Türkiye-US Relations: One Year into the Second Trump Administration,” Istanbul, 18 November 2025

Regular Participant, Turkey Strategy Group, Brookings

Regular Participant, Istanbul Foreign Policy Talks

Op-eds

Eissenstat, Howard, Lisel Hintz, and Nick Danforth, “We Study Repression. Now we see it here,” *The Atlantic*, March 29, 2025

Seren Selvin Korkmaz

Seren Selvin Korkmaz is an affiliated researcher at the Stockholm University Institute for Turkish Studies and the co-founder and co-director of IstanbulPol, an independent think tank based in İstanbul. She was a 2024–2025 Mercator-IPC Fellow at the İstanbul Policy Center of Sabancı University. Between 2023 and 2024, she served as a political specialist at the U.S. Department of State, advising on Turkish politics at the U.S. Consulate General in Istanbul. In 2024, she was selected as a Turkey Europe Future Fellow (Mercator Stiftung & TÜSİAD), and in 2023 she received the Marshall Memorial Fellowship from the German Marshall Fund of the United States. Her previous roles include non-resident scholar at the Middle East Institute (Washington, D.C.), Fox International Fellow at Yale University, and research fellow at the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul.

Korkmaz is currently part of the Horizon Europe project SOS4Democracy, focusing on democratic resilience, civil society strategies, and institutional responses to authoritarian pressures across Europe. She is also involved in the design of a forthcoming Horizon Europe project examining the political appeal and adaptive strategies of authoritarian actors, and will serve as a PI in the project.

A political scientist by training, she completed her Ph.D. at the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and the Institute of Turkish Studies at Stockholm University (degree expected 2025). She holds a B.A. and M.A. in Political Science and International Relations from Boğaziçi University. Her research focuses on populism, political parties, voter behavior, election strategies, opposition dynamics under autocratization, and transatlantic relations.

Korkmaz has published widely in academic and policy outlets and is a frequent commentator in international media, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, Financial Times, Deutsche Welle, and The Wall Street Journal. She regularly speaks at leading

institutions and international forums and actively works to strengthen dialogue between Turkish, European, and U.S. stakeholders.

Publications

Other publications

Analysis: “Beyond Diplomacy: The Political Utility Of Foreign Policy in Türkiye” [*Istanbul Policy Center*, April 2025.](#)

Analysis: “Urban Alliances Beyond Borders:Istanbul–Berlin City Diplomacy” [*Istanbul Policy Center*, July 2025.](#)

Research Report: “*Managed Pragmatism: EU-Türkiye Relations Without a Shared Vision — Insights from Brussels*” (with Edgar Şar and Riccardo Gasco), December 2025, IstanPol Institute

Research Report: “*Turkey’s Changing Electoral Map: Socioeconomic and Political Transformation at the District Level (2018–2024)*”, (with Ozancan Özdemir and Edgar Şar), IstanPol Institute, December 2025

Türkiye’s renewed Kurdish peace process: Implications for Europe, European Policy Center, October 2025

Activities

Academic

Speaker, “Foreign Policy Talks (16) - Between Crisis and Ambition: Domestic Challenges and the Future of Turkish Foreign Policy,” Istanbul Political Research Institute, May 15, 2025

Speaker: “The Resurgence of Risk in Turkey” IFRI Paris, June, 2025.

Chair: “Yeni Sürecin Birinci Yılı: İç Dinamikler ve Bölgesel Etkiler” Kurdish Studies Center, October 11, 2025.

Speaker: “Global Challenges: Interdisciplinary Voices Across the World” Yale University, Sciences Po, November 24, 2025

Speaker: “Siyasette Etki Yaratmak: Genç Siyasetçiler için Strateji ve Politika Üretimi” Arayüz Kampanyası, November 29, 2025.

Speaker: “Democracy, Peace, Solidarity” CHP, S & D (Socialist and Democrats in European Parliament), December 7, 2025.

“Türkiye’de Gençlik ve Siyaset” Bilsam, December 27, 2025.

Speaker: Between Resistance and Reinforcement: Opposition Strategies under Competitive Authoritarianism (2002-2023), *Global Challenges: Interdisciplinary Voices Across the World.* , Yale Fox Fellowship Conference, Sciences-Po, Paris November 24-25, 2025

Teaching

Introduction to Middle East Politics: State, Institutions and Regimes, Instructor, Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies of Stockholm University, (Summer 2025)

Grant Applications

Horizon EU Project (on behalf of IstanPol Institute)

Outreach

Media

- Interview: ‘‘2025 Predictions’’ Turkey Recap, January 2, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘DEM Parti - CHP Görüşmesinden Ne Sonuç Çıkar? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, January 7, 2025.
- Commentary: ‘‘Es lebe die Nation!’’ IPG Journal, January 7, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘İmralı'dan "Silah Bırak" Çağrısı Ne Zaman Gelir? | Açık Ve Net’’ Habertürk TV, January 9, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘From Ankara to Damascus: Türkiye’s Domestic Shifts and Syria’s Path Forward’’ Türkiye Today, January 14, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça’’ Halktv, January 18, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Yeni Görüntü Narin Davasını Nasıl Etkileyecek? | Cansu Canan ile Hayata Dair’’ TV100, January 23, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Konya'da 4 Katlı Bina Çöktü! Bina Neden Çöktü? | Enine Boyuna’’ Habertürk TV, January 24, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Olaylar ve Görüşler’’ Habertürk TV, January 28, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Ayşe Barım Cezaevinde. Ünlüler Ne İfade Verdi? Bahçeli Kimi Tehdit Etti?’’ Nevşin Mengü, January 29, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Seçmen Kime, Neye Göre Oy Veriyor? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, February 3, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Ön Seçim CHP'de Neden Kriz Çıkardı? | Nedir Ne Değildir?’’ Habertürk TV, February 10, 2025.
- Interview: ‘‘En Turquie, le président Erdogan cherche à diviser l'opposition’’ Radio France Internationale (RFI), February 11, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘2028'deki Seçimde Muhalefetin Kaç Adayı Olacak? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, February 12, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Tüketiciler Nasıl Önlem Almalı? | Cansu Canan ile Hayata Dair’’ TV100, February 13, 2025.
- Interview: ‘‘The Mansurian Candidate’’ Turkey Recap, February 13, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça’’ Halktv, February 15, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘CHP Lideri Özel Neden "Sivil Darbe" Dedi? | Olaylar Ve Görüşler’’ Habertürk TV, February 18, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘İmralı Çağrısının Ardından Örgütün Tasfiyesi Yakın Mı? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, February 28, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Silah Bırakma Çağrısı Nasıl Karşılık Bulacak? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, March 4, 2025.
- Interview: ‘‘What’s the public sentiment on peace process in Türkiye following ringleader Ocalan’s call?’’ Türkiye Today, March 5, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘İpek Özbey ile Nokta Atışı | Devlet Bahçeli-DEM Görüşmesi, Suriye, Ekrem İmamoğlu’’ Sözcü Televizyonu, March 10, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Yeni Süreçte "Silah Bırakma" Nasıl Olacak? | Para Gündem’’ Habertürk TV, March 13, 2025.
- Guest: ‘‘Kürt sorununda çözüm arayışları & CHP'de cumhurbaşkanlığı adaylığı süreci’’ Medyascope TV, March 13, 2025.
- Interview: ‘‘Revocation of Istanbul mayor’s diploma ignites political crisis: Can Imamoglu still run?’’ Türkiye Today, March 19, 2025.

- Guest: "Saraçhane'de tek yürek İmamoğlu için tam destek! | Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, March 22, 2025.
- Guest: "Ekrem İmamoğlu Tutuklandı! Şimdi Ne Olacak? Saraçhane'den Son Gelişmeler! | Nokta Atışı" Sözcü Televizyonu, March 23, 2025.
- Guest: "İmamoğlu Tutuklu: Şimdi Ne Olacak? | Şunu Bana Bir Anlat: Ertan Aksoy - Seren Selvin Korkmaz" Mirgün Cabas, March 24, 2025.
- Interview: "Cumhur ölüyor, halk geleceğe yürüyor" BirGün Newspaper, March 24, 2025.
- Interview: "İmamoğlu krizi: Siyasette hangi hesaplar yapılıyor?" DW Türkçe, March 27, 2025.
- Guest: "İpek Özbey ile Nokta Atışı | CHP'nin Maltepe Mitingi, Ekrem İmamoğlu, Özgür Özel" Sözcü Televizyonu, March 30, 2025.
- Interview: "What next for Turkey: More authoritarianism?" Deutsche Welle, March 31, 2025.
- Commentary: "Put To The Protest" Turkey Recap, April 3, 2025.
- Guest: "İpek Özbey ile Nokta Atışı | CHP Kurultayı, Özgür Özel, Ekrem İmamoğlu, Devlet Bahçeli" Sözcü Televizyonu, April 5, 2025.
- Guest: "Trump Küresel Ticareti Sıfırlamak İçin Vergi Mi Açıkladı? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, April 8, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, April 12, 2025.
- Guest: "Özlem Gürses ile Para Politika" Sözcü Televizyonu, April 14, 2025.
- Guest: "Ekonomide Yıl Sonu Hedefleri Tutar Mı? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, April 18, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, April 19, 2025.
- Interview: "Young Turks: 'We want to live like human beings'" Akmu, April 26, 2025.
- Guest: "Shaping Turkey's Democratic Future – Event Series Episode 1: Turkey at the Crossroads – Is this the End or the Beginning of Democracy?" Österreichisches Institut für Internationale Politik, April 29, 2025.
- Guest: "CHP Lideri Özel'e Saldırı Tek Kişilik Mi, Organize Mi? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, May 6, 2025.
- Guest: "CHP'nin Van mitinginde neler önce çıktı? I Jiyan Kışanak ile Dünya Hali" İlke TV, May 10, 2025.
- Guest: "PKK'nın Silah Teslimi Kimlerin Gözetiminde Gerçekleşecek? | Olaylar Ve Görüşler" Habertürk TV, May 14, 2025.
- Guest: "Riyad'daki Dörtlü Suriye Zirvesi Orta Doğu'yu Nasıl Etkiler? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, May 14, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, May 17, 2025.
- Interview: "Commission Impossible" Turkey Recap, May 22, 2025.
- Guest: "Belediyelere Operasyonlar Sürecek Mi, İddianame Ne Zaman Hazır Olacak? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, June 4, 2025.
- Guest: "İsrail Nasıl Durdurulacak? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, June 10, 2025.
- Guest: "PKK beklenen adımları atıyor, bundan sonra ne olacak? Jiyan Kışanak ile Dünya Hali" İlke TV, June 12, 2025.
- Guest: "CHP'nin 'Kurultay davası' yaklaştı! Muhalefet ne yapacak? Seren Selvin Korkmaz ihtimalleri anlattı.." Cumhuriyet TV, June 25, 2025.
- Guest: "Kürşad Oğuz ile Rota" Halktv, June 25, 2025.
- Guest: "CHP Kurultay Davasında Ne Karar Çıkar? | Para Gündem" Habertürk TV, June 30, 2025.

- Interview: "CHP kurultay davasında nasıl bir yol izleyecek?" DW Türkçe, July 1, 2025.
- Guest: "Özgür Özel'in Dokunulmazlığı Kaldırılır mı? | Olaylar Ve Görüşler" Habertürk TV, July 8, 2025.
- Interview: "Historischer Tag in der Türkei: PKK-Kämpfer verbrennen ihre Waffen" Tagesspiegel, July 11, 2025.
- Interview: "PKK disarmament brings new possibilities to Turkish politics— here are a few" Türkiye Today, July 12, 2025.
- Interview: "Changing political landscape, rise of DEM Party" Türkiye Today, July 12, 2025.
- Interview: "Major Istanbul Projects Are Stalling as City Leaders Sit in Jail" Bloomberg, August 6, 2025.
- Guest: "İpek Özbey ile Nokta Atışı | CHP Davaları, Ekrem İmamoğlu, Özgür Özel, Kemal Kılıçdaroğlu" Sözcü Televizyonu, September 2, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Gündem Özel" Halktv, September 3, 2025.
- Interview: "CHP'nin yönetebilirlik kapasitesi hedefte: Otoriter rejimin yeni eşiği" Bianet, September 3, 2025.
- Interview: "Kayyım Full Circle" Turkey Recap, September 4, 2025.
- Guest: "CHP'de İl Başkanlığı Çatışması! Parti İçinde Neler Oluyor?" Habertürk TV, September 8, 2025.
- Interview: "Turkey court delays ruling on opposition leader amid political crisis" Reuters, September 15, 2025.
- Guest: "Mutlak Butlan" Çıkarsa Bugünkü Kurultay da Geçersiz Mi?" Habertürk TV, September 21, 2025.
- Commentary: "Türkiye's renewed Kurdish peace process: Implications for Europe" European Policy Centre, September 23, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, September 25, 2025.
- Guest: "Gökmen Karadağ ile Açıkça" Halktv, October 25, 2025.
- Interview: "Ban's Labyrinth" Turkey Recap, November 13, 2025.
- Interview: "Güçlü yurttaş güvenceli gelecek", BirGün Newspaper, November 22, 2025.
- Interview: "CHP'nin kurultay sonrası yol haritası nasıl olacak?" DW Türkçe, December 1, 2025.
- Interview: "DEM-CHP hattındaki gerilim kimin işine yarıyor?" Bianet, December 5, 2025.
- Interview: "2026 Predictions" Turkey Recap, December 29, 2025

Former SUITS researchers and visitors, selected

START DATE	VISITING SCHOLAR/ POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER	CURRENT LOCATION
2013	Murat Somer (2013-2014)	<i>Özyeğin University</i> (İstanbul, Turkey)
	Jozsef Fekete (2014-2014)	-
2014	Diğdem Soyaltın (2014-2015)	<i>University of Aberdeen</i> (Aberdeen, Scotland)
2015	Bahar Baser (2015-2016)	<i>Durham University</i> (Durham, England)
	Ahmet Kaysılı (2015-2016)	<i>Ankara University</i> (Ankara, Turkey)
2016	Cengiz Çandar (2016-2022)	<i>Member of Turkey's Grand National Assembly, Representing the Province of Diyarbakır</i>
	Berna Ekal Şimsek (2016-2017)	<i>Altınbaş University</i> (İstanbul, Turkey)
	Aslı Postacı (2016-2017)	<i>Stockholm University</i> (Stockholm, Sweden)
	Shokoufeh Arvin (2016-2017)	
2017	Chiara Maritato (2017)	<i>University of Turin</i> (Turin, Italy)
	Åsa Eldén (2017-2018)	<i>Uppsala University</i> (Uppsala, Sweden)
	Bilge Yabancı (2017-2018)	<i>University of Deusto in Bilbao</i> (Bilbao, Spain)
	Lorenzo d'Orsi (2017-2018)	<i>University of Foggia</i> (Foggia, Italy)
2018	Pinar Sayan (2018-2020)	<i>Beykoz University</i> (İstanbul, Turkey)
	Erol Sağlam (2018-2019)	<i>Medeniyet University</i> (İstanbul, Turkey)
2020	Bengi Ruken Cengiz (2020-2021)	<i>Non-Resident Expert at IstanPol (Istanbul Political Research Institute)</i>
2022	Reuben Silverman (2022-2024)	Independent researcher
2024	Samuele Abrami (2024)	Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)

2025 Calendar of events

February

- Paul Levin and Minna Ålander presented a report at the Higher Seminar in International Relations at the [Department of Economic History and International Relations](#)
- Imren Borsuk spoke at the Higher Seminar in International Relations at the [Department of Economic History and International Relations](#)
- Paul Levin chaired a panel at the 2025 CEST Symposium "Who Owns the Nation? Imperial Imaginaries and Cultural Resistance in Contemporary Turkey" in Naples

March

- *SUITS Policy Brief* 2025:1 published (László Szerencsés, "[The Turkish Energy Hub and the Hungary Connection: Challenging EU Gas Diversification Efforts](#)")
- Jenny White spoke at a digital event on „Islamic Nationalism and the Future of Turkish Democracy” hosted by the Royal Society of Asian Affairs
- Paul Levin spoke at the Gåshaga Båtklubb in Lidingö
- Ilker Kalin spoke at the ISA Annual Convention 2025 in Chicago
- Ilker Kalin spoke at a workshop at the Stockholm Center on Global Governance (SCGG)

April

- László Szerencsés won the Southeast Europe Association [Dissertation Award](#)
- László Szerencsés presented a paper at the Higher Seminar in International Relations at the [Department of Economic History and International Relations](#), Stockholm University
- SUITS organized the panel discussion „What’s happening in Turkey”



May

- *SUITS Policy Brief* 2025:2 published (Gudlaug Olafsdottir and Ilker Kalin, "[The Peace Process and Constitutional Reforms in Turkey](#)")
- Paul Levin spoke at a roundtable on US foreign policy and MENA organized by the Swedish Institute for International Affairs (UI)
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at the Foreign Policy Talks hosted by the Istanbul Political Research Institute in Istanbul

June

- Paul Levin spoke at a panel organized by Concilio International in Almedalen
- László Szerencsés spoke at a Southeast Europe Association/Orient Institute Workshop in Istanbul
- Imren Borsuk spoke at the Democratic Backsliding and Transnational Repression of the MENA Diasporas workshop of the Swedish Institute for International Affairs (UI)
- Çağla Demirel spoke at the PIMs Annual Conference in London
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at an event hosted by IFRI in Paris

July

- Çağla Demirel spoke at the Memory Studies Association (MSA) Annual Conference in Prague

August

- Jenny White gave the keynote speech at the CEST summer school titled “Beyond oppression and resistance: The transformative power of theory” in Turin
- László Szerencsés led a workshop on “Writing beyond academia” at the CEST summer school in Turin

September

- Paul Levin spoke at the Annual Network Meeting of the Center for Applied Turkish Studies, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik in Berlin
- Paul Levin was invited to brief staff at the Nationellt Centrum för Terrorhotbedömning on armed groups in Turkey

October

- *SUITS Policy Brief 2025:3* published (Alper Coşkun, “[Securing Europe with Turkey: Reinforcing mutual resilience in a shifting security order](#)”)
- Paul Levin spoke at the Trilateral Strategy Group meeting 23 at the German Marshall Fund of the United States in Ankara

November

- Guest researcher Hacı Cevik held a seminar on “From Konya to Europe and Back: Kurdish Identity, Migration, and Diaspora Politics in Central Anatolia” at SUITS
- Paul Levin was keynote speaker at an online training session organized by the International Republican Institute for alumni of the Youth Fellowship Program as well as the participants of the Türkiye-Sweden Relations: the NATO Era Program.
- Howard Eissenstat spoke at an online panel discussion organized by IstanPol
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at an event hosted by Yale University and Sciences Po
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at an event hosted by Arayüz Kampanyası
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at the Yale Fox Fellowship Conference hosted by Yale University and Sciences Po in Paris

December

- *SUITS Policy Brief* 2025:4 published (Thomas de Waal, “[The Armenia-Azerbaijan Peace Process and the Role of Turkey](#)”)
- Paul Levin spoke on “Turkey and the PKK” at a workshop on „The Role of Non-State Actors in Shaping Conflict, Governance, and Power” at the the Swedish Institute for International Affairs (UI)
- Seren Selvin Korkmaz spoke at an event hosted by the S&D Group in the European Parliament

2025 Academic Publications (all faculty)

Demirel, C. (2025). "Solidarity islands in a sea of violence: Reflections on memory, genocide, and the summer of 2025." *Baltic Worlds*, 18(2), 87-90.

Kalin, Ilker, Marie Olson Lounsbery, Firuze Simay Sezgin, Dishari Rakshit, and Frederic S. Pearson. "Speeding Up Success: Analyzing Factors Influencing the Duration of Nonviolent Movements." *Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research* 50, no. 3 (2025): 269-283.

Lanigan, Amanda and Ilker Kalin. "Constrained but not Transformed: Civilian-led Certification Reform and Officer Misconduct." *Political Research Quarterly* (2025).
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10659129251382162>.

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SUITS Financial Results 2025

EKUP

Tusental kr, visar period 2501 - 2512 för 301 Inst f ekon hist o intern rel

[EKUP] 🔍

kontogrupp 2... 🔍

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VERNR 🔍

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RADTEXT 🔍

månad 🔍

institution/avd 🔍

vht, huvu

Values

	Total		
	budget	utfall	% av budget
⊕ Anslag	3 530	3 530	100,0%
⊕ Bidrag	1 178	1 315	111,7%
⊕ SUMMA INTÄKTER	4 707	4 845	102,9%
⊕ Personalkostnader	-2 276	-2 281	100,2%
⊕ Förändr.semskuld inkl.lkp	0	5	∞
⊕ Stipendier	0	-15	∞
⊕ Lokalkostnader	-242	-243	100,5%
⊕ Driftskostnader	-139	-334	240,5%
⊕ Indirekta kostnader	-1 422	-1 427	100,4%
⊕ Lämnade medel	-750	-750	100,0%
⊕ SUMMA KOSTNADER	-4 828	-5 046	104,5%
⊕ ÅRETS KAPITALFÖRÄNDRING	-121	-201	165,8%
⊕ Kapitalförändring sedan tidigare år	0	1 141	∞
⊕ SUMMA KAPITALFÖRÄNDRING	-121	940	776,7%
⊕ Ej förbrukade bidragsmedel	0	575	∞
⊕ Utgående balanserade medel	-121	1 515	1251,7%
⊕ Övriga periodavgränsningsposter	0	2	∞

