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# WORLD EXPERTISE ON TURKEY AND TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY DIRECTORY OF SPECIALISTS AND INSTITUTIONS

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# INTRODUCTION

This is the first-ever attempt to compile a directory of specialists on Turkey in general and Turkish foreign policy in particular.

The idea was prompted by the difficulties confronted in identifying experts from throughout the world for the Congress, organized by the Faculty of Political Science, Ankara University, on 20-23 October 1998 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Turkey. The idea was later found to be of interest to the Center for Strategic Research (SAM), and it is a result of the latter's support that it could be completed.

It is hoped that the Directory will be useful in a number of ways. For the academic community, it provides information vital for the establishment of international projects, joint research, and the exchange of data and information. At the same time it points media, government and business circles towards the available expertise on Turkey.

Inevitably, a first effort of this kind will have gaps. The raw data were obtained by way of questionnaires distributed to individuals and institutions in cooperation with Turkish embassies throughout the World. Various World Wide Web (www) discussion lists on Turkey and individual contacts were also utilized to broaden the outreach of the questionnaire. The responses to the questionnaires, as is typical of this method, were less than complete. Some of the respondents were not forthcoming with the necessary information, while others could not be listed in the Directory as they, to a great degree, could only be classified as interested individuals, not experts *per se*; many of them simply having a general interest in Turkey or pursuing primarily postgraduate studies related to Turkey, not yet teaching or publishing. The nature of the Directory meant that even where such individuals did respond, they could not be included. Certain exceptions were made, however, for the professionals from certain institutions, such as the World Bank, who had neither published academically nor taught about Turkey, yet whose "practical expertise" in certain aspects of the country enabled them to be listed as "experts".

The Directory was originally planned to include all experts, foreign and

Turkish alike, on Turkey in general. However, time, space and financial limitations dictated restrictions in scope. It was estimated that in order to produce a directory of experts on Turkey from all over the World, including within Turkey, we would need at least several more years' research and four times the space that we have in this edition. Also, taking into consideration the needs of the SAM, a decision was made early on to include only foreign experts on Turkish foreign policy and related fields. Therefore, Turkish experts and institutions based in Turkey were not included in this Directory even if they responded to the questionnaire. Consequently, although we have produced a rather extensive list of foreign individuals and institutions, to be used by the Turkish experts to connect with their foreign counterparts, the reverse was not possible. This is the most significant deficiency of the Directory, necessitated by the above-mentioned concerns, which should be rectified in future editions. A partial remedy in this edition, applied to this particular deficiency, was the inclusion of Turkish experts based abroad or working through a foreign address.

The Directory also has gaps even within the foreign expertise on Turkey due, for the most part, to the fact that some contacted individuals or institutions simply did not respond to the questionnaire. Therefore the Directory only includes those individuals and institutions that responded to us, not simply those we know or believe to possess expertise on Turkey. Nevertheless, it is hoped that once published, this Directory will attract more responses that may be used in updating it. After its publication, the Directory will also be used to create a Web-based databank on such expertise, which can regularly be updated. Therefore, it is imperative that interested individuals and institutions should complete the related questionnaire, enclosed at the end of this Directory, and forward it to us. Similarly, those already included may use the same forms to inform us any change in their status, contact details, publications list, etc. The contact address for such inquires is: Ms. Elçin Aktoprak, Ankara University, Faculty of Political Science, 06590- Cebeci, Ankara, Turkey; Fax.+90 312 3197736; E-mail: [aktoprak@politics.ankara.edu.tr](mailto:aktoprak@politics.ankara.edu.tr)

The Directory is composed of three lists: The first is an alphabetical index to



specialists and institutions included; the second a subject index to them; the third -containing complete data about all the individuals and institutions included- is arranged by country. Individuals are listed alphabetically under the country from which they responded, not according to their nationality. Since their numbers do not warrant it, we choose not to create a separate list for specialized institutions; instead listing them under the country in which they operate before the individuals.

We tried to include, where possible, all appropriate information about the listed individuals and institutions. However, some respondents did not include all the required information, while others responded with too much information, especially remunerating all their publications, relevant or otherwise. In the first instance, we felt bounded by the information we received from the respondents and did not attempt to fill the gaps from other sources; in the latter, we eliminated some of the less relevant material in order to keep the Directory within manageable proportions. Therefore, when there were no contact details, for example, we respected the responders' choice and did not include them in the directory even in cases where we had the information. We took exception from the general rule, however, in complementing, where possible, the missing information from references of the publications we received from the experts. Since the respondents, more often than not, sent in only the titles of their publications, when we could not find complete information despite renewed requests to the respondent in question, we decided to retain them in the directory despite their deficiencies, hoping to supplement them in later updates.

In the subject index, we created only very general areas of interest and listed individuals beneath them according to their responses. In this, we decided to rely on the declared expertise of the individuals and did not attempt to qualify the extent of their expertise, either from their publication or from the courses they taught. Therefore, the true test of the accuracy of the information regarding the expertise listed here will lie with the future users of the Directory. Neither the compliers nor the SAM pass judgment, and thus cannot assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information included in the Directory, especially regarding the extent and the quality of the expertise. This remains for the users of the Directory to determine.

The numbers in the alphabetical and subject indexes refer to the pages in the Directory where the names of the individuals or institutions appear.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to a number of individuals for the help they provided throughout this project. First of all, Ambassador Ünal Maraşlı, former Director of SAM, was forthcoming with his enthusiastic support from the very beginning of this project. Without his support, the project would never even have been started. Equally forthcoming with his support was Ambassador Murat Bilhan, current Director of SAM, who adopted and supervised the completion of this work with enthusiasm. I owe them both my sincere thanks. I would also like to thank the anonymous personnel of Turkish embassies all over the World, who resolutely followed our queries in their respective countries of responsibility. Without their cooperation, this project could not have been completed. I am indebted to Dr. Çağrı Erhan and Mr. Gökhan Erdem of the Faculty of Political Science, Ankara University, who lent hand to this endeavor in various stages. Finally, my gratitude goes to Sevim, who has tolerated my intolerable temper with perseverance throughout the various projects that I have somewhat unwisely taken on over the last few years; and to Elçin who came to rescue me with her readiness to typeset all the entries and arrange them several times according to my wishes. Obviously, any remaining flaw is due to my own negligence, for which I take full responsibility.

Mustafa AYDIN  
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