

CURRICULUM VITAE



Şebnem KÖŞER AKÇAPAR

Koç University
Sociology Department
College of Social Sciences and Humanities
Sarıyer, Istanbul
34450, Turkey

EDUCATION

- 2006 PhD: Social and Cultural Anthropology,
Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium
Supervisor: Johan Leman
Thesis: “Dynamics of Social Networks in International Migration:
The Case of Iranian Transit Migrants in Turkey”
- 2002 Advanced Master’s Degree, Cultures and Development: Catholic
University of Leuven, Belgium, 2002.
Supervisor: Marie-Claire Foblets
Thesis: “Gender and Migration: Turkish Immigrants in Belgium
and Integration Processes”

EMPLOYMENT

- 2016 – Current Koç University, Sociology Department, Istanbul, Turkey

2015-2016	Visiting Associate Professor, South Asian University, New Delhi, India.
2013-2014	Visiting Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
2012-2013	Visiting Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, India.
2011-2012	Director and Associate Professor, Georgetown University, McGhee Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies, Alanya/Turkey.
2008-2011	Assistant Professor, McGhee Center for Eastern Mediterranean Studies, Georgetown University, Alanya/Turkey.
2006-2008	Adjunct Assistant Professor, the BMW Center for German and European Studies, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University Assistant Professor at the American University, School of International Service and KOGOD School of Business

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Migration, Human Smuggling and Trafficking, Gender and Migration, Transnationalism, Diaspora, Forced Migration (asylum seekers and refugees), Labor Migration, Humanitarian Aid and Development, Sociology of Religion, Turkish Society and Family, South Asia.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Koç University, Sociology Department

- Culture and Society (undergraduate course) (SOSC 102)
- International Migration (undergraduate course) (SOC 411)
- Introduction to South Asia (undergraduate course) (SOC 350)

South Asian University, Sociology Department

- Social Stratification (SS-graduate course, 1st Semester)
- Diaspora and Transnationalism in South Asia (DT-graduate course, 4th Semester)

Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service

- Islam and Gender in Turkey and the Middle East (INAF 461) (senior class undergraduate course)
- Issues in International Migration: EU and Turkey (INAF 463) (senior class undergraduate course)
- Muslim communities in the West: Islamophobia and Problems of Integration (INAF 555) (graduate course)
- Islam, Gender, and Identity in North America and Western Europe (INAF 457) (graduate course)

TOBB-ETU University, International Relations Department

- Selected Topics in International Relations: Globalization and Identity (ULU 395) (junior class undergraduate course)
- Selected Topics in International Relations: Cultural Aspect of International Business (ULU 396) (junior class undergraduate course)
- Diplomatic Correspondence (ULU 495) (senior class undergraduate course)

Ankara University, Ethnology Department

- Politics of Immigration to the European Union (graduate course) (10015005)
- Religious Beliefs and Practices (first year undergraduate course) (HLK 116)

American University, School of International Studies

- World of Islam (SIS 245) (undergraduate course)

American University, KOGOD School of Business

- Cultural Environment of International Business (IBUS 401) (senior class undergraduate course/graduate course)

FELLOWSHIPS

Visiting Scholar, Institute for the Study of International Migration (ISIM), Georgetown University (2004-2006)
Grant from MiReKoc and TESEV: "Turkish Immigrants in the USA and Political Mobilization"

OTHER

Reviewer for reputable academic journals, such as *International Migration (SSCI)*, *Migration Letters*, *Turkish Studies (SSCI)*, *Sociology*, *Sociological Forum*, *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies (SSCI)*, *Uluslararası İlişkiler Dergisi (in Turkish – SSCI)*, *Journal of Rural Sociology* and proposals for grants by international organizations.

PUBLICATIONS

I) Books:

- 1) *Turkish Immigrants in Western Europe and North America: Immigration and Political Mobilization*, NY: Routledge, 2012 (edited)
- 2) *Turkey and India as Global Development and Humanitarian Actors: A Critical Analysis and Challenges Ahead*, (edited) (forthcoming, Routledge).

II. Chapters in Books:

- 1) “Migrations Illegales en Turquie: Analyse des tendances et enjeux nouveaux,” (in French) [Illegal Migrations in Turkey: Analysis of new trends], in A. Manço (ed.) *Turquie: Nouveaux Horizons Migratoires*, Université de Liege, 2004, pp. 109-117.
- 2) “Health and Well-Being Away from Homeland: Turkish ‘Imported’ Brides in Western Europe and Bodily Expressions”, (in Turkish), in A. Kaya and B. Şahin (eds.), *Roots and Roads: The Migration Processes in Turkey*, Bilgi University Publications, 2007.
- 3) “Turkish Highly Skilled Migration to the United States: New Findings and Policy Recommendations,” in A. İçduygu and K. Kirişçi (eds.), *Land of Diverse Migrations: Challenges of Emigration and Immigration in Turkey*, Istanbul Bilgi University Press, 2009.
- 4) “Turks in the United States”, in James S. Olson and Bradley A. Olson (eds.), *On the Move: The Encyclopedia of Immigration, Migration, and Nativism in United States History*, New York: Facts-on-File, 2009-2012.
- 5) “Meshketian (Ahıska) Turks in the United States”, in James S. Olson and Bradley A. Olson (eds.), *On the Move: The Encyclopedia of Immigration, Migration, and Nativism in United States History*, New York: Facts-on-File, 2009-2012.
- 6) “Uyghurs in the United States”, in James S. Olson and Bradley A. Olson (eds.), *On the Move: The Encyclopedia of Immigration, Migration, and Nativism in United States History*, New York: Facts-on-File, 2009-2012.
- 7) “Uluslararası Göç Alanında Güvenlik Algılamaları ve Göçün İnsani Boyutu,” (in Turkish) [Security Perceptions in the Field of International Migration and the Humanitarian Dimension of International Migration], in S. G. İhlamur-Öner and N. A. Şirin Öner (eds.) *Küreselleşme Çağında Göç: Kavramlar, Tartışmalar* (in Turkish) [*Migration in the Age of Globalization: Concepts and Discussions*], İstanbul: İletişim, 2012, pp. 563-575.
- 8) “Ziyaret and ‘Popular’ Religiosity: Spiritual Explanations of Saint Veneration Among Women in Turkey”, in Ananta Kumar Giri (ed.), *Practical Spirituality and Human Development*, UK: Cambridge Scholars Press, 2015.
- 9) “Migrant Smuggling in Turkey” (co-author), in McAuliffe, M. & F. Laczko (eds.) *Migrant Smuggling Data and Research: A Global Review of the Emerging Evidence Base*, International Organization for Migration: Geneva, 2016.
- 10) “Diasporas in Transition and Political Mobilization: Indian and Turkish Diasporas in the United States,” in S. Jassal (ed.), *Past Connections, Contemporary Debates* (forthcoming), Routledge, 2016.

III. Articles in SSCI Journals:

- 1) "Conversion as a Migration Strategy in a Transit Country: Iranian Shiites Becoming Christians in Turkey," *International Migration Review*, 40 (4): 817-853, 2006.
- 2) Co-author, "Turkish Identity Formation and Political Participation in Western Europe and North America: Introduction," *Turkish Studies*, 10 (2): 139-147, 2009.
- 3) "Turkish Associations in the United States: Towards Building a Transnational Identity," *Turkish Studies*, 10 (2): 165-193, 2009.
- 4) "Re-Thinking Social Networks and Social Capital in International Migration," *International Migration*, 48 (2): 161-196, 2010.
- 5) "Afghan Refugees in India: Social Networks and Survival Strategies," (submitted to SSCI journal)

IV. Other Articles in Major Academic Journals:

- 1) "Iranian Transit Migrants in Turkey", *KOLOR: Journal on Moving Communities, Special Issue: Exile and Transit*, 4 (1): 17-31, 2004.
- 2) "Do Brains Really Go Down the Drain? Turkish Highly Skilled Migration to the U.S. and the Brain Drain Debate in Turkey," *Revue Européenne des Migrations Internationales (REMI)*, 22 (3): 79-108, 2007.
- 3) "What's God got to do with it? The role of religion in the internal dynamic of migrants' networks", *REMMM: French Journal in Social Sciences, Special Issue, South to South Migration: The Forced Stop in the Arab and Muslim World*, 119-120: 81-100, 2007.
- 4) Book Review: Erel, Umut. *Migrant Women Transforming Citizenship: Life Stories From Britain and Germany*, Burlington, VT: Ashgate, *International Journal of Turkish Studies*, 17 (1&2): 254-257, 2011.
- 5) Book Review: Senay, Banu. *Beyond Turkey's Borders: Long-Distance Kemalism, State Politics and the Turkish Diaspora*, London: I.B. Tauris & Co Ltd, 2013, *Diaspora Studies*, 5 (2): 224-229, 2012.
- 6) "Sites of Power and Resistance or Melting Pots? A Gendered Understanding of Islam through Sufi Shrines in Turkey," *Contemporary Review of the Middle East*, 1 (1): 95-110, 2014.
- 7) "Photo Essay: South Asian refugees in India" (with photographs of Raghu Rai), *Society and Culture in South Asia*, (accepted for publication, to appear in 2016).
- 8) "The Problem of Statelessness in Forced Migration: The Case of Rohingyas in Bangladesh and India", (submitted to an academic journal).

V. Working Paper:

- "Labour Outcomes of Irregular Migration and Human Trafficking in Turkey: Forced Labour or not?" International Labour Organization: Geneva, Switzerland, (co-author), June 2005, 107 p.

PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- 1) 1st UN Humanitarian Summit, Istanbul, Turkey. Academic Forum (May 21, 2016). Paper Title: ***“Protracted Crises and Humanitarian Interventions of India and Turkey”***.
- 2) Aligarh Muslim University, India. Keynote Speaker, Department of Political Science (December 21, 2015). Paper title: ***“Refugee and Immigrant Crisis in West Asia and Europe”***.
- 3) Jamia Millia University, New Delhi, India. International Conference on Indo-Turkic Relations: Perspectives and Its Contemporary Relevance (November 1-3, 2015). Paper title: ***“Syrian Refugee Crisis: The Role of Turkey”***.
- 4) Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey. MiReKoc Summer School (2015). Paper title: ***“Comparing Turkish and Indian Diaspora”***.
- 5) Jamia Millia Islamia University, Centre for West Asian Studies, New Delhi, India: Seminar on Human Rights and Good Governance in India and West Asia (November 25-26, 2014). Paper title: ***“Human Rights and Refugees: Cases from Middle East”***.
- 6) Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi, India: Seminar on the Idea of Development: Fact and Value (A Multi-Disciplinary Approach), Department of Philosophy (March 24-25, 2014). Paper title: ***“Development and Migration”***,
- 7) Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, India (February 12, 2014). Paper title: ***“Muslims in Europe: Islamophobia and Integration Problems”***.
- 8) Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, India (January 2014). Paper title: ***“Religion and the Secular Nation-State: Comparison of India and Turkey”***.
- 9) Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, India (September 2013). Paper title: ***“Turkish Immigrants and Diaspora: Relations with the State”***.
- 10) Jawaharlal Nehru University, Center for West Asian Studies, New Delhi, India (January 2013). Paper title: ***“Syrian Refugees in the Middle East and in Turkey”***.
- 11) Jawaharlal Nehru University, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, New Delhi, International Seminar on Emerging Identities in India and Europe: Exploring Critical Issues (March 15-16, 2013). Paper title: ***“Muslim Immigrants in Europe: Re-visiting the Concept of Integration”***.
- 12) India Centre for Migration (ICM), New Delhi, National Consultation Workshop on Facilitating Safe and Legal Migration and Preventing Irregular Migration, (September 6-7, 2012). Paper title: ***“Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Human Beings”***.
- 13) Council on International Relations (UIK), Annual Event, Ilgaz Academy on Security Issues (December 18-22, 2009). Paper title: ***“International Migration and Security”***.
- 14) The 8th METU Conference on International Relations, “Patterns of Change in the Global System”, Ankara, Session 6-D, Migration and Globalization Panel (June 17-19, 2009). Paper title: ***“Changing Migration Patterns in Turkey”***.
- 15) Hacettepe University’s Strategic Studies Center (HÜSAM), Turks Abroad: The Symposium on Migration and Integration in its 50th Year (May 23-25, 2009). Paper title: ***“A Comparison of Integration Policies of Germany and the United States”***.
- 16) GMF Meeting at Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey (November 28-29, 2008). Paper title: ***“Irregular Migration at two borders: The Turkish-EU and Mexican-USA cases”***.

- 17) Stanford University, 4th Alumni Conference of the Round Table USA, Palo Alto, USA. Conference on Societies in Transition – Adjusting to Changing Global Environments, Working Group 5: (Re)Imagining the Nation: Multicultural Societies (June 26-29, 2008). Paper title: “**National Identity and Integration Policies in the USA and in Germany**”.
- 18) Brandeis University, Center for German and European Studies & Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Boston, USA. Conference on Social Diversity and Muslim Communities in Europe Today (October 10-11, 2007). Paper title: “**Turkish Immigrants in Germany.**”
- 19) New York University, Center for European Studies & Leo Baeck Institute, and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, New York, USA Conference on Immigration and Cultural Exchange: German Jewish Presences in the US and Post-Cold War Germany. (March 25-27, 2007). Paper title: “**Jewish Communities in the US throughout history and Muslim immigrants in Europe**”.
- 20) CIESAS and Universidad IberoAmericana, Congreso Internacional de Migracion, Mexico City (October 5-7, 2006). Paper title: “**A Comparative Analysis of Mexico and Turkey: Migration Experiences of Two Developing Countries**”.
- 21) German Marshall Fund (GMF), Washington DC. Workshop on Migration and Development: Challenges and Opportunities for Sending Countries (May 24, 2006). Paper title: “**Turkey as a country of Emigration and Immigration**”.
- 22) Columbia University, New York, USA. 11th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Nationalism in an Age of Globalization (March 23-25, 2006). Paper title: “**How would you like your Turkish coffee? Adjusting Turkey’s Immigration and Asylum Policies to the European Union in the course of Accession**”.
- 23) 5th Mediterranean Social and Political Research Meeting, Montecatini Terme and Florence, Italy (March 24-28, 2004). Paper title: “**Iranian Transit Migrants in Turkey and Reconstruction of Identity**”.
- 24) Istanbul Bilgi University, Migration Research Unit. Conference on Turkish Migration (December 19-20, 2003). Paper title: “**Turkish Immigrant Women in Europe and Question of Integration**”.
- 25) CW Laeken, Belgium. Congress on Culture and Mental Health (November 27-29, 2002). Paper title: “**Re-imagining Health and Well-being: Turkish Immigrant Women and Bodily Expressions**”.
- 26) Council of Europe, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography, Strasbourg, France. Seminar on New Patterns of Illegal Migration and the Problems faced by Migrants (November 12-13, 2002). Paper title: “**Irregular Migration in Turkey: Recent Trends and Challenges Ahead**”.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- Center for Strategic Research Center, Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and MiReKoc team, Istanbul, Turkey. Seminar on ***International Migration and Diplomacy*** (May 18, 2016).
- IPC Center Sabanci University and Sociology Department, South Asian University, New Delhi, India. Seminar on ***Turkey and India as Global Development and Humanitarian Actors*** (October 8, 2015).
- Heinrich Böll Foundation & Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University, Washington, DC. Seminar on ***Immigration, Integration, and Islam: Insights from German politicians of Immigrant Backgrounds*** (Filiz Demirel, Ozcan Mutlu, Adil Noyan) (November 28, 2007).
- Institute for the Study of International Migration, the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding, and the BMW Center for German and European Studies Georgetown University. Seminar on ***Dynamics of Religion in International Migration: The Case of Iranians in Turkey*** (February 17, 2006).
- Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University & HasNa (a Turkish American NGO). Seminar on ***Women in Migration from Rural Turkey*** (April 19, 2006).
- Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University. Seminar on ***Turkish Immigration to the United States: A Historical Perspective*** (October 11, 2006).
- Turkish Embassy and Assembly of Turkish Associations in America (ATAA), Washington, DC. Seminar on the ***History of Turkish Migration to the United States and Current Developments***, with Dr. John J. Grabowski, Dr. Sebnem Koser Akcapar, Bill Ali, and Gunay Evinch (October 12, 2006).

PUBLIC LECTURES (Non-University)

- 1) Keynote Speaker, Foundation for Eastern Mediterranean Studies in Culture and History, Alanya, Turkey. Paper Title: ***Being a Foreigner in Alanya: Preliminary Findings of a Fieldwork***. (December 28, 2008).
- 2) Turkish Military PfP Training Center in Ankara, Turkey. Combating Trafficking in Human Beings Course. Paper title: ***History of Human Trafficking and Challenges Ahead,*** (February 22-26, 2010 & 14-18 February, 2011).
- 3) Keynote Speaker with Dieter Wiefelsputz, Member of the German Bundestag for the Social Democratic Party (SPD): ***Embracing German Culture or Arousing Suspicion? Muslim Integration in Germany***, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Washington, DC. (February 6, 2008).
- 4) Keynote Speaker at a panel discussion on ***Media Images of Muslim Women in Germany,*** organized by Goethe Institute Washington (December 13, 2007).

TELEVISION INTERVIEWS AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:

- “The Syrian Refugee Crisis in Turkey and in the EU”, NDTV, India (broadcasted on September 25, 2015).

- ABD'ye Göç Eden İlk Türklere Ne Oldu (in Turkish – What Happened to Early Migrants from Turkey to the United States of America), Voice of America, recorded on June 27, 2008. Available at:
<http://www.porttakal.com/haber-abd-ye-goc-eden-ilk-turklere-ne-oldu-8522.html>
Also available at TGRT:
http://www.tgrthaber.com/video_preview.aspx?guid=6ea00071-f21a-456a-981f-549e6d5a0b68
- Bir Başka Yara: Göç, (in Turkish – Another Wound: Migration), *Radikal*, August 3, 2007. Available at:
http://www.radikal.com.tr/ek_haber.php?ek=ktp&haberno=6624
- Migration Matters in Globalized Turkey, Turkish Daily News, December 19, 2006. Available at:
<http://www.freewebs.com/kristenstevens/istanbularticles.htm>

MEMBERSHIP IN ORGANIZATIONS

American Anthropological Association (AAA)
Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA)

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Turkish (Mother tongue)
English (Excellent)
French (Working knowledge – read, speak, write)
German (Read only)
Hindi (Beginner)

COMPUTER SKILLS

Full computer literate, incl. Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Word.

REFERENCES

- 1) Dr. Susan F. Martin, Donald G. Herzberg Professor of International Migration, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University. martinsf@georgetown.edu
- 2) Dr. Sasanka Perera, Professor, Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, South Asian University, New Delhi, India. sasankaperera@soc.sau.ac.in
- 3) Dr. Soner Cagaptay, Director, Turkish Research Program, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, DC. SonerC@washingtoninstitute.org