

# INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON KURDISH POLITICS AND SOCIETIES

Yale University / April 6 – 8, 2018

## APRIL 6, FRIDAY

**Dunham Laboratory 220, 10 Hillhouse Avenue**

### 14:00 – 14:15: Welcome and Remarks

**14:15 – 15:15: Hamit Bozarslan** - Keynote Speech / Opening Lecture

### 15:15 – 17:15: Panel 1 – Nationalism, States, and Revolutions

**Discussant:** Jonathan Wyrzten, Sociology, Yale University  
**Pinar Dinc**, Lund University – Selected Statelessness? The Case of Rojava Cantons  
**Nadje Al-Ali**, SOAS University of London – Reconsidering Nationalism and Feminism  
**Kamran Matin**, University of Sussex – Democratic Confederalism and Geopolitics  
**Dilan Okcuoglu**, Queen's University – Mechanisms and Narratives of Territorial Control in Turkey's Kurdish Borderlands  
**Huseyin Rasit**, Yale University – Competing Revolutionaries: Legitimacy and Leadership in Revolutionary Situations

### 17:30 – 19:30: Panel 2 - Resistance and Subjectivity

**Discussant:** Jesse Benjamin, Sociology and Criminal Justice, Kennesaw State University  
**Nisa Goksel**, University of Notre Dame – The Activism of Kurdish Women in Diyarbakir: Conflicts, Encounters, and Networks  
**Ruken Isik**, University of Maryland, Baltimore County – Disrupting Public Spaces and Reclaiming Lives: Women's Funerals in Turkey-Kurdistan  
**Berivan Sarikaya**, University of Toronto – Kurdish Women Political Prisoners in Diyarbakir Prison  
**Amy Bartholomew**, Carleton University – Natality, Necroresistance, Life Politics: The 2012 Kurdish Prisoners' Hunger Strike  
**Thoreau Redcrow**, Nova Southeastern University – Shooting out of Love: A Case Study of Kurdish Guerrillas in the PKK

## APRIL 7, SATURDAY

**Rosenfeld Hall, 387 Temple Street**

### 8:15 – 10:00: Panel 3 – Religious Identity and Political Islam in Kurdistan

**Discussant:** Jonathan Wyrzten, Sociology, Yale University  
**Mehmet Kurt**, University of Manchester – "My Muslim Kurdish Brother": Colonial Rule and Islamist Governmentality in the Kurdish Region of Turkey  
**Dilsa Deniz**, University of Connecticut – Attacks on the Kurdish Alevis: Environment by the Turkish State  
**Onur Gunay**, Harvard University – "Spiritual Police Stations": Sufi Orders, Drug Use, and Kurdish Migrant Workers

**Cengiz Barskanmaz**, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology – Diasporic Responses of Yazidis to Re-Traumatization

### 10:15 – 12:15: Panel 4 – Contesting Identities in Kurdistan and Beyond

**Discussant:** Vera Eccarius-Kelly, Political Science, Siena College  
**Djene Bajalan**, Missouri State University – Hope in Hard Times: Youth Mobilization and the Kurdish Students' Hope Society, 1912-1914  
**Gullistan Yarkin**, SUNY at Binghamton - Turkish-Kurdish Relations in a Turkish Dominated Working-Class District in Istanbul  
**Sevda Arslan**, University of Notre Dame – Zazaki Mobility and Identity Building in Germany and Turkey  
**Canan Cevik**, UMass Amherst – One Home, Two Stories: One to Learn, the Other Remains to be Unlearned  
**Ahmet Coymak**, University of Connecticut – At the Heart of the Intractable Kurdish-Turkish Conflict: The Identity and Nation

### 13:00 – 14:45: Panel 5 – Political Economy of Kurdistan

**Discussant:** Jesse Benjamin, Sociology and Criminal Justice, Kennesaw State University  
**Umut Kuruuzum**, LSE – Re-cycling Destruction into Re-construction: The Expansion of Wars and The Steel Sector in Iraqi Kurdistan  
**Deniz Duruiz**, Columbia University – Reading the Labor Regime of Internal Colonialism in Turkey through the Example of Kurdish Rural Migrant Labor  
**Fidan Mirhanoglu**, University Paris 8 - The analysis of the political role of oil in the construction of a nation-state in Iraqi Kurdistan  
**Seren Selvin Korkmaz**, Yale University – The Combination of Class, Identity, and Space: Redefinition of Kurdish Identity in the Everyday Life

### 15:00 – 16:45: Panel 6 – Gender and Sexual Liberation

**Discussant:** Narges Erami, Anthropology, Yale University  
**Haje Keli**, SOAS University of London – Complementary Roles: How Family, Society, and State Affect Violence Against Women in Iraqi Kurdistan  
**Ozlem Goner**, CSI, CUNY – Gendered State Violence and Its Representations in Kurdish Geographies: "Lost Girls" of Dersim and Anfal  
**Isabel Käser**, SOAS University of London – Militant Femininity: A Gendered Analysis of the Kurdish Freedom Movement's Liberation Ideology  
**Hakan Sandal**, University of Cambridge – Queer Imagination of the Middle East: Kurdish Diaspora, Gender and Politics

### 17:00 – 19:00: Panel 7 – Statelessness and Subgovernance

**Discussant:** Hamit Bozarslan, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, EHESS

**Haluk Baran Bingol**, Kennesaw State University - Stateless Capacity and Resilience Building in Critical Contexts: A Comparative Analysis of Subnational Governance and Paradiplomacy in the Kurdish Regions

**Morgan Kaplan**, Northwestern University – Strategies of Rebel Diplomacy: Evidence from the Iraqi Kurdish Liberation Movement  
**Ozlem Galip**, University of Oxford – With or without Borders: Kurds' Role in Remaking of Syria  
**Latif Tas**, SOAS University of London – Beyond the Territorial State: The Kurdish Transnational Justice and State-Building Process  
**Huseyin Tunc**, Columbia University - Turkey's Kurdphobia: Prospects and Challenges for Turkish Policy

## APRIL 8, SUNDAY

**Rosenfeld Hall, 387 Temple Street**

### 8:15 – 10:00: Panel 8 – Kurdish Space from Local to Transnational

**Discussant:** Vera Eccarius-Kelly, Political Science, Siena College  
**Sardar Saadi**, University of Toronto - Urban Landscapes of the Kurdish Struggle for Democratic Autonomy in Northern Kurdistan: The Case of Diyarbakir  
**Mehri Ghazanjani**, McGill University – Iranian Kurdish Movement: Ethno-nationalism in Exile  
**Yasin Duman**, Coventry University – One Nation, Two Paths of Self-Determination: Kurds in Syria and Iraq  
**Kumru Toktamis**, Pratt Institute - The Woman for Whom the War Never Ended: The Journey of  
**Yashar Khanum**, the Wife of Ihsan Nuri Pasha of Mount Ararat

### 10:15 – 12:15: Panel 9 – War, Violence, and Criminalization of Kurdishness

**Discussant:** Hamit Bozarslan, Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales, EHESS  
**Sona Kazemi**, University of Toronto - Processes and Relations of Disablement in the Iraqi and Iranian Kurdish Veterans and Civilians  
**Baris Tugrul**, Hacettepe University – Intergenerational Reproduction of Political Violence: Kurdish Conflict in Turkey  
**Hazal Hurman**, Texas A&M University – Anti-Terror Law as a Racial Project: Juvenile "Terror- Suspects" and Racialization of Kurdish Identity in Turkey  
**Jesse Wozniak**, West Virginia University – Criminal Punishment in Iraqi Kurdistan  
**Shannon Maree Torrens**, University of Sydney - The Genocide, Persecution and Oppression of the Kurds: Silences in International Criminal Justice

### 13:00 – 13:30: Closing Remarks