

AHMET SÖZEN

Eastern Mediterranean University,
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PROFILE:

Experience over the last twenty years includes peace-building and democratization processes, including participating into peace-negotiations from the first-track in Cyprus; active involvement in second-track peace and democratization initiatives; providing training and education in the areas of conflict resolution, mediation and peace-building; designing policy recommendations based on objective participatory research with the societal stakeholders and polling. Background also includes PhD in political science with an emphasis on international relations and foreign policy analysis, as well as ten years of experience in running policy think-tanks.

Leadership Skills

Multi-cultural/ethnic Team Building
Trust-centered Leadership
Multi-tasking
Reliable
Effective Time Management
Interpersonal Communication
Effective Listening
Effective Problem Solving
Critical Decision Making
People Management

International Skills

Cultural Sensitivity
Adaptation
Competency

Creativity
Negotiating/Diplomacy Skills
Self-motivated
High Level of Energy

Academic Skills

Analytical Thinking
Critical Thinking
Holistic Thinking
Multi-disciplinary Thinking/Coordination
Effective Teaching
Presentation of a topic to different audience
Publications (numerous articles & reports)

WORK HISTORY:

CHAIRMAN

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus, 2012 - .

(<http://ir.emu.edu.tr>)

CO-DIRECTOR (2009-2011) and RESEARCH DIRECTOR (2012 - .)

Cyprus 2015, Nicosia, Cyprus

Cyprus 2015 is an inter-communal initiative which came into life in 2009 under *Interpeace's* (www.interpeace.org) umbrella. The initiative was directed by Ahmet Sözen and his Co-Director, Spyros Christou. The initiative has been supported by the UNDP-ACT as well as the EU Commission Representation in Cyprus. So far, the initiative which employed 15 people produced 3 island-wide public opinion polls on the issues of the peace-negotiations. The results of the polls have been used by the UN Secretary General in his reports to the Security Council as well as in his public statements. The initiative has produced two reports together with policy recommendations on two subjects: (1) Hopes and Fears in Solving the Cyprus Problem and (2) Sustainable Development in Unified Cyprus. In parallel to the two reports, the initiative has also produced two documentary films on these subjects which are all available in its website: www.cyprus2015.org. The aim of the initiative is to transform to the first island-wide think-tank by 2013. Currently, the initiative is producing policy briefs on the current island-wide problems based on participatory research where the relevant stakeholders are involved.

DIRECTOR

Cyprus Policy Center, Famagusta, Cyprus, 2004 – Present

The mission of CPC (Cyprus Policy Center) is to contribute to the solution of domestic and international problems and promote regional and global peace through encouraging participatory democracy, and advancing the think tank concept. CPC was established in 2004 by Ahmet Sözen as a think-tank to produce policy recommendations to the first-track and hold seminars and conferences to contribute to the resolution of the Cyprus conflict as well as the other regional problems. (www.cypruspolicycenter.org and www.facebook.com/groups/298884993475282/)

Fields of Specialization:

War, Foreign Policy and Conflict Resolution

Western Europe (European Union)

Middle East

1986-1991 *Bachelor of Arts* - Foreign Language Education (English), Boğaziçi (Bosphorus) University, Istanbul, Turkey.
Honor Student List, Ranked second in both the Faculty of Education and the Department of Foreign Language Education

COMPUTER SYSTEMSComputers Skills

Extremely knowledgeable in MS Office Suite.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “Solving Cyprus by blending Idealism with Pragmatism” in *Resolving Cyprus: New Approaches to Conflict Resolution* (Ed: James Ker Lindsey), I.B. Tauris, (forthcoming 2013/14).
- “Cyprus” in *The Political Economy of Divided Islands: Unified Geographies, Multiple Polities* (Ed: Godfrey Baldaccino), Palgrave Macmillan, (forthcoming 2013).
- “Turkey’s New Cyprus Policy: Transforming a Military Base into a Basin of Cooperation” in *Debating Security in Turkey: Challenges and Changes in the Twenty-First Century* (Ed: Ebru Canan Sokullu), Lexington Books, Maryland 2013, pp. 109-122.
- “Heading Towards the Defining Moment in Cyprus: Public Opinion vs Realities on the Ground”, *Insight Turkey*, Vol. 14:109-129, Issue 1 (January 2012).
- “The Fifth Wave: Turkish Cypriots and Emergence of New ‘Nation-States’ in the Post-9/11 Era”, *Journal of Central European Political Studies*, Vol. 4: 43-68 (2011).
- “A Paradigm Shift in Turkish Foreign Policy: Transition and Challenges” in *Turkish Studies*, Vol. 11:103-123, Issue 1 (March 2010).
- “A Theoretical Evaluation of Different Faces of Power: US-Turkey Relations Towards Iraq”, *Uluslararası İlişkiler*, Volume 6, No 24 (Winter 2010), p. 55-78.
- “The Cyprus Question in Turkey-EU Relations” in Lucie Tunkrova and Pavel Saradin (eds.) *The Politics of EU Accession: Turkish Challenges and Central European Experiences* (Routledge 2010).
- “The Turkish Cypriot Legislative Election of April 2009: Towards the 'Last Roll of the Dice' in the Cyprus Conflict?” *South European Society & Politics*, Vol. 14: 337-350, Issue 3 (September 2009).
- The Cyprus Conflict: Looking Ahead* (Eastern Mediterranean University Publishing, Mağusa – North Cyprus, 2008, (ISBN: 978-975-01580-1-8).
- Reflections on the Cyprus Problem: A Compilation of Recent Academic Contributions* (Eastern Mediterranean University Publishing, Mağusa – North Cyprus, 2007, ISBN: 978-975-01580-0-1).
- “The Cyprus Conflict and the UNFICYP” in *2nd International Conference on Security: Challenges to Peace Operations in the 21st Century* (Eds: Siret Hürsoy and Nesrin Ada), İzmir University of Economics Press, İzmir 2007, pp. 117-123.

- “The Cyprus Impasse: And the Way Out?” in *Thinking Outside the Box* (Eds: Kalipso Nikolaides et al.), Oxford University Press, Oxford (2007).
- “The Annan Plan: State Succession or Continuity” *Middle Eastern Studies*, Vol. 43: 125-141, Issue 1 (January 2007) (with Kudret Özersay).
- “Terrorism and the Politics of Anti-Terrorism in Turkey” in *National Counter-Terrorism Strategies - Legal, Institutional, and Public Policy Dimensions in the US, UK, France, Turkey and Russia* (Eds: Robert W. Orttung, Andrey Makarychev), IOS Press, Washington DC 2006, pp. 155-164.
- “The Annan Plan: A Model of Governance in Multiethnic Society” in *Culture in International Relations* (Ed: Zuzana Lehmannova), CEEISA & CZUNA Publication, Prague 2006, pp. 95-128.
- “Turkish Democratization in Light of its EU Candidate Status” in *The Constitution for Europe and an Enlarging Union: Union in Diversity?* (Eds: Kirstyn Inglis and Andrea Ott), Europa Law Publishing, Amsterdam, 2005, pp. 279-305.
- “A Model of Power Sharing in Cyprus: From the 1959 London-Zurich Agreements to the Annan Plan” *Turkish Studies*, Vol.5: 61-77, Issue 1 (2004).
- “Emergence of Nation States and Problematic Political Concepts in Four 'Waves': From the French Revolution to the End of the Cold War” *METU Studies in Development*, Vol. 29: 159-173, Issue 1-2 (2002).
- “Negotiating a Resolution to the Cyprus Problem: Is Potential EU Membership a Blessing or a Curse?” *Journal of International Negotiation*, Vol. 7: 261-285, Issue 2 (2002) (with Birol Yeşilada).
- The Cyprus Conflict and the Negotiations: A Political and International Law Perspective* (Can Reklam, Ankara - Turkey, 1998, ISBN: 975-94471-1-8).

SELECTED CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Paper Presentations in Last THREE Years

- “Potential of the Turkish Model/Experience for the Arab Spring” (with Devrim Şahin) Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (San Diego, USA, 1 - 4 April 2012).
- “Perception of Axis Shift in Turkish Foreign Policy: An Analysis Through "Butterfly Effect"” (with Devrim Şahin) Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (San Diego, USA, 1 - 4 April 2012).
- “The Power of Press in (Re)shaping Foreign Countries Images: Turkey in the Leading Articles of British Press” (with Nilyufer Hamid-Turksoy) Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (San Diego, USA, 1 - 4 April 2012).
- “Heading Towards the Defining Moment in Cyprus” Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (Montreal, Canada, 16 - 19 March 2011).
- “The Cyprus Challenge in the Turkey-EU Relations: Heading towards the Defining Moment” Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (Montreal, Canada, 16 - 19 March 2011).
- “Towards a Comprehensive Solution in Cyprus: Breaking Away from the Prisoner’s Dilemma” Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (New Orleans, USA, 17 - 20 February 2010).
- “A ‘common future’ in Cyprus? Public opinion in Cyprus on the Settlement Process” (with Ebru Canan Sokullu) Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (New Orleans, USA, 17 - 20 February 2010).
- “A Paradigmatic Shift: New Principles of Turkish Foreign Policy Making” Paper presented at the International Studies Association Conference (San Francisco, USA, 26 - 29 March 2008).

Selected Invited Lectures and Speeches in Last TEN Years

- “Paradigm Shift in Turkish Foreign Policy and the Cyprus Negotiations” Lecture delivered at the Foreign Ministry (The Hague, Netherlands, 28 April 2011).
- “The Cyprus Conflict and the Turkey-EU Relations” Lecture delivered at the Turkije Instituut (The Hague, Netherlands, 28 April 2011).
- “Changing Turkish Foreign Policy and the Cyprus Conflict” Lecture delivered at Azerbaijan State University (Baku, Azerbaijan, 22 December 2010).
- “Changing Turkish Foreign Policy and its Effects on the Cyprus Conflict” Lecture delivered at the NATO International School of Azerbaijan (Baku, Azerbaijan, 21 December 2010).
- “From Dispute to Agreement: Possible Resolutions of the Cyprus Problem” Speech delivered at the Conference “Conflict Avoidance and Resolution in the Eastern Mediterranean Region” organized by the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators/European Branch (İstanbul, Turkey, 2-4 May 2008).
- “A Paradigmatic Shift in Turkish Foreign Policy Making” Speech delivered at the Conference “Turkey: Challenges, Prospects and Dynamics” organized by the Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University (Tel Aviv, Israel, 30 April 2008).
- “New Turkish Foreign Policy Parameters” Speech delivered at the Conference “Turkey-Syria Relations” organized by the Faculty of Literature and Social Sciences in Damascus University. (Damascus, Syria, 27-28 February 2008).
- “Globalization and Global Governance” Lecture delivered at the IAPSS Annual Academic Conference with the theme “Sovereignty in a Globalizing World.” (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 11-15 January 2008).
- “The Current Cyprus Problem and the Turkish Approach” Speech delivered at the Conference “Turkey, USA and the European Union Towards 2110” organized by Globe Research at the Center for American Studies (Rome, Italy, 19 November 2007).
- Invited as the Director of Cyprus Policy Center (CPC) to the “State of Europe VIP Policy Summit” organized by the Friends of Europe. This is a high level Policy Summit that includes such participants as the President of the EU Commission and other high-level EU officials, several EU member states’ foreign ministers, powerful NGO and business leaders. (Palais d’Egmont, Brussels, 4 October 2007).
- “The Fundamental Principles of Turkish Foreign Policy Making: A Case of Breaking the Clash of Civilizations” Speech delivered at the Conference “Turkish Foreign Policy and the Frontiers of Europe” in the Italian Senate (Rome, Italy, 6 June 2007).
- “The Cyprus Stalemate: Looking Ahead” Speech delivered at the Conference “Cyprus: In Search for Peace” in the Foreign Journalists Association (Rome, Italy, 20 April 2007).
- “Where We are in the Cyprus Conflict and the Way Out.” Speech delivered at the Conference EU Border Conflicts organized by EUBorderConf (Brussels., Belgium, 25 November 2005).
- “The Current Cyprus Impasse and Prospects for a Comprehensive Solution.” Speech delivered at the Conference Conflict Resolution in Cyprus and Israel-Palestine Comparative Perspectives organized by Tel Aviv University (Tel Aviv., Israel, 6-7 November 2005).
- “A Snapshot of the Current Cyprus Impasse and the Way Out.” Speech delivered at the Conference organized jointly by TUSIAD-US, Institute of Turkish Studies and the Cyprus Policy Center (Washington DC., USA, 2 November 2005).
- “The Current Impasse in the Cyprus Conflict and the Prospects for the Way Out.” Lecture delivered at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (Stockholm, Sweden, 4 March 2005).
- “The Cyprus Conflict and the Necessity to Lift the Isolation on the Turkish Cypriots.” Lecture delivered at the Foreign Relations Committee in the Swedish Parliament (Stockholm, Sweden, 3 March 2005).

- “Turkey’s Cyprus Policy and the European Union” Speech delivered at the conference Turkey-EU Relations organized by the Danish Institute of International Studies (Copenhagen, Denmark, 2 April 2004).
- “Border Crossings in Cyprus” Presentation delivered at the Crossing the Border Conference in Södertörn University (Stockholm, Sweden, 23-25 October 2003).
- “Tackling the Cyprus Problem: Chances for a Mediated Solution” Roundtable discussant at the International Studies Association Conference (Portland, OR, USA, 25 February-1 March 2003).
- “The Cyprus Question. Will it be Solved.” Lecture delivered at the Swedish Institute of International Affairs. (Stockholm, Sweden, 26 August 2002).
- “Co-operation in Divided Cities: The Case of Nicosia.” Presentation made at the conference organized by the Swedish Institute on “Practical Co-operation in Divided Cities.” (Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina, 6-8 April, 2002).
- “The EU-Turkey Relations in the New Millennium” Organized and chaired the panel as the director of ISTAM (Istanbul Strategic Research Center) (University of Bahcesehir, Istanbul, Turkey, 1 May 2001).
- “Negotiation Simulation” Organized and conducted for 120 university students from European countries at the AEGEE (Association Des Etats de L’Europe) Peace Summit (Kusadasi, Turkey, August 2000).