



Modern Integration Processes:

European Integration and Rivalry between Regional Integration Systems in the South Caucasus

DESCnet Summer School in Istanbul (3 ECTS credits)

July 9–13, 2018

Registration opens Monday, April 2

Registration deadline: Monday, April 30

Click here to register: <https://goo.gl/p3DmRP>

The Network for Developing European Studies in the Caucasus (DESCnet) is happy to call for application for the 2018 Summer School. DESCnet was established as a Jean Monnet Network designed with the aim to enhance the level of European Studies in the Caucasus region. The network is a Consortium of 9 partner universities from Europe and the wider Caucasus region and represents a novel approach towards promoting the idea of European Studies in the Caucasus. The Department of Political Science and International Relations at Yeditepe University (Turkey) will host the Istanbul Summer School in 2018, one of the main DESCnet activities. It will be held in July 2018 at the premises of Yeditepe University, located in Istanbul.

The Summer School will last be between the 9th and 13th of July 2018 and will provide a comprehensive knowledge on the different aspects and the key challenges for regional cooperation in the South Caucasus in the context of comparative regionalisms. *It will seek to discuss the answers for the following questions: Which challenges face the South Caucasus and how can we deal with them to move the regional cooperation forward? Can the obstacles to the full-fledged regional integration be understood through the analysis of diverging foreign policy of nations? How are the new dynamics of regional politics being (re)shaped in the aftermath of the establishment of the Eurasian Union? What role do the powers in the region, such as the EU, Russia, and Turkey play and how their power and influence are defined in complex settings of the South Caucasus?*

The lectures will focus on these key questions, aiming to illuminate and analyze how various examples of regional cooperation (i.e., EU, Eurasian Union, ECO, BSEC, GUAM) overlap in the South Caucasus. The Summer School will also encourage further discussion about how the foreign policy orientation of the three South Caucasus countries explains the regional dynamics.



The lectures will be given by distinguished academics, experienced practitioners, and recognized local experts dealing with the politics of the South Caucasus, the wider Black Sea area, European studies. The Summer School will serve as an opportunity for advanced undergraduate and post-graduate researchers interested in the South Caucasus.

About Yeditepe University

Yeditepe University was founded in 1996 by the Istanbul Education and Culture Foundation (ISTEK). In line with Atatürk's principles and with the contribution of pioneering and distinguished academic and administrative staff, Yeditepe University aims to educate students who are inquisitive, innovative, well-equipped with technological skills, well-acquainted with world culture, equipped with all the qualifications required by the business world and who have a solid identity. With its up-to-date academic programs and training, Yeditepe University offers an education compatible with the expectations of the information age. Yeditepe University carries out its academic mission through the School of Applied Sciences, and 13 faculties namely the Faculties of Dentistry, Pharmacy, Education, Arts and Sciences, Law, Economics and Administrative Sciences, Communication, Engineering, Architecture, Health Sciences, and Medicine, entailing 64 undergraduate programs. 74 Master's degree programs, and 33 PhD. programs are also offered under the Graduate Schools of Atatürk's Principles and History of Revolution, Educational Sciences, Natural and Applied Sciences, Health Sciences and Social Sciences. Located in "26 August Campus", Yeditepe University, an English-medium university, educates young people coming from every corner of Turkey as well as international students. Students especially from countries of the African continent and the Caucasus widely prefer Yeditepe University. One of the four Confucius Institutes in Turkey has been founded in the Yeditepe Campus creating opportunities for local students to visit People's Republic of China and for Chinese students and scholars to collaborate with their peers in Turkey.

About the Department of Political Science and International Relations

Yeditepe University is part of a world-class city centrally located in a geo-politically strategic region with easy access to Europe, the Middle East and Asia. The Department of Political Science and International Relations aims to recruit students from the neighboring regions in addition to Turkish nationals, and educate them in the fields of domestic and international politics with skills and abilities to be employed by either the public or private sector at home or abroad. Our department has been running two graduate programs, one at masters, the other at the PhD level since 2004. All three programs welcome students from various countries.



The curriculum not only embraces an interdisciplinary approach but also allows room for specialization through elective courses, language classes, and minor and double major programs. One of the specific characteristics of the curriculum of the Department at Yeditepe, is the regional courses that cover the Caucasus, USA, Latin America, Middle East, Africa and the Balkans. The courses are designed beyond the classic lecture format so that students can actively participate in classes through presentations, discussions, projects and so forth. Department of Political Science and International Relations is rich in its faculty members profile. It is proud to entail internationally renowned scholars such as Feroz Ahmad as well as promising young scholars.

Summer School Objectives

The objective of the course is to enable students to develop ways of putting the politics and economy of the South Caucasus into a framework in which they can compare and contrast the South Caucasus with other major examples of regional integration existing/emerging in the wider neighborhood. The South Caucasus remains to be one of the problematic areas of the globe where regional cooperation has not taken its roots due to the territorial claims between the countries. It thus aims to introduce students to the selected aspects of the integration processes encompassing the South Caucasus and provide the participants with an understanding of the current challenges for regional cooperation.

Competency Description

Once the course is completed, students will: (i) be able to apply and relate conceptual and theoretical knowledge that underpins the course to the real economic and political processes of the South Caucasus; (ii) have a better understanding of the historical evolution as well as present positioning of the South Caucasus in the global and regional context; (iii) have developed a nuanced understanding of the key issues in considering future cooperation in the area.

Teaching Methodology

The course will be taught through a combination of lectures, discussions and presentations. Students are responsible to read the course materials carefully and be ready for discussions before coming to class. The seminars will be discussion-focused; therefore, active participation in class discussions is expected and will be a crucial determinant for student evaluation. Lecture and seminar attendance as well as the field trips are mandatory, specifically, to be eligible for receiving credits.



ECTS credits and evaluation

All attendants can receive the certificate of attendance upon written request at the time of application. Upon successful completion of the Summer School, attendants will be eligible to receive 3 ECTS credits. Academic credits will be awarded using a 100-point scale subject to the attendance, active participation, presentations (individually or in groups) and completion of tasks will be necessary.

Duration

July 9-13, 2018

Venue

Rectorate Building of Yeditepe University (Address: İnönü Mah. Kayışdağı Cad. 26 Ağustos Yerleşimi. İktisadi ve İdari Bilimler Binası 34755 Ataşehir - İstanbul).

Language of Instruction

The working language of the summer school is English.

Application Deadline

April 30, 2018

Program content

- Integration theories
- Regional/state identities in the South Caucasus
- The South Caucasus in the global context
- Energy security in the South Caucasus
- The frozen conflicts in the South Caucasus
- Cross Border Cooperation
- South Caucasus and the revival of the ancient Silk Road
- Foreign Policy of the three South Caucasus countries
- The South Caucasus countries and the EU, the Eurasian Union, and the Non-Aligned Movement
- EU's policy towards South Caucasus
- Russia's policy towards South Caucasus



- Turkey's policy towards South Caucasus
- Future of the South Caucasus

Study Tour to PABSEC

We are endeavoring to arrange an optional study tour for the participants of the DESCnet Summer School to the headquarters of PABSEC - Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. Being an inter-parliamentary consultative body of the BSEC, the PABSEC Assembly has united the efforts of the national parliaments to pursue the following aims, as stated in the preamble of the PABSEC Rules of Procedure: to secure the understanding and adoption, by the peoples, of the ideals and aims of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; to provide a legal basis for economic, commercial, social, cultural and political cooperation among the member countries; to enact the legislation needed for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Heads of State or Government or by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs; to provide assistance to the national parliaments so as to strengthen the parliamentary democracy; to promote the cooperation with other international and regional organizations.

Fees and costs

The fee for selected participants is equal to 40 Euros which includes the registration fee and special costs associated with the use of equipment and facilities. The cost of course materials and supplies the student uses will be covered by the DESCNet. The attendants are expected to cover all other costs including their international and local travel, travel insurance, accommodation, meals and personal costs.

Transportation

From Atatürk International Airport to Yeditepe University (42km.)

Taxi: Taxis are available around the clock and operate by the meter. The trip takes between 40 and 90 minutes, depending on traffic.

Bus: HAVATAS Company operates regular shuttle bus transportation at half-hour intervals from 06:00 till 24:00 hours. The trip to Taksim takes between 45 and 75 minutes, depending on traffic.

Please visit the website of HAVATAS for shuttle timetable and fares: <http://havatas.com/>

From Taksim to Yeditepe University: Public bus transportation: Take bus 256.

From Sabiha Gökçen International Airport to Yeditepe University (24 km.)

Taxi: Taxis are available outside the terminal. The trip takes between 30 and 60 minutes, depending on traffic.



Bus: HAVATAS Company services depart every half an hour from Sabiha Gökçen International Airport to Kadıköy. Please visit the website of HAVATAS for shuttle timetable and fares: : <http://havatas.com/>

From Kadıköy to Yeditepe University: Public bus transportation: Take bus 19 or 19F.

Shuttle buses for the dinners and sightseeing tours will be arranged by the organizers of the Summer School.

On campus transportation is carried out by 24 hour shuttle services.

Accommodation information

All participants are responsible for arranging their personal accommodation for the duration of Summer School. Students may want to contact the accommodation offices of Yeditepe University directly to find out if they can benefit from the accommodation facilities provided on the fully equipped campus. The campus of Yeditepe University, located in the central Ataşehir district of Istanbul, is home to women's and men's halls of residence with a total bed capacity of 4250. Most of rooms in halls are for two-person occupancy. All the necessary amenities are included in the rooms, including en-suite toilets and showers, mini refrigerators, desks for each student, chairs, glass bookshelves, mirrored wardrobes and other furniture made of non-flammable material. Moreover, 24-hour internet connection is available. **Besides the halls of residence, there is also a guest house within the campus. The prices vary between 10-15 Euros per night depending on the type and location of rooms.** Recreational Hall facilities including restaurants, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a fitness center, squash courts, a sauna and a Turkish bath could be used in return for a small fee.

Website: <http://www.yeditepe.edu.tr/en/university-campus-yeditepe/accommodation>

If you have any relevant practical question about the facilities at Yeditepe University which has not been covered above, please feel free to email bilgen.sutcuoglu@yeditepe.edu.tr