

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

KIRIKKALE UNIVERSITY/TURKEY
2nd International Middle East Symposium

“STATE, NON-STATE ACTORS, AND DEMOCRACY IN THE MIDDLE EAST” May 4-May 7, 2016

The Middle East, as one of the cradles of civilization, contains the most important historical, cultural and economic assets of the World. The most sacred and oldest cities such as Damascus, Hamedan and Kirkuk, Petra, Ephesus, Palmira are in this region. The Middle East possesses %65 of the oil reserves in the world.

However, the region is also hampered by political uncertainties and economic instability problems, affecting both the people in the Middle East and outsiders who have close economic and political ties with the region.

In this context of such urgent political and intellectual needs, the theme of the symposium at Kırıkkale University to be held in May 2016 is titled “**State, Non-state Actors, and Democracy in the Middle East.**” This is the second symposium on the Middle Eastern issues, which we aim to make into a long lasting series at Kırıkkale University. We expect your participation in and contributions to these discussions.

Location: Kırıkkale University/TURKEY

- Submission of Abstracts: January 15, 2016
- Announcement of the accepted papers: February 15, 2016
- Submission of the papers: April 15, 2016

THEMES

1. Politics and Diplomacy in the Middle East

- Sovereignty and the Problem of Legitimacy in the Middle East
- State, Types of State, and Regimes in the Middle East
- Non-State Elements
- Democracy and Democratization
- Politics, Political Movements, and Political Parties
- Security and Terrorism
- Future of the Borders
- Relationship Between Islam and Politics, and Islamic Movements
- Extra Regional Actors and External Interventions
- Non-State Actors and History

2. Sociology of the Middle East

- Nations, Nation-State and Nationalism
- Religions and Sects (Salafi Movements / Shiite Groups etc.)
- Radicalism and Radical Movements
- Ethnic and Tribal Groups
- Human Rights and Law
- Role of the Media
- Culture, Identities and Democracy

- Perception, Misperception and Prejudice
- Migration, Asylum, and Refugees

3. Economic Issues

- Underdevelopment and Economic Structure
- Development and the Problems of Democracy
- Economic Relations among the Middle Eastern and Islamic Countries
- Energy, Oil and Pipeline Politics
- Environment and Water Problems

4. Middle East Studies: Current Situation, Problems and Prospects

- Methodological Problems
- Orientalism and the Middle East Studies in the West

Symposium Languages: Turkish, Arabic, Persian, English

Website: <http://ods2016.org/?lang=en>