



The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois

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March 23, 2022 at 7 pm via Zoom

“U.S. - Turkey Relations”

Speaker:

Dr. Sibel Oktay

We are pleased to have back with us, Dr. Sibel Oktay to discuss U.S.-Turkey Relations on Wednesday, March 23 at 7 pm via Zoom webinar.

Since we originally scheduled this talk to present day, our world is a different place with the current situation involving Russia and Ukraine. WACCI has been and continues to be a wonderful space where we all can enrich our knowledge of global affairs, a place where we all can engage.

Sibel Oktay is a nonresident senior fellow of public opinion and foreign policy at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of Illinois, Springfield. She received her PhD in political science at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University in 2014. Between 2012 and 2014, she was a predoctoral fellow at Northwestern University’s Buffett Institute for Global Affairs.

An expert on international affairs, she teaches foreign policy and international relations, Middle East politics and European politics at UIS. Dr. Oktay’s research focuses on the nexus between foreign policy, decision-making, public opinion, and political leadership. Her works in these areas appear in European Journal of Political Research, Journal of European Public Policy, and British Journal of Politics and International Relations, among others. She is the author of *Governing Abroad: Coalition Politics and Foreign Policy* (University of Michigan Press, 2022). Oktay is also a frequent media contributor. Her opinion pieces have appeared in *War On The Rocks*, *The Hill*, *The Conversation*, and *The State Journal-Register of Springfield, Illinois*. She has been featured in several national and international outlets such as *The New York Times*, *Vox*, *The Globe and Mail*, *BBC* and *Deutsche Welle* alongside others in Brazil, Lebanon, the Netherlands, and Turkey.

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Perspective

WACCI programs are designed to make us think, to view the world from new perspectives and encourage global citizenship. Over the next few months, we will feature the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (2015-2030) as windows into global challenges and opportunities.

Goal # 4-Quality Education is a pathway goal paving the way to the realization of almost all of the SDGs. The world has made progress toward increasing education worldwide; however, approximately 260 million children were still unschooled in 2018. COVID-19, in spite of committed action of educators and families, has made a significant negative impact on the education of the world's children. April of 2020 saw 1,6 billion children and youth out of school.

It is noteworthy that the SDGs include the importance of life-long learning. Early positive educational experiences increased the probability and effectiveness of life-long learning and prepare citizens for meaningful economic, social and political action throughout the lifespan. WACCI is proud to be part of the life-long learning infrastructure in central Illinois.

https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/4_Why-It-Matters-2020.pdf

"U.S. - Turkey Relations" *continued*

She was an inaugural Public Voices Fellow of the University of Illinois between 2019-2020.

Oktaý's current research utilizes survey experiments to investigate when and how alliance rhetoric shapes policy preferences among U.S. foreign policy elites. In this talk, she will reflect on the current frictions

between the United States and Turkey, specifically focusing on the relations with Russia, the conflict in Syria, the tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean, and Turkey's democracy crisis, by bringing in some of the findings from her current research.



and the new refugee crisis in Europe

Saturday, March 26th, 2-3 p.m.

Free Admission

Lincoln Library

Carnegie Room North

326 S. Seventh St., Springfield, IL

As Russia attacks Ukraine, millions of civilians are expected to become war refugees--the biggest refugee wave of Europeans since World War II.

Laura Dean, Ph.D., professor of political science at Millikin University, will talk about the refugee crisis ignited by Russia's war in Ukraine 2014 to now.

Sponsored by the Lithuanian-American Club of Central Illinois and The World Affairs Council of Central Illinois.

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as of March 2022



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