



Turkey at the Crossroads

Our April 22 speaker on "Turkey at the Crossroads" is Dr. Oya Dursun-Özkanca, endowed Chair of International Studies and Professor of Political Science at Elizabethtown College.

Her research interests include Turkish foreign policy, transatlantic security, the European Union, South East Europe, and peace operations.

Dr. Dursun-Özkanca received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.

She is the author of the book, *Turkey-West Relations: The Politics of Intra-alliance Opposition*, published by The Cambridge University Press in November 2019.

She also is the editor of two books: *The European Union as an Actor in Security Sector Reform* (Routledge 2014) and *External Interventions in Civil Wars* (co-edited with Stefan Wolff (Routledge 2014).

In addition, she has edited a number of scholarly articles in peer-reviewed journals, such as *Foreign Policy Analysis*, *Civil Wars*, *European Politics and Society*, and the *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies*.

Dr. Dursun-Özkanca served as a visiting fellow of research on South Eastern Europe at the London School of Economics in 2013.

She also has received grants and fellowships from Georgetown University, the European Commission, the University of Texas, Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst, the European Union Studies Association, and Elizabethtown College.

Dr. Dursun-Özkanca was the inaugural recipient of the Kreider Prize for Teaching Excellence at Elizabethtown College (2015) and the recipient of the Richard Crocker Outstanding Service to Students Award (2018, 2020).

April Election

In April, we will hold our annual election of officers and members of the board of directors. In addition, we will vote on a proposal recommended by the board to change our name to the Foreign Policy Association of Central Pennsylvania to more closely reflect the expanded geographic makeup of our membership over the years.

Because of the pandemic, we will do as we did last year and vote on-line. You should receive an email sometime early this month with voting instructions and listing the names of the officer candidates along with the name-changing proposal.

Book Review

Dr. Oya Dursun-Ozkanca published *Turkey-West Relations: The Politics of Intra-alliance Opposition* through The Cambridge University Press in 2019.

This timely book fills an important gap in the literature of international relations, providing a thorough, up-to-date, empirically supported and theoretically grounded analysis of how and why Turkish foreign policy has changed in recent years vis-a-vis the West.

Presenting one of the first balanced studies that employs elite interviews as data, the book develops a framework of intra-alliance opposition, classifying the tools of statecraft into three categories - boundary testing, boundary challenging, and boundary breaking.

Six case studies are examined regarding Turkish foreign policy over the past nine years, exploring an array of topics, including Turkey's foreign policy, the refugee crisis, defense procurement, and energy.

Dursun-Ozkanca demonstrates how international, regional, issue-specific, and domestic factors may serve to explain Turkey's increasing boundary-breaking behavior. The book is crucial for anyone seeking to understand the recent growing rifts between Turkey and the U.S., the EU, and NATO.

(Source: Bookshop.org, accessed March 10, 2021)

Lancaster County Teen Wins FPA Award

Dora Betts, a senior at Manheim Township High School, is this year's winner of the Global Studies competition sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association.

She'll make a brief presentation at our April 22 webinar meeting and receive a \$600 honorarium from the FPA.

Ms. Betts was selected from Central Pennsylvania students who attended the Pennsylvania Governor's School of Global and International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. The competition included an essay and an interview by an FPA selection committee.

She is an International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme candidate and involved in Model UN, Key Club, National Honor Society, and the Superintendent Student Advisory Council. She also is an editor for her school's student publication.

Ms. Betts has had articles published in two professional newspapers and one professional journal. She has worked as a volunteer for both voter education and in a political campaign.

In her free time, she reads Russian and French, and tries out recipes. She plans to attend Boston University and study international relations and journalism.

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The Impact of the Covid Pandemic on the International System

Scribed by John Saad
Political Science and Computer Science
Senior, Penn State Harrisburg

The Covid-19 pandemic is and will continue to be a driver of instability both within and among societies, affecting the international order for some time to come, says Dr. Hal Brands of the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. The impact will be particularly felt by weak and fragile democracies, he said.

Dr. Brands is the Distinguished Professor of Global Affairs at the school, based in Washington, DC. He spoke to the Foreign Policy Association via webinar on March 18.

He attributed the initial devastating result of Covid to two main reasons:

- Recent experiences with pandemics that were more deadly, but less contagious, such as Ebola, and
- Lack of reliable information on the disease mainly due to China hiding the truth and even censoring information pertinent to the disease.

Pertaining to the United States, Dr. Brands cited a "failure of presidential leadership" in communicating the seriousness of the disease. In addition, he said the Centers for Disease Control failed to provide reliable testing in the early stages, plus states were slow in implementing lockdowns, enabling the disease to spread more rapidly.

Regarding the varied levels of success in coping with Covid internationally, he pointed to differences in bureaucratic competence, social cohesion, and the size of a country.

Dr. Brands gave poor grades to the international community for its global response in the area of travel restrictions and macroeconomics. However, he said the coordination among countries in the development and distribution of vaccines was sufficient.

Covid clearly had a negative impact on U.S. - China relations, he said, adding that the U.S. will more closely scrutinize the reliability of Chinese-made products based on our experience with poorly constructed Chinese masks.

Dr. Brands said that with the U.S. success in developing and distributing vaccines here and hopefully abroad, it may open up three major foreign policy opportunities:

- Rally a stronger coalition against China.
- Rebuild international cooperation to deal with transnational concerns.
- Pursue a more intelligent geopolitical form of globalization.

FPA 2020-2021 Program Schedule and Topics

Please note several changes in the schedule.
All events via webinars.
We hope to return to the West Shore Country Club
in the fall, but only if it is safe to do so.

April 8	International Fellows Reception (Cancelled due to the pandemic.)
April 22	Turkey at the Crossroads (An addition to the schedule.)
May 11	U.S. Department of State Visit (virtual)
May 12	European Union Delegation Visit (virtual)
May 20	Iran: How Did We Get Here And What Do We Do Now?

2020-2021 FPA Officers

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