



Black Sea
Women in Nuclear
Network



Uniting women,
Leading change,
Making waves



Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, PhD

(She/Her)

Country

Türkiye

Professor in Political Science and International Relations at Eastern Mediterranean University. Experienced in team, project management and fund raising. Course director for International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO) in two summer schools in Cyprus. Has supervised 16 master (joint-M.A. program between Warwick University (WMG) and EMU), and 2 doctoral theses. Research focus on security cooperation between adversarial states, weapons of mass destruction (WMD), nuclear policies and infrastructure of Iran and Turkey, nuclear renaissance, nuclear security, energy security sector of the wider Middle East, and Turkey's foreign policy. Publications in *The Washington Quarterly (TWQ)*, *Middle East Policy*, *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, *Revista de Sociologia e Política*, *Security Index* and *Israel Affairs*.

Participation at International relevant Conferences / Workshops / Benchmarking / Courses / Publications:

PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Aylin. G. Gürzel Aka, *From Regionalism to Realpolitik: Turkey as a Middle Power*, Lexington Books (forthcoming).

Articles (peer-reviewed)

Mustafa Kibaroglu and Aylin Gürzel, "U.S. Nuclear Weapons in Turkey: Yankee Go Home?," *Security Index*, Moscow: PIR Center, Vol. 83, No. 1, spring 2008, pp. 77-82.

Aylin G. Gürzel and Eyüp Ersoy, "Turkey and Iranian Nuclear Program," *Middle East Policy*, Vol. XIX, No 1, spring 2012, pp.125-141.

Aylin G. Gürzel, "Turkey's role in defusing the Iranian nuclear issue," *The Washington Quarterly*, Vol.35, No. 3, summer 2012, pp.141-152.

Müge Kinacioğlu and Aylin Gürzel, "Turkey's Contribution to NATO's Role in Post-Cold War Security Governance: The Use of Force and Security Identity Formation," *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, Vol. 19, winter 2013, pp.589-610.

Aylin G. Gürzel, "Turkey's Role as a Regional and Global Player and its Power Capacity: Turkey's Engagement with other Emerging States," *Revista de Sociologia e Política*, Vol.22 No.50, summer 2014, pp. 95-105.

Aylin G. Gürzel and Aslıhan Engin Bozoğlu, "The Revival of Geopolitics in the Eastern Mediterranean: 'New Great Game' and the 'New Great Gamers'?", *Israel Affairs*, Vol. 28 No.1, winter 2022, pp.16-27.

Aylin G. Gürzel Aka and Kahraman Süvari, "Dönüşen Küresel Nükleer Düzene Yönelik Yaklaşımlar: Türkiye, Brazilya ve Güney Afrika Örnekleri," *Uludağ Üniversitesi Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi*, Vol. 24 No. 45, summer 2023, pp. 521-537.

Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, "Implications of Iran and Turkey's nuclear programs for the U.S. leadership in an emerging nuclear (re)renaissance." *The Washington Quarterly*, (forthcoming)

Book chapters

Mustafa Kibaroglu with Aylin Gurzel, Future Concepts in Defence Against Nuclear/Radiological Terrorism, in Dan-Radu Voica, Mustafa Kibaroglu (eds.) Response to Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism, *NATO Science for Peace and Security Series*, Volume 82, 2011, p. 11-22.

Mustafa Kibaroglu and Aylin Gurzel, An Overview of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Proliferation, in Dan-Radu Voica, Mustafa Kibaroglu (eds.), Response to Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism, *NATO Science for Peace and Security Series*, Volume 82, 2011, pp. 113-121.

Müge Kınacıoğlu and Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, Turkish Perceptions of Turkey–U.S. Relations during Obama Presidency, *The World Views of the Obama Era*, 2018, Springer.

Aylin G. Gürzel Aka and Eyüp Ersoy From Regionalism to Realpolitik: The Rise and Fall of Turkey as a Middle Power in the Middle East in *Middle Powers in the 21st Century*, Rowman and Littlefield, 2020.

Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, Security Challenges of the 21st Century, in *Turkish Foreign Policy*, Anadolu University Press, 2021.

Aylin G. Gürzel Aka, Amerikan Birleşik Devletleri (ABD) Nükleer Silah Programını: Dünü ve Bugünü, *TESAM Yayınları*, 2024.

Select articles and newsletters

Mustafa Kibaroglu and Aylin Gürzel, "Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Eurasian Landscape," *COE-DAT Newsletter*, Volume 2, Issue 6, May 2008.

Mustafa Kibaroglu with Aylin Gürzel, "Facing the Challenge of Nuclear Proliferation in the Trans-European Landscape," Proceedings of the Conference on Trans-European Security Challenges, organized by NATO and ATAUM, 30 November – 01 December 2007, Ankara, Turkey.

Op-ed

Aylin Gürzel, "Between Iran and a Hard Place," *Project Syndicate*, 2012

Reviews

Turkey's European Future, Natalie Tocci, *Marine Corps University (MCU) Journal*, 2013.

Peer Reviewer

Turkish Studies Journal

Journal of Nuclear Sciences

Journal of Public Relations

COURSE DIRECTOR

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO) Course on: "GLOBAL SECURITY & REGIONAL DISORDER: EVOLVING CHALLENGES, ELUSIVE SOLUTIONS?" KYRENIA - NORTH CYPRUS, 7 - 12 April 2019 Directors of the Course: Aylin Gürzel Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, North Cyprus Steven Miller (Belfer Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA)
<http://www.isodarco.it/courses/kyrenia19/kyrenia19.html>

ISODARCO Summer Course at Famagusta (Cyprus) 10 - 15 July 2017 "INTERNATIONAL SECURITY IN THE EVOLVING POLITICAL & TECHNOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT" Director of the Course: Aylin Gürzel (Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, North Cyprus) <http://www.isodarco.it/courses/famagusta17/famagusta17.html>

TEACHING APPOINTMENTS

Visiting scholar, 2021 Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey
IR 477 International Political Economy of Natural Resources

Lecturer 2008-2010 Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey
IR 204 Introduction to International Relations
Man 474 EU-Turkey: Trade and Policies
HIST 201 History of Turkish Republic

Teaching Assistant 2007-2008 Bilkent University, Ankara
HIST 201 History of Turkish Republic
HIST 202 History of Turkish Republic

Visiting Professor Summer 2004 Pristine University, Kosovo, European Union: Deepening and Enlargement Processes

LECTURES

NATO CEO-DAT Advanced Workshop

Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction Program (CTR) Program and Global Partnership, 06 December 2012

NATO CEO-DAT Advanced Workshop

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and Terrorism, 31 January 2012

SELECTED CONFERENCES WORKSHOPS and COURSES ATTENDED

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (IPSA)

IPSA, 2025 in Seoul, South Korea (forthcoming)

IPSA, 2023 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

IPSA, 2018 in Brisbane, Australia.

THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (BISA)

BISA, 2025 in Belfast, UK (forthcoming)

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES (BRISMES)

BRISMES, 2018 in London, UK

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (ISA)

ISA 2025 in Chicago, United States

ISA 2021 virtual

ISA 2018 Annual Convention in San Francisco, United States

ISA 2017 Annual Convention in Baltimore, United States

ISA 2015 Annual Convention in New Orleans, United States

ISA 2014 Annual Convention in Toronto, Canada

ISA 2013 Annual Convention in San Francisco, United States

Midwestern Political Science Association in Chicago (MPSA) 2009

ISA 2008 the Annual Convention in San Francisco

NATO workshops and NiHA certificate programs

COE-DAT THE COURSE OF WMD TERRORISM 26-30 March 2012.

NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP, "WMD Terrorism," 31January-1 February 2012.

NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP, 'Intelligence Sharing and Terrorism,'07-08 December 2011.

NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP, 'Technological Aspects of Combating Terrorism,' 02-03 November 2011.

NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH WORKSHOP (ARW), 'Responses to Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism', Ankara-Turkey, 14-15 January 2010.

NATO ADVANCED RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM, 'Global Terrorism and International Cooperation,' Ankara- Turkey 10-11 March 2008.

NIHAnkara-Netherlands Institute for Higher Education, 'Negotiations Techniques Workshop,' 13 March 2011.

NIHAnkara-Netherlands Institute for Higher Education, 'Developing Foreign Policy on Energy Issues,' 28 September-1 October 2009.

CERTIFICATES

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome, 6-13 August 2025.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 8-15 January 2023.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 8-15 January 2020.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 6-13 January 2019.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 7-14 January 2018.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 8-15 January 2017.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 7-14 January 2016.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 7-14 January 2015.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 8-15 January 2014.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISADARCO): University of Rome 9-16 January 2013.

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts (ISODARCO): University of Rome 11-18 January 2009.

COURSES TAUGHT

Lecturer 2012- present Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, Cyprus.

INTL 551 Negotiation and Mediation: Theory and Practice

INTL 535 Security Issues in World Politics

INTL 635 Security Issues in World Politics

INTL 690 Advanced Readings in International Relations

INTL 511 International Relations Theory

INTL 556 Natural Resources and Political Economy of Energy Policy

INTL 521 Research Methods

PSIR 412 Topics in World Politics

PSIR 439 Diplomacy and Negotiation Skills

PSIR 305 Foreign Policy Analyses

PSIR 306 Turkish Foreign Policy

POLS 315 Selected Issues in Turkish Politics

INTL 201 International Relations

INTL 303 Politics of the Middle East

PSIR 101 Global Politics

POLI 101 Introduction to Political Science

She can provide mentorship in English and Turkish.

MENTORSHIP TOPICS

Topic: Cooperation to Build Shared Future of Nuclear Security and Safeguards

Description: The course will explore the role of developing nuclear technology, international cooperation in the interconnected world, focusing on strengthening nuclear security and safeguards to ensure the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The course will assess emerging technologies to geopolitical tensions through case studies and expert-led discussions, participants will analyze. It will address the evolving challenges to nuclear governance and the tactics and strategies for building mutual trust in global nuclear security systems. The course will examine the shared responsibility of states to build a sustainable, secure and cooperative nuclear future.

Duration: 6 months