

SPL 582

Social Policies in Turkey *Spring 2019*



A photograph from 1900s taken in TEKEL Cibali Tobacco Factory.
(Source: Rezan Has Museum's website)

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Spring 2019, Fridays btw.
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Course overview

This is a master's level social science course on the social policy scholarship on the case of Turkey covering a wide range of policy domains and disciplinary perspectives. The course introduces students to key debates in the social policy scholarship on Turkey, while equipping them with a human-rights based social policy perspective to critically engage with pressing social and economic problems in Turkey.

Organization of classes

I will deliver a lecture around 40 minutes in the beginning of the class to set the scene. Then each week, two of you will present one individual reading (that I will assign to you in the first week of the course) in 10 minutes. Then we will give a short break. After the break, we will discuss together the approach and the method used in common readings of each week.

Requirements

I expect you to **read each week's common readings** before the class. You are expected to write a **memo on each week's common readings**. In these memos, I expect you to summarize the main argument of one of the assigned readings, write what you find most thought-provoking (including criticisms and/or appraisals) in the reading and come up with a couple of discussion questions that you would like to discuss in the class. Average length of these memos should be around 500 words only

(around one A4 page with single-space). Longer memos are not better memos. I expect you to send them to me by email until each Wednesday night (12:00 at the latest). Late memos are not accepted, as they will not be useful in facilitating class discussion anymore. Even if you will not be attending one particular class for some reason, you are still expected to hand in a memo on time. Failing to hand in memos will affect your grade. Memos will constitute 5 per cent of your final grade (55 points in total).

In addition to writing memos, each of you will make **two 10-min presentations** of individual readings that I will assign to you in the beginning of the class. You will get 5 points for each of these presentations (10 points in total).

Term paper will constitute 35 per cent of your final grade. All students are expected to write a critical review of the social policy scholarship on Turkey in one of the domains covered in this course. All students should discuss their final paper topics with me and are expected to prepare a 2-3 page long final paper proposal with a list of empirical sources that they will cover and a bibliography by May 5. Papers are due May 31. Average expected length of papers will be 5000 words.

Grading scale: 90-100: AA; 80-89 BA; 75-79 BB; 70-74 CB; 65-69 CC; 60-64 DC; 55-59 DD; 50-54 F; 49-0

Reading List

February 8

Social policies in Republican Turkey: A historical overview

Common readings:

Kessler, Gerhard. "Türkiye'nin İctimaî Siyaset Meselelerine Dair Mülâhazalar", *İktisat Fakültesi Mecmuası*, 1.2 (1940): 441-470.

Talas, Cahit. "Sosyal Güvenlik Meselemiz", *Sosyal Siyaset Konferansları Dergisi* 7 (1955): 84-99.

Zaim, Sabahattin. "Vakıflarımızın İktisadi ve Sosyal Açından Değerlendirilmesi", *Sosyal Siyaset Konferansları Dergisi* 37-38 (1992): 1-18.

Buğra, Ayşe. "Poverty and citizenship: An overview of the social-policy environment in republican Turkey." *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 39.01 (2007): 33-52.

Recommended readings:

Talas, Cahit. *Türkiye'nin Açıklamalı Sosyal Politika Tarihi*. Ankara: Bilgi Yayınevi, (1992).

Özbek, Nadir. *Cumhuriyet Türkiyesi'nde Sosyal Güvenlik ve Sosyal Politikalar*. İstanbul: Tarih Vakfı, (2006).

Özbek, Nadir. "Osmanlı'dan Günümüze Türkiye'de Sosyal Devlet." *Toplum ve Bilim* 92 (2002): 7-33.

Makal, Ahmet. "Ameleden İşçiye." İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları (2007).

Buğra, Ayşe. *Kapitalizm, Yoksulluk ve Türkiye'de Sosyal Politika*, İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, (2008).

Koray, Meryem. *Sosyal Politika*. Ankara: İmge Yayınevi, (2008).

February 15

Social Policies in Contemporary Turkey

Common readings:

Buğra, Ayşe, and Çağlar Keyder. "The Turkish welfare regime in transformation." *Journal of European Social Policy* 16.3 (2006): 211-228.

Buğra, Ayşe. "Social policy and different dimensions of inequality in Turkey: A historical overview." *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies* 20.4 (2018): 318-331.

Yılmaz, Volkan, and Nurhan Yentürk. "Türkiye’de Sosyal Politika Alanının Dönüşümü.” Nurhan Yentürk (ed.) *Sosyal Yardımlardan Güvenliğe Türkiye’nin Kamu Harcamaları* (2018): 3-27.

Individual readings:

Gal, John. "Is there an extended family of Mediterranean welfare states?." *Journal of European Social Policy* 20.4 (2010): 283-300.

Eder, Mine. "Deepening neoliberalisation and a changing welfare regime in Turkey Mutations of a populist, "sub-optimal" democracy" In Rodriguez, Carmen, et al. (eds.) *Turkey's democratization process*. Routledge, (2013): 195-220.

Boratav, Korkut, Erinç Yeldan, and Ahmet Köse. "Globalization, distribution and social policy: Turkey, 1980-1998." *CEPA and The New School for Social Research, Working Paper Series* 20 (2000): 113-114.

Buğra, Ayşe; Yılmaz, Volkan; Birelma, Alpkan; Gürsoy, Burçak; Taşkın, Yasemin; Dodurka, Zeynep Berra; Ekim Akkan, Başak; Göçmen, İpek. UNDP Case Study on Income and Social Inequalities in Turkey, (2016).

Yakut-Cakar, B. (2007) 'Turkey', in B. Deacon and P. Stubbs (eds) *Social Policy and International Interventions in South East Europe*. Cheltenham: Edward Elgar.

Candaş, Ayşen & Yılmaz, Volkan. *Türkiye’de Eşitsizlikler*. İstanbul: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (2012).

March 1

Labour market

Common readings:

Koçer, Rüya Gökhan, and Jelle Visser. "The Role of the State in Balancing the Minimum Wage in Turkey and the USA." *British Journal of Industrial Relations* 47.2 (2009): 349-370.

Buğra, Ayşe, and Burcu Yakut-Cakar. "Structural change, the social policy environment and female employment in Turkey." *Development and Change* 41.3 (2010): 517-538.

Individual readings:

Dedeođlu, Saniye. "Visible hands–invisible women: Garment production in Turkey." *Feminist Economics* 16.4 (2010): 1-32.

Özveri, Murat. *İşçi Sağlığı, İş Güvenliği ve İş Cinayetleri*. İstanbul: Birleşik Metal-İş Yayınları, (2015): 179-221.

İlkkaracan, İpek. "Why so few women in the labor market in Turkey?." *Feminist Economics* 18.1 (2012): 1-37.

Bağımsız Sosyal Bilimciler. *AKP'li Yıllarda Emegın Durumu*. İstanbul: Yordam Kitap, (2015): 46-105.

March 8

Gender

Common readings:

Dedeođlu, Saniye. "Equality, protection or discrimination: Gender equality policies in Turkey." *Social Politics* 19.2 (2012): 269-290.

Akkan, Başak. "The Politics of Care in Turkey: Sacred Familialism in a Changing Political Context." *Social Politics* 25.1 (2017): 72-91.

Individual readings:

Acar, Feride, and Gülbanu Altunok. "The 'politics of intimate' at the intersection of neo-liberalism and neo-conservatism in contemporary Turkey." *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 41. (2013): 14-23.

Özar, Şemsa, and Burcu Yakut-Cakar. "Unfolding the invisibility of women without men in the case of Turkey." *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 41. (2013): 24-44.

Yazıcı, Berna. "The return to the family: welfare, state, and politics of the family in Turkey." *Anthropological Quarterly* (2012): 103-140.

Dedeođlu, Saniye. "Veiled Europeanisation of welfare state in Turkey: Gender and social policy in the 2000s." *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 41. (2013): 7-13.

Gül, Songül Sallan. "The role of the State in protecting women against domestic violence and women's shelters in Turkey." *Women's Studies International Forum*. Vol. 38. (2013): 107-116.

Candaş, Aysen, and Yıldız Silier. "Quietly reverting public matters into private troubles: Gendered and class-based consequences of care policies in Turkey." *Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society* 21.1 (2014): 103-123.

March 15

Industrial relations

Common readings:

Çelik, Aziz. "Turkey's new labour regime under the Justice and Development Party in the first decade of the twenty-first century: Authoritarian flexibilization." *Middle Eastern Studies* 51.4 (2015): 618-635.

Birelma, Alpkan. "When Local Class Unionism Meets International Solidarity: A Case of Union Revitalisation in Turkey" *Global Labour Journal* 9.2 (2018): 215-230.

Individual readings:

Bölükbaşı, H. Tolga, and Ebru Ertugal. "Europeanisation of employment policy in Turkey: tracing domestic change through institutions, ideas and interests." *South European Society and Politics* 18.2 (2013): 237-257.

Adaman, Fikret, Ayşe Buğra, and Ahmet Insel. "Societal Context of Labor Union Strategy The Case of Turkey." *Labor Studies Journal* 34.2 (2009): 168-188.

Makal, Ahmet. "Cumhuriyetten 21. Yüzyıla Türkiye’de Çalışma İlişkileri” In (ed.) Ceylan Ataman, Berrin. *Cahit Talas Anısına: Güncel Sosyal Politika Tartışmaları*, Ankara: Ankara Üniversitesi, (2007): 511-543.

Özveri, Murat. *Türkiye’de Toplu İş Sözleşmesi Yetki Sistemi ve Sendikasılaştırma (1963-2009)*, Ankara: Ankara Üniversitesi, (2007): 297-371.

Koçak, Hakan & Lordoğlu, Kuvvet. "AKP Döneminde İstihdam, İşgücü ve İşsizlik” *Himmet, Fitrat, Piyasa AKP Döneminde Sosyal Politika, Derleyenler: Meryem Koray, Aziz Çelik, İletişim Yayınları* 1 (2015).

March 22

Pensions

Common readings:

Aysan, Mehmet Fatih. "Reforms and challenges: The Turkish pension regime revisited." *Emerging Markets Finance and Trade* 49.sup5 (2013): 148-162.

Güleç, Aslı. "The politics of pension reform in Greece and Turkey: International institutions as external determinants of adjustments." *Global Social Policy* 14.1 (2014): 72-90.

Individual readings:

Elveren, Adem Y. "Social security reform in turkey: A critical perspective." *Review of Radical Political Economics* 40.2 (2008): 212-232.

Kılıç, Azer. "The gender dimension of social policy reform in Turkey: towards equal citizenship?." *Social Policy & Administration* 42.5 (2008): 487-503.

Cosar, Simten, and Metin Yegenoglu. "The neoliberal restructuring of Turkey's social security system." *Monthly Review* 60.11 (2009): 36-49.

March 29

Healthcare

Common readings:

Yılmaz, Volkan. "Changing origins of inequalities in access to healthcare services in Turkey: from occupational status to income." *New Perspectives on Turkey* 48 (2013): 55-77.

Wendt, Claus, Tuba I. Ağartan, and Monika Ewa Kaminska. "Social health insurance without corporate actors: Changes in self-regulation in Germany, Poland and Turkey." *Social Science & Medicine* 86 (2013): 88-95.

Individual readings:

Yoltar, Çağrı. "When the poor need health care: ethnography of state and citizenship in Turkey." *Middle Eastern Studies* 45.5 (2009): 769-782.

Sönmez, Mustafa. *Paran Kadar Sağlık: Türkiye’de Sağlıkın Ticarileşmesi*. İstanbul: Yordam Kitap, (2011).

Kılıçaslan, Alaz & Kılıçaslan, Zeki. "Aşırı Tanı ve Tedavi" In Elbek, Osman (ed.) *-Kapitalizm Sağlığa Zararlıdır*, İstanbul: Hayy Kitap, (2013): 177-192.

April 5

Housing and spatial segregation

Common readings:

Kuyucu, Tuna, and Özlem Ünsal. "'Urban Transformation' as State-led Property Transfer: An Analysis of Two Cases of Urban Renewal in Istanbul." *Urban Studies* (2010).

Akkan, Başak, Mehmet Baki Deniz, and Mehmet Ertan. "The Romanization of poverty: Spatial stigmatization of Roma neighborhoods in Turkey." *Romani Studies* 27.1 (2017): 73-93.

Individual readings:

Candan, Ayfer Bartu, and Biray Kolluoğlu. "Emerging spaces of neoliberalism: A gated town and a public housing project in Istanbul." *New Perspectives on Turkey* 39 (2008): 5-46.

Bayırbağ, Mustafa Kemal. "Continuity and change in public policy: redistribution, exclusion and state rescaling in Turkey." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 37.4 (2013): 1123-1146.

Öncü, Ayşe. "The politics of the urban land market in Turkey: 1950–1980." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 12.1 (1988): 38-64.

Buğra, Ayşe. "The immoral economy of housing in Turkey." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 22.2 (1998): 303-307.

Keyder, Çağlar, and Nazan Üstündağ. "Doğu ve Güneydoğu Anadolu'nun Kalkınmasında Sosyal Politikalar." *İçinde Doğu ve Güneydoğu Anadolu'da Sosyal ve Ekonomik Öncelikler, Birleşmiş Milletler Kalkınma Programı ve Türkiye Ekonomik ve Sosyal Etüdler Vakfı* (2006).

Birelma, Alpkan. "Türkiye'de Evsizlik: Genel bir Değerlendirme" in (eds.) Akkuş, Pınar & Başpınar Aktütün, Özgür. *Sosyal Hizmet ve Öteki: Disiplinlerarası Yaklaşım*. İstanbul: Bağlam Yayıncılık, (2014): 291-321.

April 12

Income inequality and poverty

Common readings:

Morçöl, Gökтуğ. "Lay explanations for poverty in Turkey and their determinants." *The Journal of Social Psychology* 137.6 (1997): 728-738.

Karacimen, Elif. "Financialization in Turkey: The case of consumer debt." *Journal of Balkan and Near Eastern Studies* 16.2 (2014): 161-180.

Torul, Orhan, and Oğuz Öztunalı. "On income and wealth inequality in Turkey." *Central Bank Review* 18.3 (2018): 95-106.

Individual readings:

Pınarcıoğlu, Melih, and Oğuz Işık. "Not only helpless but also hopeless: Changing dynamics of urban poverty in Turkey, the case of Sultanbeyli, İstanbul." *European Planning Studies* 16.10 (2008): 1353-1370.

Eroğlu, Şebnem. "Informal finance and the urban poor: an investigation of rotating savings and credit associations in Turkey." *Journal of Social Policy* 39.03 (2010): 461-481.

Yılmaz, Bediz. "Türkiye'de sınıf-altı: nöbetleşe yoksulluktan müebbet yoksulluğa." *Toplum ve bilim* 113 (2008): 127-145.

Erdoğan, Necmi. "Yoksulluk Halleri: Türkiye'de Yoksulluğun Toplumsal Görünümleri." *İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları* (2002).

Boratav, Korkut, Erinc Yeldan, and Ahmet Köse. "Globalization, distribution and social policy: Turkey, 1980-1998." *CEPA and The New School for Social Research, Working Paper Series* 20 (2000): 113-114.

April 19

Social assistance

Common readings:

Göçmen, İpek. "Religion, politics and social assistance in Turkey: The rise of religiously motivated associations." *Journal of European Social Policy* 24.1 (2014): 92-103.

Murakami, Kaoru. "Moral Language and the Politics of Need Interpretation: The Urban Poor and Social Assistance in Turkey." *Turkish Studies* 15.2 (2014): 181-194.

Individual readings:

Yörük, Erdem. "Welfare provision as political containment: The politics of social assistance and the Kurdish conflict in Turkey." *Politics & Society* 40.4 (2012): 517-547.

Kutlu, Denizcan. *Türkiye'de Sosyal Yardım Rejiminin Oluşumu: Birikim, Denetim, Disiplin*. Ankara: Notabene Yayınları, (2015).

Buğra, Ayşe, and N. Tolga Sınmazdemir. "Yoksullukla Mücadelede İnsani ve Etkin Bir Yöntem: Nakit Gelir Desteği." In (eds.) Buğra, Ayşe & Keyder, Çağlar. *Bir Temel Hak Olarak Vatandaşlık Gelirine Doğru*, İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, (2007): 85-114.

Yakut-Cakar, Burcu, Burcay Erus, and Fikret Adaman. "An inquiry on introducing a minimum income scheme in Turkey: Alternating between cost efficiency and poverty reduction." *Journal of European Social Policy* 22.3 (2012): 305-318.

Öktem, Kerem Gabriel, and Cansu Erdoğan. "Between Welfare State and (State-organised) Charity: How Turkey's Social Assistance Regime Blends Two Competing Policy Paradigms." (2019)

April 26

Children & Youth

Common readings:

Yılmaz, Volkan. "Youth welfare policy in Turkey in comparative perspective: a case of 'Denied Youth Citizenship'." *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies* (2016): 1-15.

Uyan-Semerci, Pınar, and Emre Erdoğan. "Child well-being indicators through the eyes of children in Turkey: A happy child would be one who..." *Child Indicators Research* 10.1 (2017): 267-295.

Individual readings:

Çelik, Kezban. "‘My state is my father’: youth unemployment experiences under the weak state welfare provisions of Turkey." *Journal of Youth Studies* 11.4 (2008): 429-444.

Akkuş, Pınar & Başpınar Aktütün, Özgür. "Sosyal Hizmet Mevzuatı Çerçevesinde Çocuk Hakları ve Uygulama Sorunları" in (eds.) Akkuş, Pınar & Başpınar Aktütün, Özgür. *Sosyal Hizmet ve Öteki: Disiplinlerarası Yaklaşım*. İstanbul: Bağlam Yayıncılık, (2014): 145-172.

Altuntaş, Betül. "Mendile, Simite, Boyaya, Çöpe...." *Ankara Sokaklarında Çalışan Çocuklar*, İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları (2003).

Yazici, Berna. "Social work and social exclusion in Turkey: An overview." *New Perspectives on Turkey* 38.2 (2008): 107-34.

Değirmencioglu, Serdar M., Hakan Acar, and Yüksel Baykara Acar. "Extreme forms of child labour in Turkey." *Children & Society* 22.3 (2008): 191-200.

Çelik, Kezban, and Demet Lüküslü. "Spotlighting a Silent Category of Young Females: The Life Experiences of "House Girls" in Turkey." *Youth & Society* 44.1 (2012): 28-48.

Karatay, Abdullah. Kamuda Dönüşüm ve Çocuk Koruma Politikasında Değişim Eğilimleri In (ed.) Altuntaş, Betül. *Dezavantajlı Gruplar ve Sosyal Politika*. Ankara: Nobel yayınları, (2014): 13-32.

Dayioğlu, Meltem, and Sirma Demir Şeker. "Social Policy and the Dynamics of Early Childhood Poverty in Turkey." *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities* 17.4 (2016): 540-557.

Karatay, Abdullah, Pınar Uyan Semerci, and Serra Müderrisoğlu. "Eşitsiz Bir Toplumda Çocukluk: Çocuğun İyi Olma Halini Anlamak." *İstanbul: İstanbul: Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları* (2012).

May 3

Paper presentations & discussion