



**STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF TURKISH JUDICIARY ON  
FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION  
EUROPEAN UNION - COUNCIL OF EUROPE JOINT PROJECT**

**TÜRK YARGISININ İFADE ÖZGÜRLÜĞÜ KONUSUNDA KAPASİTESİNİN  
GÜÇLENDİRİLMESİ  
AVRUPA BİRLİĞİ - AVRUPA KONSEYİ ORTAK PROJESİ**

**SPEAKER BIOS**



**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**

***Protection and Promotion of Freedom of Expression and Media  
Freedom***

**27 March 2017, Sheraton Hotel, Ankara**

**Mr Bertil Cottier**, Full Professor of the Faculty of Communication Sciences, University of Lugano, Switzerland

Full Professor of Communication Law (since 2005) and former Dean of Faculty of Communication Sciences, University of Lugano, Switzerland; Associate Professor (Freedom of information and Internet Governance, Faculty of Law, University of Lausanne (since 2007) ; Guest Professor (Media Law), Academy of Journalism, University of Neuchâtel (since 2008). Consultant for the Council of Europe, the Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces, the OSCE and the Federal Department of foreign affairs on issues of data protection and freedom of information (missions in Ukraine, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Tunisia, Palestine, Morocco as well as conferences in Montenegro and Lebanon); Member of the Board of the Swiss communication law forum; Member of the commission in charge of revising the Federal data protection legislation (2013-2015); Member of the Data Protection Commission of the canton of Ticino (2008-2015); Member of the Federal Consumer Commission (2005-2011); Editor of Medialex (Swiss journal of communication law) and Sui Generis (Swiss online law review). Extensive writes on freedom of expression and protection of personal data.

**Mr Yusuf Demirci**, Judge (Trainer), Department of International Relations and Projects of the Justice Academy of Turkey

Trainer Judge at the Justice Academy of Turkey (since 2014); Rapporteur Judge at the Court of Cassation (2009-2014); Graduate of Faculty of Law, Marmara University; LL.M. (Commercial Law), Faculty of Law, Marmara University; Trainer of In-service Training Seminars on Freedom of Expression and Civil Defamation; Researcher on hate speech and anti-discrimination law.

**Mr Vuslat Dirim**, Deputy Head, Human Rights Commission / President, the 13<sup>th</sup> Criminal Chamber, Court of Cassation of Turkey

Member of the Court of Cassation of Turkey (since 2011); Prosecutor in Denizli, Şirvan, Iğdır, Zile and Chief Prosecutor in Van and Istanbul; Candidate judge in Tokat; Graduate of Faculty of Law, Ankara University.

**Mr Osman Doğru**, Professor, Human Rights Law / Director, Department of Human Rights, Faculty of Law, Marmara University

Lecturer and writer of books and articles concerning the protection and promotion of human rights in accordance with the ECHR and Turkish Constitution; Professor of human rights law (since 2006); Associate Professor (since 2000); PhD in the field of public law (1992); Research Assistant at the Faculty of Law, Marmara University (1986); Graduate of Faculty of Law, Istanbul University; Involved with CoE projects concerning human rights and individual application to the Constitutional Court.

**Ms Tuğçe Duygu Köksal**, Former Lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights / Lawyer registered in Istanbul Bar Association

Lawyer dealing human rights law, criminal law and press law; Former lawyer at the Court of Human Rights with a specific focus on freedom of expression; Studied Alternative Disputes Resolutions in the USA; Expert at the Council of Europe on the Group of States against Corruption and Judicial Independence; Holds LL.M. Robert Schuman University (France); Graduate of Faculty of Law, Galatasaray University.

**Ms Sophie Kwasny**, Head, Data Protection Unit, Council of Europe

Responsible for standard-setting (notably the current modernisation exercise of Convention 108) and policy on data protection and privacy, including with regard to new technologies and the Internet; Graduate of the Strasbourg Law University; Employee of the Council of Europe for nearly 20 years on a variety of topics ranging from prisons' reforms to medical insurance, and from the independence of the judiciary to nationality law.

**Ms Mirjana Trajkovska-Lazarova**, Former President of the First Section, European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe

Judge at the European Court of Human Rights (from February 2008 to February 2017); President of First Section of the European Court of Human Rights (from 01 November 2015 till February 2017); Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Macedonia (2003-2008); President of State Election Commission in the Republic of Macedonia (2002–2003); Head of Department on Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2001- 2003); Assistant Minister on administrative affairs at the Ministry of Internal affairs (1999-2001); Member of the Venice Commission (2004-2008); Head of the Election evaluation mission of the OSCE ODIHR on Riigikogu Parliamentary Elections in Estonia (2007); Member of the Election evaluation mission of the OSCE ODIHR in different countries (2006-2008); Member of Steering Committee on Human Rights at the Council of Europe; Member of the Council of Europe Committee for improving the administrative and court proceedings (2001-2003); Member of the Committee of experts on nationality (CJ-NA), Council of Europe and member of the working party of the Committee of experts on nationality (CJ-NA-GT) (1995-2002); Member of the Working group of the COE Committee of Experts on Nationality (CJ-NA-GT) - working on the Convention on the avoidance of statelessness in relation to State Succession (1995-1997-2006); Extensively writes on international human rights and comparative constitutional law.

**Mr Ali Alper Saylan**, Public Prosecutor (Trainer), Court House of Ankara

Prosecutor at the Investigation Bureau for Crimes against Constitutional Public Order (since 2015); Prosecutor at the Court House of Ankara (since 2013); Graduate of Faculty of Law,

Ankara University (1993); Trainer of both Pre-Service Training Course on Freedom of Express and In-service Training Seminars on Freedom of Expression and Countering Terrorism.

**Mr Mehmet Taştan**, Public Prosecutor for Press-Related Crimes (Trainer), Court House of Ankara

Prosecutor at the Investigation Bureau for Crimes concerning Press (since 2014); Prosecutor at the Court House of Ankara (since 2006); Graduate of Faculty of Law, Marmara University; Trainer on various subject matters, including Istanbul Protocol, children rights, mediation; Also trainer of both Pre-Service Training Course on Freedom of Express and In-service Training Seminars on Freedom of Expression and Criminal Defamation and Media Freedom.

**Mr Gökçe Türkyılmaz**, Lawyer, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe

Case-processing lawyer at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights (since 2010); MSt programme in International Human Rights Law offered by the University of Oxford (since 2016); LLM in Human Rights Law from the University of Strasbourg (2010); Graduate of Galatasaray University.