About the Keynote Speaker

**Ambassador (ret.) Mark R. Parris**

Mark R. Parris is Counselor to the Turkey Project at the Brookings Institution, where he is a Visiting Fellow. A retired career diplomat, he served as U.S. Ambassador to Turkey from 1997 to 2000.

Prior to his service in Turkey, Ambassador Parris held senior positions responsible for U.S. policy toward the Middle East and former Soviet Union. As Principal Deputy Assistant of State for Near East Affairs and then Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Near East and South Asian affairs, he oversaw U.S. efforts to contain Iraq and Iran and participated in top-level negotiations involving Israel and its Arab neighbors. As Deputy Chief of Mission in Tel Aviv he witnessed the first intifada, the first Gulf War, and the Madrid Peace Conference. As Director of Soviet Affairs during President Ronald Reagan’s second term, he organized and served as note-taker for President Reagan’s first four summit meetings with Mikhail Gorbachev. Earlier assignments included Moscow, Lisbon and the Azores.

After retiring from the Foreign Service in 2001, Ambassador Parris worked as Senior Foreign Policy Advisor in the Washington office of Baker Donelson, a law firm. He has remained active in matters relating to Turkey, serving as Chairman of the Board of the American Friends of Turkey, as the founding Chairman of the Advisory Board of the American Turkish Council, as Counselor to the Turkish Research Program of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, and as Director of the “Turkey 2007” project at the Brookings Institution. Ambassador Parris’s articles on Turkey and U.S.–Turkish relations have appeared *inter alia* in the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, International Herald Tribune and Washington times.
Preliminary Program

NOTE: This preliminary program is subject to change.

Thursday, January 29, 2009

3-6:00 PM  Tour of Atlanta (Optional)
            Tour buses depart from the hotels

6:00 PM    Registration Opens

6:30 PM    Light Reception. Willingham Hall, Room 217

Friday, January 30, 2009

8:00 AM    Registration and Refreshments; Social Sciences Building Lobby

9-10 AM    Opening Ceremony

            Welcome Address
            Dr. Daniel S. Papp, President, KSU

            Greetings from Istanbul Center
            Tarik Celik

            Greetings from United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
            Mr. Thomas Uthup, Research Manager

            Video Address from Turkey
            Mehmet Aydin, State Minister and Alliance of Civilizations Co-Chair
Greetings from Turkish Government Delegate
Congressman Suat Kiniklioglu, Republic of Turkey

10-10:30 AM   Break

10:30-12 PM   Concurrent Session #1

Session 1A Room SO 1021
*The Alliance of Civilizations: Theoretical Frameworks #1*
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Richard Penaskovic, Auburn University, “Turkey’s Answer to Huntington’s Clash of Civilizations’ Thesis”
Naim Kapucu, University of Central Florida, “Global Response to Terrorism & Crises: Alliance of Civilizations”
Umut Uzer, Harvard University, “Turkey as a catalyst for the Alliance of Civilizations”
Murat Doral, Kennesaw State University, “From the Alliance of Economies to the Alliance of Civilizations: Turkey’s Importance and Contribution”

Session 1B Room SO 1019
*Foreign Policy #1*
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Edward Keene, Georgia Tech, “Mapping the Boundaries of International Society in the Nineteenth Century: Expansion or Stratification?”
Juliette Tolay, University of Delaware, “The missed dialogues of the Euro-Turkish relationships”
Elhan Mehtiyev, Peace and Conflict Resolution Center, Baku, Azerbaijan, “Turkey’s relations with –Caucasus: factor of peace and stability in the region”

Session 1C Room SO 20??
*The Turkish Experience of Alliance of Civilizations*
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Joshua W. Walker, Princeton University, “Turkey’s Imperial Legacy: Understanding Contemporary Turkey through its Ottoman Past”
M. Sait Ozervarli, Koc University, Turkey, “Some Cases of Cultural Dialogue in Turkey during the Ottoman Period”
Alparslan Acikgenc, Faith University, Turkey, “The Progressive Perception of Islam in Turkey: A Hermeneutical Approach to Alliance of Civilizations”
Nilgun Anadolu-Okur, Temple University, “Through an Epic Journey East Meets West: Homage to Istanbul’s Multinational History”

12-2:00 PM   Lunch
2:00-3:30 PM  Concurrent Session #2

Session 2A Room SO 1021
The Alliance of Civilizations: Theoretical Frameworks #2
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Shireen Hunter, Georgetown University, “The Challenge and Promise of Alliances of Civilizations”
Gokhan Bacik, Fatih Univeristy, Turkey, “The Turkish Thesis: Dialogue among Civilizations and "Linguistic-Operational Corridors”
Mohiaddin Mesbahi, Florida International University, “International Relations Theory and the Challenges of the Civilizational Paradigm”
Alan Godlas, University of Georgia, “Educating Emotional Intelligence: A Bridge Between Mosque and State”

Session 2B Room # SO 1019
Foreign Policy #2
Chair & Discussant: Dr. Nuru Akinyemi, KSU
Presenters:
Omer Taspinar, US National War College and Brookings Institution, “Turkey’s New Activism in the Middle East: Neo-Ottomanism and the Kurdish challenge”
Hasan Kosebalaban, Lake Forest College, “Alliance of Civilizations as the New Turkish Foreign Policy Doctrine”
Pinar K. Tremblay, UCLA, “Sharing more than just the Prophet: Changing Turkish Policy towards Muslim countries”

Session 2C Room SO 20??
Women and Gender Issues
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Zeynep Akbulut Kuru, University of Washington, “The Headscarf Ban and its Effects on Women’s Subjectivity”
Gul Celkan, Eastern Mediterranean University, Turkey “Turkish Women: in the Past, Present and the Future”
Umut Ozkaleli, Syracuse University, “Equality: Difference and Progressive Mainstreaming for a New Gender Policy”
Hassina Hemamid, Batna University, Algeria, “Headscarf Ban and the Alliance of Civilization”

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM: Break

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Concurrent Session #3

Session 3A Room SO 1021
Role of the Media
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Ali Hadi Aslan, Today’s Zaman, Turkey, “The Role of the Media”
Radwan Ziadeh, United States Institute of Peace, “Islamophobia, New Media and the Dialogue between Civilizations”
Turan Kayaoglu, University of Washington, Tacoma, “Interfaith Ethics for the Media in the Age of Dialogue”

Session 3B Room SO 1019
Migration
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Abdelmadjid Amrani, Batna University, Algeria, “The Philosophy of the Turkish Muslim immigration to the west: From dialogue to alliance of civilizations”
Juliette Tolay, University of Delaware, “The Turkish linkage between Europe and the rest of the world: theorizing transit migration”
Hasan Aydin, University of Nevada, “Key Dynamics of Assimilation among First Generation Turkish Immigrants Residing in Romania”

Session 3C Room SO 20??
Religious Education
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Ahmet Kuru, Columbia University, “Religious Education and the Secular State: The Turkish Experience”
Florian Pohl, Emory University, “Religion, Violence, and Inter-faith Harmony: Islamic Education in Indonesia”
Victoria Clement, “Cross-cultural Contributions: Turkish Educational Networks in Central Asia”

7:00-9:00 PM  Dinner and Plenary Address

Dinner

Greetings from KSU
Dr. Lendley Black, Provost, KSU

Greetings from United Nations Alliance of Civilizations
Mr. Thomas Uthup, Research Manager

Introduction of Plenary Speaker
Dr. Akanmu Adebayo, Executive Director, IGI

Plenary Address
“Prospects for U.S.-Turkish Relations under Obama”
Ambassador Mark Parris, Formerly U.S. Ambassador to Turkey

Reflections on Plenary Speech
Congressman Suat Kiniklioglu, Republic of Turkey

Audience Q/A

Saturday, January 31, 2009

8:30 AM    Registration and continental breakfast. Social Sciences Building Lobby

9:00-10:30 AM Plenary Address

Introduction of Speaker
Dr. Barry Morris, Director, Cabinet Special Projects

Plenary Address
“Awaiting Title”
Mustafa Akyol, Deputy Editor, Turkish Daily News

Reflections on Plenary Speech
Congressman Cuneyt Yuksel, Republic of Turkey

Audience Q/A

10:30-11:00 AM    Break

11-12:30 PM    Concurrent Session #4

Session 4A Room SO 1021
Religion and Interfaith Harmony #1
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Omid Safi, University of North Carolina, “I and Thou in a Fluid World: Beyond ‘Islam v the West”
Joshua N. Weiss, Abraham Path Initiative, Harvard University, “The Abraham Path Initiative”
Metin Heper, Bilkent University, “Liberal Islam in Turkey”

Session 4B Room SO 1019
Identity #1
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Lisa DiCarlo, Babson College, “From Millet to Multiculturalism: Reflections on Turkishness in the 21st Century”
Vicki Birchfield, Georgia Tech, “Remarks on the Turkish Experience in EU enlargement, and its prospects for eventual membership”

12:30-1:30 PM Lunch

1:30-3:00 PM Concurrent Session #5

Session 5A Room SO 1021
Religion and Interfaith Harmony #2
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Asma Afsaruddin, University of Notre Dame, “Tolerance and Co-Existence: Islamic Tradition and Ottoman Practices”
Karina Korostelina, George Mason University, “Building Peaceful Coexistence and Dialogue: The Impact of Gulen’s Ideas”
Ted Masburn, University of Mobile, “Building Bridges and Crossing Barriers”

Session 5B Room SO 1019
Identity #2
Chair & Discussant:
Presenters:
Ramazan Kilinc, Michigan State University, “Bargaining Identities: Explaining Turkey’s Foreign Policy Discourse of ‘Alliance of Civilizations’”
Michael Mcgaha, Pomona University, “The Problem of Turkish Identity in the Novels of Orhan Pamuk”
Sam Cherribi, Emory University, “Turkish Delight or the Stickiness of the European Union?”

3:00-3:30 PM Closing Remarks

4:00 PM Tour of Atlanta (Optional)
Buses depart from hotels