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CALL FOR PAPERS
International Symposium
TURKEY AND PEACE IN THE BALKANS: CULTURAL AND
COMMERCIAL DIPLOMACY / 28 – 30 May 2014
İstanbul Chamber of Commerce

İstanbul Chamber of Commerce, İstanbul Commerce University and Center for Balkan and Black Sea Studies of Yıldız Technical University organize a joint international symposium on “*Turkey and Peace in the Balkans: Cultural and Commercial Diplomacy*” which will be held between 28th-30th of May 2014 in İstanbul, and hosted by İstanbul Chamber of Commerce.

The Balkan Peninsula has been considered as the region of war and conflicts (“Powder Keg”) for many decades. This negative image began to change in the beginning of the 21st century and as a consequence of the new political dynamics, the Balkans is now regarded as a region where the disputes are decreasing partially and a peaceful coexistence among the Balkan peoples is emerging. The integration processes of the Balkan countries into Euro-Atlantic institutions played a leading role in this development, but Turkish foreign policy also contributed to the improvement of diplomatic relations. In the last decade, diplomacy methods became much more complex with the emergence of new diplomatic instruments; and culture and trade became significant elements of diplomacy.

Aims and scope of this symposium are to analyze the *Political/Diplomatic Dimension, Economic and Commercial Dimensions, Cultural and Educational Dimensions* of Turkish-Balkan relations on one hand, and the development of inner Balkan relations on the other. During the symposium there will be parallel panels of undergraduate and graduate students where the students from different Balkan countries and Turkey will have the opportunity to present their perception of Turkish-Balkan relations. Therefore, the applications of students are especially welcomed.

Applicants are expected to send the title of their paper with an abstract (200 words) and a short CV by e-mail to symposium@ito.org.tr not later than **March 10th, 2014**. The abstracts and the short CVs must be written in **English or Turkish**. During the symposium, simultaneous interpretation in Balkan languages will be provided. After the evaluation of applications by the Scientific Committee of the Symposium, the program with selected papers will be announced. In the end of the symposium, the organizers aim to publish conference proceedings with selected papers.

P.S.: Flights and accommodation will be covered by the Organizers.

Organization Committee:

Ayaz AKKOYUN

Hüsamettin ASLAN

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Assoc. Prof. Mehmet HACISALİHOĞLU

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