

Young Turkey / Young America: A New Relationship for a New Age

A Program of The Atlantic Council in Collaboration with Sabancı University



Program Participant Biographies:

Mr. Sarp Kalkan is an Economic Policy Analyst at TEPAV, the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey in Ankara. He has a BS in Economics, an MBA and is currently working on his PhD all from the Middle East Technical Institute. Sarp is 29 years old.

Mr. Tamer Şen is the Head of the Department at TUSİAD, the Turkish Industrialists' and Businessman's Association in Istanbul. He has a BS from Istanbul University and an MA in International Relations from Galatasaray University. Tamer is originally from Eskişehir and is 32 years old.

Mr. Hakkı Ayaz is a Project Specialist for the Directorate of Mardin National Education, Research and Development Unit in Mardin. He completed his BA in ELT Education from Çukurova University. Hakkı is 28 years old.

Ms. Asena Topçubaşı is an Advisor in the Prime Ministry Human Rights Presidency in Ankara. She has a BS from the Middle East Technical University and an MA in Human Rights.

Ms. Fulya Özerkan is a Diplomatic Correspondent with the Hürriyet Daily News, where she covers Turkish foreign policy in Ankara. She has a BA from Hacettepe University and is 24 years old.

Mr. Onur Şen is a 2nd year Master's student in the Conflict Analysis and Resolution program at Sabancı University in Istanbul. He recently interned with Mediation Northern Ireland, an NGO based in Belfast. Onur is originally from Mersin and is 24 years old.

Mr. Gökhan Gündoğdu is the CEO of Adana Gundogdu Schools in Adana. He has a BA from Hartwick College and an MBA from Çukurova University. Gokhan is interested in education and civic involvement. He is 27 years old.

Mr. Ulaş Canbaz is the General Manager for Izmir Ekspres Nak. in Izmir. He has an MS in Political Science and Public Administration from the Middle East Technical University. He is interested in political economics and is 27 years old.

Mr. Mehmet Lami Hayırlı is the Local Coordinator for the Abraham Path Initiative in Şanlıurfa. He has a BA from Cag University and an MA from Çukurova University. He is interested in cross-cultural communications and is 26 years old.

Ms. Didem Akan is an Education Program Assistant for the Strengthening Pre-School Education Project at UNICEF in Ankara. She completed her BA And MA, both in International Relations, at Bilkent University. Didem is originally from Izmir and is 27 years old.