

Books from Istanbul Conference on Democracy and Global Security

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The Istanbul Conference on Democracy and Global Security was an international conference organized by the Turkish National Police, on June 14-16 2007 in Istanbul-Turkey. The conference was an initiative of the Turkish National Police with the full support from TIPS (the Turkish Institute for Police Studies) and international community and scholars who are concerned with issues relating to democracy and global security. Indeed Turkey desires to bring international scholars and practitioners to one place where they can meet and share their experiences and scholarship for promotion of democracy, security and freedoms around the globe. This opportunity was provided to these scholars and practitioners at the historical and beautiful city of Istanbul. Since everybody knows Turkey's hospitality and believes in its sincerity, so nearly 1,000 individuals accepted the conference invitation and participated in the event in 2007. Participants made presentations and shared their knowledge for three days during the conference. Articles and presentations were gathered and edited by scholars and experts and were published in a series of books. The following books are the first studies of this series.

1. Combating Terrorism

This book discusses how and why terrorism is a social earthquake of nations. The authors of the book examine the nature of terrorist groups in democratic nations. They believe that terrorism is not a problem to only one nation, one state, or one country; it is the problem of the whole world. Terrorism is now a threat to our world that it can potentially trigger wars between states. Given these threats of terrorism, the only way to overcome terrorism problem is to work together with all nations. The book is edited by Samih Teymur, PhD, Habib Ozdemir, PhD, Murat Ozer, Murat Gunbeyi, Ed.D, and Oguzhan Basibuyuk.

2. Terrorism: A Global Perspective

The second book is also based on the articles presented at the 2nd Istanbul Conferences on Democracy and Global Security in Istanbul in 2007. The authors of the chapters of this book discuss the reasons why nations sometimes experience hard time to struggle with global threat of terrorism. They consider that there is still no commonly agreed definition of terrorism, and this is a handicap to create a global stand against terrorism. Therefore, the authors offer that regardless of different definitions, different colors and different religions, nations should come together

against any violent activity of any groups that target human life and dignity. The book is edited by Mustafa Ozguler, PhD, Ali Ozdogan, PhD, A.Sait Yayla, PhD, Ekrem Mus, and Halim Iltas.

3. Global and Regional Perspectives on Democracy and Security

Global security requires that democratic systems, states and democratic organizations should be fully established to fight against all kinds of crimes. The relationship between democracy and security is strongly debated amongst the people who, at times, believe that it is not easy to fight crimes and criminals without sacrificing democratic principles. The authors of the chapters believe that national security should be the number one priority of all states, however, democracy should not be sacrificed because of security concerns. This book has several articles that were submitted in the 2nd Istanbul Democracy and Global Security Conference in Istanbul. The book is edited by Recep Gultekin, PhD, Izzet Lofca, PhD, Cihangir Baycan, Murat Delice, PhD, and Ferhat Goktepe.

4. Issues in Criminal Justice

Crime control has long been a primary concern of Turkish justice system. Since Turkey cares about democracy, freedoms, and human rights, so strategies and tactics that are used against criminal groups should be ethical and proportional. Due to its importance, the editors of this book gathered important articles related to human rights from distinguished authors. The book is edited by Ali Safak, PhD, Selcuk Zengin, PhD, Suleyman Hancerli, PhD, Derin Akdeniz, and Kutluer Karademir.

All the above mentioned books are printed in hundreds and distributed by the Turkish National Police across the world academics and practitioners for ready reference, debate and guidance. The Turkish National Police envision such world level conferences in future too. The National Police Academy at Ankara has a fully established Research Centre on Terrorism and Organized Crimes which held the 1st International Symposium on Terrorism and Transnational Crime, at Antaliya, Turkey in November 2009. The articles and presentations therein are also likely to be published very soon. Earlier, the Turkish National Police in collaboration with NATO have held excellent conferences on the subject matter, the best papers of which are also now published.

Samih Teymur, PhD is one of the senior police officers in the Turkish National Police (TNP), who has many academic achievements to his credit in addition to his field job.