İSTANBUL AREL UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCES
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

AREL USAM

International and Regional Political Studies Congress - 2025

REGIONAL INTEGRATION IN CENTRAL ASIA AND THE CAUCASUS: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

08-09 FEBRUARY 2025
Microsoft Teams - Online



For Congress Webpage

AIM AND SCOPE

From a global perspective, Central Asia and the Caucasus as a geopolitical complex is one of the most notable regions of the world. The area also marks unprecedented geopolitical importance and geo-ethnic composition for Turkish peoples. Shared Turk identity however is not mature enough for regional integration but is one of the most driving forces of the regional dynamics which has a potential for changes in the Eurasian continent.

Changing geopolitics of the region which retains challenges and prospects in the same pot is crucial not only for its periphery but also for the rest of the world. While the great and regional powers' contests; interstate, intrastate, and extra-state conflicts; terrorism; and organized crime challenge the stability of the region, prospects of security, economic, and organizational cooperation promote a new horizon of peace, stability, and prosperity.

Central Asia's and the Caucasus' future will likely be more dynamic than ever. The changing dynamics of the region transforms its geopolitics. The 21st Century has brought a new atmosphere of cooperation, uncertainties, risks, and threats to the region.

A new understanding of scholarship is one of the determinant factors in shaping a safe and secure future for the region. This may also help positive developments for the entire world. Thus, İstanbul Arel University / Türkiye has organized the International and Regional Political Studies Congress – 2025 titled "Regional Integration in Central Asia and the Caucasus: Challenges and Prospects" (08-09.February.2025).

Congress aims to discuss the present and future areas of concern and opportunities in Central Asia and the Caucasus and analyse and assess the possibility of regional integration. The Congress will be held in two days, with six successive sessions. The first three sessions will deal with challenges with an understanding of the enlarged security approach. The fourth and fifth sessions will concentrate on regional cooperation areas of the economy, energy, and transportation. The final session will deal with the roles and the future of regional organizations, and forums.

CONGRESS LANGUAGE: English.
CONGRESS FEE: Free of charge

IMPORTANT DATES

Opening of submission for abstracts	15 November 2024
Closing for submission of abstracts	16 December 2024
Announcement of approved abstracts	20 January 2025
Announcement of the program	30 January 2025
Execution of the Congress	08-09 February 2025
Issue of certificates	28 February 2025
Authors' provision of full papers	08 April 2025
Issue e-book of proceedings	June 2025

Submission of Abstracts (Annex-A)

Abstracts prepared in the scope of the themes suggested below and under the attached submitted form should be sent as a Microsoft Word document to **arelusam03@gmail.com** by 16 December 2024.
The abstracts (400-500 words) will be peer-reviewed and authors will be informed about acceptance for presentation via email until 20 January 2025. Certificates will be sent to those who present their papers.

Submission of Full Papers

The full papers (4000-5000 words) will be published as e-book. Full paper writing guidelines will be sent to the authors via e-mail. Full papers are to be sent no later than 08 April 2025.
The writing guidelines for the full paper will be issued later.

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Dr Punit Gaur, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi / India
Dr Rahman Nurdun Vice-President TİKA / Türkiye
Mr. Elkhan Mehdiyev Peace and Conflict Resolution Center, Baku / Azerbaijan

CONGRESS PROGRAM

International and Regional Political Studies Congress - 2025
"Regional Integration in Central Asia and the Caucasus: Challenges and Prospects"

ONLINE
(8-9 February 2025)

SESSIONS

Opening Session

Session-I: Evolving Strategic Landscape

-Great powers' approaches to the region
-Geopolitical assessments of the regional countries.

Session-II: Regional Security: Challenges-1

-Interstate conflicts
-Intrastate conflicts
-Terrorism and organized crime

Session-III: Regional Security: Challenges-2

-Climate change
-Energy security
-Food security
-Migration and internally displaced people

Session-IV: Cooperation Prospects-1

-Production and trade
-Money and finance
-Knowledge and technology
-Tourism
-Education
-Arts and literature

Session-V: Cooperation Prospects-2

-Hydrocarbon energy resources
-Pipelines
-Transportation lines (CAREC Corridors, Belt and Road, The Middle Corridor)

Session – VI: Roles and Future of Regional Cooperation Mechanisms

-Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO)
-Organization of Turkic States (OTS)
-Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)
-Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program
-The Eurasian Economic Community (EAEC or EurAsEC)
-Others

Closing Session

ANNEX-A: Paper Proposal Form

- The form should be written in Palatino Linotype, 11 points and 1,08 line spacing.
- The abstract should be a minimum of 400 and a maximum of 500 words.
- An author can apply to the congress with a maximum of two papers. For each proposal, one form is to be filled.
- In papers with more than one author, a single form will be filled. The required fields for each information box should be filled starting from the first author's information, in the same box, the following author's information should be separated by commas, and filled in order.
- All fields below are required to be filled. Otherwise, the paper proposal will not be accepted.

Name, Surname:	**University /Organization:**
Branch:	**Title of the Author:**
E-mail:	**GSM: (__)+ _____**
The topic of the paper:	
Abstract (400 - 500 words)	
The abstract should include in the summary: - The importance of the subject - Content of the paper - Methodology	
Keywords: (Four keywords)	
The main thesis of the paper:	
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	
Is it suitable for the title/themes of the Congress in terms of subject?	
Is the design and framework of the paper appropriate in terms of the assumptions and purpose of the research?	
Is the work original?	
Does the study contribute to the field it is related to?	
Does the paper meet format and citation criteria? (For full paper)	

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