

The Central European University's

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND EUROPEAN
STUDIES (IRES)

and the

CENTER FOR EUROPEAN UNION RESEARCH (CEUR)

cordially invite you to attend the public lecture

'Promises, Obligation, Impatience and Delay: Reflections on the Ethical Aspects of Turkey-EU Relations'

delivered by

Thomas Diez

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Chair: Xymena Kurowska, IRES/CEUR
Discussant: Emel Akcali, IRES

Gellner, Monument Building, CEU
13.30, Friday, 25 February 2011



Although it is often presented as such, the relationship between Turkey and the EU presents not only a question of the absence or presence of shared strategic interests, but also raises fundamental ethical issues, such as: Who, in a world of states, can legitimately take decisions that effect the future of another state? Is it therefore permissible to let referenda decide on future EU membership? To what extent and under which conditions can states or groups of states dictate the internal development of another state? Is it therefore proper to insist on specific minority rights in membership candidates? And is there at least a moral right to become a member in supranational groupings? This talk discusses these and other possible obligations that arise in the Turkey-EU context but are important for International Relations in general. It also reviews the role these obligations have played since the Ankara Agreement and argues that the at times impatient invocation of obligations to exert political pressure on both sides tended to have the ironic effect of delaying rather than expediting the settlement of Turkey-EU relations with Turkish EU membership or an alternative configuration.

Followed by a reception.