

4th International Kurdish Studies Conference

22-23 April 2025

CO-ORGANISERS



University of
KURDISTAN
Hewlêr



PARTNERS:



CPD

CENTRE FOR PEACEBUILDING
AND DIALOGUE

SPONSORS:



REIMAGINING KURDISTAN

Identity, Politics, and Resistance in a
Transforming Middle East

University of Kurdistan Hewlêr | Erbil, Kurdistan
22 - 23 April -2025



Keynote Speakers



Prof. Hamit Bozarslan
Directeur d'études de
IEHES, France

**Kurdish Studies:
Legacies of the Past,
Perspectives of the
Future**

Auditorium:
22 April 2025
10:00 - 10:45



Prof. Khanna Omarkhali
Free University of Berlin,
Germany

**On Oral Studies and
Religious Minorities in
Kurdistan**

Auditorium:
23 April 2025
9:30 - 10:15

Conference Themes

- Kurdish Society and Culture
- Kurdish Language and Literature
- Gender Studies within Kurdish Contexts
- Historical Perspectives on the Kurds
- Contemporary Kurdish Politics
- Regional and International Dynamics of Kurdistan
- Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
- Migration from, through and in Kurdistan
- Comparative Studies on the Kurds and Kurdistan
- Methodological Issues in Kurdish Studies
- Genocide and Memory Studies
- AI and Kurdish Studies
- Comparative Perspectives on the Historical and Current State of the Kurdish Self-determination Conflict
- Studies on the Global Kurdish Diaspora and the Role of Civil Society in Kurdistan

Scientific Committee

- Salih Akin, University of Rouen-Normandy, France
- Nazand Begikhani, Sciences Po, Paris
- Amir Chali, Advisor, KRG Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research
- Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna, Austria
- Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University, United Kingdom
- Bayar Mustafa, Centre for Peacebuilding and Dialogue
- Arzu Yilmaz, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

We look forward to your contributions and to welcoming you to the 4th International Kurdish Studies Conference in Erbil.

Conference Organisers, Partners & Sponsors

This international conference is co-organised by the University of Kurdistan Hewlêr and the Kurdish Institute of Paris with two partner organisations: the Centre of Peace Building and Dialogue, and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Kurdistan Regional Government..

In addition to the financial contribution made by the University of Kurdistan Hewlêr and hosting the conference, financial sponsorship has also been received by France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France's Ministry of Higher Education and Research, and The French Embassy in Baghdad.

Conference organisers

University of Kurdistan Hewlêr: The University of Kurdistan Hewlêr (UKH), established in 2006 in Erbil, represents a pioneering institution in Kurdish higher education as the region's first public, English-medium university. UKH's academic programs combine international quality standards with

regional relevance, and are delivered through four Schools; Social Sciences, Science and Engineering, Management and Economics, and Medicine.

Through deep, meaningful partnerships with institutions such as the Universities of Cambridge, Hamburg and Shiv Nadar, UKH fosters global academic exchange while maintaining strong local engagement. Its bilingual education model utilizes English as the primary instructional medium while preserving Kurdish language and cultural heritage through dedicated programs..

The university has developed research excellence in strategic areas including post-conflict studies, artificial intelligence, petroleum engineering, sustainability, and Kurdish linguistics, reflecting Kurdistan's geopolitical and economic context. UKH's research generates policy-relevant scholarship addressing regional challenges. The university actively bridges academia and society through public lectures, cultural events, and policy forums that engage broader communities.

Operating within Kurdistan's complex political landscape, UKH balances regional educational autonomy with Iraq's federal higher education framework. This unique positioning informs its ambition to be a Middle Eastern centre of academic excellence and to educate future leaders, whilst advancing Kurdish scholarship globally. Through its integrated approach to education, research, and cultural preservation, UKH serves as a vital institution for developing Kurdish intellectual capital and promoting Kurdish studies internationally.

Institut Kurde de Paris:

Institut Kurde de Paris: The Kurdish Institute of Paris, founded in 1983, represents the preeminent academic institution dedicated to the systematic preservation, documentation, and advancement of Kurdish linguistic, historical, and cultural heritage. As the principal centre for Kurdish studies, the institute generates interdisciplinary scholarship, publishes peer-reviewed research, and maintains the most comprehensive archival collection of Kurdish literary and historical materials. Significantly, it provides crucial academic scholarships to Kurdish students, fostering the next generation of scholars dedicated to Kurdish studies.

While upholding the highest academic standards, the institute actively engages in dual missions of scholarly research and advocacy. It serves as both an intellectual hub and political advocate, promoting the right to self-determination for the Kurdish people while defending their cultural and political rights through evidence-based research and policy interventions. The institute facilitates vital scholarly exchange between the Kurdish diaspora, researchers focused on Kurdistan, and the international academic community.

Through its robust programming - including international symposia, Kurdish language pedagogy, cultural exhibitions, and public advocacy campaigns - the institute situates Kurdish studies within global humanities while centering indigenous Kurdish knowledge systems. Its collaborative research with universities and transnational organizations critically examines the sociopolitical realities of Kurdish identity within partitioned Kurdistan, where over 40 million Kurds face systemic restrictions on linguistic rights, cultural expression, and political representation across Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria - often enforced through coercive state measures.

The institute's methodological rigour, combined with its commitment to both scholarship and advocacy, has established it as the authoritative voice in academic and policy debates concerning Kurdish affairs.

Through its dual commitment to knowledge production and rights protection, the institute not only documents Kurdish heritage but actively works to safeguard its future.

Conference Partners

Centre for Peacebuilding and Dialogue: The Centre for Peacebuilding & Dialogue (CPD) was launched in October 2022 at the University of Kurdistan Hewlêr (UKH). CPD aims to shape the Kurdistan Region into a beacon of peacebuilding, tolerance, and dialogue in the conflict-ridden Middle East. By integrating the dialogue perspective into peace and conflict resolution studies, CPD strives to fortify conflict prevention mechanisms within the Kurdistan Region and Iraq, as well as across the broader region and international community. Situated in Erbil, a city that has resiliently preserved its diverse communities despite being the ISIS frontline until 2017, CPD benefits from a wealth of available data and a vibrant participant pool.

CPD has established three primary objectives to drive its mission forward. Firstly, it seeks to become an academic hub renowned for action-focused research, generating insights that translate into practical solutions. Secondly, CPD is committed to empowering education, fostering a culture of dialogue, and facilitating community development. By equipping individuals with knowledge and skills, CPD aims to ignite positive change and contribute to regional transformation. Lastly, CPD organizes robust policy and community dialogues, providing a platform for profound conversations and serving as an agent of change. With a multidimensional approach, CPD is poised to contribute to shaping the future of the Kurdistan Region and the broader quest for peace and understanding.

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research- Kurdistan Region Government: The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR) of the Kurdistan Regional Government serves as the principal governing body for tertiary education and research within the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. It establishes and enforces academic standards across public and private universities while promoting quality assurance through institutional accreditation processes. The ministry administers competitive scholarship programs to facilitate international graduate studies, particularly in STEM and professional disciplines critical for regional development. A key function involves preserving Kurdish cultural heritage through curriculum development in Kurdish language, history, and literary studies.

MOHESR prioritizes research capacity-building in strategic fields including energy studies, agricultural sciences, and post-conflict reconstruction. It fosters international academic partnerships to enhance faculty development, research collaboration, and curriculum modernization initiatives. The ministry faces operational challenges stemming from budget constraints, academic brain drain, and the need for greater global integration. Despite these obstacles, it maintains commitment to improving research productivity and institutional competitiveness within regional and global rankings. Through policy frameworks and funding mechanisms, MOHESR aligns higher education outcomes with labour market demands and socioeconomic priorities. These comprehensive efforts position the ministry as a crucial driver of intellectual capital formation and knowledge-based development in the Kurdistan Region.

Additional Sponsors

France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

France's Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs demonstrates its commitment to fostering international academic dialogue and supporting Kurdish cultural and intellectual development.

France's Ministry of Higher Education and Research

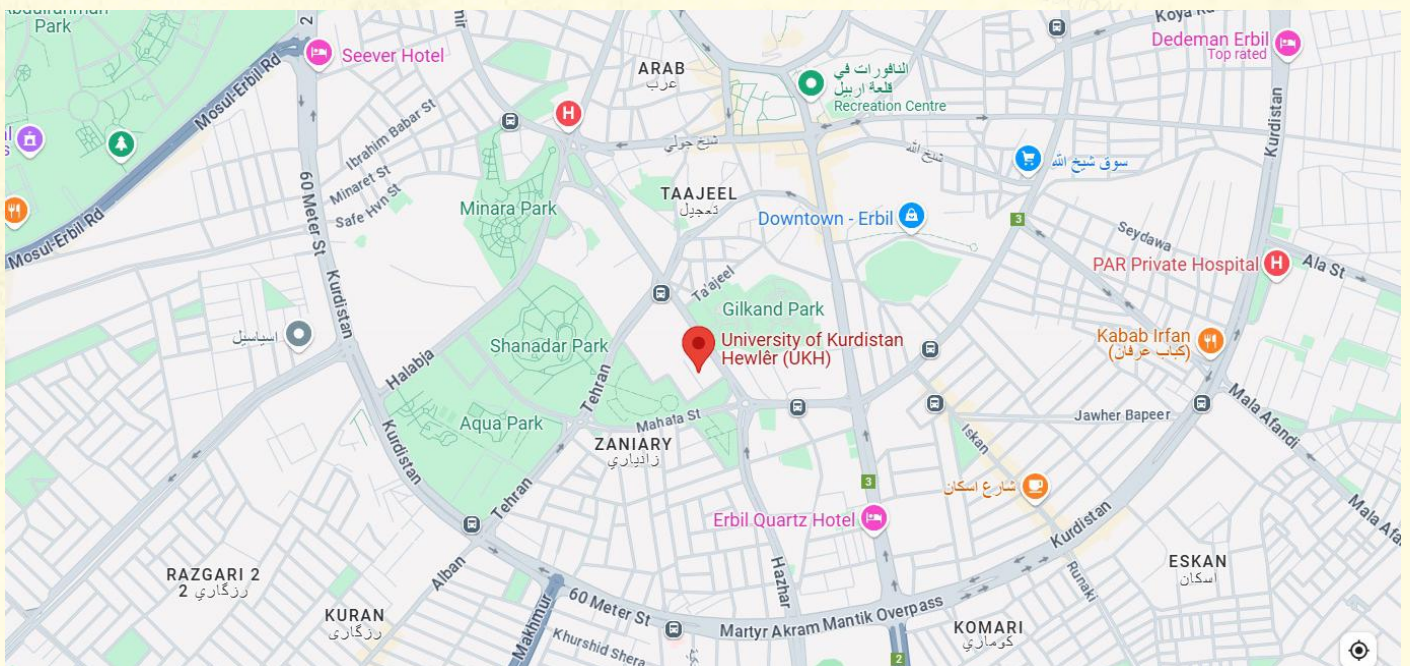
The Ministry of Higher Education and Research contributes to this conference through its dedication to advancing global academic partnerships and research innovation.

The French Embassy in Baghdad

The French Embassy in Baghdad serves as a key liaison between French and Kurdish institutions, operationalizing bilateral agreements in education and research. By co-sponsoring this conference, the Embassy reinforces its mandate to strengthen Franco-Kurdish academic ties, facilitate scholar exchanges, and support cultural preservation efforts.

The venue of the conference

The conference will be held at the University of Kurdistan Hewlêr in Erbil, Kurdistan Region of Iraq.



Contact Information

For further details or inquiries, please contact:

Seyedeh Zhina Seyed Mohammad

kurdishstudiesconference@ukh.edu.krd

seyedehzhina.seyed@ukh.edu.krd

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

22 April 2025

9:00-9:30 Registration/ Coffee

Auditorium: (9:30- 10:00) Welcome

- Dr Zana Ibrahim, Interim President, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr
- Aram Mohammad Qadir, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- Yann Braem, French Consul General, Erbil
- Kendal Nezan, President of the Kurdish Institute of Paris

Auditorium: (10:00 –10:45) Plenary session

- Chair: Amir Calli, Kurdistan Ministry of Higher Education
- Kurdish Studies: Legacies of the Past, Perspectives of the Future
- Hamit Bozarslan, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France

10:45 - 11:00 Break

11:00 - 12:00 - Parallel sessions

W1, The Kurdish Quest for Self-Rule: Past and Present

Chair: Arzu Yilmaz, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr

- **The New Geopolitics of the Kurdish Self-determination Conflict in the Middle East: Impediments to and Opportunities for Negotiation and Peace**
Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna, Austria
- **The Emergence of Modern Kurdish National Historiography in the Twentieth Century**
Marouf Cabi, LSE, United Kingdom
- **“No Friends but the Mountains”: A Critical Perspective on the Diplomatic Activities of Kurdish Political Actors in the Early 20th Century**
Kubra Sagir, EHESS, Paris, France

W5, Rethinking Gender Studies in Kurdistan

Chair: Prof. Hamit Bozarslan, EHESS, Paris

- **Conceptualising Women’s Studies in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Nazand Begikhani, Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, France
- **The Changing Faces of Honour Among the Kurds: Reevaluating the Discourse on Honour-related Violence**
Rebwar Karimi

- **Feminist Research Ethics in Conflict Zones: Insights from Diyarbakır and Kurdish Women's Experiences**
Ruşen Işık, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, France
- **The Women's Institution in Rojava Unmuted Women? A Case Study of the Women's House (Mala Jin)**
Yushan Huang, EHESS), Paris, France

T10, Migration, Diaspora and Homeland (Gender, Justice and Security Hub)

Chair: Karzan Karim Khwaraham Senior Advisor to The Prime Minister (On Education And Higher Education Affairs

- **The Making of the Kurdish Diaspora: A Conceptual and Practical Roadmap**
Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University, UK and Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna, Austria
- **Migrant Workers' Inclusion in the Social Security System in Iraq and KRG**
Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq
- **From the West to the Kurdistan Region: Exploring the Complexities of Gendered Kurdish Return Mobilities**
Jiyar Aghapouri, The American University of Kurdistan, Necla Acik, Middlesex University, Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University and Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq

T11, Language Politics and Bilingualism: The Kurdish Language Debate in Iran and Turkey

Chair: Salih Akin, University of Rouen-Normandy, France

- **Deconstructing Monolingual Ideologies in Debates over Kurdish Language Education in Iran**
Jaffer Sheyholislami, Carleton University, Canada
- **Family Language Policy of Kurdish Bilinguals Among Two Generations in West Part of Iran**
Hiwa Weisi and Sosan Mansouri, Razi University, Iran
- **Language Policy and Bilingualism in the Kurdish Region of Turkey**
Resul Geyik, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

T13, Kurdish Armed Actors and Statehood: Navigating Security, Legitimacy, and International Relation

Chair: Sedat Ulugana, Freie Universität /Berlin, Germany

- **The peshmerga of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: party militia, constitutional force or hybrid security actor? Security sector reform in a fragile federal state**
Francis Owtram and Gareth Stansfield, University Exeter, UK
- **Navigating Conflict: The YPG/J, Rojava Revolution, and International Relations**
Pol Mauri, Universidad Complutense, Spain
- **The Kurds, Card or Actor?**
Hemn Seyedi, University of Exeter, UK

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch Break

13:00 – 14:00 – Parallel sessions

W1, State Formation, Historiography, and Resistance: Kurdish Experiences in the 20th Century

Chair: Bayar Mustafa, Centre for Peacebuilding and Dialogue

- **The Kurdish Delegation in Paris Led by General Chérif Pacha at the 1919-1920 Peace Conference**
Najat Abdulla, Independent Researcher
- **King Faisal's Assimilation Policies in Iraq and the Kurdish Resistance: 1921-1933**
Majid Aziz Salih, Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan
- **Geotrauma: The Construction of Iranian Kurdistan, Rojhelat, as a Site of Shock During the Reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi I**
Omid Jahangiri, University of Tehran, Iran
- **The Shah Is Ready to Provide Any Support Necessary": Iran and the Iraqi Kurdish Parties During the Cold War**
Siarhei Bohdan, University of Regensburg, Germany

W5, Gender and Cultural Identity: Gendered experiences of resilience

Chair: Dileen Sardar Al-Noori, University of Dohuk

- **Memory, Trauma, and Feminist Resistance: Examining Gender and Cultural Identity in Kurdish Women's Literature**
Essmat Sophie, University of Oslo, Norway
- **Kurdish Women's Struggle After Anfal Genocides: Case Study of TV Drama Garmyan and Kwestan**
Rezan Saleh, University of Oslo, Norway
- **Echoes of Kurdish Women's Memoirs**
Hashem Ahmaedzadeh, Uppsala University, Sweden

T10, Kurdish Migration Across Continents: Challenges, Activism, and Quality of Life

Chair: Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq

- **The Grass is not Always Greener on the Other Side: The Evolution of Iraqi Kurdish Migration to Europe: The Case of Kurdish Migrants in Athens and Dunkirk**
Abdullah Omar Yassen, Erbil Polytechnic University, Kurdistan
- **Kurdish Language in the US: Statelessness, Intersectionality, and Activism**
Haidar Khezri, University of Central Florida, USA
- **Subjective Quality of Life Research: A Case Study of Canadian Kurds**
Atilla Firat, Fereydoon Rahmani, York University, Toronto, Canada

T11, - Language Policy, Toponymy and Ethnolinguistic Vitality

Chair: Jaffer Sheyholislami, Carleton University, Canada

- **Territorial Reappropriation and the Promotion of Kurdish Toponymic Heritage in Rojava**
Salih Akin, University of Rouen-Normandy, France
- **Toponymy of Some Famous Geographical and Historical Places in Kurdistan and Iran Based on Historical, Archaeological and Linguistic Evidence**
Naser Aminikhah & Hiwa Weisi, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran
- **Relationship Between Perception of Language and Cultural Identity in Young Kurds According to Ethnolinguistic Vitality**
Nuh Bozkur, Mehmet Yonat, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

T13, - Imagining the Nation: Kurdish Identity, Geopolitics, and Nation Branding

Chair: Karokh N. Othman, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr

- **Nation Branding and National Identity in De Facto States: The Case of Iraqi Kurdistan**
Bewar Lateef, Catholic University Erbil, Kurdistan
- **UNESCO and the Iraqi Kurdistan Region: Study on the Protection of the Cultural Heritage**
Bryar Sherko Baban, Legal Advisor at Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan
- **The Kurds: From Geopolitics to Psychopolitics**
Chya Hassan Ali, Association of Political Sciences, Sulaimani Branch, Kurdistan

Break 14:00- 14:15

14:15 – 15:15 – Parallel sessions

W1, - Kurdish Resistance and Political Mobilization: Comparative Transnational Narratives

Chair: Metin Atmaca, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey

- **Translating the Resistance: Kurdish Struggles and Activist Narratives Across Borders**
Seren Üstündağ, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- **Strategies of Resistance: The Dynamic Landscape of Kurdish Political Action in Rojhelat**
Ziba Akbari, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia
- **The Process of Kurdish Ethnic Group Emergence and Development in Kazakhstan: Comparative Analysis**
Murad Shamilov, Kazakh Ablai Khan, Kazakhstan

W5, - Reimagining Kurdish Identity: Digital Nationalism, Gender, and Intergenerational Perspectives

Chair: Ruwayda Mustafah, Rwanga Foundation

- **Online Kurdistan: From Territorial Dreams to Digital Reality - Generation Z's Reconceptualization of Kurdish Nationalism**
Barış Öktem, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
- **Gender and Nation-Building in Bashur: Unravelling Masculine Ideals Within Kurdish Nationalist Discourse**
Kaveh Ghobadi, University of Exeter, UK
- **Between the Legacy and the Reality: Unveiling the Kurdish Ethnic Identity Through the Intergenerational Perspective**
Revşen Berfin Coşkun, Kürt Kanaat Barometresi, Turkey

T10, - Kurdish Language Policy and Identity Formation

Chair: Hashem Ahmaedzadeh, Uppsala University, Sweden

- **The Emergence of the Turkish State as a New Actor in the Kurdish Linguistic Sphere and the Responses of Kurdish Language Activists during Peace Negotiations, 2009-2015**
Demet Arpacık, CUNY, USA
- **Sociolinguistic Complexity and Identity Aspirations: A Comparative Study of Kurdish Communities in Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria**
Nigar Ali Hussein, Independent Researcher, Kurdistan
- **The Politics of Persianization in Pahlavi Iran: A Study of Kurdish Cultural Discrimination**
Giulia Navab Daneshmand, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Language Standardization and Its Impact on Kurdish Identity in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Ghader Allahweisi Azar, Islamic Azad University

T11, - Reimagining Gurani: Literature, Culture, and Memory in Kurdish Studies

Chair: Nigar Ali Hussein, Independent Researcher, Kurdistan

- **Poetics of Dialogue in the Gurani Literary Tradition**
Behrooz Chamanara, University of Goettingen, Germany
- **Metrical Systems of Fahlaviyât, Orāmanān, and Gorani Poetry: A Comparative Analysis**
Parvin Mahmoudveysi, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Alignment Patterns in Gurani: A Typological Approach**
Zaniar Naghshbandi, University of Kurdistan, Iran

T13, - Framing the Kurds: Armenian, Chinese, Japanese and Turkish Perspectives on Kurdish Representation

Chair: Gérard Gauthier, Kurdish institute in Paris, France

- **The Representation of the Kurdish Question through the Prism of Chinese Official Media in 1946 -1991: The People's Daily as a Case Study**
QIU Tian, Institute national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO), Paris, France

- **From Butterfly Collecting to Cyborg Soldiers: An Introduction to Kurdish Narratives in Japanese Literature, Manga, Anime, and Film, 1975–2023**
Vakas Colak, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan
- **Kurdish Studies in Turkish Academia: The Impact of Political Conflict and State Interventions**
Güllistan Yarkin, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Kurdish revolts in the archives of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF): from Sheikh Said to Ararat 1924-1930**
Sedat Ulugana, Freie Universität /Berlin, Germany

15:15 – 15:30 – Break

15:30 – 16:30 – Parallel sessions

W1, - Foreign Policy, Legal Framework and Kurdish Struggles in the Global Context.

Chair: Bayan Sami Abdulrahman, Senior Advisor to Prime Minister Masrour Barzani for Foreign Affairs and Climate Change, Kurdistan Regional Government

- **US Foreign Policy Towards Non-State Actors: Impact of Joint Operations, Affective Trust, and Identity**
Delovan Barwari, KRG Representation in the US, USA
- **ISIS and the position of victims in universal jurisdiction procedures,**
Simon Minks, UN consultant, Senior Public prosecutor, Netherlands
- **The Role NATO Can Play in Protecting the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's National Security: A Legal Analysis of IS's Threats**
Saman Omar, ICER Mediation, USA
- **Building Resilience to Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference in Kurdistan Region: Model Based on Experience from Global Battlefield**
Piotr Sosnowski, University of Warsaw, Poland

W5, - Resilience and Resistance: Kurdish Women Entrepreneurs and the Gendered Landscape in the UK and Kurdistan

Chair: Shiraz Ibrahim, British International University, Kurdistan

- **Unlocking Potential: Kurdish Women Entrepreneurs and Their Pursuit of Economic Independence in the UK**
Mamilan R. Hussein, University of West London, UK
- **Kurdish Women in the UK Diaspora: Opportunities, Adversities & Challenges**
Shilan Fuad Hussain, Institute of Domestic Violence, Religion and Migration, UK
- **Gendered Suicide: Power, Patriarchy, and Women's Body in Iraqi Kurdistan**
Sakar Ibrahim, Humboldt University, Germany

T10, - Identity, Politics, and State Assimilation

Chair: Nawzad Hetuti, Salahadeen University, Kurdistan

- **The Kurds of Syria: Balancing Kurdish and Syrian Identities**
Yunus Abakay, Research Fellow, University of Exeter
- **Racism and Ethnic Cleansing: Political Islam and Minority Rights in Iran**
Saïd Shams, Independent Researcher
- **The Analysis and Examination of the Role of the Educational System in Homogenizing and Assimilating the Kurdish Subject to the State's Demands, From the Constitutional Revolution to the Fall of Reza Shah**
Hesam Mohammadzadeh, Milad Moradi, University of Tehran

T11, - The Divine and the Imaginary: Exploring Art, Identity, and Resistance

Chair: Mairead Smith, Brown University, USA

- **Creature and Creator: Representing the Divine in Sherzad Hassan's "Smoke"**
Claire Jacobson, Indiana University Bloomington, USA
- **Imaginary Resistance: Fantasy and Identity Construction in Bakhtiar Ali's The Last Pomegranate of the World through a Žižekian Lens –**
Rezan N.A. Hassani, Pegah A.M. Seidi, Kurdistan Technical Institute, Kurdistan
- **Landscapes of Memory: Cultural Identity and the Kurdishness in Bachtayar Ali's**
Ebrahim Barzegar, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland
- **Kurdish Art As Political Witness**
Autumn Cockrell-Abdullah, Agnes Scott College, USA

T13, - Kurdish Language, Dialects, Teaching and Publishing

Chair: Himdad Muhammad, Salahaddin University

- **Comparison of pronouns in Zazaki and Gorani dialects as a comparative linguistics study**
Haci İbrahim Aytakin, Bingöl University, Turkey
- **The Classification of the Gurani Language Variety: A Comparative Analysis of the European Tradition and Speakers' Perspective based on a Perceptual Approach**
Iraj Ahmadi, University of Kurdistan, Iran
- **Sweden's Role as an Alternative Location for Kurdish Language Publishing: A Comparison of the Library Catalogues Data in the Turkish National Library and the Kurdish Library in Stockholm**
Miki Nose, Institute of Developing Economies, Japan

16:45 – 17:45 – Public Event - Kurdistan in Transition: The Shifting Dynamics of Conflict, Peace, and Reconciliation (Auditorium)

23 April 2025

Auditorium - 9:30 –10:15 – Plenary session

- Chair: Nazand Begikhani, Sciences Po, Paris

On Oral Studies and Religious Minorities in Kurdistan

Khanna Omarkhali, Free University of Berlin, Germany

10:15 - 11:15 - Parallel sessions

W1, – Rojava in Focus: Governance, Conflict, and Statelessness

Chair: Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna

- **Kurdish Governance in Arab Regions of Syria: A Practice-Based Reassessment**
Matt Broomfield, University of Sussex, UK
- **Solidarity, Pedagogy, and Research Place: Fieldwork Design in- and with the AANES**
Charlotte Grace, Royal College of Art, United Kingdom (Online)
- **Rethinking Human Rights Through Statelessness: The Case of Statelessness of Rojava Kurds**
Merve Firat, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

W5, – Competing Visions and Power Struggles: Kurdish Politics and Governance in the Syrian Civil War and Post-Baath Iraq

Chair: Hiwa Majid, University of Salahadeen, Kurdistan

- **A House Divided Against Itself? Ideology, Trust, and the Limits of Kurdish Cooperation in the Syrian Civil War**
Andrea Novellis, University of Naples “L’Orientale”, Italy
- **Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria: Oscillating Between State-like Building and Hybrid Form of Governance**
Katia Zagoritou, University of Peloponnese, Greece
- **Tug of War: Minorities in the Struggle for Power Between the Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Post-Ba’ath Iraq, 2003-2017**
Gregory J. Kruczek, Penn State University, USA

T10, - Kurdish Studies as a Nucleus of Change

Chair: Thomas Schmidinger, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **Endangered language diversities: temporal, spatial and conditional dimensions**
Agnes Grond, University of Graz, Austria.
- **Contested religious diversities and shared religious spaces**
Thomas Schmidinger, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **Disputed trauma memories: ethical dimensions**
Katharina Brzić, University of Freiburg, Germany (Online)

WH1, - Kurdish Archives: Challenges and Opportunities of Preservation and Digitization

Chair: Farangis Ghaderi, University of Exeter, UK

- **Zheen Centre for Documentation and Research, Achievements and Challenges**
Sidiq Saleh, Director of the Zheen Centre for Documentation and Research, Kurdistan
- **Establishing a Digital Archive for Kurdish Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Strategic Solutions**
Behrooz Chamanara, Kurdish Heritage Institute (KHI)
- **KCAC Archive: Challenges, Opportunities and Lessons Learnt,**
Mohammed Fatih, Managing Director of the Kurdistan Centre for Arts and Culture
- **Comparative Study of the ‘Preservation of National Documentation’ Law in Iraqi Kurdistan**
Majid Salih Aziz, Senior Advisor at the Kurdistan Parliament
- **Uncovering Women’s Voices in the Archives and Gendering Kurdish History**
Farangis Ghaderi, University of Exeter, UK

Break - 11:15 – 11:30

11:30 – 12:30

W1, - Territories of Resistance and Control: Kurdish Spaces, State Power, and Everyday Struggles in the Middle East

Chair: Jean-Marie Pradier, Maison des Sciences De l’Homme, Paris Nord

- **Homelessness and Homemaking at the Intersection of the Public and Private in Nusaybin, -2016 2023**
Dileen Sardar Al-Noori, University of Dohuk
- **Constructing Control: Turkish and Iranian Dams and Their Consequences for the KRG**
Anuradha Jangra, Centre for West Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
- **Turkish Water Colonialism Against Rojava**
Muhammed Kaya, Universität Bremen, Germany

W5, - Kurdish Folklore Studies in Turkey: From Past to Present

Chair: Tereza Amryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

- **Kurdish Folklore Studies in Exile: Damascus, the Soviet Union and the Diaspora**
Necat Keskin, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Kurdish Folklore Studies in Turkish Academic Institutions**
Kenan Subaşı, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

- **Kurdish Folklore Studies by Independent Institutions: The Mesopotamia Foundation as an Example**
Hikmettin Atli, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Kurdish Folklore Studies from Mela Musa Hakari to the Jîne Magazine**
Ramazan Pertev, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

T10, - Performing Kurdish Music and Identity

Chair: Nicholas Hobbs, singer, writer, actor and independent researcher, United Kingdom

- **Marginalized Musicians in the “City of Music:” The Construction of Musical Identity in Sanandaj, Sine, and the Experience of Urban Marginality Among Loties**
Kajwan Ziaoddini, Mohammad Mirzaei, University of Maryland, USA, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Iran
- **Strana Shvan Parwar, Beje Haval Beje, di navbera ziman û zimanê muzîkê**
Hemn Abdullah, Mizgin Abdulrahman, Salahaddin University, Kurdistan
- **A Kurdish Musician in the Diaspora: Nizamettin Arıç**
Ebru Avcı, ITU, Turkey
- **Dieter Christensen. Too early and too late. A Pioneer of Kurdish Music**
Martin Greve Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey

Lunch Break: 12:30 -13:30

13:30 -14:30 - Parallel sessions

W1, - Resistance and Politics of Memory: Gender, Violence, and Space

Chair: Mamilan R. Hussein, University of West London, United Kingdom

- **Violence, Trauma, and Memory: The Legacy of the August 15 Guerrilla Offensive in Turkey's Kurdish Conflict**
Barış Tuğrul, Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey
- **Young Women in the Intra-Kurdish Conflict: Gender, Identity, and Peacebuilding**
Mehmet İlhanlı, Diyarbakır Institute for Political and Social Research (DISA), Turkey.
- **Strategies of Resistance: The Dynamic Landscape of Kurdish Political Action in Rojhelat**
Ziba Akbari, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia

W5, - A Century of State-Making in Iraq: Baghdad, Kurdistan, and the Development of the Constitution

Chair: Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln

- **A State in the Making: Persistent Impediments to State Cohesion in Iraq**,
Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln, UK
- **Wilson in Versailles and the Kurdish Question**
Moritz Mihatsch, University of Cambridge, UK
- **The (Un) Making of a National Hero: The Legacy of Salah ad-Din al Ayyub in Iraq and Kurdistan**
Jan Vandeburie, University of Cambridge, UK
- **Problems of non-implementation in the case of the Iraqi Constitution**
Sheraz Ibrahim, British International University, Kurdistan
- **Security, Legitimacy, and State-Building in Contemporary Iraq: International Intervention and Regional Interference in the Case of Sinjar**
Dirwar Sadiq Zawity, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan and Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln, UK

T10, - Enacting Power, Identity, and History in Kurdish Cinema

Chair: Haroun Mohammed Younos, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan

- **Universalizing Kawa's Struggle: Examining the Horror of Power in a Kurdish Film**
Edith Szanto, University of Alabama, USA
- **Kurdish Cinema: An Attempt at Historical and Theoretical Positioning**
Sebahattin Şen, Van Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey

WH1, – Interdisciplinary Approaches to Yezidi Cultural Heritage: Continuity and Change

Chair: Khanna Omarkhali and Eszter Spät

- **An Interdisciplinary Study of the Role and Transformation of Yezidi Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century**
Benjamin Raßbach, Orient-Institut Beirut, Lebanon (Online)
- **Impermanence as Strength: Gêç, Xêr, and Yezidi Shrine Renewals in Post-Ferman Şingal**
Marc Marín Webb, University of Pennsylvania, USA
- **Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Role and Transformation of Yezidi Cultural**
Eszter Spät, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest, Hungary
- **Remembering the 72nd Ferman – Narrations of Post-Memories**
Maria Six-Hohenbalken, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria

Break - 14:30 – 15:45

W1, – Language, Power, and Politics: Historical and Contemporary Struggles for Kurdish Linguistic Rights

Chair: Mikail Bülbül, Artuklu University, Turkey

- **Shouting Loudly: Reflections on Linguistic Smear Campaign Against the Use of Kurdish Language in the Ottoman Empire from a Historical and Literary Perspective**
Seerwan Hariry, Georgetown University, Qatar
- **Legacy of Colonial Linguistics in Nationalist Language Ideologies and Practices: The Example Turkish State Actors' Attitudes of the Kurdish Language from the 1920s to 1950s**
Yuksel Gonul, University of Roehampton, London, UK
- **Language Planning of the Kurdish Language Foundation (SZK) in Western Kurdistan**
Viyen Hesên, Rojava University, Kurdistan
- **Kurdistan's Linguistic Resistance: A Lexicographical Perspective**
Kamal Soleimani, El Colegio de México, Mexico

W5, Resisting the Politics of Ethnic Dominance and Minoritization

Chair: Ano Abdoka, Minister of Transportations and Communications of KRG, Kurdistan

- **Destruction and (Re)Construction of Kurdish Space: Ethnicization of Space in Republican Turkey**
Rustu Demirkaya, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- **A Fruitful Political Instrument: A Thousand-Year-Old Unity/Brotherhood/Alliance**
Nurettin Beltekin, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Ethnic Minorities in Early Soviet Politics: The Case of the Kurds and Uyghurs**
Angelika Pobedonostseva, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia

T10, - Spirituality, Tradition, and Transformation: Kurdish Communities in Times of Crisis and Change

Chair: Khidir Domli University of Dohuk

- **The Uptrend of Oral Tradition in Adiyaman Kurdish-Alevi Community After the 6 February Earthquake in Turkiye – Berivan Matyar**
- **The Sacred Caves of Yārī Religion in Kurdistan**
Iraj Rezaei, Independent Scholar and Farhad Fatahi, University of Bu-Ali Sina in Hamadan, Iran
- **Evolving Dynamics in Sulaimaniya: Power Struggle Between Sufi Sheikhs and New Classes**
Metin Atmaca, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey

- **Shingali Êzidi Refugees in Southern France: a New Quest for Self-Definition**
Estelle Amy, French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

WH1, - Heritage, Identity, and Culture: Exploring Jewish and Kurdish Heritage

Chair: AbdulSalam Medeni, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **The Role of Jewish Space in Urban Form and Architectural Heritages of the Iranian Kurdish Cities**
Narcisse M. Sohrabi, Université Paris Ouest, France
- **Jewish Sites as a Cultural Heritage Within the Framework of Faith and Cultural Tourism**
Süleyman Şanlı, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **A Body of Culture: Importance of Indigenous Kurdish Tattoo**
Taylor Nasim, Indiana University Bloomington, USA
- **Kurdish Non-State Cultural Institutions: Objectives, Activities and Prospects for Cooperation**
Gérard Gautier, Kurdish institute in Paris, France

WF5, - Language, Culture, and Power: Kurdish Identity in AI and Everyday Life

Chair: Estelle Amy, French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

- **Language and Identity: Exploring AI Chatbot Bias in the Context of Kurdish Culture**
Hazha Saeed Yahia, the Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan
- **The Vocalisation of Dengbêjî, Kurmanji Long Song**
Nicholas Hobbs, singer, writer, actor and independent researcher, United Kingdom

Break 15:45- 16:00

16:00 -17:00 Parallel Sessions

W1, - Writing the Nation: Intellectual Activism and the Kurdish Literary Imagination

Chair: Jiyar Aghapouri, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan

- **Nationalism and the Reflection of the Nation and Homeland in the Poetry of Sherko Bekas: Poems Before the Raperin and Esta Kchek Nishtmanma**
Mazhar Ebrahimi, Dicle University, Diyarbakir, Turkey
- **The Concept of Freedom Between Struggle and Consciousness, in New Kurdish Poetry**
Mahabad Azad Mohammed, Koya University, Kurdistan
- **Pen to Power: The Journey of Writers and Intellectuals into the Political Arena**
Yaser Hassan Ali, University of Duhok, Kurdistan
- **The Kurdish Novel as a Response to Genocide(s)**
Lolav M. Hassan Alhamid, University of Duhok

W5, - Stateless and Resilient: Intersectionality and Activism Among Displaced Kurds

Chair: Howjin Muhammed

- **Returning from Europe to an IDP Camp? Iraqi Ezidis a Decade After ISIS Genocide**
Aleksandra Ancite-Jepifánova, University of London, United Kingdom
- **Kurdish in the US: Statelessness, Intersectionality, and Activism**
Haidar Khezri, University of Central Florida, USA
- **Subjective Experiences of Forced Returnees: Identity, Belonging, and Reintegration in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Abdul Samih Rahman, Eötvös Loránd University Sangar Y. Salih, Salahaddin University-Erbil

T10, - Resilience and Representation: Kurdish Women's and Children's Literature Across Borders

Chair: Vienna Salam, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr

- **Archived Voices of Kurdish Women in Amna Suraka Prison: Resilience Within Walls of Oppression**
Shajwan N. Fatah, Twana A. Hassan, Danya S. Mahmood, Charimo University, American University of Iraq, Sulaimaniyah, Kurdistan
- **Kurdish Children's Literature in Caucasia: Karlênê Çaçanî**
Dilan Taycur, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Zahhak, Fereydun, Kaveh and the Genesis of the Kurdish People in Ferdowsi's Shahnameh: Indo-European Perspectives on a Foundation Myth**
Francisco José Luis, SOAS, UK and Al-Esraa University, Iraq

WH1, - Kurdish Language in Practice: Grammar, Conjugation, and Legal Challenges

Chair: Demet Arpacık, CUNY, USA

- **The Challenge of Legal Language in Kurdish: Navigating Multiple Varieties in the Absence of Standard Official Variety**
Hazhar Asadpour, Shabbo Khezri, Islamic Azad University Mahabad, Iran, Shahid Beheshti University Tehran, Iran
- **Grammar-Focused Teaching of Kurmanji for Non-Native Speakers**
Tereza Amryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia
- **Discussion of the Formulations of the Kurdish Kurmanji Conjugator**
Mikail Bülbül, Artuklu University, Turkey
- **The Situation of Kurdish Studies in Kurdistan Universities in Terms of Curriculum, Teacher Skill, and Time Allocated for This Subject**
Saad Qazi, Salahaddin University, Kurdistan

17:15 Conference Concluding Remarks (Auditorium)

Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University, United Kingdom

UKH_Wifi

User: guest8
Password: Abc@8888

User: guest9
Password: Abc@9999



کورد

A

Internatio

Studies

Studies

INTERNATION

Studies

دکتور کوردیان هه

Studies

کورد

Kurdish

کورد

کورد

INTERNATION

Studies

Studies

INTERNATION

دکتور کوردیان هه

Kurdish

کورد

Studies

Studies

Studies

Studies

Studies