



SEMINAR SERIES-20

Turmoil in the Middle East: Sectarian Conflicts and Regional Power Struggles

By

Prof. Dr. Sabri SAYARI

The post-Arab Spring Middle East has witnessed an unprecedented escalation of violence, terrorism, and civil wars. The eruption of popular uprisings against the authoritarian regimes that began nearly five years ago have failed to produce progress toward democracy. Instead, conflicts stemming from sectarianism and power struggles for regional hegemony have intensified political violence and instability. The ongoing civil war in Syria best exemplifies the impact of the Sunni-Shi'a conflict and the rivalry between Iran and Saudi Arabia for regional hegemony. Additionally, the changing American foreign policy toward the Middle East under the Obama administration and Putin's efforts to reestablish Russia's strategic presence in the region have contributed to the ongoing turmoil in the Middle East.

Sabri Sayarı is currently Professor of Political Science at Bahçeşehir University. Previously he served on the faculty of Sabancı University where he became Emeritus Professor of Political Science in 2011. From 1994 to 2005, he served as the Director of the Institute of Turkish Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. His research has focused on Turkey's domestic politics and foreign policy. His recent publications include The Routledge Handbook of Modern Turkey (co-edited with Metin Heper), (Routledge 2012) and "Party system and democratic consolidation in Turkey: problems and prospects" in Turkey's Democratization Process (eds. C. Rodriguez, A. Avalos, H. Yılmaz, and A.I. Planet, Routledge 2014).

**Venue : Antalya
International University**
Date : 28 April 2016
Time : 14.00-16.00
Room : A1-92 Faculty Building

