



**17th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
"THE EUROPEAN UNION, TURKEY, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE KURDS"**

Brussels, European Parliament  
Wednesday 8th March – 15.30 – 18.30  
Thursday 9th of March - 09.30 – 18.30

**PATRONS**

**ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS DESMOND TUTU**  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, South Africa

**SHIRIN EBADI**  
Human Rights Lawyer  
Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Iran

**BIANCA JAGGER**  
Council of Europe Goodwill Ambassador  
Chair of the Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation, UK

**NOAM CHOMSKY**  
Institute Professor in the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy  
at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA

**LEYLA ZANA**  
European Parliament's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought,  
Rafto Prize Laureate, Turkey

*In cooperation with*



**Kurdish Institute of Brussels**

**IMPORTANT TECHNICAL INFORMATION**  
**"HOW TO PARTICIPATE AND ENTER THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT"**

*An official "European Parliament personal badge/pass" will be available for all ALREADY REGISTERED participants to the Conference.*

*Your "personal badge / pass" will be available at the main entrance of the European Parliament (Place de Luxembourg - main European Parliament's building "Altiero Spinelli")*

**- Wednesday 8th of March, 13.30 - 15.00**

**- Thursday 9th of March, 08.30 - 09.30**

*All participants must take care of their own "EP badge / pass" during both days; if someone lose the "pass / badge", it will be impossible for the conference's organizers to replace it, according to the E.P. internal rules.*

*For any additional information, please contact the conference's secretariat:*

[brusselsconferenceep@gmail.com](mailto:brusselsconferenceep@gmail.com)

**Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 15.30-16.00**

**OPENING SESSION, Room SPAAK 05B01**

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

### **Opening Speeches and Greetings**

- Ms. Kariane Westrheim, Chair of EUTCC, University of Bergen, Norway
- Ms. Shirin Ebadi, Human Rights Lawyer, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Iran (video message)
- Mr. François Alfonsi, MEP, Greens/European Free Alliance (Greens/EFA), France
- Ms. Dersim Dagdeviren, Kurd-Akad, EUTCC Board Member, Germany

**Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 16.00-17.30**

Panel I – Room SPAAK 05B01

**100 Years Republic of Turkey: Continuations, Contradictions and Change**

**Moderator:** Ms. Amberin Zaman, Senior Correspondent, UK

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

**100 Years of Turkish Republic and Treaty of Lausanne: Historical Continuations and Present Realities**

- Mr. Baskın Oran, Historian, Turkey

**Elections in Turkey: New Start versus Continuity**

- Ms. Meral Daniş Beştaş, HDP Group Deputy Chair, Turkey

**A Country in Ruins: Earthquake, human rights and racism**

- Ms. Rehsan Bataray, Human Rights Association Diyarbakir Branch, Turkey

**Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers**

**Wednesday, 8 March 2023, 17.30-18.30**

Panel II – Room SPAAK 05B01

**The Causa İmralı and European Institutions: Law, Obligations and Deficits**

**Moderator:** Ms. Barbara Spinelli, ELDH Co-Chair, Italy

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

**The Imprisonment Conditions of Abdullah Öcalan: From an Individual Case to Lawlessness of Whole Turkey**

- Ms. Raziye Öztürk, Asrın Law Office, Turkey

**Preventing Torture: Limits and Obligations**

- Ms. Ann Jessica Therese Karlqvist, MP, Left Party, Sweden

**Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers**

Thursday, 9 March 2023, 09.30-10.30

Panel III – Room SPAAK 05B01

**The Autonomous Administration of Northern and Eastern Syria: In the Crossfire of Interests**

**Moderator:** Ms. Ezo Özer, Journalist, Germany

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

**Interview with**

- Ms. Ilham Ahmad, Co-Chair of the Executive Committee of Syrian Democratic Council, Syria
- Mr. Andreas Schieder, MEP, Socialists and Democrats (S&D), Austria

**Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers**

Thursday, 9 March 2023, 10.30-13.00

Panel IV – Room SPAAK 05B01

**Turkey, the Kurds and the Middle East: Continuations and Challenges**

**Moderator:** Mr. Michael Gunter, Tennessee Technological University, EUTCC Secretary General, US

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

**War crimes in Kurdistan: From Halabja to Today**

- Mr. Salar Mahmoud, Head of Kurdistan Genocide Writers Union, Iraq

**The Alleged Use of Chemical Weapons by Turkey: Questions and Options**

- Mr. Jan van Aken, Biologist, Member of Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War`s (IPPNW) Scientific Advisory Board, Germany

**Turkey's New War: Drones and Deals**

- Mr. Georges Henri Beauthier, Lawyer, Belgium

**Turkey's Crimes Against Humanity: Eocide, Femicide, Genocide**

- Ms. Bedia Özgökçe, former HDP MP and Mayor of Van, Turkey

**Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers**

Thursday, 9 March 2023, 15.00-16:45

Panel VI – Room SPAAK 05B01

### The EU and the Kurds: Expectations and Options

**Moderator:** Mr. Joost Jongerden, EUTCC Board Member, University of Wageningen, Netherlands

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

#### **Kurdish Expectations of Europe**

- Ms. Nilüfer Koc, Kurdistan National Congress Foreign Affairs Spokesperson, Belgium

#### **De-Listing: Lifting Political Barriers**

- Ms. Besra Güler, Association for Democracy and International Law (Maf-Dad), Germany

#### **The December 23 Attack in Paris: Many Questions – Less Answers**

- Ms. Berivan Firat, Democratic Council of Kurds in French Foreign Relations Committee, France

#### **Europe and the Kurdish Question: Contradictions and Options**

- Mr. Nikolaj Villumsen, MEP, Vice-Chair The Left, Denmark

### Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers

Thursday, 9 March 2023, 16:45-17.45

Panel VIII – Room SPAAK 05B01

### Women Waving Future: Obstacles and Opportunities

**Moderator:** Ms. Nese Özgen, Antropologist, Germany

Interpretation in  
Kurdish, Turkish, French, English, German

#### **Jin – Jiyan – Azadî: A paradigm for freedom**

- Ms. Maryam Fethi, East Kurdistan Free Women Society, Spain

#### **Living International Solidarity – Creating Women Alliances**

- Ms. Evin Incir, MEP, Socialists and Democrats (S&D), Member of The EU-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee, Sweden

**Building Bridges in Politics: United Against Patriarchy and Repression**

- Ms. Ana Miranda, MEP, Greens/EFA, Spain

**Questions and Discussion with Moderators and Speakers**

**Thursday, 9 March 2023, 17.45-18.30**

Closing Session – Room SPAAK 05B01

**Conclusions, Recommendations and Final Resolution**

Board of EUTCC