



Program (please note: this program is subject to change).

Thursday, March 12 – CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DAY

- 11:30pm-1:30pm** **Congressional Day Planning Luncheon**
Location: 1510 H St., NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005
- 2:00pm-5:00pm** **Meetings with Members of Congress – United States Congress**

Friday, March 13 - U.S. - TURKEY RELATIONS DAY

Location: Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle Northwest, Washington, DC 20005

- 8:30am-5:00pm** Registration
- 9:00am-10:00am** **Breakfast & Opening Ceremony**
 Welcoming Remarks by **Mehmet Toy**, PhD, President, Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA)
 Keynote Speaker: Honorable **Robert Wexler**, President, the S. Daniel Abraham Center for Middle East Peace, Former Congressman and Co-Chair of the Turkey Caucus
- 10:00am-10:15am** *Coffee Break*
- 10:15am-11:00am** **Session 1: U.S. - Turkey Relations: Building up Trust**
Speakers: **Gonul Tol**, PhD, Founding Director, the Middle East Institute's Center for Turkish Studies
Ambassador James F. Jeffrey, Visiting Fellow of the Washington Institute, Former US Ambassador to Turkey and Iraq
Amanda Sloat, PhD, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Southern Europe and Eastern Mediterranean Affairs at the State Department
 Moderator: Kenan Caglar, Treasurer, ATAA
- 11:00am-11:15am** *Coffee Break*
- 11:15am-12:00pm** **Session 2: Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership (TTIP): Status of Turkey**
Speakers: **Kemal Kirisci**, PhD, TUSIAD Senior Fellow and Director, the Center on the US and Europe's Turkey Project at Brookings
Doreen Edelman, Esq., Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz PC
Miriam E. Sapiro, Esq., Visiting Fellow, the Global Economy and Development Program at Brookings
Besir Kemal Ustaoglu, Chairman, Turkish American Business Association, TABA-AmCham
 Moderator: Nurten Ural, Honorary Consul General of Turkey for the State of Michigan, Past President, ATAA



12:00pm-1:30pm

Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: **Ambassador Alev Kilic**, *Director of the Center for Eurasian Studies (AVİM) and Former Turkish Ambassador to Yugoslavia, European Council, Switzerland and Mexico*

1:30pm-2:00pm

Conference Break

2:00pm-3:45pm

Session 3: Plenary Session: Armenian Cause: Legal and Historical Perspectives

Speakers:

Christopher Gunn, *PhD, Assistant Professor, Coastal Carolina University*

Michael Gunter, *PhD, Professor of Political Science, Tennessee Technological University*

Bruce Fein, *Esq., Bruce Fein & Associates, Inc.*

Hakan Yavuz, *PhD, Professor, Political Science Department, University of Utah*

David Saltzman, *Esq., Saltzman & Evinch*

Moderator: **Gunay Evinch**, *Esq., Trustee and Past President, ATAA*

3:45pm-4:00pm

Coffee Break

4:00pm-5:00pm

Session 4: Turkish American Community Workshop: Round table Discussions

Coordinator: **Lale Iskarpatyoti**, *Former Executive Director, ATAA*

Guests will be able to choose from a variety of important topics and participate in one or more round table discussions.

5:00pm-5:15pm

Speaker:

Yavuz Atila, *Former Western Region VP, ATAA; Founder, Turkish Festival Committee Chair, TAAC Monterey Bay Chapter*

"Building a Strong and Vibrant Turkish American Community: Keeping the Identity and Integrating with the Community"

5:15pm-6:15pm

Conference Break

6:15 pm: 6:30pm

Wreath Laying at Ataturk Monument at Sheridan Circle

Near Turkish Embassy Residence, 1606 23rd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

6:30pm-8:30pm

Ambassador's Reception at Turkish Embassy

2525 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. - (For registrants only)



Saturday, March 14 - TURKISH AMERICANS DAY

Location: Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle Northwest, Washington, DC 20005

7:00am-5:00pm Registration

8:00am-8:30am

Breakfast

Keynote Speaker: **Ambassador Elin Suleymanov**, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to US

8:30am-10:00am

Session 5 (Plenary Session): Anti-Turkish Resolutions in Congress: Getting Turkish American Voices Heard

Speakers:

Lincoln McCurdy, President, Turkish Coalition of America (TCA)

Tayfun Selen, Candidate for New Jersey State Assembly

Gunay Evinch, Esq., Trustee and Past President, ATAA

Burak Guvensoylar, Judiciary Legislative Advisor at US House of Representatives, Office of Congressman Randy Forbes (VA-4)

Javid Huseynov, PhD, Co-Founder, Executive Director of the Pax Turcica Institute

Moderator: Lale Iskarpatyoti, Former Executive Director, ATAA

10:00am-10:15am

Coffee Break

10:15am-10:45am

Session 6: The Gallipoli Centennial: 100 Years of Peace

Erden Eruc, President, Around-N-Over

10:45am-11:00am

Coffee Break

11:00am-11:45am

Session 7: Women in Science and Engineering – TASSA -WISE

Speakers:

Canan Dagdeviren, PhD, Postdoctoral associate, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Duygu Kuzum, PhD, Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Pennsylvania

Moderator: Candan Tamerler, PhD, Wesley G. Cramer Associate Professor, the University of Kansas

11:45am-12:00am

Coffee Break

12:00pm-1:30pm

Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: **Ambassador Serdar Kilic**, Turkish Ambassador to the US

1:30pm-2:00pm

Conference Break



2:00pm-2:45pm **Session 8: Diversity Partnerships: Building Bridges with Other Communities in the U.S.**

Speakers: **Islom Shakhbandarov**, *President, Ahiska Turkish American Community Center in Dayton (ATACC-Dayton)**
Ajla Delkic, *Executive Director, Advisory Council for Bosnia and Herzegovina*
Ahmed Scego, *Somali Community Services Coalition*
Arthur Abramson, *Ph.D., Executive Director, Baltimore Jewish Council**
Moderator: **Zhikica Pagovski**, *Representative, United Macedonian Diaspora (UMD)*

2:45pm-3:00pm *Coffee Break*

3:00pm-3:45pm **Session 9: Turkish American Community Workshop: Round table Discussions**

Coordinator: **Lale Iskarpatyoti**, *Former Executive Director, ATAA*
Guests will be able to choose from a variety of important topics and participate in one or more roundtable discussions.

3:45pm-4:00pm *Coffee Break*

4:00pm-4:45pm **Session 10: Entrepreneurship in the US: Success Stories**

Speakers: **Varol Ablak**, *CEO, Vocelli Pizza*
Guniz Alkan, *President, A La Turca Textiles*
Moderator: **Fusun Bubernack**, *North Central Region VP, ATAA*

4:45pm-6:00pm *Conference Break*

6:00pm-7:00pm **Congressional Receptions (TBA)**

7:00pm-7:30pm **General Reception**

7:30pm-10:30pm **ATAA Annual Gala and Awards Banquet**

** invited*