



PLURIEX Workshop

Europe Otherwise

Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul | 29 June 2026 (hybrid)

Çağkan Ubay Meeting Room

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/338781842520819?p=Z0l76qqllgv5f7NfeY>

Meeting ID: 338 781 842 520 819

Passcode: Gd7AG2XW

This workshop brings together participants of the PLURIEX Residential Writing Retreat (Kazdağları, April 2026) alongside scholars who joined through an open call for papers, united by a shared commitment to epistemic pluriversality in EU Studies. Contemporary knowledge production about Europe remains uneven. While EU Studies has broadened thematically, its dominant disciplinary formations, canonical theoretical lineages, and institutional centres of authority have proven more resistant to transformation (Bettecken et al., 2022; Alpan and Diez, 2022). Certain knowledges are rendered legible, fundable, and authoritative, while others remain peripheral, fragmented, or only partially visible within prevailing frameworks.

Drawing on the principle of building "a world where many worlds fit" (Escobar, 2018), and engaging pluriversality as cosmopraxis (Querejazu, 2026), the workshop proceeds from the premise that knowledge about Europe is always produced from somewhere: from particular disciplinary formations, geo-epistemic locations, and situated experiences that shape what can be seen and what remains invisible (Fricker, 2007; Mignolo, 2021). It brings into conversation diverse theoretical traditions, including decolonial and pluriversal theory, feminist standpoint epistemology, heterodox political economy, and postcolonial IR, alongside scholarship emerging from geo-epistemic locations beyond the Euro-Atlantic core.

The workshop is organised around three interrelated dimensions of epistemic pluriversality. Disciplinary plurality expands EU Studies beyond its traditional political science and IR core. Geo-epistemic diversity foregrounds the multiplicity of ways in which Europe is known and interpreted across different world regions and intellectual traditions. Authorship and positional diversity draws attention to who produces and is recognised as producing authoritative knowledge on Europe. Together, these dimensions reorient analysis towards a Europe understood not as a fixed epistemic reference point, but as a historically situated and continuously negotiated formation within a wider pluriversal field.

References

- Alpan, B., & Diez, T. (2022). Teaching and Learning 'Europe' in 'the Periphery': Disciplinary, Educational and Cognitive Boundaries of European Studies. *Journal of Contemporary European Research*, 18(2).
- Bettecken, J., Klöckner, A. C., Kurch, C., & Schneider, G. (2022). Under-represented, cautious, and modest: the gender gap at European Union Politics. *European Political Science*, 21(3), 462-475.
- Escobar, A. (2018). *Designs for the pluriverse: Radical interdependence, autonomy, and the making of worlds*. Duke University Press.
- Fricker, M. (2007). *Epistemic injustice: Power and the ethics of knowing*. Oxford university press.
- Mignolo, W. D. (2021). *The politics of decolonial investigations*. Duke University Press.
- Querejazu, A. (2026). Pluriversality as methodology. *Third World Quarterly*, 47(3), 629-640.

Workshop Program

09:00–09:20 | Opening Remarks

Prof. Dr. Hümeýra Adıgüzel, Dean, Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, Bahçeşehir University

Writing Retreat Presentations | 09:20–12:30

Panel 1. Epistemic Worlds: Knowledge, Voice, and Authority in European Governance (09:20–10:40)

Panel Chair: Damla Bayraktar Aksel

Discussant: Levent Demirelli

- ‘Whose Digital Sovereignty? The EU Between A Fortress it cannot Build and A Gateway it cannot Open’ by Atakan Yılmaz, Bahçeşehir University
- ‘We Are Europeans Too’: Europeanness, Collective Memory, and Vernacular Belonging among Greek–Turkish Exchange Communities’, by **Ali Emre Eldem**, Istanbul Esenyurt University
- ‘Pluriversality at the Margins: Epistemic Hierarchy in EU-funded Peace Research, by **Menent Savaş Cazala**, Galatasaray University
- ‘Deliberative Democracy in the EU: Redefining Power and Participation in Supranational Governance’, by **Rahime Süleymanoğlu-Kürüm**, Bahçeşehir University & **Selin Türkeş-Kılıç**, Bahçeşehir University

10:40–10:55 | Coffee Break

Panel 2: Europe from the Margins: Identity, Mobility, and the Limits of Integration (10:55–12:15)

Panel Chair: Selcen Öner

Discussant: Atakan Yılmaz

- ‘European Multiplicity in the Age of Deglobalization: EU as a Global Gateway or Gatekeeper?’, by **Didem Buhari** (İzmir Kâtip Çelebi University), **Yasemin Ülker** (Bahçeşehir University) and **Necip Bulut** (Bahçeşehir University)
- ‘Decentring Europe in Migration Governance: Rethinking Population Politics and Migration Orders’, by **Damla Bayraktar Aksel**, Bahçeşehir University
- ‘Making Knowledge Fundable: EU Science Diplomacy and the Epistemic Ordering of External Research’, by **Gizem Alioğlu Çakmak**, Yeditepe University

12:15–12:30 | General Discussion

12:30–13:30 | Lunch

Writing Retreat Presentations (cont.) | 13:30–15:15

Panel 3: Structures of Power: Governance, Economy, and Epistemic Order

Panel Chair: Emre Eldem

Discussant: Rahime Süleymanoğlu-Kürüm

- ‘The Eurocentric Limits of Sustainable Supply Chain Governance: A case of EU Green Deal’, by **Yasemin Ülker**, Bahçeşehir University
- ‘The Bureaucratization of Executive Power in Turkey: Transformation of Ministerial Profiles through the 58th–67th Governments’, by **Levent Demirelli**, Beykent University
- ‘Looking Beyond ‘Otherness’ and Orientalism to Turks during the Late Ottoman Era from the Eyes of The European Travelers’, by **Selcen Öner**, Bahçeşehir University
- ‘EU Energy Security Discourse After 2022: Normative Power and Climate Justice in Tension’, by Zekeriya Tüzen, Bahçeşehir University
- ‘Profit Inflation and Non-Accelerating Inflation Rate of Profit’, by **Necip Bulut**, Bahçeşehir University

15:10–15:15 | General Discussion

15:15–15:30 | Coffee Break

Expanding the Circle | 15:30–17:10

Panel 4: Violence, Voice, and Visibility: Justice at the Edges of Europe

Panel Chair: Gizem Alioğlu Çakmak

Discussant: Selcen Öner

- ‘Epistemic Injustice and Women’s Participation in Peace Negotiations’ by **Burcu Özdemir-Sarıgil**, University of Edinburgh & **İpek Karaman-Yılmazgil**, Bilkent University
- ‘Pluriversality, Bordering, and Political Healing’ by **Veli Özdemir**, Işık University & **Toygun Karahasanoğlu**, Middle East Technical University
- ‘Media Representations of Hate Crimes in Europe’ by **Ayşe Deniz Ünan Göktan**, Acıbadem University & Özyeğin University
- ‘Gendered Nationalism and Crisis Governance in Hungary’ by **Ala Yusef Abed**, Bahçeşehir University

17:10–17:30 | General Discussion

17:30–18:00 | Closing Session

Reflections, special issue updates, and next steps