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General Information



Journal of Balkan and Black Sea Studies is an interdisciplinary refereed journal focusing on the humanities and social sciences of the Balkan countries and the former Soviet republics. The journal welcomes contributions in the fields of history, economics, politics, international relations, culture, art, geography, literature, theology, ethnography and environmental sciences. The idea behind this initiative is to extend a cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary approach over issues of regional importance. Under this light, the journal aspires to act as an academic forum for scholars in historical as well as contemporary context on a wide range of cross-regional issues and to provide the epistemological framework for a comparative investigation, which would enhance our understanding of the Balkan, and Black Sea societies, politics and communities. Furthermore, manuscripts connecting the region with wider scopes, such as technological applications, will be also considered.

The journal will be published online with two issues per year (June and December) commencing in 2018 and themed issues are anticipated. Submitted manuscripts should be original and not published or under consideration for publication elsewhere. Their length should not exceed 8.000 words. The manuscript will be subject to anonymous peer-review by at least two members of the scientific committee. The use of graphics and images in colour is encouraged and not subject to limitations (within reason). However, it is the responsibility of the individual authors to acquire copyright permission if needed. The language for manuscripts is English and Turkish. Articles, other than in English or Turkish, will be occasionally accepted. Articles must have an abstract of up to 150 words in English.

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Guidelines for Submission: Each issue will include articles, review essays, and shorter book reviews. All articles are to be submitted in electronic form to the journal editorial board at <http://dergipark.org.tr/balkar> and at balkar@yildiz.edu.tr. Submissions are to be up to 8,000 words in length and may be accompanied by footnotes and a bibliography. Transliterations will be kept to a minimum, and when used will follow the standard adopted by the appropriate scholarly bodies in the respective language areas. Articles are expected to be written in English though submissions in other languages can also be considered. Review essays are to be up to 4,000 words in length. They may review one or more books and may also focus on multiple works of a single author, works in a series, or publications around particular historical sources. Book reviews are to be 1,000 words in length.

Review of Submissions: All submissions are evaluated through a double-blind review process and include review both by editorial board members and external reviewers.

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General Style Rules: 1. The text must be formatted with 1.5-inch margins and be double-spaced. 2. A separate cover sheet must be included with the manuscript title, author's name, professional affiliation, complete mailing address and telephone number. 3. A short abstract of 70-100 words in English should accompany the article. 4. Capitalization: authors should be consistent in their use of capitalization. 5. Italics: the titles of works and periodicals should normally be italicized. Foreign words should also be italicized. 6. In general, foreign words and phrases, both in main text and footnotes should be provided in translation. All non-Roman alphabets should be transliterated according to the rules of international transliteration. 7. All articles should include footnotes. 8. All articles should have a bibliography at the end of the article. 9. Illustrations, tables, maps and figures must be numbered consecutively in the text and captions identifying the source of any image or data should be used. Figure title: below the picture; Table title: above the table. 10. For further reference, The Chicago Manual of Style Online (<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org>) is recommended.

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Editorial



Journal of Balkan and Black Sea Studies is an Istanbul-based journal aiming at strengthening academic exchange among social scientists from Turkey, the Balkans, the Caucasus and Eastern European countries.

We published the first number of the journal in December 2018 with six research articles and two book reviews. The second number of the journal (June 2019) consists of six research articles, four in English, one in French and one in Turkish.

The first article by *Stefan Troebst* deals with the geopolitical and historical position of Black Sea under the title “Black Sea as Historical Meso-Region” and examines different views and positions about this topic.

The second article by *Cengiz Çağla* discusses the nation-building process of Azerbaijan in the beginning of the 20th century. He examines how nationalist ideas reached the southern Caucasus in the second half of the 19th century and led to the declaration of the first Turkish-speaking republic in the region.

The third article by *Muhidin Mulalić* discusses the catastrophic effects of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1990ies and the demographic changes caused by the war. He explains the change of ethnic structure of different regions because of ethnic cleansing and genocide carried during the war.

The fourth article by *Jochen Töpfer* dwells on the Albanian attitude towards religion and particularly Islam in Albania. He examines the policies of the government in the context of religious freedom, the religious organizations and the organization of Muslim community in the region.

In the fifth article of this issue (in French) *Mihai Sorin Rădulescu* deals with the biography and works of the Romanian architect Victor G. Ștephănescu (1876 – 1950) and explains the history of the construction of the biggest mosque “Carol I” Mosque in Constanța, Romania, in 1910. The paper includes also photos to visualize the history and

actors.

The sixth and last article of this issue (in Turkish) by *Deniz Ertuğ* deals with the views of the French philosopher of Greek origin, Cornelius Castoriadis (born in 1922 in Istanbul and died in 1997 in Paris), about the European modernity and the modernity in general. The author explains the emphasis of Castoriadis on the ancient Greek concepts as a valuable source for current European society and civilization.

The issue includes also a review article by Tsvetelina Tsvetkova on the historiography on the Russian colonization of Caucasus, and two book reviews by Jahja Muhasilovic and Keisuke Wakizaka.

Finally, I would like to thank the authors for their valuable cooperation.

Mehmet Hacısalihođlu, Prof. Dr.

Editor in Chief