

YILLIK

Annual of Istanbul Studies

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5



İSTANBUL
RESEARCH
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Foreword

We present the fifth volume of *YILLIK: Annual of Istanbul Studies* with a sea change in its organizational structure, which marks the final stage of a two-year transformation process. Firstly, our large Advisory Board has been expanded and further diversified—a reflection and a potential remedy for the challenges we have faced in attracting content in several fields, as well as in securing resourceful peer review in other areas. Secondly and more radically, we have not only expanded and diversified our Editorial Board, but we have also changed the way it is structured. From this volume onwards, the Editorial Board has been divided into different specializations under the purview of subject and review editors. These editors provide the first critical review of submitted articles in their own subjects, commission new pieces, and contribute to the larger editorial orientation of the journal through their input. All these major changes in the journal's structure depended on a third change: the addition of Emily C. Arauz to the Editorial Board as the Managing Editor. Dr. Arauz's stewardship enabled us not only to survive this transformative period but actually come out of it with a volume of which we are proud.

YILLIK 5 (2023) opens with our first-ever peer-reviewed dossier, co-edited by one of our new subject editors, Ümit Fırat Açıkgöz, together with Yaşar Tolga Cora, on Armenian agencies in Istanbul's capitalistic transformation in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The dossier is a result of a workshop that took place in July 2022, co-organized by Koç University's Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations and the Istanbul Research Institute. It brings together the research of new voices in the field and sheds light on the unheard or the actively silenced voices of the past. The dossier begins with a detailed historiographical introduction by Açıkgöz, and includes three research articles by Cora, Aslıhan Günhan, and Sarine Agopian, the latter of whom was awarded our Early Career Article Prize.

In addition to the special dossier, there are four research articles that examine Istanbul's architectural, cultural, energy, and economic histories from the fourteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Selin Sur and Ufuk Serin evaluate the Genoese Walls in the context of medieval construction techniques. Kazuma Iwata analyzes the role of the charcoal merchants' guild in the energy distribution system of eighteenth-century Istanbul. Gürbey Hiz and Ayşe Şentürer study the illustrated journal *par excellence* of the late nineteenth-century Istanbul, *Servet-i Fünûn*. Finally, Hande Betül Ünal introduces Ottoman *rûznâmes* as a crucial source for the study of spaces of music in the eighteenth century.

Cabinet presents three anonymous panoramic views of Istanbul from the early nineteenth century. These paintings were recently added to the Suna and İnan Kırâç Foundation and are currently on display in Pera Museum's *On the Spot: Panoramic Gaze on Istanbul, a History* exhibition. They had previously never been published or exhibited, and their inclusion in this volume aims to make them known to students of Istanbul's past and to encourage further research.

Meclis features Emre Güldoğan's report on the İstYA archaeological field survey in Şile. The Reviews section begins with a featured review of Yannis Stouraitis' 2022 edited volume *Identities and Ideologies in the Medieval East Roman World*, by Anthony Kaldellis. It continues with essays on seven books and one exhibition. As always, the journal concludes with the most recent edition of the Istanbul Bibliography, compiled by Cemre Melis Yordamlı.

As we celebrate our fifth year as a peer-reviewed and indexed publication with ever-increasing numbers of submissions and an expanded readership, we thank both the members of our boards for their ongoing commitment to *YILLIK*, as well as the academic communities across various fields who share a common ground in their scholarly interest in the study of Istanbul.

K. Mehmet Kentel
Editor