

4th International Conference of Kurdish Studies

University of Kurdistan Hewlêr | Erbil, Kurdistan

22 - 23 April 2025

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

22 April 2025

9:00-9:30 - Registration/ Coffee

Room 1 - 9:30 -10:00 – Welcome

- Prof. Dr Zana **IBRAHIM**, Interim President, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr
- Aram Mohammad **QADIR**, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- Yann **BRAEM**, French Consul General, Erbil
- Kendal **NEZAN**, President of the Kurdish Institute of Paris

Room 1 - 10:00– 10:45 – Plenary session

Chair: Amir **Calli**, Kurdistan Ministry of Higher Education

Kurdish Studies: Legacies of the Past, Perspectives of the Future

Hamit **Bozarslan**, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, France

10:45 - 11:00 – Break

11:00 - 12:00 - Parallel sessions

Room 1- The Kurdish Quest for Self-Rule: Past and Present

Chair: Arzu Yilmaz, University of Kurdistan Hewler

- **The New Geopolitics of the Kurdish Self-determination Conflict in the Middle East: Impediments to and Opportunities for Negotiation and Peace**
Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna, Austria
- **The Emergence of Modern Kurdish National Historiography in the Twentieth Century**
Marouf Cabi, LSE, United Kingdom
« No Friends but the Mountains »: A Critical Perspective on the Diplomatic Activities of Kurdish Political Actors in the Early 20th Century
Kubra Sagir, EHESS, Paris, France

Room 2 - Rethinking Gender Studies in Kurdistan

Chair: Prof. Hamit Bozarslan, EHESS, Paris

- **Conceptualising Women's Studies in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Nazand Begikhani, Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, France
- **The Changing Faces of Honour Among the Kurds: Reevaluating the Discourse on Honour-related Violence** – Rebwar Karimi
- **Feminist Research Ethics in Conflict Zones: Insights from Diyarbakır and Kurdish Women's Experiences** – Ruşen Işık, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, France
- **The Women's Institution in Rojava Unmuted Women? A Case Study of the Women's House (Mala Jin)**
Yushan Huang, EHESS), Paris, France

Room 3 – Migration, Diaspora and Homeland (Gender, Justice and Security Hub)

Chair: Karzan Karim Khwaraham Senior Advisor to The Prime Minister (On Education And Higher Education Affairs

- **The Making of the Kurdish Diaspora: A Conceptual and Practical Roadmap**
Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University, UK and Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna, Austria
- **Migrant Workers' Inclusion in the Social Security System in Iraq and KRG**
Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq
- **From the West to the Kurdistan Region: Exploring the Complexities of Gendered Kurdish Return Mobilities**
Jiyar Aghapouri, The American University of Kurdistan, Necla Acik, Middlesex University, Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University and Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq

Room 4 - Language Politics and Bilingualism: The Kurdish Language Debate in Iran and Turkey

Chair: Salih Akin, University of Rouen-Normandy, France

- **Deconstructing Monolingual Ideologies in Debates over Kurdish Language Education in Iran**
Jaffer Sheyholislami, Carleton University, Canada
- **Family Language Policy of Kurdish Bilinguals Among Two Generations in West Part of Iran**
Hiwa Weisi and Sosan Mansouri, Razi University, Iran
- **Language Policy and Bilingualism in the Kurdish Region of Turkey**
Resul Geyik, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

Room 5 - Kurdish Armed Actors and Statehood: Navigating Security, Legitimacy, and International Relation

Chair: Sedat Ulugana, Freie Universität /Berlin, Germany

- **The peshmerga of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq: party militia, constitutional force or hybrid security actor? Security sector reform in a fragile federal state**
Francis Owtram and Gareth Stansfield, University Exeter, UK
- **Navigating Conflict: The YPG/J, Rojava Revolution, and International Relations**
Pol Mauri, Universidad Complutense, Spain
- **The Kurds, Card or Actor?**
Hemn Seyedi, University of Exeter, UK

12:00 – 1:00: - Lunch Break

1:00 – 2:00 – Parallel sessions

Room 1 State Formation, Historiography, and Resistance: Kurdish Experiences in the 20th Century

Chair: Bayar Mustafa, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **The Kurdish Delegation in Paris Led by General Chérif Pacha at the 1919-1920 Peace Conference**
Najat Abdulla, Independent Researcher
- **King Faisal's Assimilation Policies in Iraq and the Kurdish Resistance: 1921-1933**
Majid Aziz Salih, Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan
- **Geotrauma: The Construction of Iranian Kurdistan, Rojhelat, as a Site of Shock During the Reign of Reza Shah Pahlavi I**
Omid Jahangiri, University of Tehran, Iran
- **"The Shah Is Ready to Provide Any Support Necessary": Iran and the Iraqi Kurdish Parties During the Cold War**
Siarhei Bohdan, University of Regensburg, Germany

Room 2 –Gender and Cultural Identity: Gendered experiences of resilience

Chair: Dileen Sardar Al-Noori, University of Duhok

- **Memory, Trauma, and Feminist Resistance: Examining Gender and Cultural Identity in Kurdish Women's Literature**
Essmat Sophie, University of Oslo, Norway
- **Kurdish Women's Struggle After Anfal Genocides: Case Study of TV Drama Garmany and Kwestan**
Rezan Saleh, University of Oslo, Norway
- **Echoes of Kurdish Women's Memoirs**
Hashem Ahmaedzadeh, Uppsala University, Sweden

Room 3 - Kurdish Migration Across Continents: Challenges, Activism, and Quality of Life

Chair: Muslih Irwani, American University of Iraq - Baghdad, Iraq

- **The Grass is not Always Greener on the Other Side: The Evolution of Iraqi Kurdish Migration to Europe: The Case of Kurdish Migrants in Athens and Dunkirk**
Abdullah Omar Yassen, Erbil Polytechnic University, Kurdistan
- **Kurdish Language in the US: Statelessness, Intersectionality, and Activism**
Haidar Khezri, University of Central Florida, USA
- **Subjective Quality of Life Research: A Case Study of Canadian Kurds**
Atilla Firat, Fereydoon Rahmani, York University, Toronto, Canada

Room 4 - Language Policy, Toponymy and Ethnolinguistic Vitality

Chair: Jaffer Sheyholislami, Carleton University, Canada

- **Territorial Reappropriation and the Promotion of Kurdish Toponymic Heritage in Rojava**
Salih Akin, University of Rouen-Normandy, France
- **Toponymy of Some Famous Geographical and Historical Places in Kurdistan and Iran Based on Historical, Archaeological and Linguistic Evidence**
Naser Aminikhah & Hiwa Weisi, Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran
- **Relationship Between Perception of Language and Cultural Identity in Young Kurds According to Ethnolinguistic Vitality**
Nuh Bozkur, Mehmet Yonat, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

Room 5- Imagining the Nation: Kurdish Identity, Geopolitics, and Nation Branding

Chair: Karouk Othman

- **Nation Branding and National Identity in De Facto States: The Case of Iraqi Kurdistan**
Bewar Lateef, Catholic University Erbil, Kurdistan
- **UNESCO and the Iraqi Kurdistan Region: Study on the Protection of the Cultural Heritage**
Bryar Sherko Baban, Legal Advisor at Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan
- **The Kurds: From Geopolitics to Psychopolitics**
Chya Hassan Ali Association of Political Sciences, Sulaimani Branch, Kurdistan

Break 2:00 -2:15

2:15 – 3:15 – Parallel sessions

Room 1 - Kurdish Resistance and Political Mobilization: Comparative Transnational Narratives

Chair: Metin Atmaca, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey

- **Translating the Resistance: Kurdish Struggles and Activist Narratives Across Borders**
Seren Üstündağ, University of Lisbon, Portugal
- **Strategies of Resistance: The Dynamic Landscape of Kurdish Political Action in Rojhelat**
Ziba Akbari, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia
- **The Process of Kurdish Ethnic Group Emergence and Development in Kazakhstan: Comparative Analysis**
- Murad Shamilov, Kazakh Ablai Khan, Kazakhstan

Room 2 - Reimagining Kurdish Identity: Digital Nationalism, Gender, and Intergenerational Perspectives

Chair: Ruwayda Mustafah, Rwanga Foundation

- **Online Kurdistan: From Territorial Dreams to Digital Reality - Generation Z's Reconceptualization of Kurdish Nationalism**
Barış Öktem, Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
- **Gender and Nation-Building in Bashur: Unravelling Masculine Ideals Within Kurdish Nationalist Discourse**
Kaveh Ghobadi, University of Exeter, UK
- **Between the Legacy and the Reality: Unveiling the Kurdish Ethnic Identity Through the Intergenerational Perspective**
Revşen Berfin Coşkun, Kürt Kanaat Barometresi, Turkey

Room 3 - Kurdish Language Policy and Identity Formation

Chair: Hashem Ahmaedzadeh, Uppsala University, Sweden

- **The Emergence of the Turkish State as a New Actor in the Kurdish Linguistic Sphere and the Responses of Kurdish Language Activists during Peace Negotiations, 2009-2015**
Demet Arpacık, CUNY, USA
- **Sociolinguistic Complexity and Identity Aspirations: A Comparative Study of Kurdish Communities in Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Syria**
Nigar Ali Hussein, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan
- **The Politics of Persianization in Pahlavi Iran: A Study of Kurdish Cultural Discrimination**
Giulia Navab Daneshmand, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Language Standardization and Its Impact on Kurdish Identity in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Ghader Allahweisi Azar, Islamic Azad University

Room 4 - Reimagining Gurani: Literature, Culture, and Memory in Kurdish Studies

Chair: Nigar Ali Hussein, University of Kurdistan in Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **Poetics of Dialogue in the Gurani Literary Tradition**
Behrooz Chamanara, University of Goettingen, Germany
- **Metrical Systems of Fahlaviyât, Orāmanān, and Gorani Poetry: A Comparative Analysis**
Parvin Mahmoudveysi, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Alignment Patterns in Gurani: A Typological Approach**
Zaniar Naghshbandi, University of Kurdistan, Iran

Room 5- Framing the Kurds: Armenian, Chinese, Japanese and Turkish Perspectives on Kurdish Representation

Chair: Gérard Gauthier, Kurdish institute in Paris, France

- **The Representation of the Kurdish Question through the Prism of Chinese Official Media in 1946 - 1991: The People's Daily as a Case Study**
QIU Tian, Institute national des langues et civilisations orientales (INALCO), Paris, France
- **From Butterfly Collecting to Cyborg Soldiers: An Introduction to Kurdish Narratives in Japanese Literature, Manga, Anime, and Film, 1975–2023**
Vakas Colak, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Japan
- **Kurdish Studies in Turkish Academia: The Impact of Political Conflict and State Interventions**
Güllistan Yarkin, University of Hamburg, Germany
- **Kurdish revolts in the archives of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation (ARF): from Sheikh Said to Ararat (1924-1930)**
Sedat Ulugana, Freie Universität /Berlin, Germany

3:15 – 3:30 – Break

3:30 – 4:30 – Parallel sessions

Room 1- Foreign Policy, Legal Framework and Kurdish Struggles in the Global Context.

Chair: Bayan Sami Abdulrahman, Senior Advisor to Prime Minister Masrour Barzani for Foreign Affairs and Climate Change, Kurdistan Regional Government

- **US Foreign Policy Towards Non-State Actors: Impact of Joint Operations, Affective Trust, and Identity**
Delovan Barwari, KRG Representation in the US, USA
- **ISIS and the position of victims in universal jurisdiction procedures**, Simon Minks, UN consultant, Senior Public prosecutor, Netherlands
- **The Role NATO Can Play in Protecting the Kurdistan Region of Iraq's National Security: A Legal Analysis of IS's Threats**
Saman Omar, ICER Mediation, USA
- **Building Resilience to Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference in Kurdistan Region: Model Based on Experience from Global Battlefield**
Piotr Sosnowski, University of Warsaw, Poland

Room 2 - Resilience and Resistance: Kurdish Women Entrepreneurs and the Gendered Landscape in the UK and Kurdistan

Chair: Shiraz Ibrahim, British International University, Kurdistan

- **Unlocking Potential: Kurdish Women Entrepreneurs and Their Pursuit of Economic Independence in the UK**

Mamilar R. Hussein, University of West London, UK

- **Kurdish Women in the UK Diaspora: Opportunities, Adversities & Challenges**
Shilan Fuad Hussain, Institute of Domestic Violence, Religion and Migration, UK
- **Gendered Suicide: Power, Patriarchy, and Women's Body in Iraqi Kurdistan**
Sakar Ibrahim, Humboldt University, Germany

Room 3- Identity, Politics, and State Assimilation

Chair: Nawzad Hetuti, Salahadeen University, Kurdistan

- **The Kurds of Syria: Balancing Kurdish and Syrian Identities**
Yunus Abakay, Research Fellow, University of Exeter
- **Racism and Ethnic Cleansing: Political Islam and Minority Rights in Iran**
Said Shams, Independent Researcher
- **The Analysis and Examination of the Role of the Educational System in Homogenizing and Assimilating the Kurdish Subject to the State's Demands, From the Constitutional Revolution to the Fall of Reza Shah**
Hesam Mohammadzadeh, Milad Moradi, University of Tehran

Room 4 - The Divine and the Imaginary: Exploring Art, Identity, and Resistance

Chair: Mairead Smith, Brown University, USA

- **Creature and Creator: Representing the Divine in Sherzad Hassan's "Smoke"**
Claire Jacobson, Indiana University Bloomington, USA
- **Imaginary Resistance: Fantasy and Identity Construction in Bakhtiar Ali's The Last Pomegranate of the World through a Žižekian Lens – Rezan N.A. Hassani, Pegah A.M. Seidi, Kurdistan Technical Institute, Kurdistan**
- **Landscapes of Memory: Cultural Identity and the Kurdishness in Bachtyar Ali's**
Ebrahim Barzegar, Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland
- **Kurdish Art As Political Witness**
Autumn Cockrell-Abdullah, Agnes Scott College, USA

Room 5 – Kurdish Language, Dialects, Teaching and Publishing

Chair: Zana Ibrahim, University of Kurdistan Hewler,

- **Comparison of pronouns in Zazaki and Gorani dialects as a comparative linguistics study**
Haci Ibrahim Aytekin, Bingöl University, Turkey
- **The Classification of the Gurani Language Variety: A Comparative Analysis of the European Tradition and Speakers' Perspective based on a Perceptual Approach**
Iraj Ahmadi, University of Kurdistan, Iran
- **Sweden's Role as an Alternative Location for Kurdish Language Publishing: A Comparison of the Library Catalogues Data in the Turkish National Library and the Kurdish Library in Stockholm**
Miki Nose, Institute of Developing Economies, Japan

4:30 – 5:30 – Public Event - Kurdistan in Transition: The Shifting Dynamics of Conflict, Peace, and Reconciliation

23 April 2025

Room 1 - 9:30– 10:15 – Plenary session

Chair: Nazand Begikhani, Sciences Po, Paris

On Oral Studies and Religious Minorities in Kurdistan

Khanna Omarkhali, Free University of Berlin, Germany

10:15 - 11:15 - Parallel sessions

Room 1 – Rojava in Focus: Governance, Conflict, and Statelessness

Chair: Naif Bezwan, University of Vienna

- **Kurdish Governance in Arab Regions of Syria: A Practice-Based Reassessment**
Matt Broomfield, University of Sussex, UK
- **Solidarity, Pedagogy, and Research Place: Fieldwork Design in- and with the AANES**
Charlotte Grace, Royal College of Art, United Kingdom (Online)
- **Rethinking Human Rights Through Statelessness: The Case of Statelessness of Rojava Kurds**
Merve Firat, Middle East Technical University, Turkey

Room 2 – Competing Visions and Power Struggles: Kurdish Politics and Governance in the Syrian Civil War and Post-Baath Iraq

Chair: Hiwa Majid, University of Salahadeen, Kurdistan

- **A House Divided Against Itself? Ideology, Trust, and the Limits of Kurdish Cooperation in the Syrian Civil War**
Andrea Novellis, University of Naples “L’Orientale”, Italy
- **Democratic Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria: Oscillating Between State-like Building and Hybrid Form of Governance**
Katia Zagoritou, University of Peloponnese, Greece
- **Tug of War: Minorities in the Struggle for Power Between the Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Post-Ba’ath Iraq, 2003-2017**
Gregory J. Kruczek, Penn State University, USA

Room 3- Kurdish Studies as a Nucleus of Change

Chair: Thomas Schmidinger, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan

- **Endangered language diversities: temporal, spatial and conditional dimensions**
Agnes Grond, University of Graz, Austria.
- **Contested religious diversities and shared religious spaces**
Thomas Schmidinger, University of Kurdistan Hewlêr, Kurdistan
- **Disputed trauma memories: ethical dimensions**
Katharina Brizić, University of Freiburg, Germany (Online)

Room 4- Kurdish Archives: Challenges and Opportunities of Preservation and Digitization

Chair: Farangis Ghaderi, University of Exeter, UK

- **Zheen Centre for Documentation and Research, Achievements and Challenges**
Sidiq Saleh, Director of the Zheen Centre for Documentation and Research, Kurdistan
- **Establishing a Digital Archive for Kurdish Cultural Heritage: Challenges and Strategic Solutions**
Behrooz Chamanara, Kurdish Heritage Institute (KHI)
- **KCAC Archive: Challenges, Opportunities and Lessons Learnt**, Mohammed Fatih, Managing Director of the Kurdistan Center for Arts and Culture
- **Comparative Study of the ‘Preservation of National Documentation’ Law in Iraqi Kurdistan**
Majid Salih Aziz, Senior Advisor at the Kurdistan Parliament
- **Uncovering Women’s Voices in the Archives and Gendering Kurdish History**
Farangis Ghaderi, University of Exeter, UK

Break - 11:15 – 11:30

11:30 – 12:30

Room 1- Territories of Resistance and Control: Kurdish Spaces, State Power, and Everyday Struggles in the Middle East

Chair: Jean-Marie Pradier, Maison des Sciences De l’Homme, Paris Nord

- **Homelessness and Homemaking at the Intersection of the Public and Private in Nusaybin, 2016-2023**
Iclal Ayse Kucukkirca, Orient-Institute Istanbul, Turkey
- **Constructing Control: Turkish and Iranian Dams and Their Consequences for the KRG**
Anuradha Jangra, Centre for West Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
- **Turkish Water Colonialism Against Rojava**
Muhammed Kaya, Universität Bremen, Germany

Room 2 - Kurdish Folklore Studies in Turkey: From Past to Present

Chair: Tereza Amryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia

- **Kurdish Folklore Studies in Exile: Damascus, the Soviet Union and the Diaspora**
Necat Keskin, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Kurdish Folklore Studies in Turkish Academic Institutions**
Kenan Subaşı, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Kurdish Folklore Studies by Independent Institutions: The Mesopotamia Foundation as an Example**
Hikmettin Atlı, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Kurdish Folklore Studies from Mela Musa Hakari to the Jîne Magazine**
Ramazan Pertev, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

Room 3 - Performing Kurdish Music and Identity

Chair: Nicholas Hobbs, singer, writer, actor and independent researcher, United Kingdom

- **Marginalized Musicians in the “City of Music:” The Construction of Musical Identity in Sanandaj, Sine, and the Experience of Urban Marginality Among Loties**
Kajwan Ziaoddini, Mohammad Mirzaei, University of Maryland, USA, University of Kurdistan, Sanandaj, Iran
- **Strana Shvan Parwar, Beje Haval Beje, di navbera ziman û zimanê muzîkê**
Hemn Abdullah, Mizgin Abdulrahman, Salahaddin University, Kurdistan
- **A Kurdish Musician in the Diaspora: Nizamettin Arıç**
Ebru Avcı, ITU, Turkey
- **Dieter Christensen. Too early and too late. A Pioneer of Kurdish Music**
Martin Greve Orient-Institut Istanbul, Turkey

Break: Lunch 12:30-1:30

1:30- 2:30 - Parallel sessions

Room 1 - Resistance and Politics of Memory: Gender, Violence, and Space

Chair: Mamilan R. Hussein, University of West London, United Kingdom

- **Violence, Trauma, and Memory: The Legacy of the August 15 Guerrilla Offensive in Turkey's Kurdish Conflict**
Barış Tuğrul, Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey
- **Young Women in the Intra-Kurdish Conflict: Gender, Identity, and Peacebuilding**
Mehmet İlhanlı, Diyarbakır Institute for Political and Social Research (DISA), Turkey.
- **Strategies of Resistance: The Dynamic Landscape of Kurdish Political Action in Rojhelat**
Ziba Akbari, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia

Room 2 - A Century of State-Making in Iraq: Baghdad, Kurdistan, and the Development of the Constitution

Chair: Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln

- **A State in the Making: Persistent Impediments to State Cohesion in Iraq**, Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln, UK
- **Wilson in Versailles and the Kurdish Question**
Moritz Mihatsch, University of Cambridge, UK
- **The (Un) Making of a National Hero: The Legacy of Salah ad-Din al Ayyub in Iraq and Kurdistan**
Jan Vandeburie, University of Cambridge, UK
- **Problems of non-implementation in the case of the Iraqi Constitution**
Sheraz Ibrahim, British International University, Kurdistan
- **Security, Legitimacy, and State-Building in Contemporary Iraq: International Intervention and Regional Interference in the Case of Sinjar**
Dirwar Sadiq Zawity, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan and Marianna Charountaki, University of Lincoln, UK

Room 3 - Enacting Power, Identity, and History in Kurdish Cinema

Chair: Haroun Mohammed Younos, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan

- **Universalizing Kawa's Struggle: Examining the Horror of Power in a Kurdish Film**
Edith Szanto, University of Alabama, USA
- **Kurdish Cinema: An Attempt at Historical and Theoretical Positioning**
Sebahattin Şen, Van Yüzüncü Yıl University, Turkey

Room 4 – Interdisciplinary Approaches to Yezidi Cultural Heritage: Continuity and Change

Chair: Khanna Omarkhali and Eszter Spät

- **An Interdisciplinary Study of the Role and Transformation of Yezidi Cultural Heritage in the 21st Century**
Benjamin Raßbach, Orient-Institut Beirut, Lebanon (Online)
- **Impermanence as Strength: Gêç, Xêr, and Yezidi Shrine Renewals in Post-Ferman Şingal**
Marc Marín Webb, University of Pennsylvania, USA
- **Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Role and Transformation of Yezidi Cultural**
Eszter Spät, University of Jewish Studies, Budapest, Hungary
- **Remembering the 72nd Ferman – Narrations of Post-Memories**
Maria Six-Hohenbalken, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria

2:30- 2:45 Break

2:45 – 15:45 – Parallel sessions

Room1 – Language, Power, and Politics: Historical and Contemporary Struggles for Kurdish Linguistic Rights

Chair: Mikail Bülbül, Artuklu University, Turkey

- **Shouting Loudly: Reflections on Linguistic Smear Campaign Against the Use of Kurdish Language in the Ottoman Empire from a Historical and Literary Perspective**
Seerwan Hariry, Georgetown University, Qatar
- **Legacy of Colonial Linguistics in Nationalist Language Ideologies and Practices: The Example Turkish State Actors' Attitudes of the Kurdish Language from the 1920s to 1950s**
Yuksel Gonul, University of Roehampton, London, UK
- **Language Planning of the Kurdish Language Foundation (SZK) in Western Kurdistan**
Viyan Hesên, Rojava University, Kurdistan
- **Kurdistan's Linguistic Resistance: A Lexicographical Perspective**
Kamal Soleimani, El Colegio de México, Mexico

Room 2- Resisting the Politics of Ethnic Dominance and Minoritization

Chair: Ano Abdoka, Minister of Transportations and Communications of KRG, Kurdistan

- **Destruction and (Re)Construction of Kurdish Space: Ethnicization of Space in Republican Turkey**
Rustu Demirkaya, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- **A Fruitful Political Instrument: A Thousand-Year-Old Unity/Brotherhood/Alliance**
Nurettin Beltekin, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Ethnic Minorities in Early Soviet Politics: The Case of the Kurds and Uyghurs**
Angelika Pobedonostseva, Saint Petersburg State University, Russia

Room 3- Spirituality, Tradition, and Transformation: Kurdish Communities in Times of Crisis and Change

Chair: Khidir Domli University of Dohuk

- **The Uptrend of Oral Tradition in Adiyaman Kurdish-Alevi Community After the 6 February Earthquake in Turkiye – Berivan Matyar**
- **The Sacred Caves of Yārî Religion in Kurdistan**
Iraj Rezaei, Independent Scholar and Farhad Fatahi, University of Bu-Ali Sina in Hamadan, Iran
- **Evolving Dynamics in Sulaimaniya: Power Struggle Between Sufi Sheikhs and New Classes**
Metin Atmaca, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Turkey
- **Shingali Êzidi Refugees in Southern France: a New Quest for Self-Definition**
Estelle Amy, French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

Room 4- Heritage, Identity, and Culture: Exploring Jewish and Kurdish Heritage

Chair: AbdulSalam Medeni, University of Kurdistan-Hewler, Kurdistan

- **The Role of Jewish Space in Urban Form and Architectural Heritages of the Iranian Kurdish Cities**

Narcisse M. Sohrabi, Université Paris Ouest, France

- **Jewish Sites as a Cultural Heritage Within the Framework of Faith and Cultural Tourism**

Süleyman Şanlı, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey

- **A Body of Culture: Importance of Indigenous Kurdish Tattoo**

Taylor Nasim, Indiana University Bloomington, USA

- **Kurdish Non-State Cultural Institutions: Objectives, Activities and Prospects for Cooperation**

Gérard Gautier, Kurdish institute in Paris, France

Room 5 Language, Oral History, and Power: Kurdish Identity in AI and Everyday Life

Chair: Estelle Amy de la Brethèque, French National Centre for Scientific Research, France

- **Language and Identity: Exploring AI Chatbot Bias in the Context of Kurdish Culture**

Hazha Saeed Yah, the Kurdistan Parliament, Kurdistan

- **The Vocalisation of Dengbêjî, Kurmanji Long Song**

Nicholas Hobbs, singer, writer, actor and independent researcher, United Kingdom

Break 3:45 -4:00

4:00- 5:00 Parallel Sessions

Room 1 - Writing the Nation: Intellectual Activism and the Kurdish Literary Imagination

Chair: Jiyar Aghapouri, American University of Kurdistan, Kurdistan

- **Nationalism and the Reflection of the Nation and Homeland in the Poetry of Sherko Bekas: Poems Before the Raperin and Esta Kchek Nishtmanma**

Mazhar Ebrahimi, Dicle University, Diyarbakir, Turkey

- **The Concept of Freedom Between Struggle and Consciousness, in New Kurdish Poetry**

Mahabad Azad Mohammed, Koya University, Kurdistan

- **Pen to Power: The Journey of Writers and Intellectuals into the Political Arena**

Yaser Hassan Ali, University of Duhok, Kurdistan

- **The Kurdish Novel as a Response to Genocide(s)**

Lolav M. Hassan Alhamid, University of Duhok

Room 2- Stateless and Resilient: Intersectionality and Activism Among Displaced Kurds

Chair: Hawjin Mohammed, University of Salahaddin, Kurdistan

- **Returning from Europe to an IDP Camp? Iraqi Ezidis a Decade After ISIS Genocide**
Aleksandra Ancite-Jepifánova, University of London, United Kingdom
- **Kurdish in the US: Statelessness, Intersectionality, and Activism**
Haidar Khezri, University of Central Florida, USA
- **Subjective Experiences of Forced Returnees: Identity, Belonging, and Reintegration in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**
Abdul Samih Rahman, Eötvös Loránd University Sangar Y. Salih, Salahaddin University-Erbil

Room 3 - Resilience and Representation: Kurdish Women's and Children's Literature Across Borders

Chair: Vienna Salim, University Hewler Kurdistan

- **Archived Voices of Kurdish Women in Amna Suraka Prison: Resilience Within Walls of Oppression**
Shajwan N. Fatah, Twana A. Hassan, Danya S. Mahmood, Charmo University, American University of Iraq, Sulaimaniyah, Kurdistan
- **Kurdish Children's Literature in Caucasia: Karlênê Çaçanî**
Dilan Taycur, Mardin Artuklu University, Turkey
- **Zahhak, Fereydun, Kaveh and the Genesis of the Kurdish People in Ferdowsi's Shahnameh: Indo-European Perspectives on a Foundation Myth**
Francisco José Luis, SOAS, UK and Al-Esraa University, Iraq

Room 4- Kurdish Language in Practice: Grammar, Conjugation, and Legal Challenges

Chair: Demet Arpacık, CUNY, USA

- **The Challenge of Legal Language in Kurdish: Navigating Multiple Varieties in the Absence of Standard Official Variety**
Hazhar Asadpour, Shabbo Khezri, Islamic Azad University Mahabad, Iran, Shahid Beheshti University Tehran, Iran
- **Grammar-Focused Teaching of Kurmanji for Non-Native Speakers**
Tereza Amryan, Yerevan State University, Armenia
- **Discussion of the Formulations of the Kurdish Kurmanji Conjugator**
Mikail Bülbül, Artuklu University, Turkey
- **The Situation of Kurdish Studies in Kurdistan Universities in Terms of Curriculum, Teacher Skills, and Time Allocated for This Subject**
Saad Qazi, Salahaddin University, Kurdistan

5:15 Conference Concluding Remarks

Janroj Yilmaz Keles, Middlesex University, United Kingdom