



2018-2019 Season: FOURTH MEETING

Topic: "Turbulent Times: Turkey's Tenuous Relationship with the West"
Speaker: **Kemal Kirişci**, TÜSİAD senior fellow and director of the Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project, Brookings Institution
Date, Time: **Wednesday, December 12th**: 5:45 cocktails, 6:30 dinner, 9:00 adjourn
Place: University Club, 420 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55102

Topic: Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan has recently been back in the news with the exposure of the Saudi Arabian murder of journalist Jamal Kashoggi. This is occurring against the background of democratic regression, rise of religious nationalism and growing economic woes in Turkey, all under his stewardship of the country. Once lauded as a model for democratic transformation and economic success, the growing tensions with the United States and Europe raise significant questions about the future of the Turkish relationship and its role in the greater Middle East. What is the likely relationship of Turkey with the EU? What is the country's role as a current member of NATO, especially as Turkey appears to get closer to Russia? What is to become of the Syrian refugee situation in which Turkey is so critically involved? In this special program, Kemal Kirişci will discuss Turkey's historic and future role, describing the challenges the country faces as well as its potential to advance.

Speaker: Kemal Kirişci is the TÜSİAD senior fellow and director of the Center on the United States and Europe's Turkey Project at Brookings, with an expertise in Turkish foreign policy and migration studies. Within the project, Kirişci runs the Turkey Project Policy Paper series and frequently writes on the latest developments out of Turkey. His most recent book, "Turkey and the West: Fault Lines in a Troubled Alliance," was published by the Brookings Institution Press in November 2017. He is the co-author of the monograph "The Consequences of Chaos: Syria's Humanitarian Crisis and the Failure to Protect" (Brookings Institution Press, April 2016). Kirişci was a professor of international relations and held a Jean Monnet Chair in European integration at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, before joining Brookings in January 2013. He has also taught at American universities including University of Minnesota. Kirişci earned a doctorate in international relations from the City University, London; a master's in international relations from the University of Kent at Canterbury, England; and a bachelor's in finance and management from Boğaziçi University, Istanbul.

Next Program: TBD

Cost: There is a \$45 charge for guests (make checks out to "CFR", payable at the door). Please make your reservation by clicking on the link in the e-mail **or** by phone: 218-343-6095 (there is no need to do both) - contact Josie Strom if you have to cancel your reservation. For details on past programs, please visit our website at **CFRMN.org**.

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