



**TURKISH NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY**  
**9<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SYMPOSIUM**  
**“PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE BALKANS”**  
**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Balkans has always been a region of geopolitical importance throughout history and therefore has a strategic significance in terms of international politics. Located in the southeast of Europe, the Balkans serves as Europe’s gateway to the east and is a crucial region between Asia and Europe. The region has been the crossroads of the nations with various cultures, religions and ethnicities, and all these features have transformed it into a complicated political arena. Experiencing numerous wars and power struggles in the last centuries, the Balkans has been one of the focal points of world politics, especially during the 19th century, the two world wars and the Cold War. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, as in previous centuries, the Balkans maintains its geopolitical and geostrategic position and continue to be significant part of the international security agenda. Especially after the Cold War and the breakup of Yugoslavia, the Balkans, which underwent a radical transformation process and acquired a completely new political outlook, has turned into an arena where numerous security threats have emerged due to military conflicts and political disputes in the region. Since then, the conflicts among neighboring countries, border disputes, ethnic/religious/social/political tensions, radicalization and terrorism incidents and the emergence of global and hybrid threats have directly influenced the political, military, economic and societal security spheres of the region. Indeed, there is a linear relationship between the international security agenda and the regional security agenda in the Balkans. Being an integral part of the Balkans, Türkiye attaches utmost importance to and contributes to maintaining peace and stability and to ensuring the security in the region.

The new and current state of peace, security and stability in the Balkans necessitates a sophisticated and comprehensive reassessment of the issue. To this end, the **International Terrorism and Security Research Center (UTGAM)** will organize an international symposium entitled **“Peace and Security in the Balkans”** on **December 6-7, 2024** in **Antalya/Türkiye**. Scientists, experts, policy makers, policy practitioners, journalists and professionals from a wide range of backgrounds who conduct research and/or studies on the theme of the symposium will have the opportunity to share their findings, experiences and assessments of the relevant subject. The symposium, where the peace and security in the Balkans will be addressed in detail, is welcoming all experts and researchers.

The symposium will be held in Turkish and English and simultaneous interpretation service will be available during the event. For those who wish to participate in the symposium with their papers, please submit the title of the presentation and an abstract of no longer than 500 words via the e-mail address **“utgam@pa.edu.tr”**. Abstracts should include a title reflecting the content of the study, an abstract text explaining the aim and scope of the study, and five keywords. Additionally, participants should provide their personal information including their names, institutions and titles in the abstract text.





Paper submissions are foreseen to be related to the following headings:

- Threats to Local and Regional Security in the Balkans
- Global and Hybrid Threats in the Balkans
- The Threat of Terrorism and Radicalization in the Balkans
- Combating Transnational Crime in the Balkans
- Human and Societal Security in the Balkans
- The Causes of Regional Tensions and Peacebuilding Processes in the Balkans
- International Organizations in Conflict Prevention and Building Peace and Security in the Balkans
- Area Studies of the Balkans within the Spectrum of International Security
- Regional Cooperation in Strengthening Peace, Stability and Prosperity in the Balkans
- Security Sector Reform Process in the Balkans
- The Importance of the Police Force in Local and Regional Capacity Building in the Balkans
- The Role of the International Police Force in Building Peace and Security in the Balkans
- The Role of Turkish Police Force in Building Peace and Security in the Balkans
- Migration and Security in the Balkans
- Border Management in the Balkans
- Ethnic, Religious and Cultural Diversity in the Balkans and Its Repercussions on the Security Agenda
- Nationalism in the Balkans
- Turkish-Balkan Relations in Historical, Cultural, Social, Political and Economic Dimensions
- Türkiye's Constructive Role in the Balkans and Contribution to Stability, Security and International Peace
- Regional Development and Security in the Balkans

### **Important Notice**

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** 02.09.2024

**Note:** Only the accepted abstracts will be notified back to the applicants.

**Symposium Date:** December 6-7, 2024

**Symposium Location:** Antalya, Türkiye

Full Text Submission Deadline: An edited book will be published after the symposium. Authors who would like to contribute as a book chapter are expected to submit a full text between 5000-7000 words including a bibliography. The full text submission deadline for the edited book is 16.12.2024.

### **Organizing Committee**

1. Prof Şule Toktaş
2. Asst Prof Orhan Çifçi
3. Res Asst Emre Öztürk
4. Res Asst Oğuzhan Akgün
5. Res Asst Yasemin Kaymaz
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