

To the ESEH Nominations Committee,

Dr. David Moon  
Dr. Žiga Zwitter  
Dr. Stéphanie Denève

Dr. Onur Inal  
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### **Candidate Statement**

Dear Dr. Moon, Dr. Zwitter and Dr. Denève,

I hereby declare my candidature for the position of ESEH Regional Representative for Turkey.

I am currently working as post-doctoral researcher at the Near Eastern Studies Department at the University of Vienna in Austria. I have been involved in the activities of the ESEH since my participation in the first ESEH summer school in Yvelines/France in 2010. I took the initiative to create Turkey as a new ESEH region during the Ninth Biennial Conference in Zagreb/Croatia in 2017 and has since served as the ESEH Regional Representative for Turkey. In addition, I have been a member of the ESEH Board since 2019. Having attended ESEH events for more than a decade and took on administrative duties for the past years, I believe I have the experience and passion needed to serve as the ESEH Regional Representative for Turkey for another term.

During my term (2017-2021) as the ESEH Regional Representative for Turkey, I have contributed to the development of environmental history a valued and visible field of study in Turkey, while I have made efforts to connect the ESEH with the environmental historians in Turkey. In 2017, I founded the Network for the Environmental History of Turkey (NEHT), an international and interdisciplinary research platform that aims to bring researchers in diverse disciplines focusing on different aspects of Ottoman and post-Ottoman environmental histories together. Between 2017 and 2021, I co-organized a series of academic meetings that were either funded or endorsed by the ESEH: The 1<sup>st</sup> NEHT workshop in Hamburg/Germany (October 2017), the "Middle Eastern Animals" workshop in Vienna/Austria (June 2019), the 2<sup>nd</sup> NEHT workshop in Ankara/Turkey (September 2019), the "Istanbul Unbound 2021: Environmental Approaches to the City" conference (virtual, April 2021), and the 3<sup>rd</sup> NEHT workshop in Vienna/Austria (upcoming, September 2021).

I consider it my duty to contribute to the fruitful collaboration between the ESEH and environmental historians from Turkey. In my second term, I will have three major goals. The first one is to encourage more researchers from Turkey to become ESEH members and actively participate in upcoming ESEH conferences. The second one is to further develop collaboration between Turkey and other ESEH regions, especially new/and other underrepresented regions, and co-organize small, regional meetings through partnerships with NEHT and other regional groups and networks. The third goal is to encourage colleagues to undertake the task to plan a future ESEH conference in Turkey.

I hope my candidature receives favourable consideration.

Sincerely yours,  
Onur Inal



**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

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**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

Mar. 2019 – present Postdoctoral Researcher, Near Eastern Studies Department,  
University of Vienna, Vienna  
Oct. 2016 – Jan. 2019 Managing Director, TürkiyeEuropaZentrum, Asien Afrika Institut,  
University of Hamburg, Hamburg  
Jan. 2007 – June 2012 Graduate Teaching Associate and Instructor, Department of History,  
University of Arizona, Tucson

**EDUCATION**

Jan. 2007 – Apr. 2015 Ph.D., Department of History, University of Arizona, Tucson  
Sept. 2004 – Sept. 2006 M.A., Department of History, Koç University, Istanbul  
Oct. 1998 – June 2003 B.A., Department of Political Science and International Relations,  
Yeditepe University, Istanbul

**PUBLICATIONS****Books and edited volumes**

- 2019 (with Yavuz Köse), *Seeds of Power: Explorations in Ottoman Environmental History* (Cambridgeshire, UK: The White Horse Press).  
(with Ethemcan Turhan), *Transforming Socio-Natures in Turkey: Landscapes, State and Environmental Movements* (London: Routledge).  
2019 (with Charlotte Joppien, Johanna Chovanec, Gabriele Cloeters, and Urszula Woźniak),  
2019 *Umbrüche – Krisen – Widerstände. Türkeiforschung im deutschsprachigen Raum V* (Wiesbaden: Springer).

**Peer-reviewed articles and book chapters (a selection)**

- 2021 “One-Humped History: The Camel as Historical Actor in the Late Ottoman Empire.” *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 53, no. 1 (February 2021), 57-72.  
2019 “Socio-Natures on the Edge. Landscapes, State and Movements in Turkey.” In *Transforming Socio-Natures in Turkey: Landscapes, State and Environmental Movements*, Onur İnal and Ethemcan Turhan (eds). London: Routledge, 2019. pp. 1-7.  
2019 “The Making of an Eastern Mediterranean Gateway City: Izmir in the Nineteenth Century.” *Journal of Urban History* 45, no. 5 (September 2019), 891-907.

- 2018 “Mount Uludağ: The Making of Turkey’s St. Moritz.” In *Leisure Cultures and the Making of Modern Ski Resorts: A Transcultural Account*, Philipp Strobl and Aneta Podkalicka (eds). Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2018. pp. 71-92.
- 2011 “Environmental History as an Emerging Field in Ottoman Studies: An Historiographical Overview.” *Journal of Ottoman Studies* 38 (2011), 1-25.
- 2011 “Women’s Fashions in Transition: Ottoman Borderlands and the Anglo-Ottoman Exchange of Costumes.” *Journal of World History* 22, no. 2 (June 2011), 243-72.

## **SERVICE / OUTREACH**

### **National/International Outreach**

*Network for the Study of Environmental History of Turkey (NEHT)*

Founder, 2017

*European Society for Environmental History (ESEH)*

Regional Representative for Turkey, 2017-present

Board Member, 2019-present

*American Society for Environmental History (ASEH)*

Member, 2019-present

*Environmental History Cluster Austria (EHCA)*

Member, 2021-present

*Society of Turkic, Ottoman and Turkish Studies (GTOT)*

Member, 2014-present

### **University Committees/Working Groups**

*University of Vienna, Near Eastern Studies - African Studies - Tibetan Studies and Indology Directorate of Studies*

Committee Member (2020-2022)

*University of Vienna, Environmental Sciences Research Network (ESRN)*

Member (2019-present)

### **Other Committees**

*European Society for Environmental History (ESEH), Tallinn Dissertation Prize Committee*

Committee Member (2020-2022)

*American Society for Environmental History (ASEH), Environmental History Week Steering Committee*

Member (2021)

### **Editorial Duties**

*Ecocene: Cappadocia Journal of Environmental Humanities*

Advisory Board member (2019-present)

*Environment and History*

Editorial Board member (2019-present)

## **LANGUAGES**

Turkish (native), English (reading and speaking), German (reading and speaking), French (reading and basic speaking), Ottoman Turkish (reading)