To the ESEH Nomination Committee,

Dr. Marco Armiero
Dr. Andrea Gaynor
Dr. Stéphanie Denève

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Candidature Statement for the position of ESEH Secretary

Dear Dr. Armiero, Dr. Gaynor, and Dr. Denève,

With over fifteen years of involvement in the ESEH, I have attended numerous events and taken on various administrative and organizational duties. In 2017, I initiated the creation of Turkey as a new ESEH region and have since served as the ESEH Regional Representative for Turkey. Over the past eight years, I have played a significant role in developing environmental history as a valued and visible field of study in Turkey. I have also worked to connect the ESEH with environmental historians in Turkey. My service to the ESEH includes a term on the ESEH Board (2019-2021), membership in the Tallinn Dissertation Prize Committee (2019-2021), and the Travel Grant Committee (2021-2023). I am currently the Chair of the Programme Committee for the ESEH 2025 Conference.

If elected as the ESEH Secretary, I am highly motivated to contribute to society's development and visibility. In this respect, I will continue and build on what the current ESEH Secretary Roberta Biasillo has done for the past four years. I will support the ESEH President in the exercise of their duties, manage and update the website, and inform ESEH members via a newsletter about the society's activities on a regular basis. I will also seek ways to raise funds (e.g., donations, fundraising) to support Ph.D. students and early career researchers, especially those from underrepresented ESEH regions. This shall also enhance the society's diversity and inclusion. Additionally, I plan to initiate new outreach programs to engage with environmental historians and researchers from diverse backgrounds, thereby further enhancing the society's visibility and impact.

I am hopeful that my candidature will receive favourable consideration.

Sincerely yours,
Onur İnal

Onur İnal is a senior postdoctoral researcher and the peer investigator of the project "DANFront: An Environmental History of the Early-Modern Ottoman Military Frontier in the Middle and Lower Danube" at the University of Vienna. He holds a PhD in History from the University of Arizona. His research interests center on environmental history, the history of technology, and human-animal encounters, with a regional focus on the Middle East and North Africa. He is the regional representative for Turkey at the European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) and the founder of the Network for the Study of Environmental History of Turkey (NEHT). He is the author of *Gateway to the Mediterranean: An Environmental History of Late Ottoman Izmir* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). He has co-edited *Transforming Empire: The Ottomans from the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean* (Brill, 2024), *Seeds of Power: Explorations in Ottoman Environmental History* (White Horse Press, 2019), and *Transforming Socio-Natures in Turkey: Landscapes, State and Environmental Movements* (Routledge, 2019). His scholarly work has appeared in edited volumes and peer-reviewed journals such as the *Journal of World History*, *International Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, Journal of Ottoman Studies, Journal of Urban History, Environmental History*, and *Environment and History.* Currently, he is working on a new project that explores the interdependencies between urbanization, mass tourism, resource extraction, and socio-ecological changes on the coasts of North Africa and the Middle East over the last century.