

## **New Perspectives on Cultural Interactions Between Romania and Turkey**

Workshop, 26 Ekim 2010/ 26 October 2010

Cluj/ROMANIA

Prof. Dr. Osman HORATA

Atatürk Kültür Merkezi Başkanı /President, Atatürk Cultural Center

Mr. Rector, Distinguished Scientists and Distinguished Guests,

I am very glad to be here today to take part in the workshop on “New Perspectives on Cultural Interactions between Romania and Turkey” organized at Babeş-Bolyai University, one of the distinguished universities of Romania.

The aim of this workshop is to make a general evaluation of Balkanology studies in Turkey and Turkology studies in Romania and to determine new perspectives for the future. In our previous meeting held on 17 April 2008 together with the Dimitri Kantemir Cultural Center of Romania, we focused on cultural interactions during the period of Atatürk and Iorga. In this meeting we would like to complete the evaluation of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by focusing on interactions following the period of Atatürk and Iorga.

I would first like to thank Mr. Rector, Andrei Marga, for kindly hosting this workshop and Mr. Tasin Gemil and Mr. Recep Boztemur for the special effort they have put into organizing this workshop.

Distinguished Guests,

The 20<sup>th</sup> century, which hosted a significant portion of our lives, was a century in which events took place in such a fast pace that it was often difficult for the world of diplomacy and science to catch up. Upheavals caused by the replacement of empires with nation states, the two world wars that followed, and the dissolution of the Soviet Union towards the end of the century all disturbed the international balance. These upheavals also had a serious effect on the scientific and cultural interactions between countries.

The period we are currently in – the threshold of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – is a time when efforts towards re-building the bridges that have collapsed as a result of these serious upheavals are beginning to gather pace. Naturally, however, interactions at this time have been concerned more with political and economic affairs and less with scientific and cultural issues. Our meeting today is a modest but meaningful effort on the way towards increasing the amount of interactions on a scientific and cultural basis.

Like Turkey, Romania was among the countries most negatively affected by the upheavals of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, it made the best use of the period following the Cold War and managed, through the reforms it made, to make a transition from the East Bloc to the West. Romania became a member of the European Union and NATO, and the economic and cultural relations between Turkey and Romania started to develop owing to the shared political goals of both countries.

Lasting from the Second World War to the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the Cold War period was a time in which the struggle between the two opposing poles caused deaths almost as many in number as in the world wars. It was a time in which humanity was frozen, as it were. During this period the two poles allocated significant funds for ideological and cultural wars, and unfortunately, the cultural and scientific relations between countries had to develop in unnatural ways with a view to making conscious and organized interventions. Although the Turkish-Romanian cultural relations also suffered from this Cold War atmosphere to a certain extent, there was still a fruitful development of cultural interactions mainly due to the rooted historical relations between the two countries. Turkology studies in Romania were most fruitful during this period.

In the 1990s, on the other hand, the countries of the Eastern Bloc faced the developed Western civilization and experienced a cultural shock in many respects. Unlike the Cold War period, during this time the relations between Turkey and Romania developed in a natural atmosphere within the framework of rational policies. Despite some loss of strength, Turkology studies in Romania continued to thrive. Balkanology studies in Turkey, on the other hand, became most productive as a result of an increasing number of researchers and newly-founded research centers.

Mr. Rector and Distinguished Colleagues,

As we all know, the rooted political and cultural relations between Turks and Romanians and the intense Turkish population in the region have allowed the emergence of a mutual feeling of friendship and trust between the two societies. This friendship has continued to develop in all periods. I hope that this workshop, which brings together important scholars of Balkanology studies in Turkey and of Turkology studies in Romania, will contribute even further to the development of scientific and cultural relations between the two countries. I would like to thank all the distinguished guests who have honored our meeting, and I wish all the participants a successful workshop.

## **Türkiye ve Romanya Kültürel İlişkilerinde Yeni Perspektifler**

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Prof. Dr. Osman HORATA

Opening Speech

Sayın Rektör, Değerli Bilim İnsanları ve Değerli Konuklar,

“Türkiye ve Romanya Kültürel İlişkilerinde Yeni Perspektifler” konulu bir toplantı vesilesiyle, Romanya’nın seçkin üniversitelerinden biri olan Babeş-Bolyai Üniversitesi’nde sizlerin huzurlarında bulunmaktan büyük bir memnuniyet duyuyor, hepinizi saygıyla selamlıyorum.

Çalıştayın amacı, Türkiye’deki Balkanoloji ve Romanya’daki Türkoloji çalışmalarının genel bir değerlendirmesini yapmak ve geleceğe dönük yeni perspektifler belirlemektir. Dimitri Kantemir Romen Kültür Merkezi ile, 17 Nisan 2008’de Ankara’da gerçekleştirdiğimiz toplantıda ise Atatürk ve Iorga dönemindeki kültürel ilişkileri ele almıştık. Bu toplantıda ise, Atatürk ve Iorga sonrasına ağırlık verilerek 20. asrın değerlendirilmesi tamamlanacaktır.

Ben öncelikle, bu güzel ev sahipliği için sayın Rektör Andrei Marga’ya, toplantının düzenlenmesindeki özel gayretleri için sayın Tasin Gemil ve sayın Recep Boztemur’a teşekkür ediyorum.

Değerli Konuklar,

Hepimizin hayatının önemli bir kesitine ev sahipliği yapan 20. yüzyıl, diplomasi ve bilim dünyasının olayların hızına erişmekte güçlük çektiği bir asır oldu. İmparatorluklardan ulus devletlere geçişin, ardından gelen iki dünya savaşının ve asrın sonlarında Sovyetlerin dağılmasının yol açtığı sarsıntılar, uluslararası dengeleri bütünüyle alt üst etti. Bu sarsıntılardan, ülkeler arasındaki bilimsel ve kültürel ilişkiler de büyük ölçüde nasibini aldı.

İçinden bulunduğumuz süreç yani 21. asrın eşiği, yaşanan bu büyük şoklardan sonra yıkılan ve atılan köprüleri yeniden kurma çabalarının yoğunlaştığı bir dönemdir.

Fakat doğal olarak bu süreçte, ilişkiler daha çok siyasi ve ekonomik alanlarda yoğunlaşmış, bilimsel ve kültürel ilişkiler gündemde yeterince yer bulamamıştır. Bu toplantımız da, bu konudaki eksikleri gidermeye dönük, mütevazı fakat anlamlı bir çaba olarak değerlendirilmelidir.

Romanya, Türkiye gibi 20. asrın sarsıntılarında büyük zarar gören ülkelerden biri olmuş fakat Soğuk Savaş sonrası dönemi en iyi bir şekilde değerlendirerek yaptığı reformlarla Doğu Blokundan Batı Blokuna geçişi gerçekleştirmeyi başarmıştır. Avrupa Birliği ve NATO'ya giren Romanya'nın, Türkiye ile siyasi alandaki hedeflerinin örtüşmesi, iki ülke arasındaki ekonomik ve kültürel ilişkilerin de gelişmesinin önünü açmıştır.

II. Dünya Savaşı'ndan Sovyetlerin dağılmasına kadarki Soğuk Savaş dönemi, büyük savaflara sahne olmamakla birlikte iki kutup arasındaki mücadelede neredeyse dünya savaşlarındaki kadar insanın hayatını kaybettiği ve insanlığın âdeta dondurulduğu bir dönem olarak belleklere kazınmıştır. Her iki kutbun ideolojik ve kültürel savaşlar için büyük fonlar ayırdığı bu dönemde, ne yazık ki kültürel ve bilimsel ilişkiler, doğallıktan uzak bilinçli ve örgütlü müdahaleler doğrultusunda gelişmek zorunda kalmıştır. Türk-Romen kültür ilişkileri de, Soğuk Savaş sürecinin kültürel soğuk savaşı arasında kalmakla birlikte; iki toplum arasındaki tarihî, köklü ilişkiler sebebiyle bu dönemde de gelişme fırsatı bulmuş, Romanya'daki Türkoloji araştırmaları en verimli zamanını bu dönemde yaşamıştır.

1990'lı yıllar ise, bilhassa Doğu Bloku ülkeleri için gelişmiş Batı medeniyetiyle yüzleşme ve her alanda kültürel şokun yaşandığı bir dönem olmuştur. Türkiye ve Romanya arasındaki ilişkiler ise, bu süreçte Soğuk Savaş döneminden farklı olarak rasyonel politikalar çerçevesinde doğal ortamda gelişmiştir. Bu dönemde, Romanya'da Türkoloji araştırmaları kan kaybetmekle birlikte canlılığını sürdürmüş; Türkiye'deki Balkanoloji araştırmaları ise, araştırmacıların çoğalması ve açılan araştırma merkezleriyle en verimli dönemini yaşamaya başlamıştır.

Sayın Rektör ve Değerli Meslektaşlar,

Bilindiği üzere, Türkler ve Romenler arasındaki, kökleri oldukça eskilere uzanan siyasi ve kültürel ilişkiler ve bölgede oluşan yoğun Türk nüfusu, iki toplum arasında

karşılıklı dostluk ve güven duygusunun oluşmasına sebep olmuş ve bu dostluk her dönemde gelişmeye devam etmiştir. Türkiye'deki Balkan çalışmalarının önemli isimleriyle Romanya'daki Türkologları bir araya getiren bu toplantının, atılan bu güçlü temeller üzerinde, iki ülke arasındaki bilimsel ve kültürel ilişkilerin daha da gelişmesine küçük de olsa bir katkısı olması ümidiyle, toplantımızı onurlandıran siz değerli konuklara teşekkürlerimi sunuyorum, katılımcılara başarılar diliyorum.

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