

IFA and TURYAK
INTERNATIONAL İSTANBUL INITIATIVE ON AGEING
"INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY"
4 - 6 OCTOBER 2013
İSTANBUL, TURKEY

IFA

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Welcome Message

Istanbul, perhaps as old as 8000 years, is a city of contrasts, where Europe meets Asia, East meets West, and old meets new. Turyak Seniors Council Association (TURYAK) and the International Federation on Ageing (IFA) are honoured to welcome you to this beautiful city in which we have been granted the privilege to host this, the inaugural International Istanbul Initiative on Ageing

Population ageing– the most predicableof global challenges – is expected to have an enduring and profound impact on the outlook of government budgets, the sustainability of the global economy, and most importantly of all, the quality of life of older adults. In the last decade, radical new paradigms about international issues such as globalization, urbanization, market economies, labor force and migration, and consequences of demographic change have emerged.

Global ageing is a broadly encompassing issue that promises to affect everything from business strategy and labor productivity, to retirement savings, to care models,and major shifts of global capital flows. The profound importance of business and innovation must be recognized as they will play a tremendous role in building a sustainably growing, thriving nation and global community. In the Middle East, Northern Africa, and Eastern Europe– in which family is very much a central tenet of community and nation values– the potential positive as well as negative consequences of demographic change have yet to be fully realized. Now is the right time for a transformative conversation on the way we conduct business in the field of ageing; to discard the stereotypes, to positively discriminate, and to reinventnotions of ageing altogether.

In convening this congress, IFA and TURYAK have come together to create something truly remarkable. Instrumental in this has been the inspirational leadership from both parties. While the IFA brought with it its extensive experience in planning successful global conferences, particular mention must be given to the role that TURYAK and its Board of Directors have played in helping to shine a light, not only on the emerging population trends in the region, but also on the rich and diverse nature of generations and families which fortify the social milieu of many communities.

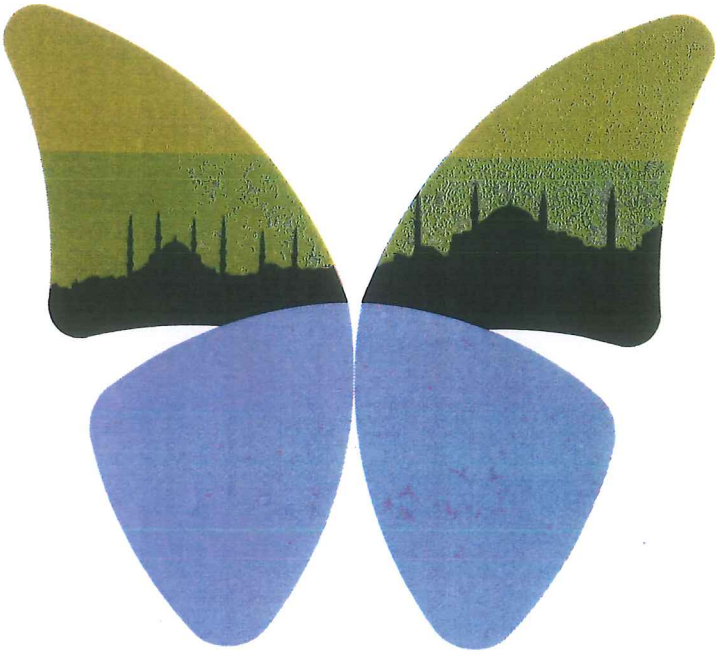
The seduction of the sights, sounds, and smells of Istanbul will be complemented only by the congresses' thoughtful contributors, international ageing experts, and rich dialogue from the program sessions.

There is perhaps no greater challenge before us than working in partnership to respond in the most expeditious and selfless ways to ensure that knowledge is created, shared, and mobilized towards the goal of improving the quality of lives of older peopleboth regionally and globally.

Mr. Mete Bora
Chairman and President
TURYAK Seniors Council Association

Dr. K. R. Gangadharan
President
International Federation on Ageing

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Concurrent Session Abstracts
4 October 2013

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Esendemir, Serif Dr

The Evolution of Institutional Care in Turkey

Each society has its own way in developing institutional care model although the reality is the same from the residents` perspectives. This presentation will mainly focus on the evolution of institutional care in Ottoman-Turkish society. Therefore, the audiences are expected see the birth of institutional care phenomenon by graying of almshouses, pioneering experiences of religious affiliated communities (Christians and Jews) in opening small-unit old-age institutions in Istanbul in the 19th century and difference in gender of residents of these institutions even today.

In addition to a historical evolution of institutional care, a global picture of aging will be given to see the context of aging in Turkey in which there are some factors triggering improvements in or limiting the development of institutional care. For instance, there were pro-nationalist policies limits the development of aging studies until 1957. Then with policy of planning of population, building social service department and educating nurse for elder care a global vision of aging has been started to be built. In particular, the opening of a Gerontology department in Akdeniz University in 2006, the building of Directorate of Social Services for Disabled Person and Elderly in 2011 and the organization of some global aging conferences in Turkey are some predictors of its integration to a global movement of aging studies around the globe.

Biography: Dr. Serif Esendemir was born in 1974 in a mystic town of Anatolia named Findik Beldesi. He had his primary school and junior high school education as a top student in this mystic town. He graduated from Profession High School in Siirt as a top of school as well. Then he was accepted by one of the top universities in Turkey called Middle East Technical University. He had his BA and MS from this university. He earned his doctorate from the Applied Gerontology PhD Program at University of North Texas. In addition to his academic career he became a chief editorship of Tezkire: Journal of Social Sciences and Theory and English editor of 1453: Journal of Istanbul`s Culture and Art. He also wrote for many journals, including The Journal of Aging in Emerging Economies, Itaki, Editor, Ozgun Irade and Yarin. He was a columnist of Kizkulesi local newspaper and Sunday supplementary of Yeni Safak newspaper. As being the first applied gerontologist of Turkey Dr. Esendemir is now serving the residents of Istanbul at Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Culture Co.

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