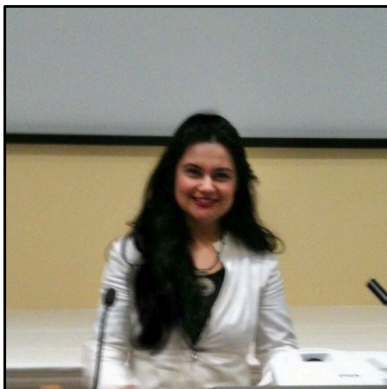




**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Peri URAN MURPHY**  
**RETHINKING THE 'TURKISH TYPE PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM'**  
**MPIL Agora**  
**15 November 2023, 15:00-16:00, Room 014**

Parliamentarianism has been one of the defining characteristics of the Turkish constitutional system since the 1876 Ottoman Constitution; however, the issue of governmental system change came into question during various governments' term of office in Turkey, starting from the early 1990s. The first dramatic change in the Turkish governmental system took place right after the 2007 constitutional amendments. The amendment in question changed the Turkish Governmental System from a parliamentary system to a parliamentary with "president" system, by introducing the principle of "popular election of the president". As a matter of fact, this system has been interpreted as a move toward Turkey's transition to a presidential system in the long run. Indeed, after a decade, following the approval of constitutional amendments by a referendum on April 16, 2017, Turkey switched to a new form of government which was later named as 'Turkish type presidential system'. As the essence of 2017 constitutional amendments, this sui generis governmental system has been faced with legitimacy issues since the constitutional referendum was held under the state of emergency and it has been criticized for lacking both separation of powers and necessary checks and balance mechanisms to limit executive power. In this Agora, after a brief reminder about Turkey's governmental system preferences since 1876, the recent 'Turkish type presidential system' will be discussed in a comparative perspective, taking into account the key elements of typical presidential systems. The legitimacy issue and the criticism regarding the new system will also be evaluated in the light of the academic debates.

**About the Speaker**



Peri Uran Murphy is an Associate Professor of Constitutional Law. She holds a Ph.D from Ankara University Law School and received "2009 Young Social Scientist Award" from Turkish Social Science Association based on her Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Bicameral System as the Fulfillment of Legislative Function and Its Role in Turkish Political History". She has been a postdoctoral researcher at Columbia University Law School, New York University (NYU) Politics Department and City University of New York, Graduate School. She was granted scholarships by Council of Higher Education of Turkey and The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey for her research projects between 2009-2014. Assoc. Prof. Uran Murphy is also the Legal Consultant of an NGO (WCPUN/ New York) affiliated with the United Nations, has been invited as an expert to several UN related meetings and is currently a visiting professor at Trinity College Dublin's School of Law & TriCON. Her publications focus on judicial independence, bicameralism, governmental systems, emergency powers, decisions and approaches of the ECHR and US Supreme Court on freedom of expression and the right to be forgotten, constitution making in democracies, the role and significance of the dissenting opinion in constitutional review, the preambles of the constitutions, the right of the children and animal rights.

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