# Summer Academy on Sustainability from an Intercultural Perspective

Istanbul, Turkey, July 14 to 25, 2014 www.summeracademy-istanbul.org

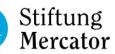












# **Exploring sustainability from an intercultural perspective**

Differing attitudes towards energy politics and the sustainable use of resources are easily leading to misunderstandings and conflicts. The impact of culture in this context is often neglected or not taken in consideration. Therefore, this Summer Academy, targeted at young adults, now approaches these topics from an intercultural perspective.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This year the second Summer Academy on Sustainability from an Intercultural Perspective is being held from July 14 to 25, 2014 in Istanbul, Turkey. Participants can earn academic credits according to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).



#### **OBJECTIVES**

This innovative two week Summer Academy aims at developing applied solutions for intercultural challenges in international energy politics and environmental ethics as well as further ecological issues. It is intended to be a platform for scientists, students, and practitioners to engage in questions like the following:

- What are the linkages of energy policy with energy security, economy, foreign policy and environmental policy? How can we design and assess corporate social responsibility projects in energy and environment related issues?
- How can diverse cultural understandings be united and philosophical questions be addressed in order to develop environmental and ecological positions? What are the interdependencies of political and cultural contexts, public participation and energy mix strategies?

#### **TARGET GROUP**

The main target groups are international students and young professionals (age 18 to 35 years) with verifiable intercultural interest and prior international experience and exposure. Expected enrolment is 40 to 60 participants; working language is English.

#### **CONTENT**

During the Summer Academy the participants will be divided in two groups, attending the same courses in turns within the same week. All courses contain a theoretical part as well as practical sessions. The agenda looks as follows:

## Summer Academy on Sustainability from an Intercultural Perspective

#### WEEK 1

### Regional energy politics in a comparative

This course provides an interdisciplinary introduction to the politics of energy use in human societies as well as a strategic overview of European energy security, the current and potential future role for Middle Eastern and Eurasian energy supplies. Major themes of the course are the linkages of energy policy with energy security, economy, foreign policy and environmental policy.

#### **Environmental ethics and philosophy**

perspective

This course introduces the traditional ethical theories and discusses the relevance of philosophy for environmental issues. Then these traditional theories are extended to better deal with environmental challenges. Based on these ideas sustainability and responsibilities are reflected to the future by analyzing and discussing recent environmental discussions. Special attention will be given to diverse cultural understandings and the contextualization of business ethics.

#### WEEK 2

## Public, private and NGO partnership in energy politics

This course provides a comprehensive understanding of public-private-NGO partnerships along with a particular emphasis on their implementation as corporate social responsibility projects in energy/environment related issues. Accordingly, it examines the key concepts of public-private-NGO partnership and focusing on its mechanism and dynamics.

#### Renewable energies

This course deals with the potential contribution of renewable energy systems to the sustainable future energy mix. Participants will be introduced to the social, environmental impacts of energy systems along their life cycle and will discuss criteria for sustainable future energy mix. Special attention will be given on innovative implantation strategies on urban level. They will get insight into support mechanism and discuss the relevance of market integration mechanism of renewable energies in various countries.

Each course will be conducted by lecturers from Karlshochschule International University or Istanbul Kültür University. Practical parts and exercises will be delivered by qualified trainers from the InterCultur network with extensive experience in the international and intercultural field. The participants will have many opportunities to process their experiences and to get to know Turkish culture better. Furthermore, they can spend free time with members of the international and multi-cultural participant group and deepen their intercultural skills.



#### **TUITION FEE**

Participants will pay a tuition fee of 2.200 € (reduced fee of 1.250 € for students, volunteers and employees of NGOs):

The tuition fee covers

- 2-week participation in the event
- Room and board
- All course material
- Social activities

**Not included**: Costs for visa and travel and for further subsistences

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

The project partners will offer partial and full scholarships to qualified candidates.

#### PROJECT PARTNERS

- Karlshochschule International University
- Istanbul Kültür University
- InterCultur gGmbH
- AFS Turkey (Türk Kültür Vakfı)

The project is carried out in cooperation with Stiftung Mercator (www.stiftung-mercator.de)

#### LOCATION

Istanbul Kültür University

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

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