Politics and Unbelief in Turkey

This talk will investigate conditions of belief in contemporary Turkey through the lens of open belief and non-religion. The available evidence suggests that unbelief and nonreligion are on the rise and have become more public at a time when religious-political actors have consolidated their hold on state power and use extensive state resources to bolster religious beliefs and life forms in Turkish society. Drawing on existing strands of work on the impact of political conflict on religious change, this research suggests that the two developments are closely related.

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