Research Group for Migration, Narratives and Media (MIGDIA)

Objectives and Scope: Research Group (RG) for Migration, Narratives and Media is a joint initiative of academics from Kadir Has University Faculty of Economics, Administrative and Social Sciences, and independent researchers. **The major objective of MIGDIA is to understand and influence formation of policy options pertaining to immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees and to ensure effective policy implementation**. MIGDIA aims at *involving all stakeholders,* integrating the voices of the immigrants themselves, the policy developers, the policy makers and elements of different public opinion scales such as civil society organizations covering both immigrant and non-immigrant societies. As well as relevant international actors.

The RG's expertise covers a wide range of methodologies in **Big Data/Quantitative/Qualitative** studies. We prefer to combine innovative and creative techniques together with the state of the art in data gathering and analysis (ethnography in digital and non-digital platforms, focus group, survey, in-depth studies, fuzzy cognitive mapping, segmentation, data mining, network and big data analyses, visualization techniques, discourse and content analyses, and etc.).

Experience: The constituents of the MIGDIA RG have completed many projects/activities on international migration funded by Turkish Academy of Sciences (TUBA) and United Nations Population Fund (UNPF), Kadir Has University, American Research Institute in Turkey and TUBITAK. Our most recent project **"Political and Social Conceptualization of International Migration in Turkey: Discourses on Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees, Fuzzy Cognitive Maps, and Narratives of Migration"** has been accepted for funding in September 2019.

Here is the list of the projects completed:

- TUBITAK funded the following projects: "Research Centres and Think Tanks in Foreign Policy Making Processes in Turkey", "TV Consumption Patterns", "Interactions on the Internet", "Kurdish Voters in Turkey", and "NGOs in Turkey")

- Kadir Has University funded projects: Projects on New Media Use, Irregular Migration and Border Crossings in Turkey, Social Movement in Turkey, Diversity, Difference and Societal Values on Gender Roles in Turkey, Migration of Religious Minorities, Borders and Border Politics: Turkish-Georgian Border at Sarp Gate

- American Research Institute in Turkey funded "Project on Migration in the Middle East".

Topics of Interest in H2020: MIGRATION-09-2020: Narratives on Migration and Its Impact: Past and Present

We are focusing on the portrayal of migration and migrants in the media and in political and public discourses specifically on the deliberation of policy options at the public sphere, social media and print media. We aim to promote narratives on migration to ensure successful policy implantation.

Role as a partner in H2020/Europe: The research group **MIGDIA** can contribute in project design and management; basic and applied research; comprehensive data gathering and analysis that map public sentiment including perceptions of the host society as well as the immigrants/refugees themselves using governmental and public sources of Turkey that take into account gender aspects; analysis of big data as well as case-studies and trials for new methodologies; event management (conferences, workshops, meetings and etc.); policy impact monitoring and policy advancement; implementing operational activities; dissemination and communication strategies integrating immigrants, and ensuring impact on variety of stakeholders and general public. **The position of Turkey as a country with the world's the largest-refugee population from various regions and countries such as Syria, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan provides MIGDIA unique opportunities for contributions in a wide range of migration related topics**.

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