ASBU GAUM

FRIDAY WEBINAR SERIES 3

Short Bio of Speaker: Akif Atlı is a graduate of Ankara University Faculty of Political Sciences (1990) and has been working with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UN Refugee Agency, UNHCR) since 1991. Mr. Atlı has different experiences in humanitarian area and UNHCR. He started his carrier in Silopi Field Office during the 1991 Gulf Crisis and worked on refugee status determination procedures of UNHCR in Turkey between 1992 and 2016. During this period, he interviewed thousands of individuals for refugee status determination purpose and conducted in-depth researches and analysis on country of origin information on Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan.

Mr. Atlı started working on peaceful co-existence and social cohesion of refugees in 2016 after serious incidents refugees faced in different locations in Turkey. Since the beginning of 2019, he is assigned as a field officer and head of Ankara Field Unit which is covering 50 provinces in Turkey for the purpose of supporting existing structures to protect refugees, assisting formation of new structures to facilitate the access of refugees to basic rights and services and support social cohesion efforts of all structures (government and civil society). With a specific focus to municipalities, imams, mukhtars, NGOs, refugee representing groups / societies and universities, Ankara Field Unit is working in partnership with government institutions such as Provincial Directorate of Migration Management, Provincial Directorate of family Labor and Social Services, Provincial Directorate of Education, Social assistance and Solidarity Foundations and many others. Throughout his experience in the humanitarian area, Mr. Atlı has been involved in formation and activation of different civil society institutions for the support and protection of vulnerable groups of persons in Turkey.

Summary of Presentation: The presentation titled **“Refugees / Our Guests: Our Acquaintances and Differences During This Time”** will be a short summary of efforts for refugee protection in Turkey with specific references to legal basis, facts and social cohesion difficulties with a wide focus covering the society, government and international community’s contributions. Specifically, the numbers and comparisons with other social facts, preparations of a refugee crisis and daily difficulties with unprecedented solution efforts.