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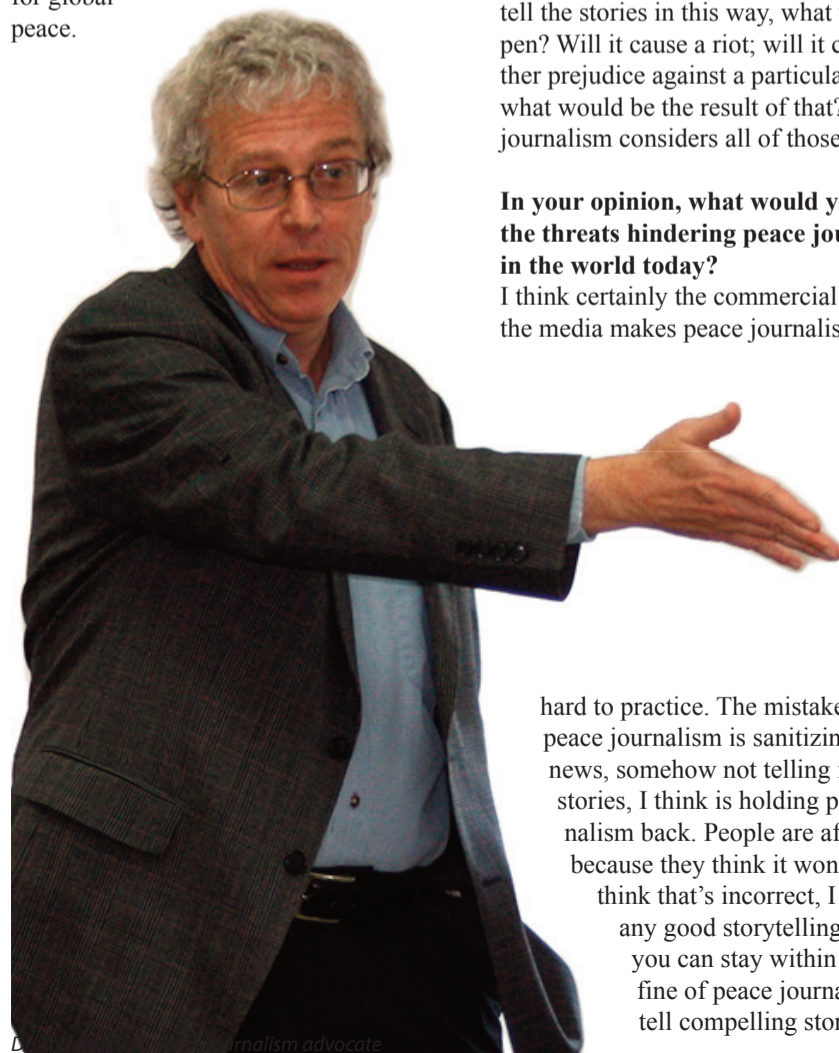


Peace journalism: a major step towards global peace?

By Valery Njiaba

An exclusive meeting and a series of lectures at Eastern Mediterranean University, by peace journalist professor Steven Youngblood from the Center for Global Peace at Park University in Parkville, Missouri in the US, could not have happened at a more opportune time. Professor Youngblood's fresh ideas may well find a home here in Cyprus -- a country whose history is dominated by enmity between its Greek and Turkish inhabitants, Divided since 1974 but whose inhabitants share many beliefs and traditions.

Indeed the people of the island have been struggling to arrive at concrete measures to establish a long and lasting peace. Prof. Steven Youngblood in his advocacy of peace through peace journalism reiterated the importance of using the media as a tool for resolving conflict peacefully. In an interview granted to Gündem Newspaper, Youngblood shares many insights on the perspective of peace journalism as a tool for global peace.



What are your impressions on the participation and attendance of students, on your first peace journalism lecture at Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus?

I thought it was really an excellent workshop today, I really appreciated not just the attendance which was good, but I thought that we got some really interesting and pointed questions. This indicated some high level of thinking on the students' part and they really made me think about how peace journalism might be applied here in north Cyprus

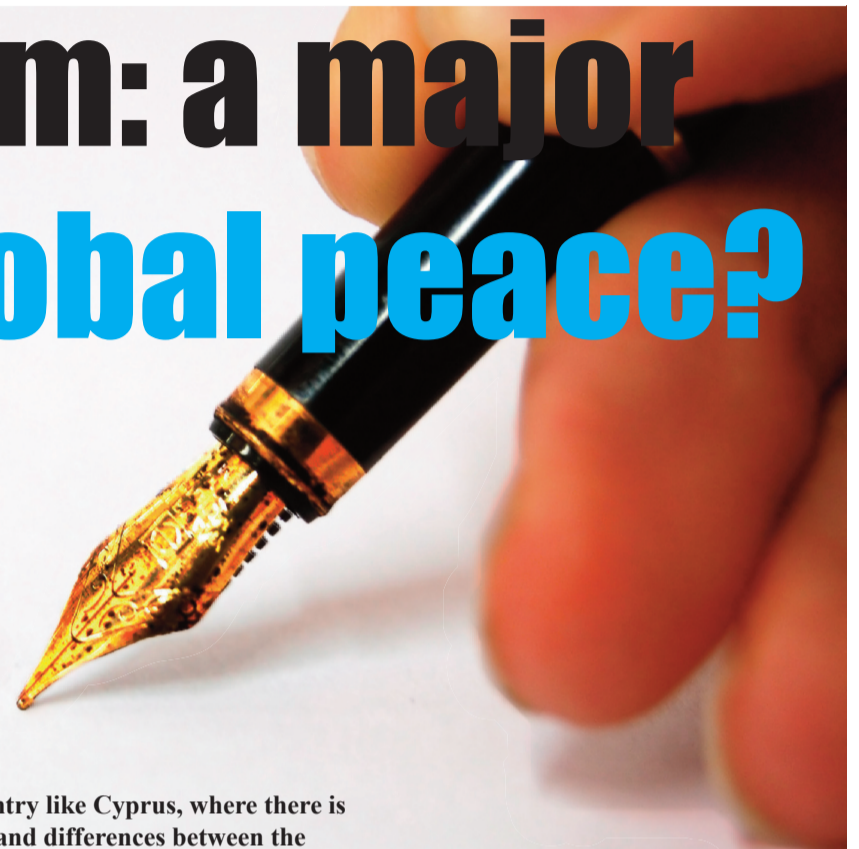
What would you say peace journalism is all about?

Well it is too complex to explain in a sentence or two but in a general way, Peace Journalism is when reporters and editors make choices that can create an atmosphere conducive to peace, so its about what stories we tell, how we tell the stories, the language we use, its about considering the consequences of our reporting. So if we tell the stories in this way, what will happen? Will it cause a riot; will it cause further prejudice against a particular group, what would be the result of that? So peace journalism considers all of those factors.

In your opinion, what would you say are the threats hindering peace journalism in the world today?

I think certainly the commercial nature of the media makes peace journalism very

hard to practice. The mistaken idea that peace journalism is sanitizing the news, somehow not telling interesting stories, I think is holding peace journalism back. People are afraid of it because they think it won't sell and I think that's incorrect, I think that any good storytelling can sell; you can stay within the confine of peace journalism and tell compelling stories.



In a country like Cyprus, where there is division and differences between the north and the south, what is your advice in order to enhance peace and unity amongst the two sections?

I would not be so arrogant as to give advice to Cypriots, they certainly know everything better than I do. I would just say that as journalists anywhere report a story, they need to ask the question, what do my readers needs to get out of this story?, what information do they need? So when you are reading a news paper in northern Cyprus, what do northern Cypriots need to be truly informed about a situation? So my take on that is I think you need information from a variety of perspectives, so I don't think you could be truly informed in detail until you have that variety of perspective and I would hope that the media here and the media everywhere can do that.

We understand that one of the ethics of journalism is to be objective and balance, so how does this objective differ with peace journalism?

It does not, peace journalism retains objectivity, so as a peace journalist am not openly advocating for peace, I'm merely giving peace makers a voice, a proportion of voices along-side those who advocate for violence, in terms of balance, balance is a key tenet of peace journalism that we are giving voice to all parties and particularly voice to the voiceless, to those so call regular people, who are the most affected by a crisis by a conflict.

What would you say to the claim that, peace journalism is criticizing the journalism profession without giving a concrete solution, for instance we know peace journalism is good but we cannot cite any major news organization fully practicing peace journalism?

Peace journalism is good journalism, so I don't see it as an assault on journalism. I see it instead as a confirmation of what we already know about what good journalism is -- that it provide context, that it is balanced, that it is objective, that it is based on facts and on reality and so on. Are there major news organizations that are committed to peace journalism generally speaking? No -- here and there yes, but why aren't there more? I believe because of the commercial notion that we talked about earlier that peace journalism won't sell and I disagree with that notion.

What's the future of peace journalism? Are there hopes for a greater impact in the future?

I think the future of peace journalism starts with the students of today, so I don't expect to march into CNN headquarters, Reuter s headquarters, Agency France Press headquarters and clap my hand and say ok we going to do peace journalism today. I don't expect that to magically happen, but what I do think can happen eventually, is if we train enough young people as they move up the corporate ladder in these agencies and with these big news organizations that they can bring with them these ideas, these notions of peace journalism, so its certainly not something that's going to happen over night but I think that as people see the value of peace journalism, I do think that its going to grow.

How are you enjoying the delights of North Cyprus so far?

Wow, how could you not enjoy Cyprus, beautiful weather , wonderful food, the hospitality at Eastern Mediterranean University has been excellent and I had a very good time.

“AKP rule in the aftermath of the Gezi protests: from expanded to limited hegemony”

By Neba Ridley

The Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Eastern Mediterranean University (EMU) organized the second brown bag seminar of the spring semester on Wednesday, the 19th of March 2014. The seminar hosted the department faculty member Asst. Prof. Dr. Umut Bozkurt and she delivered a paper titled “AKP rule in the aftermath of the Gezi protest: From expanded to limited hegemony”. The audience mostly included students and instructors of the Political Science and International Relations Department coupled with few students from other departments.

The seminar started with the opening speech of Prof. Dr. Ahmet Sözen, the chair of the Department of Political Science and International Relations. Prof. Sözen introduced Dr. Bozkurt and he underlined that Dr. Bozkurt is one of the five members of the department who will be presenting papers at the International Studies Association Annual Convention the following week in Toronto, Canada. Dr. Bozkurt started her presentation with emphasizing the fact that the AKP has managed to progressively increase its votes since it first came to power in 2002. By drawing on various polls and researches she showed how the party gained the support of various classes and groups in the Turkish society including the Anatolian bourgeoisie as well as housewives, farmers, blue collar workers working in the private sector and the unemployed. She also showed how the party managed to attract the support of various groups holding different political orientations especially in the 2011 elections, such as the Turkish Nationalists, pro Atatürk Kemalist, social democrats, liberal democrats, nationalists, and Kurdish nationalists.

In an effort to analyze this widespread support, she explained how she decided to use the concept of “hegemony” conceptualized by the Italian political theorist Antonio Gramsci. Gramsci’s concept of hege-

mony refers to the ways in which a governing power wins consent to its rule from its subjugates. Gramsci distinguishes expanded and limited hegemony. According to Gramsci, expanded hegemony happens when a hegemonic group adopts the interests of its subaltern in full and great masses of people spontaneously and actively gives their consent to the bloc. On the other hand, if a ruling group has to resort to coercion and repression this means that it has not achieved an ‘expansive’ hegemony’ and therefore its hegemony shall be defined as limited hegemony.

Dr. Bozkurt underlined that her paper aims to explain two things: 1. What are the reasons behind the hegemony of the AKP? 2. What was the impact of the Gezi protests on the AKP rule? She started with discussing the dynamics behind the hegemony of the AKP. She underlined that the AKP adopts neoliberal policies and populist policies at the same time. AKP’s neoliberal policies became manifest in the gradual marketization of public services, privatization, and flexibilization of labour. The AKP aimed to further the interests of the first generation (TÜSİAD) and the second generation (MÜSİAD, TUSKON) bourgeoisie. AKP’s neoliberalism also became manifest in the “urban transformation” projects that were carried out by the government where poor populations are displaced, public places, green areas, and historical sites are demolished. Despite implementing such neoliberal policies, the party implemented populist policies with an aim to gain the consent of these groups who are engaged in a continuous struggle to make ends meet. AKP’s populism manifested itself in the explosion of social assistance programs. A key feature of the period in question is that social assistance programs are increasingly used as substitutes for welfare state functions. Dr. Bozkurt also underlined how the party refers to values widely supported in the Turkish society such as conservatism, Islamism and nationalism in order to establish its hegemony.

In the second part of her presentation she discussed the impact of the Gezi protests on the hegemony of the AKP. According to Dr. Bozkurt, a number of developments in the aftermath of the Gezi protests, some directly related to protests, some not, led to a transformation in the hegemony of the AKP. The main argument of Dr. Bozkurt is that a combination of these events led to the AKP’s expanded hegemony being replaced by a limited hegemony which relies on coercion more than consent. She discussed factors such as the loss of support the party received from the US and the EU, the growing rift between the Erdoğan camp and the influential Gülen movement, AKP’s antagonizing TÜSİAD and pro-Gülen TUSKON, Turkish economy’s fragile structure that relies on short term capital inflows, Kurdish peace process facing an impasse in the aftermath of the Gezi protests. All these factors, she underlined, alluded to the fact that the party does not enjoy an expanded hegemony any more.

Dr. Bozkurt concluded by saying that even though the AKP is experiencing a hegemonic crisis that manifests itself in different ways, this does not amount to say that the party will experience an immediate electoral defeat. She underlined how the AKP opted for a twofold response in the face of the rising threat coming from its opponents: rallying its base it won over through neoliberal populism and through embracing conservatism, Islamism and nationalism and cracking down on the opposition. Even though this method is anti-democratic said Dr. Bozkurt, “this method will suffice for the party to hold on to power in the near future”. Dr. Bozkurt’s presentation was fol-



Doğu Akdeniz
Üniversitesi
“Uluslararası Karşılıklı İhtiyaç”

Department of Political Science and International Relations
Brown Bag Seminar

“AKP RULE IN THE AFTERMATH OF GEZI PROTESTS:
FROM EXPANSIVE TO LIMITED HEGEMONY?”

Asst. Prof. Dr. Umut Bozkurt
(Department Faculty Member)



Umut Bozkurt completed her PhD in Politics in the University of York, United Kingdom. Her research interests are state theory, critical political economy, and neoliberalism in Turkey and North Cyprus. Her latest works include: *Beyond a Divided Cyprus: A State and Society in Transformation*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012 (co-editor), “Neoliberalism with a Human Face: Making Sense of Justice and Development Party’s Neoliberal Populism in Turkey”, *Science and Society* [Volume 77 (2013)] and “Rethinking ethnicity, class and nationalism in Cyprus”, *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, Volume 20, Issue 2, 2014 (forthcoming).

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lowed by half an hour question and answer session. The conference was officially closed by the chair of the department Prof. Dr. Ahmet Sözen who praised the students for the high turnout and Dr. Umut Bozkurt for an insightful and elaborate presentation.

International Women’s Day conference by Cameroonian female students

By Valery Njiaba

Every year on the 8th of March, we take time to recognize the injustices against and advocate for the rights of woman around the world – whether economically, politically, culturally or socially. While the day is significant for Women, we are all implicated in the struggle for emancipation from injustice, whoever we are. March 8th is significant in the struggle for equality and social justice for Women as it highlights the fact that the position of Women in the – even now in the early 21st Century – is relegated to the margins of social debate, despite the important role that Women play in society as a whole. Historically, March 8 signals the protest by women garment workers in the clothing and textile factories on March, 8 1857, as they fought against inhumane working conditions and low wages. With this history in mind, the Cameroonian female students at EMU organized a conference in the Blue Hall of the Faculty of Economics and Management. Because this day is widely commemorated in Cameroon, the Cameroonian female students joined their fellow Women back home and internationally under the theme “Active Participation in National Integration”.

The day was characterize with an open discussions chaired by Ms. Winnie Doh – a Doctoral student in the Tourism and Hospitality Management Faculty and also an advocate for Women’s rights. Discussions at the conference underlined the fact that the role of Women cannot be limited solely to becoming a good wife and mother but must also be expressed through self-values such as respect for each other, supporting each other, and working together. Participants underlined the fact that Women needed to be accepting of each other and not be divided by petty distractions that come from the broader society. Important is the fact that because

the March 8, movement started with women fighting for more equal opportunities and better life chances, it becomes really important to consider the kind of education that young girls receive. Young women should enroll in professional career development programs that furnish them with the skills and courage needed in the professional world so that they can compete on an equal platform with their male counterparts. Initiatives like these are excellent opportunities for students to apply their critical thinking skills and challenge preconceptions – it is especially exciting when such initiatives come from the students themselves.



Asst. Prof. Dr. Umut Bozkurt delivered a paper at the seminar

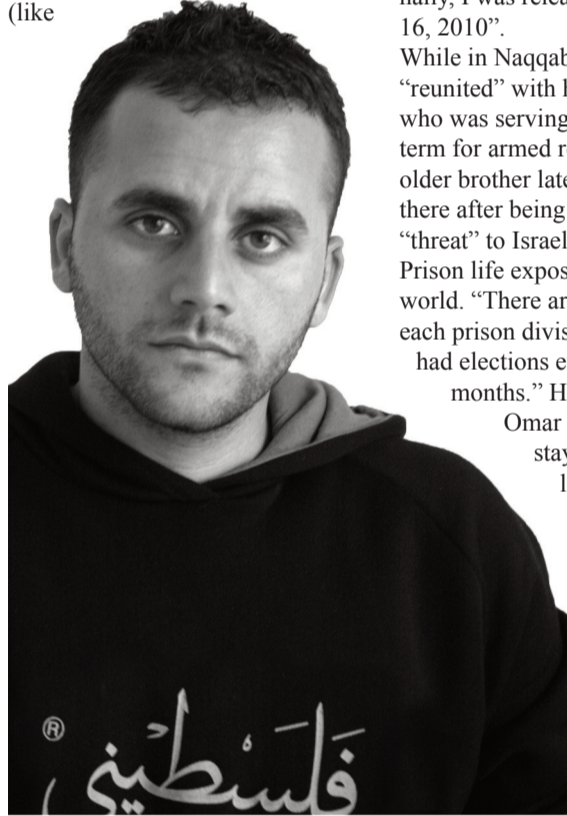


Cameroonian female students at EMU

Palestinian students recall their experiences in Israeli prisons

By Femi Onifade

Respect for human rights is a primary yardstick for the categorization of any nation in the 21st Century. The United States and its allies criticize most “Second and Third World” countries for their “poor” human rights record. Two African Heads of Government are wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for crimes against humanity. However, the “global police” have turned the proverbial blind eye to the allegations of human rights violations taking place in Israel/Palestine. As the perennial tension continues in Palestine or Israel (depending on whose side you are on) Gündem’s Femi Onifade talks with two Palestinian students at Eastern Mediterranean University. They recount their experiences in Israeli prisons and detention camps. Both of them (like



Mohammad Abo Reesh is another native of Hebron in West Bank.

many others) were detained without official charges which amounts to abuse of their fundamental human rights. They also share their deepest fears and greatest hopes for their homeland. Omar Abuarqobis is an M. A. student of communication and media studies. He is a native of Hebron in the occupied West Bank. He was arrested and detained without charges on September 14 2009. The reason for this could have been his critical writings on the Israeli occupation.

“I was taken to Askalan detention facility and questioned for one month,” he recalled, “and after that, I was moved to Ofar prison where I remained for another five months without any charge being brought against me. I was then transferred to Naqqab prison where I stayed for about nine months. Finally, I was released on December 16, 2010”.

While in Naqqab prison, he was “reunited” with his brother-in-law who was serving a fifteen-year jail term for armed resistance. His older brother later joined them there after being considered a “threat” to Israeli national security. Prison life exposed him to a new world. “There are governments in each prison division in prison. We had elections every four months.” He reminisced.

Omar maximized his stay in prison by learning the Hebrew language. I didn’t want them to break me down psychologically, so I kept my brain busy by studying their language for

the period” he said.

Omar fears that the struggle of the Palestinian people may not achieve their ultimate objectives because of divisions and fighting within the society. “Unity is of great importance. All Palestinians must come together irrespective of political affiliation and present a common front to the international community in order to create a unified Palestinian state. I fear that this may not be possible without unity”.

However, he remained resolute in his resolve to see the end of the Israeli occupation. “We believe that the Israeli occupation is temporary. The occupation did not happen in one day. So we believe that one day we shall be a free and independent country and the Zionists shall be chased out of our land. Omar believes that “both Hamas and Fatah should reach a compromise in their ideologies and demands in order to reach a common ground for the benefits of the people”.

Mohammad Abo Reesh

Mohammad Abo Reesh is another native of Hebron in West Bank. He is also a graduate student. He was arrested on March 20, 2008 and was in jail for 14 months. He was then a first year student of journalism and media at the An-Najah National University in Nablus. He was detained under the accusation of being a threat to Israeli national security. No official charge was brought against him.

Mohammad recounts his road to detention: “They came to my home to look for me, but I was not at home. They left a message asking me to come to a military camp. On getting the message, I left the university the following day and reported to the base in company of my father and brother. That was



Omar Abuarqobis is an M. A. student of communication and media studies.

the beginning of the fourteen months of my detention.” “I was in solitary confinement for two months and they interrogated me many times with questions about every imaginable thing I had done in my life and what I intended to do in the future. I stayed in prison for fourteen months because they could not prove anything against me. If they had been able to prove something, they would have given me about four or five years” he recalled. Interestingly, he had earlier been detained at the age of fifteen for wandering into an Israeli military zone. “I was walking around in my village when I was arrested. They claimed that I was trespassing into a military zone. But there were no demarcations around the place, so I couldn’t have known. I was detained for a day and given a paper to go to court, but I never honored the invitation” he explained. He has also been detained by the Palestinian authorities five times. He narrated the origin of his many detentions by the Palestinian Authorities thus, “The first time was when Al Jazeera aired a documentary indicting Mahmud Abbas of corruption. I had a discussion with

some of my schoolmates where I voiced my support for the documentary by Al Jazeera. The spies among us reported to the authorities and I was arrested and detained for one month until my lawyer got me out. On another occasion, I was arrested because they couldn’t find my friend who had graduated a semester earlier. They arrested thirteen of us and we were detained for twenty days.” Mohammad is very optimistic about the establishment of a fully-fledged and internationally accepted Palestinian state. “I hope we get our freedom and all of our lands back. By our land, I mean the whole of the land from Lebanon to the Red Sea. Nothing short of this will work. As long as the occupiers stay there will be no peace. They either kill all of us or we kill all of them. Perhaps we’ll find peace in death.” However, he admits that peace may never return to their land because of the many benefits which some third parties derive from the situation. “My deepest fear is that peace is an illusion. There are gun-runners everywhere in the so called developed world” he concludes.

Demands on the cyber security field are rapidly growing

Gündem News

Due to increasing demands in the field of cyber security, there is a need for not only fresh methods to curb cybercrimes but also for fresh intellectual engagement. Among a new generation of people who have been taking advantage of the growth of the IT industry to pursue careers in cyber security is Yusuph Kileo – a Tanzanian cyber-security and digital forensics expert. Kileo was a participant at the conference held at EMU on March 14th this year where he explained that there is still a lot to be done to improve the challenges facing nations in this area. The conference was supported by the International Telecom-

munication Union (ITU), the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies, and Wolfpack Information Risk and centered on an analysis of current Cybercrimes and National Cyber security challenges along with an Overview of cyber security activities in ITU. Cybercrime is on the rise not only because there is an increased number of ICT users, but also because people discover what seems like “easy money” through online theft. Some even go further by hacking websites and systems in order to access classified information – or even just for amusement. There have been many cases of this type in the last year,

Craig Rosewarne, the SANS director (EMEA), and Wolfpack System Risk’s Managing Director, discussed these issues during the conference. Martin Euchner (ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau Advisor) highlighted the outstanding effort to fight cybercrimes including the implementation of the Child Online Protection (COP) project whose goal is to keep children safe while they surf the internet. ITU has been working hard on uniting Nations around the fight against cybercrime as they believe individual nations cannot fight alone. Euchner underlined the fact that cybercrime has no geographical border, no boundaries and tremendous destructive power.

Kileo called upon people to develop an interest in the field of cyber security. Kileo offered the example of

how developed countries had begun building cyber soldiers to fight Cyber wars.



The organizing team together with Craig Rosewarne visited EMU Rector Prof. Dr. Abdullah Y. Öztoprak in his office



Greetings from visiting Russian students

EMU Communication Faculty hosted eight students from the Ogarev Mordovia State University in Russia, who visited EMU as part of a two-week internship programme that covered a basic training on TV and radio production, news announcement for TV, news writing and journalism, basic photography, brand management and creative advertisement. As part of the internship programme, the students attended a two-day journalism workshop in Gündem. These are the interviews they conducted for Gündem.

Our first experience of staying in Northern Cyprus

By Anastasia Shumilova & Julia Dolgova

Once upon a time, in a small city of a big country there were some really good students who hadn't had any real adventures. Instead of adventures, heavy snow and harsh winds oppressed them. The unexpected call from dean's office changed everything: "Would you like to go to Northern Cyprus? There will be journalism courses if you do". Many wanted to go, but few were chosen. So the group of Mordovian students came to this wonderful resort city of Famagusta. Now we want to share with you the impressions of the training we received here.

Anastasia Shumilova & Julia Dolgova: When you learned about this opportunity, what did you expect?

Masha Khranova: I had expected that there would be students from many different countries and that we would participate in many lectures each day. Actually, what happened was that professors worked only with our group of eight students and we focused mostly on hands-on, real life and practical classes – not many lectures.

Olga Vlasova: I thought we would have many lectures during our internship and that I would learn something new about journalism. I hadn't expected that it would be so interesting and exciting for me. Now I have so much information about photojournalism.

Masha Kochetkova: Now, it doesn't matter, because here I am very happy.

Julia Fedorova: I thought that we would be in lectures throughout our internship on campus. But here we combine our classes with a rest.

Natasha Paltina: I thought that we would be in lectures every day and that we would do homework.

Tanya Kashtanova: I thought that we would speak only in English and that I wouldn't understand anything.

Anastasia Shumilova & Julia Dolgova: What do you think about the Northern Cyprus?

Masha Khranova: I was very happy to be there in April: sun is shining and we can go swimming and combine our classes with a rest.

Olga Vlasova: Northern Cyprus is a very beautiful place, there are a lot of interesting people, historical places, it's really interesting for me, there is sea, it's a positive moment.

Masha Kochetkova: I love Cyprus very much. It has offered for me many different impressions. I like people, university and professors.

Julia Fedorova: It's paradise for me. I have seen palms and I have taken many pictures of them. This is very warm country with cordial relations and people. There are many beautiful places. I'll have many impressions, memories for all my life.

Natasha Paltina: Northern Cyprus has made good impression. There are a lot of friendly people, especially young guys.

Tanya Kashtanova: The culture of this country is very interesting – especially the atmosphere and the beautiful nature. People look at us like we are different and I think this is because our skin is so pale.

Anastasia Shumilova & Julia Dolgova: What experience have you got during this internship?

Masha Khranova: I have learned many new things about journalism: TV-studio, radio-studio, green screen studio, how to use them as a professional and so on. This is a good opportunity to compare Turkish and Russian TV.

Olga Vlasova: I have had many interesting experiences. I think my English is much better now. When I went to Cyprus, I was confused. I couldn't use English with people. I think, it's a good plus for me. And of course, I have new knowledge about journalism, about media process and so on.

Masha Kochetkova: I have a lot of new information about journalism. I know very interesting things about the culture, the people and the Turkish language.

Julia Fedorova: I have learned things I didn't know at our university, for example how to shoot on the district.

Natasha Paltina: Lectures have been very interesting for me and have increased my interest in my future job.

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Student's activity in EMU

By Iulia Fedorova & Maria Kochetkova

We are about two weeks in Northern Cyprus. Now we have many interesting and new information. We were in the TV and radio studios; we were also in the green-screen room; we worked with professional cameras. We were very glad that we had practical lessons. We are in the redaction today. We decided to interview Karina Pyrina. She helps Russian students at EMU. She was very glad to talk with us.

Hello Karina. We are from Russia and we want to talk with you about Russian students here. Let's start. How many Russian students study here?

Hello. We have 60-70 students here; because we have a lot of exchange programs.

Is it difficult to adapt? How do you help students?

Yes, it usually takes about 2 weeks to adapt here.

Did you have any problems when you came here?

No. My English was good and that's why I could talk with people and I could understand teachers without any problems.

But of course studying is not easy. For example, teachers give us a lot of information and it is always difficult to remember new things.

What kind of work do you have with students?

To begin with, for new students I have a program. I give them new information about courses, about lectures and so on. I show them where the departments are. I tell them what kind of social activities are here.

Oh, it's so interesting. What kind of positive things do Russian students have at this university?

We have Spring Festival and International Night and dance performances; actually female students are very busy – they play football, volleyball and also baseball.

Great! How can we find some information about this university?

There are special agencies, you can Google us – and there is our website. You can also find on Facebook and other new social media.

Do you like to work with Russian students? Are they different from other students?

Yes, of course I enjoy working with them because they are Russian. It is so... I don't know... It is so much fun working with students from Russia.

Thank you very much. We see that there are a lot of interesting things for Russian students.

If you want to become a perfect journalist you must study with the best!



Prof. Dr. Suleyman Irvan talked about real journalism and the important qualities of reporters.

By Natalia Paltina and
Tatiana Kashtanova

Journalism is one of the most popular and difficult profession nowadays. Despite nervousness, hard work, deadlines and extreme conditions no one journalist can refuse their mission. Why must journalists be university graduates? How does one remain in the profession follow the principle "Do no harm"? How can we navigate in the modern media world?

Professor Dr. Suleyman Irvan, the Dean of the Faculty of Communica-

tion and Media Studies at EMU talked about real journalism and the important qualities of reporters.

In Russia we have a lot of theory and a little of practice. What can you tell us about your system of education?

We designed our curriculum. Our curriculum is based on 50% practice and 50 % theory. It means that half theory and half practice. So students have the opportunity and resources - for example cameras and so on - where they can practice their profession. They ask us to do some

practice. For example, writing press release. I am teaching one course now called PR writing press release. I ask students to write press releases as part of the practical component of the course.

People think that everyone can be a reporter without a journalism diploma. Do you agree with this?

Real journalists must have a diploma. A professional should know everything and be a many sided person. He has to be a good writer in different genres. We teach our student to be polite, truthful and ethical.

Our students know that before writing they must look for answer and check facts.

Where do students work after graduating from your department?

We have students from many different countries. Most of them find a job in the academic areas that they focused on. Journalism students find jobs in newspapers, TV and cinema students find job in their areas. PR students find jobs in advertising and public relations. We have many famous graduates. For example, Oshan Sabirli and Ali Fahrioglu. They are editors-in-chief of successful newspapers.

Is it hard to find a job?

The diploma represents what you have done during your education. If you teach yourself you will be in a better position to find a job. Some students think that they just want the diploma. We say ok, of course one goal is to get the diploma, but think more broadly than that. You will find a job more easily if you prepare yourself for the world – not just to receive the diploma. So we encourage our students to think of their capacity and ability to practice their work: How do you write articles? How do you take a picture? How do you advertise? Students have to educate and teach themselves with their future in mind.

What do you think about students who combine work and study?

It is so hard to work and study. If the job is hard it is difficult to find time to study. Nevertheless, we encourage working students and even though it is difficult, with determination they manage to reach their goals. On the bright side, when they graduated they already have a job.

What do you want to change in your system of education?

We always try to improve our system. Update our teachers, students' knowledge and technical equipment. We want to see in our department more students from different countries. International education teaches students to understand culture and traditions worldwide.

What do you know about Russian journalism?

I know a famous Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya who was killed. She was brave and a real professional. If you want to be a good journalist, choose her as your role model.

Please, tell 3 main qualities of perfect journalist.

Ok. I think, the first is truthfulness, the second is ethics and the last one is being responsible for your writing.

Thank you for the interview.

About Russian students in the EMU

By Olga Vlasova &
Maria Hkramova

We are about two weeks in Northern Cyprus. Now we have many interesting and new information. We were in the TV and radio studios; we were also in the green-screen room; we worked with professional cameras. We were very glad that we had practical lessons. We are in the redaction today. We decided to interview Karina Pyrina. She helps Russian students at EMU. She was very glad to talk with us.

Hello Karina. We are from Russia and we want to talk with you about Russian students here. Let's start. How many Russian students study here?

Hello. We have 60-70 students here; because we have a lot of exchange programs.

Is it difficult to adapt? How do

you help students?

Yes, it usually takes about 2 weeks to adapt here.

Did you have any problems when you came here?

No. My English was good and that's why I could talk with people and I could understand teachers without any problems. But of course studying is not easy. For example, teachers give us a lot of information and it is always difficult to remember new things.

What kind of work do you have with students?

To begin with, for new students I have a program. I give them new information about courses, about lectures and so on. I show them where the departments are. I tell them what kind of social activities are here.

Oh, it's so interesting. What kind of positive things do Russian stu-

dents have at this university?

We have Spring Festival and International Night and dance performances; actually female students are very busy – they play football, volleyball and also baseball.

Great! How can we find some information about this university?

There are special agencies, you can Google us – and there is our website. You can also find on Facebook and other new social media.

Do you like to work with Russian students? Are they different from other students?

Yes, of course I enjoy working with them because they are Russian. It is so . . . I don't know . . . It is so much fun working with students from Russia.

Thank you very much. We see that there are a lot of interesting things for Russian students.



Karina Pyrina helps Russian students at EMU.

 **Gündem**

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