



Academy of International Business

G. Tomas M. Hult, Executive Director

645 N. Shaw Ln Rm 7 • Michigan State University • East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1121 • USA
http://aib.msu.edu • Tel: +1-517-432-1452 • Fax: +1-517-432-1009 • Email: aib@msu.edu

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Robert Grosse
George Mason University

June 19, 2013

Immediate Past President

Mary Ann Von Glinow
Florida International University

Vice President - 2013 Program

Patricia McDougall
Indiana University

Vice President - 2014 Program

Klaus Meyer
CEIBS

Vice President - Past Program

Susan Feinberg
Temple University

Vice President of Administration

Elizabeth Rose
University of Otago

Vice President of Administration

Peter Liesch
University of Queensland

Dear AIB colleagues,

We are writing to give you an update on things in Istanbul as we approach our annual meeting there during July 2-6.

Our Executive Committee unanimously agrees that it is appropriate to proceed as planned with our activities, and perhaps even to put some academic focus on the problems of protests and civil unrest that affect international business, including things such as our conference. There should be no group better positioned to think about and recommend strategy and policy responses for companies and governments in this kind of situation. We will use the Town Hall on July 4 at 4:45 pm in our meeting to focus part of the discussion about the Domain of International Business on the issue of Dealing with Society-Government Conflict as part of our domain. This session may even help us to become informed advocates of such policies and strategies in the many contexts where this kind problem exists around the world today.

Our conference venue, the Hilton Istanbul, while fairly close to Taksim Square, is on a separate property, off the main boulevard. The Hilton was largely unaffected by the demonstrations except for one occasion when police pursued a group of protestors into the hotel. No one was hurt, the pursuit ended in the entrance to the hotel, and such episodes are not expected to recur.

We want you to know that your safety and security are our primary concern, and we will not put anyone in what might be a risky situation. Below, please find a more detailed assessment of the current situation, as we read it.

We look forward to welcoming you to Istanbul to what will be a memorable conference!

Your Executive Board

Rob Grosse, President

Nakiye Boyacigiller, Local Arrangements Chair

Mary Ann von Glinow, Immediate Past President

Tricia McDougall-Covin, Program Chair, Istanbul 2013

Susan Feinberg, Program Chair, Past

Klaus Meyer, Program Chair-Vancouver 2014

Beth Rose, VP Administration

Peter Liesch, VP Administration

CHAPTER CHAIRPERSONS

Australia-New Zealand Chapter

Elizabeth Rose
University of Otago

Canada Chapter

Howard Lin
Ryerson University

China Chapter

Changqi Wu
Peking University

India Chapter

S. Raghunath
IIM Bangalore

Japan Chapter

Masataka Ota
Waseda University

Korea Chapter

Dong-Kee Rhee
Seoul National University

Latin America Chapter

William Newburry
Florida International University

Middle East and North Africa Chapter

Melodena Stephens Balakrishnan
University of Wollongong in Dubai

Southeast Asia Chapter

T.S. Chan
Lingnan University

U.K. and Ireland Chapter

Heinz Tuselmann
Manchester Metropolitan University

Western Europe Chapter

José Pla-Barber
University of Valencia

Midwest USA Chapter

Juan Meraz
Missouri State University

Northeast USA Chapter

Mohammad Niamat Elahee
Quinnipiac University

Southeast USA Chapter

Daniel Rottig
Florida Gulf Coast University

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Tunga Kiyak, Managing Director

Irem Kiyak, Treasurer

Meg Quine, Office Assistant

Anne Hoekman, JIBS Managing Editor



Academy of International Business

G. Tomas M. Hult, Executive Director

645 N. Shaw Ln Rm 7 • Michigan State University • East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1121 • USA
http://aib.msu.edu • Tel: +1-517-432-1452 • Fax: +1-517-432-1009 • Email: aib@msu.edu

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Robert Grosse
George Mason University

Immediate Past President

Mary Ann Von Glinow
Florida International University

Vice President - 2013 Program

Patricia McDougall
Indiana University

Vice President - 2014 Program

Klaus Meyer
CEIBS

Vice President - Past Program

Susan Feinberg
Temple University

Vice President of Administration

Elizabeth Rose
University of Otago

Vice President of Administration

Peter Liesch
University of Queensland

CHAPTER CHAIRPERSONS

Australia-New Zealand Chapter

Elizabeth Rose
University of Otago

Canada Chapter

Howard Lin
Ryerson University

China Chapter

Changqi Wu
Peking University

India Chapter

S. Raghunath
IIM Bangalore

Japan Chapter

Masataka Ota
Waseda University

Korea Chapter

Dong-Kee Rhee
Seoul National University

Latin America Chapter

William Newburry
Florida International University

Middle East and North Africa Chapter

Melodena Stephens Balakrishnan
University of Wollongong in Dubai

Southeast Asia Chapter

T.S. Chan
Lingnan University

U.K. and Ireland Chapter

Heinz Tuselmann
Manchester Metropolitan University

Western Europe Chapter

José Pla-Barber
University of Valencia

Midwest USA Chapter

Juan Meraz
Missouri State University

Northeast USA Chapter

Mohammad Niamat Elahee
Quinnipiac University

Southeast USA Chapter

Daniel Rottig
Florida Gulf Coast University

CURRENT SITUATION AND PROGNOSIS:

After the forceful clearing of Taksim Square on Saturday, things have calmed down considerably in Istanbul and around the country. The Gezi Park protestors are continuing to show their disapproval with the government with continued non-violent protests (including the ingenious “standing man” protestor who quickly became popular on social media and a model for similar actions across the country). Amongst the demonstrators there is a strong sense that an important message was given to the government and an equally strong desire not to allow the moment to be hijacked by extremists. Thus they are not engaging in actions that could lead to another overreaction by the police. Similarly, the planting of more than 100 trees in Gezi Park and the agreement not to proceed with the proposed building project until the court case comes to a close shows the government is also interested in taking some steps towards conciliation. While one can’t guarantee that no new altercations between the police and protestors will occur, the likelihood of this happening appears to be fairly small.

A note of caution:

Please note that most altercations between protestors and police have occurred during the weekends or at night. You should avoid all demonstrations and leave the area if one develops. Please remain aware of your surroundings and be vigilant.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Tunga Kiyak, Managing Director

Irem Kiyak, Treasurer

Meg Quine, Office Assistant

Anne Hoekman, JIBS Managing Editor