



Elif Babül

Associate Professor of Anthropology, Mount Holyoke College

Bureaucratic Intimacies: Translating Human Rights in Turkey

Human rights are politically fraught in Turkey, provoking suspicion and scrutiny among government workers for their anti-establishment left-wing connotations. Nevertheless, with eyes worldwide trained on Turkish politics, and with accession to the European Union underway, Turkey's human rights record remains a key indicator of its governmental legitimacy. Drawing on her long-term, intensive fieldwork in human rights training programs for police officers, judges and prosecutors, healthcare workers, and prison personnel, Elif Babül shows how government workers encounter human rights rhetoric and articulates the perils and promises of these encounters for the subjects and objects of Turkish governance.

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