



**PIONEER OF THE  
MILLENNIUM  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS:  
A T A T Ü R K**



*An International Conference (two-day)*

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE – (Updated.)**

<http://www.lightmillennium.org> - <http://www.stevens.edu>

E-mails: [event@lightmillennium.org](mailto:event@lightmillennium.org) - [aturkconference@stevens.edu](mailto:aturkconference@stevens.edu)

**DATE: Friday, April 19**  
**TIME: 5:00 to 8:00PM**  
High Level Inaugural  
Panel  
Keynote Speech  
Q & A

**Keynote Speaker:**  
**STEPHEN KINZER**  
*Professor of international  
relations at Boston University  
and author of Crescent & Star:  
Turkey Between Two Worlds.*

**DATE: Saturday: April 20**  
**TIME: 10:00a.m. – 5:00pm.**  
Opening Session  
Paper Presentations &  
Discussions  
Lecture-Piano Concert

**LOCATION: Burchard Building**  
**College of Arts and Letters at the Stevens Institute of Technology,**  
**6th & River Streets, Hoboken, New Jersey**

The Light Millennium and the College of Arts and Letters at the Stevens Institute of Technology will jointly present a conference on the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations and their relation to ideals advanced by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881-1938), founder of the Turkish Republic.

The conference will be held on **Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>** on the campus of the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey.

Keynote speaker **Stephen Kinzer**, *the first NY Times Chief Correspondent to Turkey (1996-2000), author of the book Crescent & Star: Turkey Between in Two Worlds (2001), and Professor in International Relations at Boston University*, explains in his book: "The origins of this transformation [may be found] by examining the life of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder of the Turkish Republic and still, despite his death in 1938, the most influential figure in Turkey's history."

The conference will begin with a High Level Inaugural Meeting **on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**, followed by the keynote presentation by **Stephen Kinzer**. The **High Level Inaugural Meeting** will be dedicated to **MDG#8: Global Partnership and International Peace**. Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and UN dignitaries are invited to the HL Inaugural Meeting, including Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States United Nations, Turkish, Greek, Macedonian, Iranian, Egyptian, and German ambassadors.

**The 2000 United Nations' Millennium Development Goals** include the eradication extreme poverty and hunger, the attainment of universal primary education, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women, the reduction of child mortality, the improvement of maternal health, the combating of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, the attainment of environmental

sustainability, and the development of a global partnership for the development of international peace.

Atatürk regarded universal education and equal rights for girls and women as pillars of the society he wished to building in the 1920s. He established the Turkish parliament and constitution to advance his ideals. He created institutes in villages for poor children and universities where women would be encouraged to study. He adopted the Roman alphabet for the Turkish language and introduced western values, culture, and lifestyles. Atatürk advanced the notion of ***“Peace at home, peace in the world.”***

Also, for the closing session of the Conference on **Saturday, April 20**, a brief presentation and concert by the distinguished pianist **Dr. Aysegül Durakoglu** will demonstrate Atatürk’s influence on Turkish music.

According to the executive board of UNESCO in 1979, “Atatürk set an outstanding example in promoting the spirit of mutual understanding between peoples, and lasting peace between the nations of the world.”

In the following paragraph, Secretary General of the United Nations Ban Ki Moon, urges for achieving of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015: "Eradicating extreme poverty continues to be one of the main challenges of our time, and is a major concern of the international community. Ending this scourge will require the combined efforts of all, governments, civil society organizations and the private sector, in the context of a stronger and more effective global partnership for development. The Millennium Development Goals set timebound targets, by which progress in reducing income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter and exclusion 'while promoting gender equality, health, education and environmental sustainability' can be measured. They also embody basic human rights' the rights of each person on the planet to health, education, shelter and security. The Goals are ambitious but feasible and, together with the comprehensive United Nations development agenda, set the course for the world's efforts to alleviate extreme poverty by 2015. "

The conference will contribute to the discussion of the Millennium Development Goals on the academic and global level as well as examine one of the most prolific world leaders of the 20th Century and founder of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk's (1881-1938) visions, principles and implementations from the period of 1920s until his death in 1938.

Scholars and authors are invited to submit papers on the visions, principles, and achievements of Ataturk and/or the impact of his visions in the underdeveloped and developing countries in his time that are relevant to today.

Papers will focus on the MDGs in relation to those advanced by Ataturk.

**SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR PAPERS:** Millennium Development Goals, International Relations & Global Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Development and Sustainability, Women Studies, Environmental Studies, Comparative Studies, Education, The Least Developed and Developing Countries, Cultural Studies and Historical Approaches, Interdisciplinary, Democracy, Modernization and Secularism, Social, Lifestyle and Cultural Change, Science, Arts and Culture. **For inquiries about the Conference or Proposals submit electronically by email to: [efoster@stevens.edu](mailto:efoster@stevens.edu) or [event@lightmillennium.org](mailto:event@lightmillennium.org) and/or [ataturkconference@stevens.edu](mailto:ataturkconference@stevens.edu).**

**- Proposals should be submitted electronically to the above given e-addresses by February 28<sup>th</sup>.**

A selection of papers may be published in a volume of conference proceedings. Papers should not exceed 3000 words. Abstracts and proposals should be limited to 300 words or less, providing a clear statement of the objectives of the Conference, their relevance to the Millennium Development Goals, especially in relation to underdeveloped and developing countries and global partnerships and international peace.

#### **ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS:**

The Light Millennium (LM) is a non-religious, non-political, not-for-profit (501-c-3), non-governmental (NGO), independent global public benefit multi-media and culture organization, has become associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations effective on December 12, 2005. Formed in 2001, based in Queens, New York. The initial concept of the organization was introduced over the Internet in August 1999. The first article of the purposes of the organization is: "To provide an international platform for the free expression of ideas and experiences in order to foster a global connection among all people." Full purposes could be found in the following link: [http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm\\_mission.html](http://www.lightmillennium.org/lm_mission.html)

**Stevens Institute of Technology:** <http://www.stevens.edu/>

#### **For inquires or more information, please contact:**

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**Prof. Edward Foster**, *Co-Chair, and Professor of American Studies, College of Arts and Letters at the Stevens Institute of Technology*  
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**Media Release on Stevens' website** (*needs to be updated.*):

<http://www.stevens.edu/news/content/cal-event-pioneer-millennium-development-goals-ataturk>

**For Turkish:**

<http://isikbinyili.org/index.php/15-sayi-24/62-binyilin-kalkinma-hedeflerinin-oencuesue-ataturk>

**Attachment: CALL FOR PAPERS**