

Dr. Ayca Ince

Ayca Ince recently concluded a three-year project called "Invisible Cities: Building Capacities for Local Cultural Policy Transformation in Turkey," which was funded by the Matra Program of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This project aimed to increase cultural policy knowledge and management capacities of cultural organizations and city administrations in Turkey in collaboration with Anadolu Kultur (Turkey), the European Cultural Foundation and Boekmanstichting (the Netherlands). Within this framework, she developed a centre for cultural polices and management (KPY) at Istanbul Bilgi University (BILGI). This centre (<http://kpy.bilgi.edu.tr/eng>) aims to provide expert evaluation and field research and to organize professional meetings and discussions to develop knowledge and practice in new methods of 'participative local cultural policy-making' across Turkey, and to initiate field- and experience-based debate on cultural management and policy development in Turkey, the European Union and the neighboring regions. Thus, the Centre has published products of field research and guides such as *Local Cultural Polices Handbook* and *Yearbook of Cultural Policy and Management* in Turkish and English. Ms. Ince works as vice-director of the centre and editor-in-chief of the Yearbook. She also teaches in the Cultural Management Department at BILGI.

She studied urban and regional planning at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University (MSGSU), and has received an MSc from the "Cities, Space and Society Programme" at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences (2001), and an MA in Sociology from MSGSU (2003). Ayca Ince was granted a PhD degree in 2012 after defending her thesis in sociology at MSGSU, entitled "Isomorphism in Cultural Policies: An Example of District Municipalities in Istanbul and Cultural Centres." Her recent paper, "Cultural Policies and Public Administration on Local Level," was published in the book *Introduction to Cultural Policies in Turkey*, for which she was one of the editors. She is a member of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA-Turkey).

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