

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

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**DATE OF BIRTH:** July 31, 1977

**NATIONALITY:** Bulgarian

**POST ADDRESS:** Center for Regional Studies and Analyses  
University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski"  
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**ACADEMIC  
POSITION:**

**CURRENTLY:**  
Permanent Research Fellow  
Center for Regional Studies and Analyses  
Department of History  
University of Sofia "St. Kliment Ohridski"  
8 "Dragan Tsankov" boulevard  
1164 Sofia / BULGARIA

**EDUCATION:**

**CURRENTLY:**  
Since September 2004  
Ph.D. program at the History Department of Bilkent University,  
Ankara.  
Dissertation topic: "The Rise and Fall of the Ottoman Frontier  
Nobility: the Mihaloğlu Family's Military Career (Fourteenth –  
Sixteenth Century)" (Supervised by Prof. Dr. Halil İnalçık)

**M.A. DEGREE:**  
2001-2004 (September)  
History Department, Bilkent University, Ankara  
MA thesis "The Military Organization of the *Akıncıs* in Ottoman  
Rumelia".

**B.A. DEGREE:**  
1996-2000  
History Department at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski",  
Bulgaria.

**HIGHT SCHOOL:**  
1991-1996  
"Hristo Botev" (French Language School), Kardzhali, Bulgaria.

RESEARCH  
INTERESTS:

Ottoman conquest in the Balkans and the role of the raider (*akıncı*) commanders' families in the process; incorporation of the Balkan elites into the Ottoman state; role of the Ottoman border nobility in the state-building processes in the Empire; environmental history and modern Turkish history.

LANGUAGE  
ABILITIES:

Speaking and Reading Proficiency: Bulgarian (native), English (257 computer-based points in TOEFL test of English), Turkish, French, Russian  
Reading comprehension: Ottoman-Turkish, Serbian, Macedonian, German  
Elementary: Arabic

SCHOLARSHIPS  
AND GRANTS:

2009-2010: Turkish Cultural Foundation Junior Fellowship  
January 20 – April 20 2010: American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT) Andrew Mellon Foundation Fellowship  
2008-2009: Bilkent University Full Scholarship  
2007-2008: Junior Fellowship at Koç University, Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations (RCAC), Istanbul, Turkey.  
2004-2008: Bilkent University Full Scholarship  
2001-2004: Bilkent University Full Scholarship

ACADEMIC  
PROJECTS:

2012-present: Project Participant in the *GDP of Bulgaria and Bulgarian Lands (1500-1870-2000)*, project funded by Bulgarian Science Fund (FFNNIPO 12 01263)

2012-2015: Project participant in the *Social Dimensions of the Environment in South-East Europe, 16<sup>th</sup>–19<sup>th</sup> century*, project funded by Center of Excellence “Alma Mater” at the University of Sofia, Regional Studies Program

2005: “Selection and Translation of Ottoman Archival Documents from the Prime Minister Archive (Başbakanlık Osmanlı Arşivi) in Istanbul for the History of Tatar Pazardjik”, sponsored by the Regional Historical Museum of Pazardjik, Bulgaria (together with Grigor Boykov).

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE:

2004-2005: Two semesters as Teaching Assistant of Dr. Hasan Ali Karasar and Dr. Gülriz Büken respectively for the course “History of Civilizations” at the Department of History, Bilkent University (Ankara).

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

### **ARTICLES:**

“Pınarhisar’s Development From the Late Fourteenth to the Mid-Sixteenth Century: The Mihaloğlu Family *Vakf* Possessions in the Area”, in Grigor Boykov, Ivaylo Lozavov, Daniela Stoyanova (eds.), *Cities in South Eastern Thrace: Continuity and Transformation* (Sofia: Sofia University Press) (forthcoming 2016)

“Ferocious Invasion or Smooth Incorporation? Merging the Established Balkan Military System into the Ottoman Army”, in *The Ottoman Conquest of the Balkans: Interpretations and Research Debates*, ed. Oliver Jens Schmitt (Wien: Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, 2016), 79-102.

“Shaping the Ottoman Borderland: the Architectural Patronage of the Frontier Lords from the Mihaloğlu Family”, in Ivan Parvey, Maria Baramova and Grigor Boykov (eds.), *Bordering Early Modern Europe* (Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2015), 185-220.

“Byzantine Renegade and Holy Warrior: Reassessing the Character of Köse Mihal, a Hero of the Byzantino-Ottoman Borderland,” in Selim Kuru and Baki Tezcan (eds.), *Defterology: Festschrift in Honor of Heath Lowry* (= *Journal of Turkish Studies* 40 (2013): 245-269.

“Legend and Historicity: the Binbir Oklu Ahmed Baba *tekkesi* and its founder”, in Maximilian Hartmuth and Ayşe Dilsiz (eds.), *Monuments, Patrons, Contexts: Papers on Ottoman Europe Presented to Machiel Kiel* (Leiden: Nederlands Instituut voor het Nabije Oosten, 2010), 29-45.

“The Mihaloğlu Family: *Gazi* Warriors and Patrons of Dervish Hospices”, *Osmanlı Araştırmaları* 32 (2008): 173-202.

“The Ottoman Philippopolis (Filibe) During the Second Half of the 15<sup>th</sup> c.”, *Bulgarian Historical Review* 3-4 (2000): 112-139 (co-authored with Grigor Boykov)

### **ENCYCLOPAEDIA**

#### **ARTICLES:**

“Kârdžali (Kırçalı),” *Türkiye Diyanet Vakfı İslâm Ansiklopedisi*, Ek cildi (İSAM) (co-authored with Machiel Kiel) (forthcoming)

### **BOOKS EDITED:**

Machiel Kiel, *Population and Settlements in Bulgaria during the Ottoman Period. Collected Works* (Sofia: Amicitia, 2005), edited by Grigor Boykov and Mariya Kiprovska (in Bulgarian).

CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPATION  
AND PUBLIC  
LECTURES:

“Plunder and Appropriation at the Borderland: Representation, Legitimacy and Ideological Use of *Spolia* by Members of the Ottoman Frontier Nobility,” paper presented at the 10<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL RCAC ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM entitled “*Spolia* Reincarnated: Second Life of Spaces, Materials, Objects in Anatolia from Antiquity to the Ottoman Period”, Koç University RCAC, Istanbul, 5-6 December, 2015.

“Ferocious Invasion or Smooth Incorporation? Merging the Established Balkan Military System into the Ottoman Army”, paper presented at the conference THE OTTOMAN CONQUEST OF THE BALKANS – INTERPRETATIONS AND RESEARCH DEBATES, Vienna, 14-16 November 2013.

“Shaping the Ottoman Borderland: the Architectural Patronage of the Frontier Lords from the Mihaloğlu Family”, paper presented at the conference BORDERING EARLY MODERN EUROPE, Sofia, 21-23 March 2013.

“Building up Urban Centres in the Ottoman Periphery: The Administrative Mastery of the Ottoman Frontier Nobility Examined Through the Architectural Enterprises of the Mihaloğlu Family”, paper presented at the conference CENTRES AND PERIPHERIES IN OTTOMAN ARCHITECTURE: REDISCOVERING A BALKAN HERITAGE, Sarajevo, April 22-24, 2010.

“(Trans)forming the Ottoman Borderland: the Mihaloğlu Family’s Authority Examined Through the Management of its *Waqf* Possessions and its Architectural Legacy”, public lecture at the American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), Istanbul, February 15, 2010.

“(Trans)forming the Ottoman Borderland: the Mihaloğlu Family’s Authority Examined Through the Management of its *Waqf* Possessions and its Architectural Legacy”, public lecture at Bilkent University’s Department of History Graduate Seminars Series, December 10, 2009.

“Legend and Historicity: Binbir Oklu Ahmed Baba *tekkesi* and its founder”, paper presented at the conference THE OTTOMAN BALKANS: A SYMPOSIUM IN HONOUR OF MACHIEL KIEL, Netherlands Institute in Turkey, June 27, 2008.

“Administering the Conquered Lands: The Mihaloğlu Family *Vakf* Possessions in Pınarhisar Area”, paper presented at the 11<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF TURKEY, Bilkent University, Ankara, 17-20 June 2008.

“The Role of the Frontier Nobility in the Islamization process of Ottoman Rumelia”, paper presented at the conference CONVERSION TO ISLAM AND ISLAMIZATION IN THE EARLY OTTOMAN BALKANS, Sarajevo, 5-7 June 2008.

“*Gazi*hood and Sainthood in the Ottoman Realm: Mihaloğulları’s Unchallenged Authority in Pınarhisar Area”, talk given as part of the annual RESEARCH CENTER FOR ANATOLIAN CIVILIZATIONS. JUNIOR AND SENIOR FELLOWS MINI-SYMPOSIA SERIES, Istanbul, 21<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

“*Gazi*hood and Sainthood in the Ottoman Realm: The Mihaloğlu family’s patronage over the heterodox dervish complexes in Anatolia and the Balkans”, talk given at the RESEARCH CENTER FOR ANATOLIAN CIVILIZATIONS, Istanbul, December 4, 2007.

“*Gazis* and Dervishes: The Mihaloğulları Family – *Gazi* Warriors and Patrons of Dervish Hospices”, paper presented at the THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION IN THE BALKANS, Bucharest, Romania, 1-5 November 2006.

BEYOND THE *TAHRIR*: INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE SOURCES OF OTTOMAN DEMOGRAPHIC HISTORY IN THE 17<sup>TH</sup> AND 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES AND THEIR INTERPRETATION, Netherlands Historical and Archeological Institute, Istanbul, 15-16 May 2004.