



# ***NEWS & VIEWS***

*A perspective from CHP*

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**REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY**  
Foreign Relations Department



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## CHP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS (10 August 2020)

### 1. Fethi Açikel (Science, Management and Culture Platform)



Antakya – 1970. Faculty Member, Professor of Comparative Politics. He graduated from Ankara University, Faculty of Political Sciences. He completed his master's degree in the Department of Sociology at Middle East Technical University. He completed his doctorate at the University of Essex. He has done his post-doctorate in London School of Economics. He became associate professor of Sociology in 2006 and professor of Political Science in 2012. He was CHP Assembly Member and Chairman of the Science Platform. He was elected as Istanbul Deputy in the 27<sup>th</sup> term.

Açikel speaks English very well, is married and has two children.

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### 2. Onursal Adıgüzel (Information and Communication Technologies)

Malatya, 1985. Industrial engineer. He graduated from Yıldız Technical University, Department of Industrial Engineering. He continues his graduate studies at Boğaziçi University Industrial Engineering Department. He worked as an industrial engineer and manager in the private sector. He served as the Deputy Chairman of the Youth Branches of the Republican People's Party, Responsible for Organization and Organization. He was elected as Istanbul Deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He was a member of



the Environment and EU Harmonization Commission. Since February 2018, he has been the Vice President of the Republican People's Party for Information and Communication Technologies. He speaks English. Adıgüzel is married and has one child.

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### 3. Veli Ağbaba (Trade Unions, Tradesmen - Craftsmen and Non-Governmental Organizations)

Malatya / Yazıhan - 1968. Businessman. He graduated from Anadolu University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business Administration. He served as a Municipal Council Member, Municipal Assembly Group President, Party High Disciplinary Board Member and



Provincial Chairman. He is a Congress Member of Malatyaspor, Atatürk's Thought Society, Board Member of People's Houses and a Member of the Human Rights Association. He is the Spokesperson of the Republican People's Party Prison Examination and Monitoring Commission. He has publications prepared by the CHP Prison Commission. He was elected as Malatya Deputy in the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He was a member of the Human Rights Investigation Commission. Ağbaba is married and has two children.

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### 4. Ahmet Akin (Energy, Infrastructure Projects)

Gönen, Balıkesir – 1973. He studied Language and Economics at Cambridge Eurocenter in England. He is continuing his higher education at Beykent University, Faculty of Science and Literature, Department of History. He studied politics at Bahçeşehir University. In Spain, he attended many trainings and seminars on Renewable Energy Resources and Production.

He served as the General Manager of private sector organizations operating in the energy field, and as the CEO and Board Member of holdings operating in the international field. He continues to work on environmentally friendly and more economical electricity generation projects to end Turkey's dependence on foreign energy. He was elected as CHP Balıkesir MP for the 25th, 26th and 27th terms. In the 26th term, he was a member of the State Economic Enterprises Commission and the Foreign





Affairs Committee. Akin speaks English, Spanish and Italian. He is married with two children.

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### 5. Muharrem Erkek (Law and Electoral Affairs)



Çanakkale - 1969. Lawyer; He graduated from Istanbul University Faculty of Law. He worked as a self-employed lawyer in Çanakkale. He took part in the administration of the Çanakkale bar association. He was elected as a Council Member of Çanakkale Municipality. He was a member of Çanakkalespor and Çanakkale Mentally Handicapped Association Board of Directors. He took part in Çanakkale City Council Executive Board. He was elected as Çanakkale deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He served as a Member of the Constitutional Commission. He is married with 2 children.

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### 6. Gökçe Gökçen (Youth Policies)

1991- Istanbul. Graduated from Galatasaray University Faculty of Law. During her education life, she was in England, France and the USA for language education, participated in the Erasmus program in Belgium, and took human rights graduate courses at Strasbourg University in France. Gökçen, who has a good command of



English and French and has a beginner level of Italian, completed her master's degree in Human Rights Law program at Istanbul Bilgi University with a thesis on "The State of Emergency in France". Gökçen, who has been working as a research assistant at Marmara University Faculty of Law Constitutional Law Department since 2016, has also been a visiting researcher at Montpellier

University in France. She fulfilled her first international duty in Lithuania representing the CHP Youth Branches in 2013, was appointed as the President of the Foreign Relations Committee of the CHP Youth Branches in 2014. She was elected as the Vice President of Young European Socialists (YES) at the congress held in Switzerland in 2015. Gökçen worked for two years in the field of foreign relations and feminism in European Young Socialists, which is the umbrella organization of youth organizations of socialist and social democratic parties in Europe, represented YES in Georgia, Lebanon and Greece.

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## 7. Gamze Akkuş İlgezdi (Publicity and Public Relations)



Dentist. She graduated from Marmara University Faculty of Dentistry. She completed her master's degree in Maxillofacial Surgery with an in-service training program. She completed her

master's degree in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Yeditepe University in 2011 with a study on Culture and Art Policies in Local Governments. She continues her doctoral studies in the field of Political Sciences at the same university. She started her career in 1992 at SSK Topçular Dispensary. She was appointed to SSK Okmeydanı Hospital in 1993. She was in charge of the operating room department for nine years. She served as the Deputy Chief Physician between 1999-2001. In the same years, she was among the active members of KESK. She left the Ministry of Health, where he served for 18 years, in 2009 and transferred to the Ministry of Interior. She established the Türkan Saylan Medical Center here and worked as a doctor. She designed and implemented the Women's Shelter, Technological Youth Center, Mammography Center, festivals, art courses and social studies aimed at combating addiction. She is the founder of the Social Transformation Foundation and the Mother's Platform. Her book titled Transformation of Women-Reign of Darkness was published in 2017. She was elected as Istanbul Deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. She served as a Member of the Human Rights Inquiry Commission. Gamze İlgezdi, who speaks English, is married with one child.

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### 8. Lale Karabiyik (Education Policies)



Professor of Finance. She graduated from Uludağ University Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business Administration. She received the title of associate professor in 1999. In 2005, she was appointed as a professor at Uludağ University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Business Administration. She has eight textbooks and research books, 39 articles published in national and international journals, seven papers presented in national and international symposiums and research awards. In addition

to her academic duties, she also served in various administrative positions such as UU Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Deputy Dean, UU ÖYP Coordinator, UU Senate Member, UU Institute of Social Sciences and Universities Joint Graduate Programs Coordinator. She was elected as Bursa MP in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He served as a Member of the Plan and Budget Committee. Karabiyik has a good command of English and is married with one child.

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### 9. Gülizar Biçer Karaca (Human Rights)

Aydın / Kuyucak – 1967. Lawyer. She graduated from Selçuk University Faculty of Law. She was elected as Denizli Deputy in the 25th Term. She served as a Clerk Member at the TBMM Presidential Board. Currently she is 27<sup>th</sup> term Denizli Deputy. Gülizar Biçer Karaca has served as President of CHP Youth Branches,



Municipal Council Member, Denizli Bar Association General Secretary, Party Assembly Member and served as the CHP Vice President Responsible for Nature Rights. She is the founder of Denizli Women's Platform and Denizli Democracy Platform, which consists of 26 NGOs, Chambers and political parties. Between 2005 and 2015, she was the head of the Denizli Branch of the

Atatürk's Thought Society. She speaks intermediate German, is married with one child.

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#### 10. Bülent Kuşoğlu (Administrative and Financial Affairs)



Erzurum, 1958. Certified Public Accountant, Financial Advisor, Economist. He graduated from Ankara University, Faculty of Political Sciences. He worked on social security in England. Chief Tax Inspector at the Ministry of Finance, Consultant to the Ministry of National Defense, Deputy General Directorate of Social Insurance Institution, Member of the Evaluation Board and the Executive Committee in the Turkish Social Security and Health System Reform projects under the supervision of the World Bank. He served as

general manager, board member and chairman in the private sector. He had columns published in national and various internet newspapers. He was elected as Ankara Deputy in the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He was a member of the Plan and Budget Committee in the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> terms. In the 26<sup>th</sup> Term, he was a member of the Economic Cooperation Organization Parliamentary Assembly (EITPA) Turkish Group. Kuşoğlu speaks English very well and has two children.

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#### 11. Faik Öztrak (Economic Policies and Employers' Organizations) - Party Spokesperson



Economist. He graduated from Ankara University, Faculty of Political Sciences. He holds a master's degree in Development Finance from the University of Birmingham, England.

He served as an expert at SPO, Head of Annual Programs and Finance Department, Deputy Head of Economic Planning, General Manager of



Economic Planning and Deputy Undersecretary. He served as the Vice President of the BRSA and the Undersecretary of the Treasury. He was a columnist on economic policies in a newspaper. He gave lectures at various universities as a guest lecturer. He was the director of TÜSİAD-Koç University Economic Research Forum. He also wrote articles on Turkey's European Union membership. He was elected as Tekirdağ MP in the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. During the 23rd term, he served as a Member of the Turkish Group of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (MEDITERRANEAN-PA). He was elected as the Chairman of the Economic and Financial Affairs Committee of the Union Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean (AIBPA). During the 24th term, he served as a member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA) Turkish Group. He was elected as the Chairman of the Economy and Security Committee. He is currently a member of NATO Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA) Turkish Group. Speaking English and French, Öztrak is married and has one child.

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## 12. Ali Öztunç (Nature Rights - Environment)

Germany / Hofgeismar – 1976. Journalist - Author. He graduated from Gazi University, Faculty of Communication, Department of Journalism. He worked for TV channels such as Kanal D, Show TV and

Habertürk for many years. He worked as a reporter, news manager and Ankara representative in Vatan and Habertürk newspapers. He was a member of RTÜK after being the Press Counselor of TBMM CHP Group. He received awards from many national and international journalist organizations. After his first book, “En Son Umutlar Ölüyor” (Hopes Die at Last), which tells about his experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq wars, his book “Devr-i Mahzuni,” which tells about the life of Aşık Mahzuni Şerif, were published. Öztunç speaks English and basic German. He is married.

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### 13. Oğuz Kaan Salıcı (Party Organization, Organizational Management and Organizing Abroad)



Gaziantep - 1972. Political Scientist. He graduated from Boğaziçi University, Department of Political Science and International Relations. He participated in the establishment of the Social Democrat University Students Platform and the Youth for Democracy Platform. Social Democracy Foundation (SODEV) Founder of the Social Economic and Political Research Foundation of Turkey (TUSES) is a member. He was appointed as the CHP Istanbul Provincial Chairman in September 2011. He was elected as the Provincial President at the Istanbul Provincial Congress in May 2012. He resigned from the Provi

ncial Directorate to become a deputy candidate. He was elected as Istanbul Deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He was a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the 27<sup>th</sup> term. Salıcı, who speaks English very well, is married and has one child.

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### 14. Yüksel Taşkın (Social Policies)

In the 2018 and 2020 Party General Assemblies, Taşkın was elected to the Party Assembly. In the 2018 general elections, he was nominated as the candidate for parliament from Istanbul. He also teaches at the Party School on such subjects as the history of social democracy in Turkey and in the World. Yüksel Taşkın received his PhD degree from the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul (2001). Taşkın was a fulltime faculty member at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Marmara University, Istanbul (2012-2017). In 2017, he was purged from his position on the ground that he signed the Peace Petition. In 2019, the Constitutional Court of Turkey dropped all charges against the peace petitioners.

Taşkın's academic interests: Political and intellectual history of Turkey, Nationalism, Conservatism and political Islamism, Society and Politics in the Middle East, Youth and Politics.



His books are *Sosyal Demokrasi ve Din* (Social Democracy and Religion), Ankara: Bencekitap, 2016. *Siyaseti Anlamak ve Anlamlandırmak* (Understanding and Making Sense of Politics), Ankara: Bencekitap, 2016. (with Suavi Aydın), *1960'tan Günümüze Türkiye Tarihi* (The History of Turkey from 1960 to the present,) İletişim Yayınları, İstanbul, 2014. (Editor) *Siyaset, Kavramlar, Kurumlar, Süreçler* (Politics: Concepts, Institutions, Processes), İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, 2014. *AKP Devri: Türkiye Siyaseti, İslamcılık ve Arap Baharı* (The AKP Era: Turkish Politics, Islamism and the Arab Spring)

İstanbul: Birikim Yayınları, 2013. *Anti-Komünizmden Küreselleşme Karşıtlığına: Milliyetçi Muhafazakar Entelijensiya* (Nationalist Conservative Intelligentsia in Turkey: From Anti-communism to Anti-globalization), İstanbul: İletişim Yayınları, 2007.

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### 15. Seyit Torun (Local Administrations)

Ordu / Ulubey - 1968. Economist, Businessman and Politician. He graduated from Atatürk University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Economics. He did academic studies on municipal work in Germany and the Netherlands. He served as the chairman on different social and cultural foundations. He served as CHP Ordu Provincial Vice President. He was the Mayor of Ulubey and the Mayor of Ordu for 2 terms. He was elected as Ordu Deputy in the 25th and 26th Term. Torun, who speaks English, is married and has one child.

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## 16. Selin Sayek Böke (Secretary General)



USA / New York - 1972. Economist. Faculty Member Assoc. Dr. She graduated from Middle East Technical University, Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Department of Economics. She completed her master's and doctorate at Duke

University. She worked as a Lecturer at Bentley University Department of Economics, Visiting Professor at Georgetown University, and Lecturer at Bilkent University, Department of Economics. She served as the Head of the Department of Economics at Bilkent University and the Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Social Sciences. She served in various international organizations. In 2007, she became one of the four economists who won the Excellence Award in Global Economic Affairs, given by the Kiel Institute of World Economy in Germany. She received the TUBITAK Incentive Award in 2010. She is a Founding Member of the Health and Education Development Association. She was elected as Izmir deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. She was a member of the Plan and Budget Committee. She is a member of the CHP Party Assembly. Sayek Böke, who speaks English very well, is married with two children.

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## PRINCIPAL ADVISORS

### 1. Ahmet Ünal Çeviköz (Principal Advisor on Foreign Affairs)

Istanbul / Uskudar - 1952  
Diplomat, Ambassador. He graduated from Boğaziçi University, Faculty of Basic Sciences, English Language and Literature, and Faculty of Administrative Sciences, Political Science. MA Degree in International Relations From Free University of Brussels. From July 2010 to July



2014, Mr. Çeviköz was the Turkish Ambassador in the United Kingdom. During his tenure in London, he was also elected as the President of the 28th General Assembly of the IMO between 2013-2015. He joined the Turkish Foreign Ministry in 1978. Since his retirement from government service in September 2014, he has written extensively on foreign policy and international relations at Turkish newspapers *Radikal*, *Hurriyet* and *Hurriyet Daily News*.

Between 2007 and 2010, Mr Çeviköz was the Deputy Undersecretary At The Turkish Ministry Of Foreign Affairs. During this period he drafted the Protocols on the Normalization of Bilateral Relations Between Turkey And Armenia which were signed in Zürich on October 10, 2009.

He served as the Turkish Ambassador in Baku, Azerbaijan, between 2001-2004, and in Baghdad, Iraq, between 2004-2007. Prior to that, he worked at the economics and political directorates of NATO International Secretariat between 1989-1997. In November 1994, he launched the NATO Information Office in Moscow. He also took part in the drafting of the NATO-Russia founding act in 1996-1997, which was signed in Paris on May 27, 1997.

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## 2. Ahmet Tuncay Özkan (Media and Corporate Communication)



Ankara – 1966. Journalist-Author, Broadcaster; He graduated from Gazi University, Faculty of Communication. He completed his master's degree at Gazi University, Institute of Science. He worked as a reporter, writer and manager in various media organizations. He worked as an editor-in-chief and program producer. He founded his television channel. He has 21 books published and more than 5 thousand articles. He was elected as Izmir deputy in the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> terms. He was a member of the Security and Intelligence Commission. Özkan, who speaks English, is married and has two children.

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## Chairperson of Women Branches

### Aylin Nazlıaka



Born in Ankara, Nazlıaka has graduated from Middle East Technical University, Department of Economics. In 2014, she successfully completed the Harvard University "Rising Leaders" program. Nazlıaka started her working life in the private sector; 24 years old, she founded the first

company in Turkey operating in the field of human resources. At a young age, she became one of the people leading the business world in the field of management and human resources. She played active roles in many non-governmental organizations. She was Ankara deputy in the 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> terms. In addition, Turkey-EU Harmonization Commission of the European Union and Turkey and took part in the Joint Parliamentary Commission.

Nazlıaka was elected as a Party Assembly Member in 2016 and 2020. She has recently elected as the Chairperson of Women Branches at the 14th Ordinary Congress. Nazlıaka is also a congress member of the Ankaragücü Sports Club. Nazlıaka, who speaks very good English and intermediate level French, married to academician – artist İzzet Nazlıaka and has 2 children.

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## **PRESS STATEMENT BY ÜNAL ÇEVİKÖZ, CHP MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR ISTANBUL AND PRINCIPAL ADVISOR TO THE PARTY CHAIR ON FOREIGN POLICY, ON THE RECENT PROBLEMS TURKEY FACES IN FOREIGN POLICY**

*15 August 2020*

The recent tension brewing in the eastern Mediterranean between Turkey and Greece is troubling for our whole nation as a serious source of concern. Nobody can prevent Turkey from protecting its legitimate rights arising from international law. On the other hand, the causes of the present situation must be thoroughly examined and analysed.

1. As the Republican People's Party, we have stated several times that Turkey's relations with Egypt must be improved.
2. We have stressed time and again that Egypt is one of the most important regional actors and counterparts on the way to making use of hydrocarbon resources in eastern Mediterranean and taking the legal steps with respect to maritime jurisdictions.
3. We have stated our view that not involving Turkey in the EastMed Gas Forum, formed by seven countries of the region, to exploit the hydrocarbon resources was an unfair and wrongful act, which we have severely criticized, and called on the government to take the necessary measures.

It is a reality that formations of solutions in our region excluding Turkey are futile.

That being the case and although we, as CHP, have drawn attention to these shortcomings, it is a complete lack of awareness to portray CHP almost as the cause of these problems.

The greatest problem in Turkish foreign policy is not observing meritocracy and the fact that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff are completely sidelined.

Elevating our relations with Egypt back to the level they require and deserve and taking steps with Egypt towards the solution of the problems of the region would only make us happy.



As CHP, we will continue our initiatives and efforts, as we always have, and cast light on the government's shortcomings and errors so that Turkish foreign policy can be led in such a way as to enable our country to restore its reputation in the international community and to ensure capable foreign policy staff protect our rights and interests.