CONSTITUTION OF
THE TURKISH STUDENT ASSOCIATION
ADOPTED JUNE 2008, UPDATED IN APRIL 2016

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Turkish Student Association.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purposes of this association are to promote interest in the history and development of all the Turkish students studying at the University of Alabama and to serve them by acting as an advocate for growth and positive change, developing a support system within the community and increasing the awareness of Turkish student issues/needs through partnerships and collaborations.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERS

Section 1. Persons interested in becoming members may join the association after attending two consecutive meetings. The required dues to be a member of the organization are $20 per academic year and shall be collected by the treasurer with a receipt. No formal application or interview is required.

Section 2. Active members of the Turkish Student Association shall include all students currently and officially enrolled as students, and faculty or staff working at the University of Alabama.

Section 3. All organization officers must be University of Alabama students.

Section 4. Membership in Turkish Student Association shall be open to all students of The University of Alabama, without regard to race, religion, sex, disability, national origin, color, age disability, gender identity or expression, sexual identity, or veteran status except in cases of designated fraternal organizations exempted by federal law from Title IX regulations concerning discrimination on the basis of sex.

Section 5. Membership in this organization may only be withdrawn by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee for violations of the Student Code of Conduct as adopted by Office of Judicial Affairs as pertaining specifically to undergraduate and graduate students.
Section 6. Members of the association shall not be involved in actions that may scorn the modern and secular Turkish Republic or Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of Turkey. Failure to comply with this section results in withdrawal from the association.

ARTICLE IV
OFFICE

Section 1. The officers of the association shall be President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations, and Webmaster. These officers shall comprise the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Officers shall be elected at the first meeting in September each year from the pool of nominations. Active members seeking office may be nominated by other members or by themselves.

Section 3. Elections shall be by secret ballot. Candidates receiving one vote more than 50% of the total number of votes cast shall be named to their respective officers.

Section 4. Officers shall be elected to serve for one year, beginning at the close of the meeting at which they are elected or re-elected. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by nomination and voting by a quorum of active members.

Section 5. The President shall be elected by the full Association. The President should be a full time student who is an active member of the association for at least one academic year. The President shall call a full board meeting once in two months, preferable on the first Saturday of selected month. The president shall have powers and duties such as calling and presiding over all meetings, developing a proposed budget, scheduling and coordinating monthly meetings to conduct business, assisting in the maintenance of a permanent record of all legislation, business, by-laws, using all appropriate leadership abilities, overseeing the implementation and coordination of activities.

Section 6. Vice president shall preside at all meetings and functions that the President cannot attend, fulfill his/her utmost to help President and other Executive Officers, shall coordinate the activities (particularly timing and publicity of Association events), build connections with governmental and non-governmental bodies for sponsorship and other collaboration agreements.

Section 7. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate and complete record of all monetary transactions, and collect club dues and present the books to the term of office, faculty advisor of the TSA for audit at the end of the term. The Treasurer must disburse fund money in accordance with the regulations of the university.
Section 8. The Secretary shall be responsible keeping the minutes of the meetings and archiving it. The Secretary shall also update the member list, contact information of each of the members of the association.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1. The regular meetings of the association shall be held once in two months, preferable on the first Saturday of the selected month from September to May unless otherwise ordered by the organization or by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The regular meeting on the first Saturday of September shall be known as the annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports from officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the President or of the Executive Committee and shall be called upon the written request of 5 members of the association. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice, and three days notice shall be given except in cases of emergencies.

Section 4. Fifty percent of the active members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI

RELATIONSHIP

Turkish Student Association may join, become affiliated with, and/or endorse any national, state, or local organization deemed appropriate pending approval by the full Executive Committee. However, the objectives and all actions taken by the Turkish Student Association shall be determined solely by its membership and may not be influenced by any other party.

ARTICLE VII

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall include the officers of the association. They shall supervise affairs of the association between its business meetings, make recommendations to the association and perform other duties as specified in these by-laws. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the association, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the association.
Section 2. Other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the association or the Executive Committee deem necessary to carry on the work of the association.

ARTICLE VIII

ADVISOR

One or more advisors shall be elected each year in the same manner as the association’s officers. Responsibilities shall be those assigned by The University of Alabama Student Handbook.

ARTICLE IX

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current addition of Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and special rules of order the association may adopt.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS

Article I and Article III - Section 6 of the constitution shall not be amended. The remaining articles of the constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds of the Executive Committee’s vote, provided the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

ARTICLE XI

BY-LAWS

By-laws to this constitution may be added at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided the by-laws has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.

ARTICLE XII

DISSOLUTION

In the event that the Turkish Student Association must dissolve, all records are to be returned to the Student Government Association Financial Affairs Committee.
ARTICLE XIII

FINANCES

In the event that the Turkish Student Association becomes defunct or is terminated, all funds held in the Turkish Student Association account at the Alabama Credit Union shall be donated in full to the Critical Languages Center that operates under the Department of Modern Languages and Classics, and the account shall be officially closed. The money donated shall only be used to promote Turkish Language. The address for the fund follows.

The Critical Languages Center (Turkish)
Department of Modern Languages and Classics
B.B. Comer Hall
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487