Anglo-Turkish Society hybrid lecture, 13 January 2026, 6.00 pm (UK time)
Speaker: Marc Sinan Winrow
Venue: Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London W1T 5BT
Title: 'Reconstituting sovereignty: the Young Turks' efforts to secure external recognition and the transition from the Ottoman Empire to the Republic of Turkey, 1908 – 1923'

The constitutional revolution of 1908 within the Ottoman Empire was partially motivated by concerns with the loss of Ottoman sovereignty and the integrity of the state, as competition between the 'great powers' intensified in the lead up to the First World War. At this time, despite being subjected to various forms of international hierarchy, including forms of international administration and the 'capitulations', the Ottoman Empire was among the few remaining independent and non-Western states. Based on the findings of a completed PhD thesis in International Relations, this talk will explore how the revolution saw the articulation of new visions of sovereignty for the Ottoman state, which continued to inform post-war visions of international society and sovereignty advanced by the leaders of the new republic. Considering the act of securing of sovereign equality through reconstituting the sovereignty of the state, offers a means of conceptualising the struggles of the international politics of other Ottoman successor states and states that confront similar challenges of being subject to international hierarchy.

Booking essential: https://marc-winrow-presentation.eventbrite.co.uk

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An Ottoman-Greek lithograph celebrating the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 and the restoration of constitutional order in the Ottoman Empire



Dr Marc Sinan Winrow is a research assistant at the Department of International Relations of the London School of Economics, where he earned his PhD, and a Teaching Fellow in the International Relations of the Middle East at the School of Oriental and African Studies. His research is focused on intellectual history and the history and theory of International Relations, specifically focusing on the historical and normative sources of international order. He is also interested in the international politics of Southeast Europe and the Middle East, and historical and contemporary Turkish foreign policy. His first book, *Turkey and the Liberal International Order: Hegemony, Contestation and the Politics of Articulation since 1919* was published by Agenda Publishing in July 2025.

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