You are kindly invited to the public defense to obtain the degree of

**DOCTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES**

of Ms. Aysun CALISKAN

Which will take place on
29.01.2020 - 10.00-12.00 AM
At Promotiezaal D2.01
Brussels Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus
Pleinlaan 2 – 1050 Brussel

**ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE AND EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS AT TURKISH HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS: Perceptions of students and academic staff members**

**JURY**

**INTERN:**

Prof. dr. Liesbeth DE DONDER (Chair)
(Vrije Universiteit Brussel-VUB)

Prof. dr. Tom VANWING (VUB)

Prof. dr. Frederick Jan MEDNICK (VUB)

Prof. dr. Joeri HOFMANS (VUB)

**EXTERN:**

Prof. dr. Hale IŞIK-GÜLER
(Middle East Technical University, Turkey)

Prof. dr. Yaşar KONDAKÇI
(Middle East Technical University, Turkey)

You are also invited to the reception afterwards.

Please confirm your attendance before (25.01.2020) via (aysun.calikan@vub.be)

How to reach the VUB?

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**SUMMARY**

The aim of the PhD research is to study the perceived relationships between features of organisational culture and educational innovations (focusing on student-centered learning, collaborative learning, and the use of technologies) at Turkish Higher Education Institutions (HEI). Key variables are investigated 1) to unravel the perceptions of academic staff members and students on educational innovations; 2) to identify the types of organizational culture of HEIs as perceived by academic staff and students; 3) to examine the perceived relations of the types of organizational culture of HEIs and educational innovations; 4) to explore the perceived effect of features of organizational culture of HEIs on educational innovations; and 5) to identify barriers and enablers among features of organizational culture that may have an impact on educational innovations.

In this PhD research, five studies have been conducted. The participants included academic staff members and students from four public Turkish universities. Both qualitative and quantitative methods have been applied. The findings obtained through surveys and interviews revealed that the dominant type of organisational culture of the sample Turkish universities as perceived by students and academic staff members is Hierarchy culture type. The relations among perceived types of organisational culture and the implementation of educational innovations are analysed and discussed.

Recommendations regarding possible approaches to respond to educational innovations are put forward.

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

Aysun Caliskan graduated from Gazi University in Turkey with a bachelor degree in English Language Teaching. She gained her Master degree from Ankara University in the field of Measurement and Evaluation in Education. She started her PhD in educational sciences at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) in 2015. During her four years of PhD research, she actively participated in international conferences to present her studies. She also published three articles in international journals during the period of her PhD research.

Her strongest interests lie in organizational culture, academic leadership, higher education, quality assurance, educational administration, educational innovations and measurement/evaluation in education.