Thirty years ago, Taner Akçam published his first book dealing with the Armenian Genocide—Türk Ulusal Kimliği ve Ermeni Sorunu (Turkish National Identity and the Armenian Question). This thirty-year period coincides with the advancement of Armenian Genocide Studies from a state of relative immaturity to where it stands today as a robust and vital field.

As he prepares to depart from his position as Kaloosdian-Mugar Chair in Armenian Genocide Studies at Clark University to become the inaugural director of the Armenian Genocide Research Program within the Promise Armenian Institute at UCLA, Akçam will engage in a conversation with NAASR Academic Director Marc A. Mamigonian that will touch on such topics as the evolution of Akçam’s work, the history and development of Armenian Genocide Studies, the challenges facing the field, and his plans for the future in his new role.