

# Alper Sukru Gencer

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## Education

**Washington University in St. Louis**, Saint Louis, MO

2019-Now: Ph.D. student in Political Science,

- Fields: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods, Formal Theory.
- Current Cumulative GPA: 3.96/4.00.

**Koc University**, Istanbul, TURKEY

2017 - 2019: M.A., Political Science and International Relations,

- Magna Cum Laude: Top 5% of the Graduate School,
- Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00.

**Koc University**, Istanbul, TURKEY

2013 - 2017: B.A., Economics,

2011 - 2017: B.A., Political Science,

- Magna Cum Laude: Top 1% of Economics & Political Science,
- Minor in History
- Cumulative GPA: 3.96/4.00.

**Bocconi University**, Milan, ITALY

2014 - 2015: Erasmus Study Abroad Program in Economics.

**Mumtaz Turhan Social Sciences High School**, Istanbul, TURKEY

2006 - 2011: High School

Ranked at the top 1 percent in the 2006 academic cohort

## Master's Dissertation

**Title:** *"Politics of Social Assistance Provision: Contentious Politics and Child Support Grant Provision in South Africa"*

**Thesis Defense Date:** May 29, 2019

**Thesis No:** 570863

**Thesis Co-Advisors:** Prof. Belgin San Akca, Prof. Erdem Yoruk

**Thesis Committee Members:** Prof. Ziya Onis, Prof. Burak Gürel,  
Prof. Murat Koyuncu

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals	<p><b>Yörük, E. &amp; Gençer, A.Ş.</b> (2020, August). “The politics of social assistance in South Africa: How protests and electoral politics shape the Child Support Grant.” <i>Governance</i>. doi: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/gove.12464">10.1111/gove.12464</a>.</p> <p><b>Öniş, Z. &amp; Gençer, A.Ş.</b> (2018, February). “Democratic BRICS as role models in a shifting global order: Inherent dilemmas and the challenges ahead.” <i>Third World Quarterly</i>, 39(3). doi: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01436597.2018.1438185">10.1080/01436597.2018.1438185</a>.</p>
Published Reports	<p><b>Gençer, A.Ş. et al.</b> (2018, October). “From information to perception: The journey of the Syrian “ghost” children in Istanbul.” <i>IstanPol</i>. Access: <a href="#">Link</a>.</p> <p><b>Gençer, A.Ş. et al.</b> (2017, July). “From information A study on the perception of asylum-seekers, migrants and refugees in Turkey.” <i>PS Europe</i>. Access: <a href="#">Link</a>.</p>
Published Dataset	<p><b>Yörük E. et al.</b> (2019). “Global Welfare Dataset, Version 2019.” <i>EMW Project</i>. Access: <a href="#">Link</a></p>
Under Revision Working Paper	<p><b>Gençer, A.Ş., Şan-Akca, B. &amp; Yörük E.</b> “Politics of Social Assistance Provision: Contentious Politics and Child Support Grant in South Africa.”</p> <p><b>Yörük E. &amp; Gençer, A.Ş.</b> “Welfare State Regimes in the Developing Countries.”</p>
Work in Progress	<p><b>Gençer, A.Ş.</b> “Strategic Voting and Crisis Preparation”</p> <p><b>Gençer, A.Ş.</b> “Why Do Junior Officers Attempt Coup D’etat Against the Odds?: The Tale of Those Who Hide Behind the Expectations.”</p> <p><b>Fox, Justin &amp; Gençer, A.Ş.</b> “”Why do People for the Authoritarian?: Gridlocks and the Rise of the Authoritarian.”</p> <p><b>Gençer, A.Ş. &amp; Magiya, Y.</b> “”Confronting the corrupt when electoral institutions are on fire: When do voters stake a claim on their votes?”</p>
Honors and Scholarships	<p><b>2019 - Present: Washington University in St. Louis Graduate Scholarship</b>, Saint Louis, MO - 100%, merit-based scholarship awarded upon acceptance covering 6 years</p> <p><b>2017 - 2019: Tübitak Graduate Scholarship</b>, Ankara, TURKEY - 2210A - National Scholarship Program for MSc Students by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey</p>

- Awarded upon the acceptance to the graduate studies with extraordinary undergraduate records

**2017 - 2019: Koç University High Success Scholarship for Graduate Studies, Istanbul, TURKEY**

- 100%, merit-based scholarship awarded upon acceptance to the university, for students with graduate studies applicants with extraordinary background
- Covering the graduate studies tuition fee, housing, and miscellaneous benefits for 2 years

**2017: Koç University Magna Cum Laude: The Second Ranking Student Award, Istanbul, TURKEY**

- Obtained 2<sup>nd</sup> highest academic record in the Department of Political Science and International Relations among the 2016 – 2017 graduates,

**2014 - 2015: Erasmus Exchange Scholarship, Bocconi University, ITALY**

- Merit-based scholarship awarded upon acceptance to the Erasmus Program, covering one semester stipend

**2013 - 2016: Turkish Education Foundation (TEV) Outstanding Success Scholarship. Istanbul, TURKEY**

- Granted by the TEV with the aim of supporting the leaders of the future, highly competitive scholarship awarded to 50 students a year nationwide

**2011 - 2017: Koç University High Honor Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies, Istanbul, TURKEY**

- 100%, merit-based scholarship awarded upon acceptance to the university, for students who ranked in the top 1000 places at the Nationwide University Entrance Examinations
- Covering the tuition fee, accommodation, stipend for living expenses, and miscellaneous benefits for 6 years.

**Employment September 2019 - August 2020: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Part-time Researcher*

- Worked in a European Research Council project, “Emerging Welfare,” under the supervision of Prof. Erdem Yörük
- Worked on a number of manuscripts investigating the political causes of the social assistance expansion

**September 2017 - August 2019: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Full-time Researcher and Team Member*

- Worked in a European Research Council project, “Emerging Welfare,” under the supervision of Prof. Erdem Yörük
- Wrote an article with Prof. Erdem Yörük, analyzing the role of protests and electoral politics on the social assistance provision based on large-N quantitative analysis and field work

- Conducted interviews with South African state officials, academics and civil society members
- Responsible for collecting data on welfare, social policy, political and economic indicators
- Responsible for coordination among other data collectors
- Worked on a number of manuscripts investigating the political causes of the social assistance expansion

## Research Experience

**September 2019 - August 2020: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Part-time Researcher*

- Worked in a European Research Council project, “Emerging Welfare,” under the supervision of Prof. Erdem Yörük

**February 2018 - January 2019: Institute of Istanbul Political Research (IstanPol), Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Volunteer Researcher*

- Worked on a project on politics of precariat class and income inequality in Turkey
- Wrote a research paper on perceptions of the Syrian Child Refugees in Turkey

**September 2017 - August 2019: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Full-time Researcher and Team Member*

- Worked in a European Research Council project, “Emerging Welfare,” under the supervision of Prof. Erdem Yörük

**September 2016 - December 2017: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Research Assistant (RA)*

- Worked under the supervision of Prof. Ziya Öniş
- Published an article on the role model capabilities of the democratic BRICS for the global South

**September 2016 - December 2017: Political and Social Research Institute of Europe (PS Europe), Istanbul, TURKEY**

*Volunteer Researcher*

- Worked on a project on politics of precariat class and income inequality
- Wrote a research paper on perceptions of Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Refugees in Turkey
- Participated in “Armenia Turkey Dialogue Project,” which aimed at establishing a dialogue between Turkish and Armenian academics and civil society activists

**September 2016 - June 201: Koç University, Istanbul, TURKEY**



*Research Assistant (RA)*

- Worked under the supervision of Prof. Ziya Öniş
- Making a literature review on political economy of development and democracy in the global South with a specific focus on the developing countries

Research Interests

- Quantitative Methods, Causal Inference, Computational Social Sciences;
- Formal Theory, Strategic Interaction, Microeconomics;
- Political Accountability, Political Delegation, Moral Hazard Problem;
- Political Economy of Redistribution, Social Grants, Corruption;
- Contentious Politics, Protests, Social Movements;
- Fiction writing, social theory, world literature and cinema, board games

Languages and Skills

Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (Intermediate), Arabic (Intermediate)  
 (advance), L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X (advance), Stata (advance),  (intermediate), [Github](#)

Certificates

- [Human Research CITI Certificate](#)
- [Coursera: Natural Language Processing with Classification and Vector Spaces](#)

Methodology Courses

Course Name	Semester	Cred/Aud	Grade
<a href="#">Grad Quan. Political Methods II</a>	Fall 2020	Credit	NA
<a href="#">Grad Computational Social Sci.</a>	Fall 2020	Credit	NA
UGrad Political Data Science	Spring 2020	Credit	A
<a href="#">Grad Advance Game Theory II</a>	Spring 2020	Credit	A
Grad Quan. Political Methods I	Spring 2020	Credit	A
<a href="#">Grad Game Theory I</a>	Fall 2019	Credit	A
UGrad Linear Algebra	Summer 2018	Audit	S
UGrad Econometrics: Panel Data	Spring 2018	Credit	A+
Grad Econometrics	Fall 2018	Audit	S
Grad Quan. Methods in Pol. Sci.	Fall 2017	Credit	A
UGrad Econometrics: Introd.	Spring 2017	Credit	A

References

<a href="#">Prof. Erdem Yoruk</a> Dept. of Sociology Koç University <a href="mailto:eryoruk@ku.edu.tr">eryoruk@ku.edu.tr</a> +90 (212) 338-1142	<a href="#">Prof. Belgin Şan-Akça</a> Dept. of International Relations Koç University <a href="mailto:bakca@ku.edu.tr">bakca@ku.edu.tr</a> +90 (212) 338-1377
<a href="#">Prof. Ziya Öniş</a> Dept. of International Relations Koç University <a href="mailto:zonis@ku.edu.tr">zonis@ku.edu.tr</a> +90 (212) 338-1142	<a href="#">Prof. İnsan Tunali</a> Dept. of Economics Boğaziçi University <a href="mailto:insan.tunali@boun.edu.tr">insan.tunali@boun.edu.tr</a> +90 (212) 338-1377