




Curriculum Vitae

Ahmet Akbiyik

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Palo Alto, CA 94306

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Quantitative UX Researcher, Meta, CA, US

2025-Present

Led projects that informed product strategy, designed evidence-based interventions, and conducted experiments to guide investment decisions.

Research Coordinator, 23 Talent Association, Turkey

2023-Present

Designed and conducted surveys to improve strategies to understand and explain youth.

Co-founder, Galata Survey Research, Turkey

2023-2025

Built and led the engineering and research teams to develop a survey platform and participant pool. Enhanced survey methodologies through innovative experimental designs and randomization strategies, improving data reliability and enabling precise audience targeting.

Survey Consultant, Internews, UK

2021-2023

Designed and conducted surveys and focus groups for media outlet audiences to enhance product strategies and audience engagement.

EDUCATION

Harvard University, MA, US

2020-2025

Ph.D., Political Economy and Government

Boston University, MA, US

2020

M.A., Political Science (started as a PhD student, transferred to Harvard)

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

2017

B.A., Economics

B.A., Political Science

Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey

2012

American High School

PUBLISHED

[Social Media Narratives across Platforms in Conflict: Evidence from Syria](#) (with Erin Walk, Elizabeth Parker-Magyar, Kiran Garimella, Fotini Christia). Journal of Politics.

2025

PREPRINTS

[Aiding Harmony: How International Aid Shapes Local Policy Preferences and Behavior toward Refugees](#) (with Melani Cammett)

2024

[How Populist Incumbents Use Strategic Communication to Survive Economic Crises: The Surprising Effectiveness of Incumbent Economic Appeals](#) (with Andrew O'Donohue)

2024

[Language-Agnostic Bias Detection in Language Models with Bias Probing](#) (with Abdullatif Köksal, Omer Faruk Yalcin, M. Tahir Kilavuz, Anna Korhonen, Hinrich Schütze). EMNLP. Preprint.

2023

WORKING PAPERS	How Does Exposure to Discordant Media Sources Affect Political Attitudes and Behavior? Experimental Evidence from Turkey (with Jeremy Bowles, Horacio Larreguy, Shelley Lui)	
WORK IN PROGRESS	Debunking Misinformation to Foster Inclusion of Refugees: A Comprehensive Approach towards Integration and Empowerment	5
	Unpacking the Empathy-Altruism Hypothesis The effects of immersive virtual reality on attitudes and behaviors towards refugees in Jordan, Turkey, and Sweden	
SELECTED PRESENTATIONS	Debunking Misinformation to Foster Inclusion of Refugees: A Comprehensive Approach towards Integration and Empowerment	APSA 2024
	Aiding Harmony: How International Aid Shapes Local Policy Preferences and Behavior toward Refugees	APSA 2023
	How Does Exposure to Discordant Media Sources Affect Political Attitudes and Behavior?	APSA 2022
	Social Media Narratives across Platforms in Conflict: Evidence from Syria	APSA 2021
ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE	Harvard University, MA, US <i>as Teaching Assistant</i> Evaluating the Impacts of Public Policies: How to Design and Implement Randomized Controlled Trials (by Michael Hiscox) Data (by Matt Blackwell) Survey Research Methods (by Chase Harrison) Spatial Models of Social Science (by Jill Kelly) International and Global Affairs (by Matthew Bunn)	Spring 2024 Fall 2023 Spring 2023 Fall 2022 Fall 2022
	<i>as Research Assistant</i> Post-war intergroup relations (by Melani Cammett)	Fall 2024
	<i>as Academic Workshop Coordinator</i> Comparative Politics Speakers Series Coordinator	2022
	Boston University, MA, US <i>as Teaching Assistant</i> Quantitative Research Methods (by Taylor Boas)	Fall 2019
	<i>as Summer Research Fellow</i> Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future	Summer 2019
GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS	The Harvard Merit/Term-time Research Fellowship, \$20,415 JPAL Governance Initiative, \$49,170 The Weatherhead Center Dissertation Writing Grant, \$20,415 The Weatherhead Research Cluster on Migration Doctoral Fellows Program, \$7,000 JPAL Governance Initiative w/ Horacio Larreguy, Jeremy Bowles, Shelley Lui, \$58,765 The Stone Program in Wealth Distribution, Inequality, and Social Policy, \$5,000 Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS) Research Grant, \$2,500, \$2,500 GSAS Division of Social Sciences Fund, \$2,000 Dean's Fellowship, Boston University Dean's High Honor List, Bogazici University	2025 2024 2024 2023 2023 2022 2022, 2023 2022 2018-2020 2017
SKILLS	<i>Methodological Specialization:</i> survey and experimental methods <i>Software:</i> L ^A T _E X, R, Python, SQL	