

# Burak Sonmez

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## Academic appointments

University College London, UCL Social Research Institute  
*Lecturer in Quantitative Social Science, 2021 - Present.*

London School of Economics and Political Science, Department of Sociology  
*LSE Fellow in Quantitative Social Research Methods, 2020- 2021.*

University of Essex, Department of Sociology  
*Fixed-term Lecturer, 2019-2020.*

## Education

Ph.D. Sociology, University of Essex, 2019.

*Committee:* [Prof. Yasemin Soysal](#) (Supervisor), [Prof. Paul Clarke](#) (Chair)

*Thesis:* *Rethinking Charitable Actions: Identifying the New Characteristics of Social Solidarity*

M.A. Longitudinal Social Research, ISER , University of Essex, 2014.

*Thesis:* *A Longitudinal Assessment of the Relationship between Welfare and Globalization: How Do People Perceive?*

B.A. Economics, Bilkent University, 2012.

## Fields of Interest

Social Norms; Collective Action; Trust; Beliefs; Other-regarding Preferences, Social Stratification; Experimental Methods; and Computational Social Science.

## Publications

### *Journal articles*

Sonmez, B., & Iacono, S. L. (2022). "Other-Regarding Behaviors and Attitudes toward Asylum Seekers". *Socius*. [DOI](#)

Lo Iacono, S., & Sonmez, B. (2021). "The Effect of Trusting and Trustworthy Environments on the Provision of Public Goods". *European Sociological Review*. [DOI](#)

### *Book chapters*

"Double-edged Sword of Cooperation: The Vulnerability of Trusting and Trustworthy Behaviour" In: Barradas de Freitas, Raquel & Lo Iacono, Sergio (eds.) (2021). *Trust Matters: Cross-Disciplinary Essays*, Hart Publishing.

### *Work in progress*

"Public Perception of Scientists: Partisan and Non-partisan Thinking." with Makarov, K. & Allum, N. (*Under review*). [Preregistration](#)

"How Do Strong Family Ties Affect Trust in Different Trusting Environments?" with Ermisch, J., Gambetta, D. & Lo Iacono, S. (*Under review*)

"Human Rights Violations and Public Support for Sanctions: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment." with Ari, B. (*Under review*). [Preregistration](#)

"Collective and Individual Solutions to Environmental Dilemmas: The Effects of Social Trust and Institutional Quality." with Fairbrother, M. & Lo Iacono, S. (*Data collection in progress*). [Preregistration](#)

"Meritocracy, Status Signalling, and Performance Metrics: Behavioural Responses to Inequality." with Accominotti, F. (*Pre-reg in progress*)

"Redistribution Behaviour: The Role of Merit and Structural Inequality". (*Pre-reg in progress*)

### *Reports*

Integrated cross-national dataset on migration policies and recognition of foreign educational credentials. Growth, Equal Opportunities, Migration and Markets (GEMM) with Soysal, Y., Alizade, J. & Koopmans, R. 2018. [online] [Access the report](#).

### *Book reviews*

Book Review: *Competing Responsibilities: The Ethics and Politics of Contemporary Life*. 2018. *Cultural Sociology*, 12(2), 276–277. [Access the review](#).

## **Invited Seminars & Conferences**

European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) Annual Conference, Online, October 2021.

British Sociological Association (BSA) Annual Conference, Northumbria University, Newcastle, UK, April 2018.

The 112th American Sociological Association (ASA) Annual Conference, the Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity, Montreal, Canada, August 2017.

The 39th Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Warsaw, Poland, July 2016.

Joint Empirical Social Science (JESS) Seminars, Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), Colchester, UK, February 2016.

## Selected Grants & Honours

British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grants for the Project "Humanitarian Communication: Gated Information and Sentiments towards Asylum Seekers and Refugees", 2020-2022 (£7300), Principal Investigator.

Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarship, University of Essex, 2015-2018 (Full Scholarship) (£48000).

University of Essex, EssexLab Seedcorn Grant for Experiments, 2018-2019 (£2000), Principal Investigator.

University of Essex Doctoral Scholarship Training Bursary and Research Grant, 2015-2018 (£4250).

ESRC Collaborative & Multidisciplinary Funding for the project "Let's Talk" with R. Baltaru, S. Lo Iacono, R. Weir and F. Zilio, University of Essex, 2017 (£8000).

University of Essex, EssexLab Seedcorn Grant for Experiments, 2016-2017 (£2000), Principal Investigator.

Academic Excellence International Masters Scholarship, University of Essex, 2013-2014.

Bilkent University, Dean's Honour List, 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2011-2012.

## Professional Research Experience

### *University of Essex, Department of Sociology*

Research Officer, [Bright Futures](#), Mar, 2017 – Sep, 2018.

A project, investigating East Asian student mobilities, focusing on the internal and international mobility of Chinese and Japanese higher education students, brings empirical findings on the relationship between educational mobility and life course aspirations and formation, and their regional dynamics.

Senior Research Officer, [GEMM](#), Oct, 2016 - Dec, 2017.

A work package on the mapping of the development training programs, vocational programs, and schemes for translation of education credentials in the EU for the period 2003-14 of GEMM: Growth, Equal Opportunities, Migration and Markets" (as part of the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Commission).

### *Institute for Social & Economic Research (ISER)*

Research Assistant, Dec, 2013 - Sep, 2014.

Research project on partnership dissolution and formation: how do they affect income, employment and well-being?, funded by the Nuffield Foundation.

### *Bilkent University (Department of Political Science)*

Research Assistant, Feb, 2013 - July, 2013.

Research project on European Union and Transformation of Policy and Governance: The Case of Three Policy Areas in Turkey, project No: 109K443, funded by TUBITAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey).

*Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV)*

Research Assistant/Data Analyst, Aug, 2011 - Oct, 2011.

## **Teaching Experience (Post-graduate Level)**

*London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)*

Quantitative Social Research Methods (SO491, Lectures – Module design) Fall 2020,  
Department of Sociology.

Introduction to Quantitative Analysis (MY451, Seminars) Spring 2019,  
Department of Methodology.

Introduction to Quantitative Analysis for Media & Communications (MY464, Seminars), Fall 2018,  
Department of Methodology.

*Pompeu Fabra University (UPF)*

Quantitative Methods of Empirical Social Research (Short course) June 2021, The RECSM Summer  
Methods School.

*University of Essex*

Online Data Collection through Crowdsourcing Marketplaces (Workshop – Lecture), February 2019.

Longitudinal Data Analysis (Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis – Lab sessions),  
July 2018.

*European University Institute (EUI)*

Online Data Collection through Crowdsourcing Marketplaces (Workshop – Lecture) June 2018, Data  
and Methods Clinic.

## **Teaching Experience (Undergraduate Level)**

*London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)*

Researching London: Advanced Social Research Methods (SO221, Lectures) Spring 2021,  
Department of Sociology.

Data in Society (SO102, Lectures) Fall 2020,  
Department of Sociology.

*University of Essex, Department of Sociology*

Models and Measurement in Quantitative Sociology (SC385 – Lectures – Module design) Spring 2020.

Researching Social Life II (SC203 – Lab sessions) Fall 2019.

Ethics and Public Policy (GV254 – Seminars) Spring 2019, Department of Government.

Researching Social Life (SC101 – Seminars) Fall 2016 - Spring 2018.

*Bilkent University, Department of Economics*

Economic Theory for Engineers (ECON 207 – TA) Spring 2011 - Spring 2012.

Mathematics for Economists (ECON 225 – TA) Fall 2010 - Fall 2011.

## **Consultancy Experience**

*UNIDO and the UN Global Compact*

Survey Researcher (Freelancer), Oct, 2014.

Series of Dialogues on Means of Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Engaging with the Private Sector in the Post-2015 Agenda, National Consultations in Turkey.

*Library of Stuff (NGO)*

Lead Data Scientist, Feb, 2015 - June, 2015.

Research Project on “The Database of Carbon Footprints of Everyday Objects in Turkey”, funded by the Ministry of Science, Industry and Technology.

*Matterhorn Platform and University of Haifa*

Survey Design Consultancy for Online Dispute Resolution Services in Michigan Courts, Jul 2019 - Nov 2019.

*SAGE Publishing*

Survey Design and Data Analytics Consultancy for SAGE Internal Communications Survey, Oct 2019 - Jan 2020.

## **Additional Method Training**

Causal Inference, University of Manchester, Scott Cunningham, UK, October 2019.

Using Neighbourhood Data in Understanding Society, Institute for Social and Economic Research, UK, November 2018.

Advanced Social Network Analysis – Statistical Analysis for Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Social Network Analysis, Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis, Filip Agneessens, UK, Summer 2017.

Scraping and Data Management in R, Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis, Matthew Loftis, UK, Summer 2017.

Identifying Causation through Experimental & Quasi-Experimental Research, Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis, James Lo, UK, Summer 2016.

Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments, Essex Summer School in Social Science and Data Analysis, Brian Shaffner, UK, Summer 2016.

## **Affiliations & Other Qualifications**

Associate Fellow of Higher Education Academy in the UK. Recognition Reference Number: PR130001.

Member, American Sociological Association.

## **Language Competency**

English and Turkish

## **Computer Skills**

R, Stata, Python, JavaScript, Qualtrics, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

Last updated: February 9, 2022

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST