

Muhammet Ozkaraca

CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Political Science 102 Emerson Drive CB #3265 UNC-Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, NC 27599	Website: muhammetozkaraca.github.io Email: ozkaraca@unc.edu
EDUCATION	Ph.D., Political Science University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	August 2024 - Present
	M.A., Political Science Central European University Thesis: Secularism as an Antidote to Religious Terrorism: The Case of Turkey	May 2021
	B.A., International Relations Bilkent University	June 2020
	ADDITIONAL TRAINING	University of Oslo & PRIO International Summer School, Oslo, Norway – Course taken: Peace Research ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques, Budapest, Hungary – Courses taken: R Basics, Qualitative Data Analysis, Longitudinal Research Designs-Qualitative Approaches, Math Refresher Erasmus-Exchange Student at Sciences-Po, Paris, France
EXPERIENCE	Project Assistant International Centre for Migration Policy Development, Ankara, Türkiye – Worked on the EU-funded “Drafting of a National Integrated Border Management (IBM) Strategy and Updating of the National Action Plan to Implement Türkiye’s IBM Strategy (EU4IBMTR)” project. (Budget: €2 Million) – Seconded to the Ministry of Interior to collaborate with senior officials in crafting key documents in preparation for the country-level integrated border management strategy and action plan. – Compiled, analyzed, and presented data on migration management and border security. – Assisted in planning, coordinating, and implementing capacity-building workshops and thematic focus group meetings, while maintaining effective and extensive liaison with competent ministries and project stakeholders.	July 2022 - Aug 2024
	Research Assistant Istanbul Policy Center, Istanbul, Türkiye – Gathered, analyzed, and visualized social, economic, and demographic data on Turkey. Some parts of the work accessible online here . – Conducted web scraping in R to extract text from selected local newspapers’ online platforms and analyzed them using quantitative text analysis techniques. – Prepared daily summaries of national and international press articles.	Dec. 2021 - Feb. 2022
	Research Assistant Research Assistant to Prof. Berk Esen, Ankara, Türkiye – Collected, coded, and analyzed background information on 4,500 candidates in the 2019 Turkish Municipal Elections and 70 political elites from the Justice and Development Party (AKP). This involved using MS Excel, open-source data, and hand-coding for a social network analysis of the Turkish electoral system. – Conducted literature review on Turkish foreign aid. This was part of a different study investigating the distribution patterns of the assistance.	June 2019 - Sept. 2020

Intern Feb. 2019 - May 2019
Center for Foreign Policy and Peace Research, Ankara, Türkiye
– Collected syllabi for 50 graduate-level International Relations (IR) Theory courses taught at universities across the Middle East and Mediterranean region for the Global IR project. The results of this project were presented at the “4th All Azimuth Workshop on Dialogue in Core-Periphery IR”. (Advisor: Prof. Ersel Aydınli)
– Edited and translated articles on political methodology from English to Turkish for publication in the All Azimuth journal. Additionally, I involved in drafting written materials for the center.

Summer Intern June 2018 - Aug. 2018
Issam Fares Institute, Beirut, Lebanon
– Conducted academic research and compiled documents listing and summarizing prior works on energy security and nuclear energy in Turkey. This was in preparation for a study examining the implications of the Akkuyu Nuclear Power Plant on the Turkish energy market. (Advisor: Dr. Ali Ahmad)
– As a member of the organizing team for the “International Panel on Exiting Violence,” sponsored by the Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme and held in Beirut, managed the transportation and accommodations of the participants.

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS	Summer Research Grant, UNC-Chapel Hill (\$3,000)	2025
	John McNeely DuBose Graduate Fellowship Fund, UNC-Chapel Hill (\$2,000)	2025
	Cobey Graduate Student Excellence Fund, UNC-Chapel Hill (\$1,000)	2025
	Departmental Assistantship Award, UNC-Chapel Hill	2024
	International Relations Research Fellowship, UNC-Chapel Hill	2024
	Full Tuition Waiver for Master in Transnational Governance, EUI [<i>declined</i>]	2021
	CEU Scholarship for Master’s Studies, Central European University	2020-2021
	Bilkent University Comprehensive Scholarship, Bilkent University	2015-2020
	First Prize in Transdisciplinary Senior Project Competition, Bilkent University	2019
	Romanian Embassy Essay Contest, First Prize, Bilkent University	2019
Erasmus+ Student Mobility Grant	2018	
Summer Internship Grant, Crossing Paths	2018	

TECHNICAL SKILLS	R R Studio R Markdown Quarto, L ^A T _E X, MS Office (Excel PowerPoint Word), NVivo
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LANGUAGES	Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate)
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