


Department of Political Science,
P.O. Box 6000,
Binghamton University (SUNY),
Binghamton, NY 13902.

(607)-777 2946 
@oneryigit_ 
oneryigit@gmail.com 
oneryigit.github.io 
github.com/oneryigit 

ÖNER YIGIT

education

Ph.D., Political Science, Binghamton University (SUNY), 2025 (*expected*)

Dissertation: *Struggle for recognition of ethnic group rights:*

Why some minority ethnic groups are more successful than others.

Subfields: Comparative politics and International relations.

Committee: Ekrem Karakoc (Chair), David L. Cingranelli, Mikhail Filippov.

M.A., Political Science, Binghamton University (SUNY), 2022.

M.A., Political Science and International Relations, İstanbul Şehir University, 2018.

Thesis: *An analysis of Ali Abd ul-Raziq's understanding of the relationship between Islam and the state*

B.A., Political Science and International Relations, İstanbul University, 2014.

academic interests

Research interests

Ethnic and religious minorities, minority policies, ethnic conflict, nation-building, human rights.

Methodological interests

Quantitative methods, text-as-data, spatial data, network analysis.

Regional focus

Middle East and Southern Europe.

under review

Forced displacement, conflict exposure, and support for minority group rights:

Evidence from ethnic conflict in Turkey, *started 2022.*

Boosting and curbing nationalism: Instrumentalization of religion in ethnic conflict in Turkey, *started in 2023.*

working papers

National religious interference practices and political violence, with Muhammed Akkus, *started 2022.*

Conditional effect of foreign aid and government treatment of religious minorities in the Middle East, *started 2022.*

State minority policies and job insecurity of leaders, *started 2023.*

Ethnic minority attitudes toward minority rights in kin-states, with Ekrem Karakoc, *started 2022.*

research experience

Research Assistant for Dr. Kanisha Bond, Binghamton University. *Localization of social movements project, 2023.*

Research Assistant for Dr. Ekrem Karakoç, Binghamton University. *Data cleaning, modeling and visualization tasks*, 2022.

Research Assistant Al-Sharq Forum, a think tank based in Istanbul, Turkey. *A book project, Transformation of Political Islam in a Changing Regional Order*, 2018.

teaching experience

Course instructor

Data Analysis and Visualization using Python (2023). See some of the course materials [here](#).

Leading discussion classes

Intro to Comparative Politics (2020, 2021), Intro to American Politics (2021), Intro to Political Ideas (2022), Modern American Political Thinking (2023) in Binghamton University.

publications

Book reviews

Oner Yigit. 2020. “Demography and Democracy: Transitions in the Middle East and North Africa Democratization.” *Democratization* 27(6): 1113–1115.

Oner Yigit. 2020. “Religion and Regimes: Support, Separation, and Opposition.” *Insight Turkey* 19(4): 209–212.

conference presentations

“Boosting and curbing nationalism: Instrumentalization of religion in ethnic conflict in Turkey.” Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2024.

“Forced displacement, conflict exposure, and support for minority group rights: Evidence from ethnic conflict in Turkey.” Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York City, 2023.

“National Religious Interference Practices and Political Violence.” with Muhammed Akkus, Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2022.

“Kurdish secular political movement and Islam in Turkey.” Association for the Study of Nationalities, New York City, 2019.

“Ethnic voting and religion in electoral behavior: Kurdish Case.” Florida Political Science Association, Tampa, 2019.

“Debate over Liberalism in Turkey, Center for Modern Turkish Studies.” Marmara University, Istanbul, 2017

grants, honors, & awards

Graduate School Travel Grant, Binghamton University Spring - 2024.

Dissertation Year Award, Binghamton University Spring - 2024.

Harpur College Research Grant, Binghamton University Fall - 2023.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Binghamton University Fall 2020 – Present.
 Provost's Doctoral Summer Fellowship, Binghamton University Fall 2020 – Present.
 First Year Award, Binghamton University, 2020.
 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Istanbul Sehir University Fall 2016 – 2018.
 Istanbul Commodity Exchange Scholarship Fall 2010 – 2012.

certified trainings

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, 2023
 Datacamp Associate Data Scientist in Python, 2022
 Multiple data science boot camps on Udemy, 2019 – 2023
 Washington DC International Language Institute, ESL education, 2014 – 2016

skills

Programming & Statistical Software: Python, R, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS, Stata, SPSS
Languages: English (Fluent), Turkish and Kurdish (Native), Persian (Conversational)

service to profession

Political Science Reviewer: *Democratization and Comparative Political Studies*

datasets

State minority policies in new democracies (1974 – 2024, ongoing)
 Communal violence events (1980 – 2024, ongoing)
 Friday sermons in Turkey (2011 – 2022)

membership

American Political Science Association (APSA)
 Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)
 Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)

References

Ekrem Karakoç
 Professor of Political Science
 Binghamton University
 e-mail: ekarakoc@binghamton.edu

David L. Cingranelli
 Professor of Political Science
 Binghamton University
 e-mail: davidc@binghamton.edu

Mikhail Filippov
 Professor of Political Science
 Binghamton University
 e-mail: filippov@binghamton.edu

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