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ONER YIGIT

Green Card holder, no USA visa sponsorship needed.

education

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

Dissertation: *Struggle for Recognition: Why do some states recognize ethnic rights while others deny?*

Subfields: Comparative politics and international relations.

Committee: Ekrem Karakoç (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 politics, conflict, minority policies, political violence, authoritarianism, and human rights.

Methodological interests

Quantitative methods, qualitative methods, text-as-data, geospatial data, network analysis.

Regional focus

Middle East and North Africa, Post-Communist and Southern Europe

publications

Research Article

Oner Yigit. (2025). Shifts in Religious Instrumentalization: Friday Sermons and Ethnic Conflict in Turkey. (**Accepted, *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics***).

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.

under review

Explaining Variation in Support for Ethnic Group Rights: The Role of Forced Displacement and Conflict Proximity, *started 2022*.

working papers

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

Cross-Border Solidarity or Solidarity with Kin-State? Attitudes Toward Minority Rights Among Bulgaria's Turkish Minority, with Ekrem Karakoç, *started 2022*.

National religious interference practices and political violence, with Muhammet Akkuş, *started 2022*.

Conditional effect of foreign aid and government treatment of religious minorities in the Middle East, *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, Istanbul, Turkey. *Political Islam task force, (see the book: Transformation of Political Islam in a Changing Regional Order, 2018)*.

teaching experience

Course instructor

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

Leading discussion classes

Intro to Comparative Politics (2020, 2021), Intro to American Politics (2021), Intro to Ideas and Politics (2022, 2025), Modern American Political Thinking (2023, 2024) in Binghamton University.

conference & presentations

“Why do some states recognize ethnic group rights while others deny?” APSA, Philadelphia, September 2024.

“Cross-Border Solidarity or Solidarity with Kin-State? Attitudes Toward Minority Rights in Turkey Among Bulgaria’s Turkish Minority.” With Ekrem Kaarakoc. APSA, Philadelphia, September 2024.

“Boosting and curbing nationalism: Instrumentalization of religion in ethnic conflict in Turkey.” MPSA, Chicago, April 2024.

“Forced displacement, conflict exposure, and support for minority group rights: Evidence from ethnic conflict in Turkey.” POMEPS Research Workshop, February 2024.

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

“National Religious Interference Practices and Political Violence.” with Muhammet Akkuş. MPSA, 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

skills

Programming & Statistical Software: Python, R, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS, Stata, SPSS

Languages: English (Fluent), Turkish and Kurdish (Native), Persian (Conversational)

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

service to profession

Political Science Reviewer: *Democratization and Comparative Political Studies*

datasets

State minority policies (1974 – 2024, ongoing)

Communal violence events (1980 – 2024, ongoing)

Friday sermons texts in Turkey (2011 – 2022)

grants, honors, & awards

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Binghamton University, 2020 – 2025.

Provost’s Doctoral Summer Fellowship, Binghamton University, 2020 – 2024.

Graduate School Travel Grant, Binghamton University, 2024.

Dissertation Year Award, Binghamton University, 2024.

Harpur College Research Grant, Binghamton University, 2023.

First Year Award, Binghamton University, 2020.

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Istanbul Sehir University, 2016 – 2018.

Istanbul Commodity Exchange Scholarship, 2010 – 2012.

membership

American Political Science Association (APSA)

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)

References

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