

Bengi Ruken Cengiz

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EDUCATION

Sabanci University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Istanbul, Turkey **March 2018**

PhD in Political Science,

- Dissertation Title: “Who Wants Rights? Citizenship Perceptions on Rights and Liberties and Political Party Preferences in Turkey”
- *Area of Specialization:* Political Theory, Comparative Politics

University College London, School of Public Policy, London, UK **September 2010**

MA in Human Rights

- Dissertation Title: “Human Rights Advisory Board: An Evaluation of a Failed Experience”
- Graduated with Merit, Dissertation awarded with Distinction

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey **June 2009**

BA in Political Science and International Relations

- Graduated with High Honors

Maastricht University, Maastricht, the Netherlands **June 2008**

Erasmus Program

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Citizenship Theories; Public Opinion; Turkish Politics; Human Rights; Political Parties; History of Political Thought; Political Theory; Democratization; Migration and Citizenship

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Doctoral Research **September 2011 – March 2018**

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey

- *Dissertation Title:* “Who Wants Rights? Citizenship Perceptions on Rights and Liberties and Political Party Preferences in Turkey”
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Ayse Kadioglu
- Performed theoretical research on citizenship perceptions and citizenship rights with a specific focus on their interaction with political party preferences
- Operationalized the multi-dimensional concept of citizenship rights and political party positioning concerning those rights
- Prepared the survey questionnaire that is used as the primary source of data for this dissertation, which is composed of statements on the current state of citizenship rights and freedoms in Turkey
- Prepared the research proposal for TUBITAK’s 3001 Research Scheme to obtain funding for the survey (funding is granted by TUBITAK)
- Conducted the application of this questionnaire with the help of a public opinion research company
- Analyzed the survey data through statistical software, conducted discourse analysis on political party manifestos
- Comprehensive fields are Comparative Politics and Political Theory. Followed courses include: Political Ideologies, Latin American Politics and Society, Comparative Method, Turkish Politics, International Relations Theory, Continental Political Thought.

MA Research**September 2009 – September 2010***University College London, London; UK*

- *Dissertation Title:*” Human Rights Advisory Board: An Evaluation of a Failed Experience”
Supervisor: Dr. Saladin Meckled-Garcia
- Performed theoretical research on human rights institutionalization in the world
- Analyzed the very first attempt at human rights institutionalization in Turkey (Human Rights Advisory Board) within the context of EU membership process.
- Conducted in-depth interviews with former members of the Board as well as members of human rights NGOs and advocacy groups, who had participated in the reports of the Board
- Followed courses include: Theoretical Foundations of Human Rights, Equality, Justice and Difference, Comparative Human Rights Law.

Research Intern**September 2009 – September 2010***UCL Institute for Human Rights, London, UK*

- Conducted research on the codification and application of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in various countries to establish a catalogue of indicators of ESC rights around the world

Research Intern**January 2010 – September 2010***Equal Rights Trust, London, UK*

- Conducted research on equality and discrimination in Turkish national legal framework as well as its international legal obligations concerning these issues for the joint project of UCL’s Student Human Rights Project and Equal Rights Trust

Research Intern**July 2007 – August 2007***TESEV, Istanbul, Turkey*

- Conducted extended media research, edited and redacted articles, chapters and bibliography for the almanac titled “Security Sector Governance: Turkey and Europe”

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Part-Time Instructor**Fall 2018***Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey*

- Law and Ethics (SPS 303). The course covers issues such as rule of law, political regimes, democracy, rights...etc. It is a compulsory course for third year students, each term approximately 200 students enroll

Full-Time Instructor**Summer 2018***Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey*

- Law and Ethics (SPS 303)
- Prepared the course syllabus and midterms

Teaching Assistant**Fall 2010 – Fall 2017***Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey*

- Law and Ethics (SPS 303)
- Led two discussion sessions every week where approximately 25 students discuss the topics covered in the lecture through contemporary political events
- Applied and graded occasional pop-quizzes to assess student performances
- Helped to prepare and graded midterm and final exams
- Held weekly office hours for meeting with students individually

Teaching Assistant**Spring 2009***Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey*

- Introduction to Turkish Politics
- Held weekly discussion sessions specifically designed for Erasmus/Exchange students
- Helped students to carry out research for their term projects on Turkey
- History of Political Thought

- Conducted discussion and review sessions occasionally with students to discuss the topics covered in the lectures and readings

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Cengiz, Bengi Ruken. “Journalistic Practice or Citizen Activism? Fact-checking in Polarized Political Climate in Turkey.” (with Koray Kaplica) 7th International Conference on Conflict, Terrorism and Society *Polarization, Populism and New Politics: Media and Communication in a Changing World*. Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey, April 2018.

Cengiz, Bengi Ruken. “Conceptualization of and Perceptions on Turkish Citizenship.” European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, Prague, Czech Republic, September 2016.

Cengiz, Bengi Ruken. “Citizenship Perceptions in Turkey.” American Political Science Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA, USA, September 2016.

Cengiz, Bengi Ruken. “Whose Good Governance? An Analysis of the Good Governance Discourse of the International Financial Institutions in the Context of Arab Spring.” International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, USA, April 2013.

Cengiz, Bengi Ruken. “The Influence of Development Agencies.” German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) 17th International Summer School, Berlin, Germany, 2013.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Travel Grant

American Political Science Association

September 2016

- Travel grant worth \$250 for participation to the Annual Convention.

Conference Participation Grant

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey

September 2016

Research Funding

TUBITAK 3001 Research Scheme, Turkey

January 2016

- Funding application accepted by TUBITAK within the 3001 Research Scheme, through which the survey is prepared and applied while a monthly stipend is also being provided by the funding agency

Summer School Funding

German Council on Foreign Relations, EUMEF, Berlin, Germany

August 2013

- 17th DGAP International Summer School on Middle East and North Africa

PhD Funding

Sabanci University, Istanbul, Turkey

September 2011

- Full scholarship for 5 years of doctoral studies

MA Funding

Jean Monnet Scholarship

June 2009

- Full scholarship for tuition fees and living expenses in the UK

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Turkish

Native

English

Full professional proficiency

French

Beginner

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- International Studies Association (ISA)

- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- International Political Science Association (IPSA)
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)

SOFTWARE SKILLS

MS Office (advanced knowledge)
STATA (intermediate knowledge)

REFERENCES

- **Prof. Dr. Ayse Kadioglu**
(PhD Thesis Supervisor)
Professor of Political Science and Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Sabanci University, 34956, Istanbul
ayse@sabanciuniv.edu
- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ozge Kemahlioglu**
(PhD Thesis Committee Member)
Professor of Political Science
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- **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nedim Nomer**
Professor of Political Theory
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