Arda Can Kumbaracıbaşı
Curriculum Vitae

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Bahçeşehir University,
BAU, Çırağan Caddesi,
Osmanpaşa Mektebi Sokak, No: 4 - 6,
34349 - Beşiktaş/İstanbul, Turkey

Professional Experience

Bahçeşehir University, Istanbul – Turkey **2014-Present**
Associate Professor in Comparative Politics
Department of Politics and International Relations
Teaching courses on Comparative Politics, Foreign Policy Analysis, Public Opinion, Electoral Systems, Political Parties, Introduction to Political Science, Politics and Cinema, Turkish Politics at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Organising visiting seminars, conferences and film screenings in correspondence with the Politics Club of the university. Also teaching PhD and masters courses on similar subjects and supervising masters and PhD theses at the Institute of Social Sciences – Global Affairs programme. Academic mentor at Blockchain Center Istanbul.

Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt – Germany **2019-2020**
DAAD Returning Research Fellow
Continued and built upon my research on political parties, party institutionalization and electoral politics focusing on a comparative framework between Germany and Turkey.

Mayorship of Beşiktaş Municipality, Istanbul – Turkey **2014-2018**
Advisor to the Mayor of Beşiktaş
Worked as an advisor to the mayor of the municipality of Beşiktaş municipality in Istanbul, mainly focusing on foreign visits and relations.

Otto Friedrich University, Bamberg – Germany **2012-2014**
Post-doctoral Research Scholarship (DAAD) – Research Fellow
Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences
Worked as a research fellow with Prof. Thomas Saalfeld and carried out research on German and Turkish politics, focusing on parliaments, political parties, electoral environment and veto actors. Taught "Politics and Government of Turkey" courses at undergraduate level.

Maltepe University, Istanbul – Turkey **2010-2012**
Assistant Professor, Erasmus Coordinator
Lecturer in Political Science
Department of Politics and International Relations
Taught full-time courses on Politics of the Middle East and Turkish Political History to final year students; Political Party Theory and History of Political Thought to second and third year students; Political Science, Political Ideologies, International Organizations, Foreign Policy, and Research Methods courses to first year and Erasmus students. Also assumed Faculty Erasmus Coordinator duties. Supervised students on their final year projects and theses.

Yeditepe University, Istanbul – Turkey **2009-2010**
Lecturer in Public Administration
Department of Public Administration
Taught full-time courses on Public Administration to first year students and Turkish Public Administration to second year students. Worked on an election report and survey prepared in one of the electoral districts in Turkey.

University of Kent, Canterbury – UK **2008-2009**
Visiting Research Training Fellowship Department
of Politics and International Relations
Furthering the research conducted throughout my PhD and working on publications; Worked on publishing an academic book on Turkish Politics (see publications); Organised a conference on Turkish Politics in association with Kent University Current Affairs Society bringing together the knowledge of established experts in the field – chaired two panels and was a speaker on one panel on Turkish Political Institutions.

University of Kent, Canterbury – UK **2004-2007**
Teaching Assistant
Department of Politics and International Relations
Worked as a Seminar Leader teaching "British Politics and Government" with a strong emphasis on Delegation and Accountability and "Introduction to Political Theory" courses at undergraduate-level. Marked coursework including essays and presentations; conducted tutoring to students; and carried out special sessions with UELT (Unit for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching) to provide academic advice and guidance for students.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Ankara, Turkey **2004**
Special Service Agreement
Conducted research and produced a report on Gender Parliamentary Commissions with case studies from developed and developing countries. Informed decision-making bodies on establishment of such parliamentary commissions to be on a permanent basis in Turkey.

Finansbank A.S. Headquarters, Istanbul, Turkey **2002-2003**
Assistant Officer – Corporate Marketing Division
Analyzed and prepared credit applications, by means of analyzing balance sheet, income statements and other financial documents; Attended customer visits and meetings; Also attended a two month accelerated education programme on Accounting, Corporate Marketing, Commercial Banking, Trade & Project Finance, Financial Analysis, Turkish Banking Laws, Leasing and Factoring, Money Markets, Cash Management, Financial Mathematics, and Human Resources. During that time attended branch visits.

Education

University of Kent, Canterbury – UK **2003-2008**
PhD in Politics and Government
Department of Politics and International Relations
The PhD focused mainly on contemporary Turkish politics with a detailed interest on Political Parties, Party Organisations, Institutionalisation of Parties and Elections. This was accompanied by a major theoretical framework that researched strategic dilemmas the leaders face at organisational, electoral and ideological levels. This study offered the first book-length assessment of the Turkish AKP's development as an organization starting from the party's early stages and its rise until the end of its first term in the parliament. Drawing on primary and secondary sources, interviews, analyses of quantitative data and surveys, the party's character as an organization, its internal power structure, its electoral roots, ideology, strategy and leadership were examined in the context of its organizational environment (the constitution, major veto players, international actors).

University of Kent, Canterbury – UK **2001-2002**
MA in Politics and Democracy Studies (Upper 2.1 Honours)
Department of Politics and International Relations
Subjects studied included Political Economy of post-Communist Russia, Politics of Eastern European Countries, Politics of International Bodies – the UN and the EU, Theories of International Relations, Data Analysis (with a focus on SPSS and MS Excel), Comparative Government Studies and Democratisation, Rational Choice Theory and Gender Studies. Final dissertation was written on the Democratisation Process in the USSR.

University of Kent, Canterbury – UK **1998-2001**
BA in Politics and Government (Upper 2.1 Honours)
Department of Politics and International Relations
Subjects focused on Ancient and Modern Political Philosophy, Political Theory & Ideologies, Globalisation and the EU, Policy Making, Russian and East European Politics, New World Orders, Micro and Macro Economics, Social Anthropology and History of Modern Europe. Dissertation on the Ideology/Practices of Fascism and its Consequential Dangers.

Publications
ORCID ID: 0000-0001-9609-570X

Books and Book Chapters:
2020 - "Democracy and a Radical System Shift" in **Turkey in Transition** - Edited by Yılmaz Esmer and Ebru Canan Sokullu (Book Chapter – Accepted by the publisher and waiting publication)

2018 - "Theories of Coalition Government Formation and Party Politics in Turkey" in **Party Politics in Turkey: a Comparative Perspective** - Edited by Sabri Sayarı, Pelin Ayan Musil, Özhan Demirkol (Book Chapter – Routledge, London, 2018, Isbn 9781138207547, doi: 10.4324/9781315461892)

2009 - Turkish Politics and the Rise of the AKP: Dilemmas of Institutionalization and Leadership Strategy (Routledge, London, 2009, Isbn 9780415491600, doi: 10.4324/9780203876299)

Articles:
2021 – "**Dynamics of Left-wing Populism in Turkey**" (Article under review)

2021 – "**Problems of Representation and Challenges Faced by Minor Parties: The Case of Turkey**" (Article under review)

2021 - "**Spatial Diffusion and Geographical Patterns in Turkish Vote for pro-Islamist Parties**" (Southeastern European and Black Sea Studies, Vol. 21. No. 1, [published online 2020], doi: 10.1080/14683857.2020.1868816 – co-authored with Prof. Simon Fink)

2020 - "**Models of Party Institutionalization and Problems of Democratic Consolidation**" (Mediterranean Politics, Vol. 25, No. 2, [Published Online 2018], doi: 10.1080/13629395.2018.1537102)

2019 - "**Analyzing Party Positions and Electoral Dynamics in Turkey**" (International Journal of Political Science and Urban Studies, Vol 7, No. 2, September 2019)

2016 - "**An Aggregate Analysis of the AKP Vote and Electoral Continuities in the Turkish Party System**" (Turkish Studies, Vol. 17, No. 2, June 2016, pp. 223-50, doi: 10.1080/14683849.2015.1135062)

2014 - "**Cumhuriyet Halk Partisi Oylarının Birikimli Düzey Analizi ve Türkiye'de Merkez Solun Seçim Coğrafyasının İncelemesi**" (An Aggregate Analysis of the Republican People's Party Vote and the Electoral Geography of Center-Left in Turkey. Amme İdaresi Dergisi, Vol 47, No. 4, December 2014, pp.59-92.)

2010 - "**Antalya Seçmeninin Din, Toplum ve Siyasete Bakışı**" (Electoral Survey and Project carried out by Prof. Meral Sağır Öztoprak; edited by Arda Kumbaracibasi, Yeditepe University Publications, Istanbul, 2010)

2009 - "**Political Institutions of Turkey: An Analysis of the AKP Organisation and Institutionalisatio n**" (Conference Paper from "Focus Turkey: The Internal and External Dynamics of Turkey in a Changing World" 25-26 March 2009, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK)

2004 - "**To what extent are Variations in the Level of Economic Development a good Predictor of Varitaions in the Level of Democracy?**" (*Journal of Economical, Social and Political Analysis* - Maltepe University Press, Faculty of Administration and Economics, Istanbul, 2004-1, Isbn 1303-0496, pp.9-39)

2004 - "**CEDAW and Gender Parliamentary Commissions**" (United Nations Development Programme: Special Service Report, August 2004, UNDP, Ankara, Turkey

Fellowships and Certificates

Visiting Research Fellow at Bamberg Graduate School of Social Sciences, Germany.

DAAD Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship from German Academic Exchange Service and University of Bamberg, Germany (2012-2014).

Visiting Research Training Fellowship from University of Kent, UK (2008-2009).

UELTS (Unit for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching) Certificate, University of Kent, UK (2005).

Academic Activities and Memberships

ECPR (European Consortium for Political Research) Member.

IPSA (International Political Science Association) Member.

Blockchain Center Istanbul – Academic Mentor and Member (www.blockchainist.org).

IPSA 2021 Panel Speaker (upcoming).

2020 Universita Degli Studi Di Torino – Unpacking the Opposition in Undemocratic Regimes" Conference Panel Speaker.

IPSA 2016 Panel Speaker.

ECPR 2016 Panel Speaker.

Guest speaker in the METU Political Science Seminars, 2014.

Organized and Participated in the Focus Turkey Conference in University of Kent, 2009.

Teaching Interests and Research Areas

Comparative Politics, Political Parties and Institutions, Electoral Systems, Contemporary Turkish Politics, Turkish Political History, Political Theory, Political Ideologies, Cinema and Politics, Politics and Islam, Democratisation, Research Methods, Foreign Policy and Public Opinion, Politics of the Middle East.

IT Skills and Languages

Knowledge of all Microsoft and Office programs, SPSS and Internet Applications, Communications and Security. Multimedia systems, Optimisation, Processing & Hardware devices. Graphical Designs, Photo and Video Editing (Premiere, After Effects, Illustrator), Contemporary Production and Music Production software (Cakewalk, Sonar, Cubase, Protools, Logic, Ozone, Wavelab, Absynth, Reason, Rebirth, Acid). Beginners Linux, Python and Dreamweaver MX for Web Designs.

Turkish: Native speaker.
English: Advanced.
German: Beginner.
Fluent English and native Turkish speaker. A2 level in German.