

# Basak TARAKTAS

## Curriculum Vitae

Updated in October 2022

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## EMPLOYMENT

Sep 2019–Present Assistant Professor of Political Science at Bogazici University  
Sep 2018–Sep 2019 Senior Analyst at FutureMap <https://futuremap.io/team/>  
Oct 2016–Aug 2018 Postdoctoral researcher, Northwestern University Buffett Institute for Global Studies  
Sep 2015–Jan 2016 Varieties of Democracy Project, country expert (Ottoman Empire, Egypt) <https://www.v-dem.net/en/historical/country-experts/>

## AFFILIATIONS

Sep 2022–Present Director of the Center for European Studies  
Sep 2021–Present Director of the Computational Social Science lab <https://arastirma.boun.edu.tr/tr/arastirma-laboratuvarlari/iktisadi-ve-idari-bilimler-fakultesi;>  
<https://bouncsss.wordpress.com>

## EDUCATION

2016 Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, Political Science  
2022 M.A., Sabanci University, Political Science, Turkey  
2006 M.A., College of Europe, European Political & Administrative Studies, Belgium  
2005 B.A., Galatasaray University, Political Science & International Relations, Turkey

## Methods training

2021 Machine Learning & Text analysis, ICPSR  
2021 Bayesian Modelling for social sciences, ICPSR  
2018 High Throughput Computing, Open Science Grid, Uni. of Wisconsin-Madison  
2018 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, Duke University  
2017 Santa Fe Summer School on Complexity, Santa Fe Institute  
2014 Programming in Java, Mergecon, Istanbul  
2014 Introduction to Computer Programming (Java), University of Pennsylvania  
2014 Advanced Network Analysis, ICPSR, University of Michigan Ann Arbor  
2014 Complex Systems, ICPSR, University of Michigan Ann Arbor  
2014 Theory of Networks, University of Pennsylvania  
2013 Network Theory and Applications, University of Pennsylvania  
2012 Social Network Analysis, Statistical Horizons  
2012 Market & Social Systems on the Internet, University of Pennsylvania  
2012 Game Theory, University of Pennsylvania  
2009 Multilevel Analysis, ECPR Essex Summer School on Social Data Analysis

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Methodology:** Computational social sciences (network analysis, agent-based modeling, text analysis), historical-comparative analysis

**Comparative politics:** Opinion dynamics, collective action, regime change, and social movements

**International relations:** International political economy, financial and sovereign debt crises

**Area specialization:** European studies

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles under review

"A SIR-model for misinformation-spread," with Batuhan Tongarlak (Bogazici University)

"Structural inequalities exacerbate infection disparities: A computational approach" with Sina Sajjadi, Mehrzad Shadmangohar, Pourya Toranj, Ulya Bayram, Mavi Peru (R & R at Nature Communications)

### Refereed journal articles

"Protesting during the Covid: When the abstention cost overweighs infection risk" forthcoming in *Social Movement Studies*

"Taraktas B, Esen B, Uskudarli S (2022). Tweeting through a Public Health Crisis: Communication Strategies of Right-Wing Populist Leaders during the COVID-19 Pandemic." *Government and Opposition: An International Journal of Comparative Politics* 122. <https://doi.org/10.1017/gov.2022.34>

"Tolerable levels of disagreement: Collective action capacity & shape of coalitions", (2021) *Social Networks*. 68. 15-30. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2021.04.002>

Braun, B., Taraktas, B., Beckage, B. and Molofsky, J. (2020) "Phase transitions and social distancing control measures for small world network epidemics with presymptomatic, asymptomatic, and symptomatic stages", (2020), *PLOS ONE* 15(9): e0238412, [doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238412](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238412).

"The Irish Bailout: When resolve breaks down," (2012) *Contemporary European Studies*, 2, pp. 83-113.

"A Comparative Approach to Euroscepticism," (2008) *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, Nov., 16: 2, pp. 249-266.

### Book chapters

"Karsilastirmali Perspektifte Osmanli Anayasal Gelismeleri", Sabri Sayari'ya Armagan, (forthcoming in 2023).

"Incorporating computational social science in political science," (2022) In *Advances in Human and Social Aspects of Technology*, ed. Enes Abanoz. IGI Global, 2344. <https://services.igi-global.com/resolvedoi/resolve.aspx?doi=10.4018/978-1-7998-8553-5.ch002>.

Over, Defne, and Basak Taraktas "When Does Repression Trigger Mass Protest? The 2013 Gezi Protests," (2016) in Julie M. Mazzei (ed.) *Non-State Violent Actors and Social Movement Organizations* (Research in Social Movements, Conflicts and Change, Volume 41) Emerald Publishing Limited, pp.205 - 239. (awarded Sidney Tarrow Best Article Prize).

## Other publications

"At the intersection of faith, allegiances toward the state, and economic deprivation: The Case of the Christian Democratic unions in 19th century Western Europe", *Alternatif Politika*, 2022, 14 (3): 612–640, <https://doi.org/10.53376/ap.2022.21>

"Checking presidential power: executive decrees and the legislative process in new democracies," by Valeria Palanza, *Democratization*. Jul. 2020 DOI:10.1080/13510347.2020.1787990., <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13510347.2020.1787990>.

"Studying alliance formation using case studies and network analysis, (2019) " *SAGE Research Methods Cases*, doi:10.4135/9781526486639.

## Selected work in progress

"Does social media activism impact media coverage of social movements? Reading Black Lives Matter in the New York Times", with Suzan Uskudarli (Bogazici University), Cihan Duran (Bogazici University)

"Challenging Black Lives Matter: Countermovements' framing strategies " with Cihan Duran (Bogazici University), Orkun Irsoy (Bogazici University), Suzan Uskudarli (Bogazici University)

"When do activists prioritize solutions over grievances? A Twitter Study of Black Lives Matter," with Cihan Duran (Bogazici University), Rabia Kutlu (Stanford University), Suzan Uskudarli (Bogazici University)

## Projects in progress

*Dia-Pol: Polarization or dialogue? A deep learning study of the Black lives matter and Me Too online social movements* (Horizon 2020 Marie Curie Individual Fellowship (H2020-MSCA-IF-2020 #101028566)

*HeForShe* (Bogazici University Scientific Research Project #18241)

## Media publications

"Erdogans riskanter Kurs: Bringt die Lira-Krise ihn zu Fall? (Erdogan's risky course: Will the lira crisis bring him down?)" , *Die Presse*, 01.12.2021, <https://www.diepresse.com/6068832/>

erdogans-riskanter-kurs-bringt-die-lira-krise-ihn-zu-fall

"Sage Methods Short Film on Methods: An Interview on Network Analysis", <http://methods.sagepub.com/video/srmpromo/VXbwhb/an-introduction-to-network-analysis>.

"Katılanların gözünden ABD Kadın Yürüyüşü (2017 Women's March from the perspective of protesters), *Medyascope.tv*, Jan. 23, 2017, <http://medyascope.tv/2017/01/23/ozel-yayin-katilanlari>

"'Biz', 'onlar' ve toplumsal dayanma ('We', 'Them' and social cooperation), *Radikal* 2, Feb. 2007.

"Milliyetçilik, siyasallaşma, militanlaşma," (Nationalism, politicization, militantism) *Radikal* 2, Feb. 2007.

"Mitinglerin Siyasi Arz Eksikliği," (Manifestations and the Shortage of Political Supply), *Yeni Safak*, May 2007.

"Turkish points of view on EU accession," *Faith in Europe Magazine*, May 2007.

"Rights, Identities and EU citizenship," *Faith in Europe Magazine*, May 2007.

"Opening of the negotiations with Turkey," *Yeni Aktuel*, Oct. 2005.

## AWARDS & GRANTS

2021 Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowship (H2020-MSCA-IF) (145,000 Euros)

2021 HeForShe (Bogazici University Scientific Research Project #18241) (10,000 USD)

2020 Tubitak Esik Ustu Odulu

2020 2nd project award in the Exploring Network Epidemiology in the Time of Coronavirus, online workshops held by the University of Maryland and Vermontas Complex Systems Center among 29 groups. Project title: Racial disparities in COVID-19 cases: Beyond inherent vulnerability. <https://sites.google.com/umd.edu/net-covid/home>

2015 The Cornell Institute for European Studies, Sidney Tarrow Best Article Prize

2014 Democracy, Constitution, and Citizenship Graduate Fellow

2014 Boies Fellow

2013 UPenn School of Arts and Sciences Dissertation Research Teece Fellowship

2009 Ben Franklin Award

2005 European Commission Jean Monnet Fellowship

2005 Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (Tubitak) Fellowship

2003 National Agency of Turkey Fellowship (Ulusal Ajans)

## PRESENTATIONS

"Does traditional media cover the issues that matter to activists? Reading Black Lives Matter in the New York Times", APSA, Sep. 17, 2022.

"Framing strategies of Countermovements: Challenging Black Lives Matter", Methods of Social Movement Research: New Developments and Recurring Questions, Humboldt University, Berlin, Sep. 16, 2022,

"Intersectionality" 5. Karmasik Sistemler ve Veri Bilimi Calistayi, Bogazici University, May 8, 2022

"Surviving the Pandemic" Polnet, Jul. 6, 2021

"Surviving the Pandemic: The Effect of socioeconomic disparities on mortality rates by the COVID Manchester University Mitchell Centre Seminar, Nov. 4, 2020

"All President's Men, Annual European Consortium for Political Research Conference, Aug. 26, 2020

"All President's Men, Empirical Political Studies Association (ESPA), Adana, Jan. Jan.23-24,

2020

"Turkish political system as an oscillating complex system, Karmasik Sistemler ve Veri Bilimi Calistayi, Istanbul, May 4, 2019.

"Coups & Countercoups: Explaining Oscillation Between Regime Types," APSA 2018, Boston, Aug., 2018.

"Regime survival, counterinsurgency, and resource extraction," ASA 2018, Philadelphia, Aug., 2018.

"Regime survival, counterinsurgency, and resource extraction," MPSA 2017, Chicago, Apr., 2018.

"Constitutional debates & Authoritarian backslides," Law and Politics in Turkey Conference, Northwestern University, Oct., 2017.

"Building bridges through protest," MPSA 2017, Chicago, Apr., 2017.

"Regime building in the face of diversity," APSA 2016, Philadelphia, Sep., 2016.

"Shall we cooperate? The challenge of strong commitments to cooperation for regime change," APSA, San Francisco, Sep. 5, 2015.

"Condemned to Authoritarianism? The challenge of preference diversity on regime change," MPSA, Chicago, Apr. 17, 2015.

"Building societal support in post-revolutionary regimes," Democracy Constitution and Citizenship Graduate Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Apr. 8, 2015.

"Condemned to Authoritarianism? The Challenge of Preference Diversity on Regime Change," MARC, Annenberg, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Mar. 23, 2015.

"Condemned to Authoritarianism? A Collective Action Perspective on the Ottoman Transition to Constitutional Regime," APSA, Washington, DC, Aug. 30, 2014.

"From small to mass-scale events: 2013 Gezi Protests," Sabanci University Jean Monnet Workshop for Young Researchers, SUCEES 2014, Istanbul, Mar. 13, 2014.

## INVITED TALKS

"Computational social science & political science" Tevitol Sosyal Bilimler Calistayi, June 12, 2022.

"Computational methods in social science," Bogazici University Department of Computer Science, guest lecturer, April 24, 2019.

"Tolerable Disagreements: Dynamics of Coalition Formation," Sabanci University, Brown Bag Seminar, March 6, 2019.

"Tolerable Disagreements: Dynamics of Coalition Formation," University of Carolina, Charlotte, February 28, 2018.

"Workshop on Network Analysis," University of Illinois in Chicago, Chicago, Apr. 28, 2017.

"Perceptions of Ethnicity," the Penn Middle East Center, Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 2015.

"Turkey: Culture & Ethnic Diversity," Penn Middle East Center, Philadelphia, May 24, 2015.

"L'euroscpticisme en Turquie," Institut Francais d'Etudes Anatoliennes, Istanbul, May 2007.

"European Citizenship," ARI Workshop on European Civilisation and Culture (EU Commission Action I project), Koc University, Istanbul, May 2005.

"Legal Violations in Cyprus History," Greco-Turkish Forum on Cyprus, Galatasaray University, Istanbul, Aug. 2002.

"Questioning the EUs 5th Enlargement," European Days 2002, Bosphorus University, Istanbul, Oct. 2002.

"Defining Terrorism," Campus Forum, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Apr. 2002.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

*Advanced Social Statistics*, Bogazici University, 2022  
*Decision theory*, Bogazici University, 2021, 2022  
*Comparative state and bureaucracies*, Bogazici University, 2020, 2021  
*Social Statistics*, Bogazici University, 2020, 2021  
*Research Methods*, Bogazici University, 2020, 2021  
*Quantitative Research Methods*, Bogazici University  
*Computational Social Science*, APSA Short Course, Sep. 8, 2020  
*Short course on network analysis*, Bilkent University, Dec. 27-28, 2019.  
*Computational Modeling in Political Science*, APSA Short Course, Aug. 28, 2018  
*Democratic Transitions* (Spring 2017 and 2018), Northwestern University  
*Short course on Complexity*, 2017 APSA Short Course

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

Turkish: Native  
English: Reading (fluent), speaking (fluent), writing (fluent)  
French: Reading (fluent), speaking (fluent), writing (fluent)  
Italian: Reading (beginner), speaking (beginner), writing (beginner)

## COMPUTER SKILLS

R, Netlogo, Python, Java, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## DATASETS

19th-century Ottoman regime challengers  
19th-century French regime challengers  
Survey data on 2013 GeziProtests  
Twitter data on Black Lives Matter & Me Too Movements DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.6981405  
Twitter data on HeForShe  
Turkish political elites (with Berk Esen)

## REFEREES

### **Mine EDER**

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### **Rudra SIL**

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