

Birce ALTIOK

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Updated: March 2024

EXPERIENCE

- 2021 – Present** **Koç University**, Istanbul
Migration Research Center at Koç University, MiReKoc
General Coordinator and Post-doc researcher
- 2021 – 2015** Coordinator and Ph.D. Researcher
- 2018 – 2015** Research Fellow
- 2018 – 2019** **Istanbul Bilgi University**, Istanbul
Instructor
Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, International Relations
- 2011 – 2015** **Koç University**, Istanbul
Graduate School of Social Sciences & Humanities
International Relations
Research and Teaching Assistant

EDUCATION

- 2011 – 2021** **Koç University**, Istanbul, Turkey
Ph.D. Ph.D. Political Science and International Relations
Graduate School of Social Sciences & Humanities
Dissertation Title: Refugee Activism and State Policies in Comparative
Perspective: Contentious Voices from Greece and Turkey
Dissertation Advisor: Prof. Ahmet İçduygu
Dissertation Committee: Assoc. Prof. Özlem Altan-Olcay, Assoc. Prof. Erdem
Yörük, Prof. Konstantinos Tsitselikis & Assoc. Prof. Deniz Sert
Thesis defense: May 2021 Graduation: December 27, 2021
Received: **The 2022 APSA Migration & Citizenship Section Best Dissertation
Prize**
- 2010-2011** **Columbia University** in the City of New York, US
M.A. M.A. in Human Rights Studies
Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
Graduated on 19 October 2011
GPA: 3.41/4.00
Thesis Title: The EU-AKP-New Business Class Triangle: A Liberal Perspective on
Democratization and Human Rights Improvements During the 2000s
Thesis Advisors: Prof. Jack L. Snyder & Dr. David C. Cuthell
- 2005-2010** **Binghamton University**, State University of New York, US
B.A. **Boğaziçi University**, Faculty of Economics & Administrative Sciences, Istanbul,
B.S. BA & B.S. in Global & International Affairs,
Minors in **Sociology & History**,
Concentration in **Middle East and North African Studies**,
Dean's List for Fall 2007, Spring 2008, and Spring 2010 (SUNY Binghamton)
Honors Certificate from Bogazici University (24 June 2010)
GPA: 3.61/4.00 Graduated on 16 May 2010
Graduation with Honour, Valedictorian / *Dux Litterarum*

2018 – 2020

Anadolu University

A.D.

Associate degree in Justice

Graduated on 09 July 2020

GPA: 3.06 Graduation with Honour

2001-2005

Izmir Tevfik Fikret High School, Izmir, Turkey

Francophone, 4.88/5.00 Rank: Valedictorian / *Major de promotion*

PUBLICATIONS

2024. “State, Refugees, and Civil Society in Turkey: Transformation Under Control”, *Alternatif Politika*, Vol. 16 (1), pp. 115–141. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.53376/ap.2024.05>
2023. “Root Causes of Irregular Migration in the Eastern Mediterranean: The Case of Afghans and Syrians” in *Migration in the Mediterranean*, Ricard Zapata-Barrero and Ibrahim Awad (eds.). IMISCOE Research Series. Springer, Cham. ISBN: 978-3-031-42263-8 <https://link.springer.com/book/9783031422638> (Open Access) DOI: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-42264-5_12 (coauthored with Ahmet İçduygu)
2022. “Irregular Migration: The Position of Türkiye in the Mediterranean Basin.” EuroMedMig Policy Paper Series, no. 9 (September): <http://hdl.handle.net/10230/54194> (coauthored with Ahmet İçduygu)
2022. “Research on Ethnic and Migrant Minorities: Methodological Evaluation of Studies in Turkey” (Etnik ve Göçmen Azınlıklar ile Anket Çalışmaları: Türkiye Örnekleri Üzerine Yöntembilimsel Bir İnceleme) (in Turkish). *Pamukkale Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Dergisi*, Vol. 50, Denizli, pp. 294-310. <https://doi.org/10.30794/pausbed.1026905> (coauthored with Sedef Turper-Alışık, Burak Ağalday, and Feyza Köseoğlu-Darılmaz)
2021. “Superdiversity in Higher Education Settings: A State-of-the-Art Report”. Report submitted to the European Commission under the deliverable number D55 (D4.3), UNIC (The European University of Post-Industrial Cities), funded by Erasmus+Programme of the European Union, March. Available at <https://unic.eu/storage/app/media/uploaded-files/101004042deliverable55d43-state-of-the-art-report-of-the-literature-on-superdiversity-and-higher-education-1.pdf> (coauthored with Birce Demiryontar and Souad Osseiran)
2020. “Understanding foreign policy strategies during migration movements: a comparative study of Iraqi and Syrian mass refugee inflows to Turkey.” *Turkish Studies*, Vol. 21 (5), pp. 684-704, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/14683849.2019.1709055> (coauthored with Salih Tosun)
2019. “Irregular migration: Humanity Drowning in the Mediterranean” (Düzensiz Göç: Akdeniz’de Boğulan İnsanlık) 1868 Dergi Özel Sayı (Türk Kızılay Kültür & Sanat, *Turkish Red Crescent: Culture and Art*), Kasım (November) (in Turkish), pp. 22-27.
2018. “How to co-exist? Urban refugees in Turkey: Prospects and Challenges.” *Policy Brief*, 1 (4), September 2018, Yasar University UNESCO Chair on International Migration (ISSN: 2619-9440). (coauthored with Salih Tosun)

2017. "Rethinking Refugee Activism within and beyond the State: The Trajectory of Refugee Activism" in *The Migration Conference 2017 Proceedings (Conference Series)*, Fethiye Tilbe, Elif Iskender and Ibrahim Sirkeci (comp.), London: Transnational Press. pp: 531-541.
2017. "Recalibrating Turkish Foreign Policy After the Arab Uprisings: From Pro-activism to Uncertainty by Easing Off Ideational and Liberal Goals" in *Contemporary Turkey at a Glance II: Turkey Transformed? Power, History and Culture*. Meltem Ersoy and Esra Ozyurek (eds.), Wiesbaden: Springer Fachmedien Wiesbaden. pp. 145-161. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-658-16021-0_10 ISBN-13: 978-3658160203 (coauthored with Sinan Karşiyaka)
2015. "Characteristics of Prolonged Social Movements: The Case of Gezi Park Protests" in *Contentious Politics in the Middle East: Popular Resistance and Marginalized Activism beyond the Arab Uprisings*. Fawaz A. Gerges (ed.) New York, NY: Palgrave-Macmillan. pp. 415-435. ISBN-13: 978-1137537218 (coauthored with Kerem Yıldırım)
2015. [Book Review] "Sınır ve Sınırdışı: Türkiye’de Yabancılar, Göç ve Devlete Disiplinlerarası Bakışlar" [Border and Deportation: Interdisciplinary Observations on the Foreigners, Migration and State in Turkey] Didem Danış ve İbrahim Soysüren (eds/der.), *İdealkent: Journal of Urban Studies*, January, Vol. 6, Issue 15: 242–248. ISBN: 1307-9905

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Co-authored with Ahmet İçduygu. Turkey and International Migration, 2019-2020 Report Prepared for the Annual Meeting of the OECD Expert Group on Migration, Online, October 19-21, 2020: Istanbul.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- IR 385 Turkish Foreign Policy, College of Social Sciences, Koc University, Spring 2024.
- IR 480/527 Issues in Migration Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, International Relations, Istanbul Bilgi University, Fall 2018.
- SOSC 102 Culture and Society, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Sociology, Koc University, Summer 2017.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

2024. "Foreign Students in Turkish Higher Education Space: Interrelations of Structures, Institutions and Actors in Policy-Making Processes" at the EURIE / EURASIA Higher Education Summit, February 29, at the "Panel: Multifaceted Dimensions of Refugee and International Student Integration in Higher Education", February 26-29, 2024, Istanbul.
2023. "Foreign Students in Turkish Higher Education Space: Interrelations of Structures, Institutions and Actors in Policy-Making Processes" at the 20th IMISCOE Annual Conference "International student mobility: Actors, institutions, experiences", Session #282, July 6, under "SC Education and Social Inequality", July 3-6, 2023, Warsaw.

2021. “Superdiversity Challenging Higher Education: A UNIC Approach for Societal Impact” Presented at the 18th IMISCOE’s Annual Conference “Crossing borders, connecting cultures”, Session #124, July 8, Workshop under “SC Superdiversity, Migration and Cultural Change”, July 7-9, 2021 hosted by University of Luxembourg.
2021. “Superdiversity in Higher Education Settings: State-of-the-Art and its Implications for COVID19” Presented at the Annual UNIC Conference: ‘Regenerating Post-Industrial Cities: The Role of Universities’, Session titled “Superdiversity and the COVID19 Pandemic”, Virtual Conference, June 11, 2021.
2019. “Refugee Voices in Comparison: State Policies, Civil Society and Activism Practices from Greece and Turkey” Presented at the conference “International Migration in the 21st Century-IV”, special session of Migration Research Center at Koc University’s (MiReKoc) titled “Bringing Transnational Dimension of Global Governance: Micro-Meso-Macro Perspectives”, Yeditepe University Global Education and Culture Research and Application Center (KEKAM), Yeditepe University, Istanbul, October 10-11, 2019.
2019. Participation in Peer Workshops and Group Presentations at the 9th International Neighbourhood Symposium on “Addressing the Challenges in Europe and its Neighbourhoods” The Center for International and European Studies (CIES) at Kadir Has University. Odessa, Ukraine, June 18-23, 2019.
2019. “Mültecilerin Sesleri: Yunanistan ve Türkiye'deki Devlet Politikaları, Sivil Toplum ve Aktivizm Uygulamaları” (Voices of Refugees: State Policies, Civil Society and Activism Practices in Greece and Turkey). Presented at the “3. İlişkisel Sosyal Bilimler Kongresi”, Koç University, Istanbul, June 13-14, 2019. (Turkish)
2018. “Unpacking legitimization strategies in foreign policy: Comparative analysis of Iraqi and Syrian mass refugee flows to Turkey” co-authored with Salih Tosun. Presented at the conference of the third “International Migration in the 21st Century”, Yeditepe University Global Education and Culture Research and Application Center (KEKAM), Yeditepe University, Istanbul, October 10-11, 2018.
2018. “‘They are our brothers, but’ the Miscellaneous Xenophobic Attitudes: The Case of Turkey and Syrians” co-authored with Salih Tosun. Presented at the conference “Migration, Social Transformation and Differential Inclusion in Turkey,” Young Scholars and Early Career Academics Conference, Istanbul Policy Center (IPC) Sabancı University, Istanbul, 5-6 October 2018.
2018. “Syrian and Afghani Refugees in Fatih and Exarcheia Neighbourhoods – Activism Practices from Turkey and Greece” Presented at the conference on *Wellbeing and Migration: Inter-Asian Perspectives*, KUASIA (Koç University Centre for Asian Studies) in association with the Sussex Asia Centre (University of Sussex), Koc University, Istanbul, May 7-8, 2018.

2017. “Rethinking Refugee Activism within and beyond the State: The Trajectory of Refugee Activism” Presented at Harokopio University, *The Migration Conference*, Athens, August 23-26, 2017.
2014. “Re-calibrating Turkish Foreign Policy after the Arab Uprisings: From pro-activism to uncertainty by easing off ideational and liberal goals” with Sinan Karşiyaka. Presented at Istanbul Bilgi University, International Conference on *Contemporary Turkey at a Glance II: Turkey Transformed? Power, History, Culture*, in partnership with Network Turkey, London School of Economics (LSE) Contemporary Turkish Studies, Istanbul Policy Center (IPC), Istanbul, October 18-19, 2014.
2013. “Characteristics of Prolonged Social Movements: The Case of Gezi Park Protests” with Kerem Yıldırım. Presented at London School of Economics, Middle East Center PhD Conference on *Contentious Politics in the Middle East*, London, September 30, 2013.
2012. “EU’s problems in the Neighborhood Policy: Arab Spring squeezed between economy and security” Presented at CEE – IRSEM Joint Doctoral Student Workshop and Doctoral Seminar on *The EU as a Global Actor*, Paris, June 18-19, 2012 [The Institut de Recherche Stratégique de l’Ecole Militaire (IRSEM - French Institute of Strategic Research), in partnership with the Centre d’études Européennes - Sciences Po (CEE)]

INVITED TALKS

2023. Collaborations for Reinforcement of Migration Priorities in Türkiye (CONTRIBUTE) Project, Roundtable Meeting with the Academia to Foster Cooperation on Migration, organized by ICMPD and the Presidency of Migration Management, Ankara, November 22.
2020. The Consultation Meeting Between the Directorate General of Migration Management and Migration Research Centers (Göç İdaresi Genel Müdürlüğü ile Göç Araştırma Merkezlerinin Arasında İstişare Çalıştayı) in the framework of the “Supporting Turkey’s Efforts to Manage Migration” project, in collaboration with the Directorate General of Migration Management and International Organization for Migration (IOM) Turkey, Ankara, March 4-5.
2020. “1923 Sonrası Türkiye’nin Göç Politikaları” (Turkey’s Migration Policies since 1923) organized by Üsküdar Mihrimah Sultan Kız Anadolu İmam Hatip High School, Istanbul, 11-12 January.
2019. “The Roles of Think Tank and Research Institutes in Security” at *The Security Sector Symposium* organized by Charles University, the University of Glasgow, Dublin City University, the University of Trento, and OTH Regensburg under International Master Security, Intelligence & Strategic Studies (IMSIS), Czech Republic, Prague, 12-13 December.
2019. “Temporary Protection Workshop: Project on Supporting the National Institutions in Turkey to Mitigate the Impact of the Syrian Refugee Crisis”, in collaboration with the Directorate General of Migration Management and UNHCR Turkey, Ankara, August 21-23.

2018. “18 December International Migrants Day” KuGlobalAid, Koç University, Istanbul, December 18.

2018. “Göçmeyi Anlamak” Konuşu Platform. Boğaziçi Mezunlar Derneği (BÜMED - International Alumni Group of Bogazici University), December 5.

2015. “Syrian Refugees in Turkey”, 4th *International Students Symposium on Law and Global Issues*, in collaboration with Koç University Law School, ANAMED, Istanbul, May 13-15.

RESEARCH PROJECTS & NETWORKS (ongoing)

2023 – present The European University of Cities in Post-Industrial Transition (**UNIC**) (2023-2027) ERASMUS+ European Universities (**Center for City Futures Director**)

2023 – present Finding Agreement in Return (**FAiR**) (2023-2027) Horizon Europe (**Project Post-Doc researcher**) Grant # 101094828

2022 – present Bridging the Migration and Urban Studies Nexus (**BROAD-ER**) (2022-2025) HorizonEurope (**Project Coordinator**) Grant # 101079254

2022 – present “Türk Yükseköğretim Alanında Yabancı Öğrenciler: Politika Yapım Süreçlerinde Yapı, Kurum ve Aktör Etkileşimleri (Foreign Students in Turkish Higher Education: Structure, Institution and Actor Interactions in Policy Making Processes)” TÜBİTAK 1001 Project No:221K034. Project Coordinator Dr. Birce Demiryontar, Koc University. (**Project Researcher**)

2020 – present Key Inclusive Development Strategies for LifeLongLearning (**KIDS4ALLL**) (2020-2023) HORIZON2020 (**Post-doc Researcher**) Grant # 101004807

2020 – 2023 The European University of Post-Industrial Cities (**UNIC**) ERASMUS+ European Universities Programme (**Administrative Coordinator**)

RESEARCH PROJECTS (completed)

ERASMUS+ “The Euro-Mediterranean Research Network on Migration (**EuroMedMig**)” (2020-2023) ERASMUS+ Jean Monnet Network Program (**Member**)

COST ACTION “International Ethnic and Immigrant Minorities’ Survey Data Network (April 2017 – October 2021) COST ACTION CA16111 (**Member**)

TÜBİTAK-RCUK (June 2016 – November 2019) “Integration and Well-Being of Syrian Youth in Turkey” (Türkiye’deki Gençlerin Entegrasyonu ve Refahı). Project No: 116K828. Project Coordinator Prof. Dr. Ahmet İçduygu, Koc University. (**PhD Researcher**)

WORLD BANK GROUP (May-June 2018) “Mapping of Centers that Provide Information/Counselling/Referral and/or Basic Services for Syrians Under Temporary Protection (SuTPs), Refugees and Other Migrants in Turkey” in collaboration with Ministry of Interior Directorate General of Migration Management. Internal report. (**Principal Investigator**)

TÜBİTAK (April 2017-June 2018) “Turkey’s State Policies during the Mass Refugee Inflows: The Cases of Inflows from Bulgaria (1989), Iraq (1991), and Syria (2011-2015)” (Türkiye’de Kitleli Sığınma Hareketleri Üzerine Devlet Politikaları: Bulgaristan (1989), Irak (1991) ve Suriye (2011–2015) Örnekleri), Project no: 116K448, Project Coordinator Prof. Dr. Ahmet İçduygu, Koc University. (**Ph.D. Researcher**)

NGOWG (September – December 2010) “Mapping Women, Peace and Security in the UN Security Council: Report of the NGOWG 2009-2010” Researcher for the annual report published by the *NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security* by Sarah Taylor and Kristina Mader. October 2010, New York. (**Researcher**)

PROJECT WRITING EXPERIENCE

- Horizon Europe Project
- Horizon 2020
- Horizon 2020: Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation, Twinning
- TÜBİTAK Projects

PEER REVIEWER FOR ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Turkish Studies, New Perspectives on Turkey, International Migration,

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Human Rights, Theories of International Relations, Civil Society Actors/Organizations, Forced Migration and Refugee Studies, Mediterranean Politics, Turkish Foreign Policy, Activism, Social Movements, Comparative Politics, Internationalization Policies

HONORS, AWARDS and SCHOLARSHIPS

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| 2022 | Honorable Mention for the 2022 APSA Migration & Citizenship Section Best Dissertation Prize for “Refugee Activism and State Policies in Comparative Perspective: Contentious Voices from Greece and Turkey” |
| 2017-2018 | TÜBİTAK Scholar 116K448 “Turkey’s State Policies during the Mass Refugee – Inflows: The Cases of Inflows from Bulgaria (1989), Northern Iraq (1991), and Syria (2011-2015)” (Türkiye’de Kitleli Sığınma Hareketleri Üzerine Devlet Politikaları: Bulgaristan (1989), Kuzey Irak (1991) ve Suriye (2011–2015) Örnekleri), Koc University. |
| 2015-2016 | Koç University Grant |
| 2011-2015 | Koç University PhD Scholarship |

2010 Honors List, Boğaziçi University

2007-2008 Binghamton and Boğaziçi Universities, DUAL Diploma Programs Merit 2009-2010 Base Tuition Scholarship (Academic Years)

OTHER EVENTS, WORKSHOPS

- Workshop entitled “Irregular Migration: The position of Turkey in the Mediterranean Basin” organized in Istanbul, Türkiye, as part of the EUMedMig project: "Mapping Mediterranean and European migration studies" (September 2019 - August 2022), funded by the Erasmus program and the Jean Monnet network (Ref: 611260-EPP-1-2019-1-ES-RESEAU EPPJMO), 2 June 2022, Koç University, Istanbul.
- Workshop “Türkiye’de Suriyeli Gençlerin Refahı ve Entegrasyonu: Proje Çıktıları ve Değerlendirme Toplantısı”, 18 October 2019, ANAMED, Beyoğlu
- Organizer of the International Meeting “South Asian Network on Development and Displacement (SANDD) Network, February 28-March 1, 2019. Koç University, Istanbul.
- MiReKoc Wednesday Seminar Series, Fall 2018 – present.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Turkish Native Speaker
English Fluent writer, reader and speaker
French Intermediate level writer, reader and speaker