

Erdem Demirtaş

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow · University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law
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My research lies at the intersection of comparative judicial politics and constitutional law, with a focus on the political foundations of the rule of law and constitutionalism. In my postdoctoral project TRACE, I use natural language processing methods to trace informal and implicit constitutional change. My dissertation on constitutional courts in times of political crisis received the Best Dissertation Honorable Mention from the Law and Society Association in 2023.

APPOINTMENTS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellow , University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law Centre for Comparative and European Constitutional Studies · Teaching: Making and Breaking Constitutions (Fall 2026)	2025 – present
Lecturer , Özyeğin University, International Relations International Law · Comparative Politics · Comparative Constitutional Law · Politics of Human Rights · Political Anthropology · Law and Society in the Global South	2022 – 2025
Lecturer , Kadir Has University, School of Law Politics of Human Rights	Spring 2024
Graduate Assistant , Boğaziçi University, Political Science Political Economy · Middle East Politics · International Relations · Turkish Foreign Policy · American Government	2014 – 2022

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science and International Relations , Boğaziçi University Dissertation: Constitutional Courts During Political Upheavals: The Case of the TCC · Supervisors: Prof. Mine Eder, Prof. Malcolm Feeley (UC Berkeley)	2016 – 2022
Fulbright Visiting Research Fellow , UC Berkeley, School of Law	2019 – 2020
MA, Political Science and International Relations , Yıldız Technical University	2009 – 2012
BA, International Relations , Kadir Has University	2005 – 2009

BOOK MANUSCRIPT

Changing Roles: Judicial Authority and Regime Transformation in Turkey Under review, Cambridge University Press	2026
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JOURNAL ARTICLES & WORKING PAPERS

- "Proportionality Without Uniformity: A Computational Analysis of Doctrinal Scaffolding Across Qualified Rights in the European Court of Human Rights" 2026
Forthcoming, Human Rights Law Review
- "The Turkish Constitutional Court Database: Norm Review and Individual Application Decisions, 1962–2025" 2026
Revise & resubmit, Journal of Law and Courts
- "Stability and Selective Rewiring in the Turkish Constitutional Court (1962–2024): A Diachronic Analysis Using Contextual Word Embeddings" 2026
Under review, Artificial Intelligence and Law
- "Selective Noncompliance: Constitutional Court Judgments and Ordinary Court Resistance in Turkey" 2026
Under review, International Journal of Constitutional Law
- "When Parliaments Stop Discussing Policy: Speech Composition under Personalist Executive Dominance in Turkey, 2002–2025" 2026
Under review, European Journal of Political Research
- "Written Dissent under Authoritarian Consolidation: Judicial Dissent in the Turkish Constitutional Court, 1962–2025" 2026
Working paper
- "When Every Concept Looks Contested: Measurement Artifacts in Embedding-Based Claims about Political Meaning" 2026
Working paper

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Ortadoğu'da Devlet ve İktidar: Otoriter Rejimler Üzerine Bir İnceleme* (State and Power in the Middle East: An Inquiry into Authoritarianism), Metis 2014
In Turkish · sold over 3,000 copies
- "Otoriter Rejimler ve Bilginin Yönetimi" (Authoritarian Regimes and the Management of Information), *Birikim*, 322 (in Turkish) 2016
- Review of Ryan Gingeras, *Heroin, Organized Crime, and the Making of Modern Turkey*, *New Perspectives on Turkey*, 52, 165–169 2015

DATASETS

- TBMM Parliamentary Proceedings Corpus, 1950–2023** 2026
2.4M speaker turns · Zenodo: doi:10.5281/zenodo.19713325 · CC BY 4.0

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS (SELECTED)

"A Relational Theory of Judicial Roles" — IPSA RC09 workshop <i>Court Roles in the Current Authoritarian Moment</i> , UNAM, Mexico City	10/2026
"What Do Static and Contextual Embeddings Measure Differently?" — SISP 2026, University of Trento	9/2026
"Measuring Semantic Change in Constitutional Reasoning" — ESELS Annual Conference, Ljubljana	6/2026
Summer Academy on Large Language Models for Social Science (LLM4SS), Columbia University	5–6/2026
"Measuring Hidden Conceptual Change with AI" (poster) — AI for Social Science Research Methods, Yale University	5/2026
"The Judicial Tug of War: Turkey's Experience with Judicial Elections" — LSA Annual Meeting, Lisbon	7/2022
"After Hegemony: Constitutional Hardball and the Limits of Hegemonic Court Power" — Public Law Conference, University of Texas	3/2021
"Political Foundations of Independent Judiciary and Institutional Change" — LSA Annual Meeting, Denver	5/2020
"Transformation of Turkish Judiciary: The Role of Islamic Groups and Informal Networks" — LSA Annual Meeting, Washington DC	6/2019

INVITED TALKS

"Comparative Judicial Review: Turkish Experience" — Prof. Martin Shapiro's Comparative Constitutional Law course, UC Berkeley Legal Studies	3/2020
"Political Sources of Judicial Activism in Hybrid Regimes" — UC Berkeley, CSLS Visiting Scholar Speaker Series	5/2020
"What Political Science Can Tell Us About the Courts: Lessons for the US Supreme Court" — Sonoma State University	1/2020

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship	2025 – 2027
Best Dissertation Honorable Mention, Law and Society Association	2023
LSA Junior Scholars Workshop Travel Grant, Denver	2020
Fulbright Dissertation Research Fellowship	2019 – 2020

TRAINING

Fine-tune Your Own BERT and GPT — Hertie School Data Science Summer School

8/2023

Introduction to R Programming — UC Berkeley, Digital Humanities Lab

2–3/2020

LANGUAGES

Turkish (native) · English (full competency) · Spanish (B1)