

Merih Angın

Associate Professor of International Economics

(title awarded by the Interuniversity Board of Turkey, under the Council of Higher Education, 2023)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Koç University (KU), CASE Email: mangin@ku.edu.tr
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of IR & Computational Social Sciences MA Program, KU
Assistant Professor (September 2019 – Present)

MA-Computational Social Science Lab (MA-CSSL)
Founding Director (October 2019 – Present)

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University
Affiliate, WCFIA CII Cluster (October 2018 – Present)
Postdoctoral Fellow (August 2018 – July 2019)

Department of International Relations, Middle East Technical University
Lecturer (February 2018 – June 2018)

Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
Postdoctoral Research Fellow (April 2016 – January 2018)

Geneva Graduate Institute (IHEID)
Research Assistant for SNSF project (September 2014 – March 2016)
Teaching and Research Assistant (September 2011 – August 2013)

Mortara Center for International Studies, SFS, Georgetown University
Visiting Scholar (September 2013 – August 2014)

EDUCATION

IHEID, Geneva, Switzerland

Ph.D., International Relations/Political Science, Feb 2016 (High Honour)
Dissertation Title: “A Two-Level Principal-Agent Model of IMF Program Design”
Dissertation Committee: Cédric Dupont (thesis supervisor), Charles Wyplosz (thesis co-supervisor), Liliana Andonova (chair), James Vreeland (external expert)

Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

M.Sc., International Relations, August 2010 (CGPA: 4.00/4.00)
Thesis Title: “Turkish Experience in Privatization: The Privatizations of Large-Scale State-Economic Enterprises in the 2000s”
Thesis Committee: Pinar Bedirhanoglu (thesis advisor), Galip Yalman (chair), Faruk Yalvacı (internal reader)

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

B.A., Economics, May 2008 (Graduated with High Honour)

ACADEMIC TRAINING

ECPR Winter School in Methods and Techniques, University of Vienna (Austria), February 2013, Grade: 1 (Equivalent: A)

ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (United States), June-July 2011, Grade: A

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Koç University Institutional Responsibilities

Board of Directors, KUIS Artificial Intelligence Center (May 2022 – Present)

Deputy Director, CCSS (November 2022 – Present)

Board Member, Center for Research on Globalization, Peace, and Democratic Governance (GLODEM) (April 2021 – Present)

Board Member, Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities (GSSSH) (Sept 2024 – Present)

Graduate Program Coordinator, Department of International Relations, Koç University (September 2020 – August 2023)

Computer Engineering Faculty Search Committee, 2021

Other Institutional Responsibilities

Co-Founder, Initiate: Digital Rights in Society (July 2020 – Dec 2023)

Vice-Chair, Marie Curie Alumni Association - Turkey Chapter (June 2021 – Dec 2023)

Committee Member, vIPES, International Political Economy Society (January 2021 – Present)

Peer Reviewer

American Political Science Review, Foreign Policy Analysis, Global Studies Quarterly, IAES International Journal of Artificial Intelligence, IEEE Access, IEEE Conference on Signal Processing and Communications Applications, Intelligent Automation & Soft Computing, International Journal of Politics and Security, International Studies Quarterly, International Organization, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of International Relations, Journal of Public Affairs, Mülkiye Dergisi, Policy Sciences, Portuguese Economic Journal, Regulation & Governance, Review of International Organizations, Journal of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey

RESEARCH INTERESTS

international political economy; international organizations; international development; International Monetary Fund; World Bank; investment arbitration; computational social sciences; agent-based modeling; natural language processing; machine learning; AI governance

BOOKS

“Ziya Öniş’le Akademik Yolculuk, Kişisel Anılar ve Katkıları.” *edited with Caner Bakır and Mustafa Yağcı*, Koç University Press (Forthcoming).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

“AI Strategies for Financial Inclusion and Gender Equality in MENAT: Evidence from Egypt, Turkey, and the UAE.” *Global Finance Journal*, Forthcoming (with Pelin Kılınçarslan and Eylem Güner)

“Mitigating the Political Cost of Financial Crisis with Blame Avoidance Discourse: The Case of Turkey.” *International Relations* 21, no.83 (2024): 41-59 (with Büşra Söylemez)

“IMF: International Migration Fund.” *International Interactions* 49, no.1 (2023): 86-113, DOI: 10.1080/03050629.2023.2172002 (with Albana Shehaj & Adrian J. Shin)

“Hindistan’ın Yapay Zekâ Gelişimi Üzerine Bir İnceleme” *Mevzu* 9, (2023), <https://doi.org/10.56720/mevzu.1230704> (with Orçun Doğmaz)

“Uluslararası Örgütler, Koşulluluk ve Demokratik Temsil: Yunanistan’ın IMF Deneyimi.” *Alternatif Politika* 15, no.(1) (2023): 54-79 (with Saliha Metinsoy)

“A RoBERTa Approach for Automated Processing of Sustainability Reports.” *Sustainability* 14, no. 23 (2022): 16139. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su142316139> (with Beyza Taşdemir, Cenk Arda Yılmaz, Gökcan Demiralp, Mert Atay, Pelin Angin and Gökhan Dikmener)

“Yükselen Güç Çin’in Batı Balkanlar’da Doğrudan Yabancı Yatırımları.” *METU Studies in Development* 49, no.1 (2022):149-178 (with Defne Başbuğoğlu)

“Evolutionary Multiobjective Feature Selection for Sentiment Analysis.” *IEEE Access* 9, (2021): 142982 - 142996 (with Ayça Deniz and Pelin Angin)

“Inside Job: Migration and Distributive Politics in the European Union.” *Economics & Politics* 33, no.2 (2021): 264-288 (with Albana Shehaj and Adrian J. Shin)

“COVID-19 Tracking Applications: A Human-Centric Analysis.” *European Journal of Science and Technology* 23, (2021): 861-867 (with Pelin Angin)

“Political Risk and Investment Arbitration: An Empirical Study.” *Journal of International Dispute Settlement* 7, no.1 (2016): 136-160. (with Cédric Dupont and Thomas Schultz)

“Types of Political Risk Leading to Investment Arbitrations in the Oil & Gas Sector.” *Journal of World Energy Law & Business* 8, no.4 (2015): 337-361 (with Cédric Dupont, Thomas Schultz, and Melanie Wahl)

“AKP Döneminde Türkiye’de Büyük Ölçekli Özelleştirmeler ve Devletin Dönüşümü.” *Praksis* 30-31 (2013): 77-98 (with Pınar Bedirhanoglu)

“Privatization Processes as Ideological Moments: The Block Sales of Large-Scale State Enterprises in Turkey in the 2000s.” *New Perspectives on Turkey* 47 (2012):

**BOOK
CHAPTERS**

“The Political Economy of Turkish Foreign Policy: From Etatism to Neoliberalism and Beyond.” In *One Hundred Years of Turkish Foreign Policy (1923–2023): Thematic and Conceptual Reflections*, edited by Sinem Akgül Açıkmeşe and Binnur Ozkececi-Taner. Palgrave Macmillan (Forthcoming).

“Türkiye’de Özelleştirmelerin Ekonomi Politigi: Dün, Bugün ve Yarın.” (with Pelin Kılınçarslan) In *Türkiye’de Kamu Politikalarında Süreklilik ve Değişim*, edited by Caner Bakır. Koç Üniversitesi Yayınları (Forthcoming).

“IMF Program Tasarımının Etmen Tabanlı Modellemesi.” In *Sosyal Veri Bilimi*, edited by Akın Ünver. İstanbul Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları (2025): 337–360.

“Europe Unresolved.” In *The Oxford Handbook of the International Monetary Fund*, edited by Bessma Momani and Mark Hibben. Oxford University Press (2024) (with Saliha Metinsoy): 587–607.

“Double Jeopardy? The Use of Investment Arbitration in Times of Crisis.” In *The Legitimacy of Investment Arbitration: Empirical Perspectives*, edited by Daniel Behn, Ole Kristian Fauchald, and Malcolm Langford. Cambridge University Press (2022) (with Cédric Dupont and Thomas Schultz): 365–393.

“Yapay Zekâda Ekonomik, Siyasi ve Askeri Bağlantı: Bir Araştırma Gündemi.” In *Sosyal Bilimlerde Seçme Konular -6*, edited by Hasan Çiftçi and Sevcan Yıldız. İksad Publications (2022) (with Lena Trabucco): 275–292.

“An Interdisciplinary Approach to the Analysis of IMF Lending: A New Research Agenda.” In *Global Inequalities and Polarization*, edited by Mustafa Erdoğan, Humberto Merritt, and Armida Concepcion Garcia. London: IJOPEC Publication Limited (2020): 113–130.

**CONFERENCE
PROCEEDINGS**

“Sentiment and Context-Refined Word Embeddings for Sentiment Analysis.” to appear in the proceedings of *IEEE SMC 2021* (with Ayça Deniz and Pelin Angın)

“Determinants of IMF Program Design” *11th ICOPEC 2020*: International Conference of Political Economy, June 24, 2020

UNDER REVIEW

“China’s Hybrid Leadership in Global Climate Governance: The Achievements and Limitations of a Dual Track Strategy” (with Ziya Öniş)

**WORKING
PAPERS**

“Informality in Global Health Governance: A New Research Agenda”

“Sentiments of Power: Executive Board Discontent and IMF Lending Practices”

“SDG Footprints in National AI Strategies: A RoBERTa-Based Cross-Country Comparison”

“Winner Takes All? The Distributional Impact of IMF Privatization Conditionality” (with Natalya Naqvi)

“Who Receives IMF Anti-Corruption Measures? A Text Analysis of IMF Programs”
(with [Ayşe Kaya](#), Saliha Metinsoy and Bernhard Reinsberg)

“Populists and Global Economic Governance” (with Saliha Metinsoy & Sinan Akgünay)

“Good, Bad or Ugly? An Empirical Study of the Resort to Investment Arbitration”
(with Cédric Dupont and Thomas Schultz)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

“Global Competition, National Strategy: How States Frame Brain Drain in AI Policymaking” (with Simay Aydeniz and Mehmet Ali Demir)

BOOK PROJECTS

“Under Pressure: International Organizations in the Age of Migration” (with Albana Shehaj and Adrian J. Shin) (under review)

National AI Strategies and Inclusive Development: A Comparative Perspective on Global South (in progress)

“Comparative Study of IMF Lending in Southeastern Europe” (in progress)

HONORS & AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions IF-RI for 2020-2022, European Commission
2232 International Fellowship for Outstanding Researchers for 2019-2023, TÜBİTAK
Early Postdoc.Mobility Fellowship for 2016-2017, SNSF
Doc.Mobility Fellowship for the Academic Year 2013-2014, SNSF
Selected to receive the Albert Gallatin Fellowship for the Academic Year 2013-2014
Full Scholarship for the Academic Year 2010-2011, IHEID

TRAVEL GRANTS

Travel grant for the IPSA World Congress 2025, IPSA
Travel grant for the ISA Annual Convention 2025, ISA
Travel grant for “Timely Questions” Conference 2020, Harvard University
Travel grant for “IO Conditionality: One Size Fits All?” Workshop 2019, IBEI
Travel grant for “Immigration: Research Frontiers & Policy Challenges” Conference 2019, University of Pennsylvania
Travel grant for the APSA Annual Meeting 2019, APSA
Travel grant for the ISA Annual Convention 2019, ISA
Travel grant for the PEIO Conference 2018, SAGW
Travel grant for the APSA Annual Meeting 2017, APSA
Travel grant for the EPSA Conference 2017, SNSF
Travel grant for the PEIO Conference 2016, SAGW
Travel grant for the APSA Annual Meeting 2015, APSA
Travel grant for the ISA Annual Convention 2014, SNSF
Travel grant for the MPSA Annual Conference 2014, SAGW
Travel grant for the ISA Annual Convention 2013, SAGW
Travel grant for “Taking Stock: Ten Years of AKP Rule in Turkey” 2012, NYU

FUNDED RESEARCH

Primary investigator of the EU-funded research “An ML Approach to IFIs: Determinants of IMF Lending” (Fall 2020-Fall 2022)

Primary investigator of the TÜBİTAK funded research “IMF Decides, Machine Learns: An AI Approach to IOs” (Fall 2019-Fall 2022)

Primary investigator of the SNSF funded research “An Agent-Based Model of IMF Program Design: The Romanian Case” (P2GEP1_162058), (Spring 2016-Fall 2017)

Primary investigator of the SNSF funded research “A Two-Level Principal-Agent Model of IMF Lending” (P1GEP1_148387), (Fall 2013- Summer 2014)

Researcher for Cédric Dupont and Thomas Schultz’s academic project on “International investment arbitration: Neo-liberal straightjacket, promoter of domestic and international rule of law, both or neither?” (Fall 2014- Spring 2016)

Researcher for Cédric Dupont & Thomas Schultz’s academic project on “Political Risk and Arbitration: An Empirical Study 1972-2012” (Spring 2013)

Researcher Cédric Dupont’s academic project on “EU Bilateral Trade Negotiations Before and After Lisbon” (Fall 2012)

Researcher for Cédric Dupont and Manfred Elsig’s academic project on “Border Dynamics and International Organizations” (Spring 2012)

Researcher for Cédric Dupont’s academic project on “ASEAN as a Regional and Global Pivotal Player” (Fall 2011)

ORIGINAL DATA

IMF Executive Board Meeting Minutes Annotation: Collected from the IMF online archives, approximately 50,000 pages of digitized documents labelled for sentiment analysis, covering IMF Executive Board Meetings between 1978-2015

COVID-19 Tracking Apps: Global dataset on the features of COVID-19 Tracking Apps, covering apps released since the COVID-19 pandemic erupted in 2020.

TEACHING

Koç University

Digital Solutions for SDGs (Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2022)

Global Political Economy (Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020)

Introduction to International Development (Spring 2020)

Survival and Prosperity in an Interdependent World (Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021)

Introduction to Political Science (Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

Middle East Technical University

Introduction to International Development (Spring 2018)

IHEID

Advanced Statistics for IR, TA* for Eugène Horber (Spring 2013)
Political Science and International Affairs, TA for Thomas Biersteker (Fall 2012)
International Political Economy, TA for Cédric Dupont (Fall 2012, Fall 2011)
The Political Economy of the Crisis, TA for Cédric Dupont and Charles Wyplosz (Spring 2012)
Comparative Politics, TA for Ravi Bhavnani (Spring 2012)
*Teaching Assistant (TA)

ACADEMIC SUPERVISION

Thesis advisor of PhD candidate, Ara Ege Altınman, Political Science and International Relations Program, Koç University (dissertation in progress)

Thesis advisor of MA candidates Ece Irmak Kizilkaya, Ali Karahan Kaya, Political Science and International Relations Program, Koç University (theses in progress)

Thesis advisor of MA candidates, Hande Gursoy, Aybike Sahinoglu, Alp Unal Ayhan, Beyza Arslan, Anıl Şen, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (theses in progress)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Batuhan Hökelek, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2025)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Süleyman Barış Başaran, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2025)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Işık Topçu, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2025)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Gülce Elif Atabey, Political Science and International Relations Program, Koç University (awarded in 2024)

Thesis co-advisor of Ayça Deniz, PhD in Computer Engineering Department (awarded in 2023), Middle East Technical University

Thesis advisor of Elifnaz Yalçındağ, MA in Political Science and International Relations (awarded in 2022), Koç University

Thesis co-advisor of Beste Boğa, MA in Political Science and International Relations (awarded in 2020), Koç University

Selected Thesis Committee Duties

Ph.D. Committee Member of Sümeyye Kaya Uyar, Political Science and International Relations Program, Koç University (defended on Sept 20, 2023)

M.A. Committee Member of Kadir Cihan Duran, Political Science and International Relations Program, Boğaziçi University (defended on June 5, 2023)

Ph.D. Committee Member of Deniz Güngör, International Relations Program, Middle East Technical University (defended on April 5, 2023)

Ph.D. Committee Member of Sinan Akgünay, Political Science and Public Administration

Program, Middle East Technical University (defended on March 24, 2023)

Ph.D. Committee Member of Büşra Söylemez, Political Science and International Relations Program, University of Delaware (defended on July 12, 2021)

Other Supervision

Project advisor of Beyza Arslan and Anıl Şen for TÜBİTAK 2242 - University Students Research Project Competitions (ranked 2nd in the Education category, September 2021)

Supervision of Cathy Sun, Harvard College (01/11/2018 – 31/07/2019)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION AND SERVICES

2025: PEIO (P, D), ISA (P, C, R), IPSA (P, C, D), APSA (P)
2024: APSA (P), ISA (P, O, R), vIPES (C), PEIO (P, D), EWIS (P, O)
2023: APSA (P), vIPES (C), EWIS (P, C), CES (P)
2022: ISA (P, C), PEIO (P, D), APSA (P)
2021: ISA (P, R), PEIO (C), APSA (P, O), vIPES (C)
2020: PEIO (P); EPSA (P); APSA (P, O); IPES (P)
2019: APSA (P); EPSA (P); ISA (O, P, P, D); PEIO (P, D); vIPES (P)
2018: APSA (P, D); EPSA (P, D); IPSA (P, P); ISA (O, P); PEIO (P, D)
2017: APSA (C, C, D); EAEPE (P); EISA (P); EPSA (P); IPES (P); PEIO (P, D)
2016: EAEPE (P); PEIO (P, D)
2015: APSA (P, D); EPSA (P); IPES (P)
2014: IPSA (P, D); ISA (P); ECPR (P); MPSA (P, C, C)
2013: APSA (P); ISA (P, P); SVPW (P)
2012: APSA (P)

*Paper (P), Discussant (D), Chair (C), Panel Organizer (O), Roundtable Speaker (R)

**AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (APSA), EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR EVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL ECONOMY (EAEPE), ECPR (EUROPEAN CONSORTIUM FOR POLITICAL RESEARCH), EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (EISA), EUROPEAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (EPSA), INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ECONOMY SOCIETY (IPES), INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (IPSA), INTERNATIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION (ISA), MIDWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (MPSA), POLITICAL ECONOMY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (PEIO), SWISS POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION (SVPW)

Additional Conferences

Congresso Pensar o Século XX confirma oradores convidados, University of Coimbra, February 2023 (P)

11th International Conference on Political Economy (ICOPEC), June 26, 2020 (P)

Conference on "Taking Stock: Ten Years of AKP Rule in Turkey," NYU Politics Department, New York, December 16, 2012 (P)

Conference on "Inequality in Global Governance: Causes and Consequences of Unequal Representation and Decision-making in Global Governance Institutions," Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies, Leuven, November 8-9, 2011 (P)

SELECTED INVITED SEMINARS/ TALKS

Guest lecturer - Computer Engineering Design Course, Department of Computer Engineering, METU (virtual lecture), November 28, 2023

Speaker at GAEIA - Global Alliance for Ethics and Impact of Artificial Intelligence, Responsible Digital Transformation, Stanford University (virtual talk), November 22, 2022

Speaker at CIRR-IPE colloquium “Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers? The Distributional Effects of Privatization in IMF Programs”, University of Groningen, April 14, 2021

Speaker at the Summer Institute in Computational Social Science SICSS-Istanbul 2020, June 20, 2020

Speaker at the panel “The Future of Globalization after the Pandemic”, Bogazici University- TUSIAD Foreign Policy Forum, November 25, 2020

Speaker at the Summer Institute in Computational Social Science SICSS-Istanbul 2020, June 20, 2020

Presenter at the Alumni Conference on “Timely Questions,” Weatherhead Research Cluster on Comparative Inequality and Inclusion, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 6th, 2020

Presenter at the “IO Conditionality: One Size Fits All?” Workshop, IBEI, Barcelona, Spain, December 13, 2019

Presenter at the “Immigration: Research Frontiers & Policy Challenges Conference”, Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, October 4-5, 2019

Speaker at the seminar entitled “Does IMF conditionality lead to political illiberalism? A comparative South East European perspective,” The Political Economy of Financial Markets Programme (PEFM) and South East European Studies (SEESOX) of the European Studies Centre, University of Oxford, February 15, 2017

Roundtable workshop on “Turkey’s turmoil and the West’s conundrum,” SEESOX, St Antony’s College, University of Oxford, December 6, 2016

Talk on IMF conditionality, Department of International Relations, Bilkent University, Ankara, December 9, 2015

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Development Analytics (Research Associate)
American Political Science Association
European Consortium for Political Research
International Political Science Association
International Studies Association
Siyasi İlimler Türk Derneği

SOFTWARE PROFICIENCY

Java, Python, R, Stata, SPSS, EViews, L^AT_EX, NVivo, MAXQDA

**LINGUISTIC
SKILLS**

Turkish (native speaker), English (fluent), French (intermediate), Spanish & Italian
& Russian (basic), Abkhazian (passive knowledge)