Merih Angın

Associate Professor (Doçent) of International Economics

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

Koç University (KU), CASE
Rumeli Feneri Yolu
34450 Sarıyer, Istanbul / Turkey

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of IR & Computational Social Sciences Program, KU
Assistant Professor (September 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)

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

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

Center for Computational Social Sciences, Koç University
Vice Director (November 2022 – Present)

Computational Social Sciences Graduate Program, Koç University
Graduate Program Coordinator (September 2024 – Present)

KUIS Artificial Intelligence Center, Koç University
Board Member (May 2022 – Present)

GLODEM Center, Koç University
Board Member (April 2021 – Present)

Graduate School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Koç University
Board Member (September 2024 – Present)

Harvard Club of Turkey
Vice President (March 2026 – Present)

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 (Graduated with High Honour, CGPA: 4.00/4.00)
Thesis Title: "Turkish Experience in Privatization: The Privatizations of Large-Scale State-Economic Enterprises in the 2000s"
Thesis Committee: Pınar Bedirhanoğlu (thesis advisor), Galip Yalman (chair), Faruk Yalvaç (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

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Political Economy; Global Economic Governance; International Financial Institutions; International Development; International Organizations; Artificial Intelligence Governance; Computational Social Science; Agent-Based Modeling; Machine Learning; Natural Language Processing

BOOKS

"Leveraging Migration: International Organizations and the Politics of Distribution" (with Albana Shehaj and Adrian J. Shin), Columbia Studies in International Order and Politics, Columbia University Press (Forthcoming August 2027)

"Ziya Öniş'le Akademik Yolculuk, Kişisel Anılar ve Katkılar" *edited with Caner Bakır and Mustafa Yağcı*, Koç University Press (Forthcoming)

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"IMF Conditionality on Corruption: The Politics of Good Governance" *Regulation & Governance*, (2026): 1–19. DOI: 10.1111/rego.70169 (with Ayşe Kaya, Saliha Metinsoy and Bernhard Reinsberg)

"AI Strategies for Financial Inclusion and Gender Equality in MENAT: Evidence from Egypt, Turkey, and the UAE." *Global Finance Journal* 68, (2025): 101181 (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 Doğmazer)

"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 Bedirhanoğlu)

"Privatization Processes as Ideological Moments: The Block Sales of Large-Scale State Enterprises in Turkey in the 2000s." *New Perspectives on Turkey* 47 (2012): 139-167 (with Pınar Bedirhanoğlu)

BOOK CHAPTERS

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

"The Political Economy of Turkish Foreign Policy." 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 (2026): 195-217.

"IMF Program Tasarımının Etmen Tabanlı Modellemesi." In *Sosyal Veri Bilimi*,

edited by Akın Ünver. İstanbul Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları (2026): 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 Erdoğdu, Humberto Merritt, and Armida Concepcion Garcia. London: IJOPEC Publication Limited (2020): 113-130.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

"Sentiment and Context-Refined Word Embeddings for Sentiment Analysis." 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

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

FUNDED RESEARCH

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

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

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

Principal 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 for 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 Corpus (1978–2015): Original dataset comprising approximately 50,000 pages of IMF Executive Board meeting minutes manually annotated and processed for sentiment analysis and machine learning applications.

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.

UNDER REVIEW

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

WORKING PAPERS

"From Influence to Exit: The Evolution of US–WHO Relations"

"Sentiments of Power: Executive Board Discontent and IMF Lending Practices"

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

"Guardians of the Balance Sheet: Determinants of IMF Executive Board Sentiment" (with Michael Breen)

"Winner Takes All? The Distributional Impact of IMF Privatization Conditionality" (with Natalya Naqvi, and Şükrü Demirtaş)

"Populism and Economic Nationalism in the Global AI Race" (with Simay Aydeniz and Mehmet Ali Demir)

"Governing AI Talent: Problem Definitions and Policy Instruments in National AI Strategies" (with Simay Aydeniz and Mehmet Ali Demir)

"Grieving the Crisis: Emotional Impasses in Political Allegiance" (with Şevval Çakıcı and Emre Güzeldal)

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

BOOK PROJECTS

"Comparative Study of IMF Lending in Southeastern Europe" (in progress)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Koç University Institutional Responsibilities

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

Computer Engineering Faculty Search Committee, 2021

Other Institutional Responsibilities

Associate Editor, International Relations (February 2026 – Present)

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

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

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

Peer Reviewer

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

TEACHING

Koç University

Digital Solutions for SDGs (Fall 2026, Spring 2026, Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Fall 2022)

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

International Relations Capstone (Spring 2026)

Survival and Prosperity in an Interdependent World (Fall 2026, Fall 2025, Fall 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021)

Introduction to International Development (Spring 2020)

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

Thesis advisor of MA candidates Mehmet Boran Göksel, Şevval Çakıcı, Berke Elibol, Mehmet Bağdınlı, Yunus Emre Gündoğmuş ve Saliha Nur Gökçe, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (theses in progress)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Aybike Sahinoglu, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2026)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Esra Yaşar, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (thesis defended in 2026)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Beyza Arslan, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2026)

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Anıl Şen, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (awarded in 2026)

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

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

Thesis advisor of MA candidate Süleyman Barış Başaran, 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

M.A. Committee Member of Duygu Kaya, Computational Social Sciences Program, Koç University (defended on August 5, 2026)

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)

SELECTED INVITED SEMINARS/ TALKS

Speaker at the IMF Program Matters Seminar Series, International Monetary Fund (virtual talk), June 17, 2026

Speaker at Engineering Sustainable Futures with AI: Measuring, Monitoring, and Acting on Sustainability Data — UNESCO World Engineering Day for Sustainable Development, Koç University, March 4, 2026.

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

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

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION AND SERVICES

2026: PEIO (P, D), APSA (P, C)
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 Selected Conferences

AI for Democratic Politics Improving Campaigns, Strengthening Public Information, Supporting Citizen Participation: Democratic Expeditions Workshop 2026, Central

European University (CEU) Vienna, November 19-20, 2026 (P)

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)

TRAVEL GRANTS

Travel grant for "AI and Democratic Politics" Workshop 2026, CEU Vienna
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

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Development Analytics (Research Associate)
Global Relations Forum
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, LaTeX, NVivo, MAXQDA

LINGUISTIC SKILLS

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