

# Merve Keskin

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: International Relations, Political Violence, Conflict Processes, Conflict Management and Resolution, Peacebuilding, Peace Agreements, Negotiations, Bargaining, External Intervention.

Methodological: Quantitative Methodology, Mixed-Methods Approach, Spatial Analysis, Text Analysis, Survival Analysis, Network Analysis, Forecasting.

## EDUCATION

**University of Pittsburgh**, Pittsburgh, PA

Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science, expected 2025

- Fields: International Relations, Political Methodology
- Dissertation: The Logic and Consequences of Local Peace Agreements in Civil Wars
- Committee: Michael P. Colaresi (co-chair), Burcu Savun (co-chair), Jude Hays, Elizabeth Menninga (University of Iowa)

M.A, Political Science, 2021

**Koc University**, Istanbul, Turkey

M.A., International Relations, 2019

**Bogazici University**, Istanbul, Turkey

B.A., Political Science and International Relations, 2017

Study Abroad: **Keele University**, Spring 2015

## UNDER REVIEW

“A Rebel with a Sanction: UN Sanctions against Non-state Armed Groups and Civil Conflict Duration” *with Omer Zarpli*

“Competitive Intervener Dyad, Bargaining Failure, and Civil War Duration” *with Jungmin Han*

## WORKING PAPERS

“Mitigating Conflict Violence Locally: Local Peace Agreements in Civil Wars”

“The Logic of Local Peace Agreements in Civil Wars”

“Peace or Retribution? The Role of Territorial Control on Public Opinion Toward Peace”

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Mitigating Conflict Violence Locally: Local Peace Agreements in Civil Wars” Presented at ISA, 2024, and PennState-Pitt IR Workshop, May 1-2, 2024.

“Peace or Retribution? The Role of Warfare on Public Opinion Toward Peace in Colombia.” Presented at ISA, 2024.

“The Effects of Local Agreements on Violence Against Civilians in Civil Wars.” Presented at ISA, MPSA, APSA, Conflict Research Society, and Peace Science Society (International) Annual Meetings, 2023.

“The Logic of Local Agreements in Civil Wars” Presented at Analyzing Peace Processes Workshop, Goethe University Frankfurt, June 16-17, 2023 (virtual).

“The Effect of UN Sanctions on Rebel Group Performance in Civil Wars.” Presented at ISA Annual Meeting, 2023 and 12th Euroasian Peace Science Conference, 2024.

“Third-Party Intervention, International Rivalry, and Persistence of Civil Wars.” Presented at ISA and MPSA Annual Meetings, 2022.

“Bargaining Power? Decreasing Effect of Inter-State Closeness on Ethnonationalist Civil War.” Presented at ISA Annual Meeting, 2019.

RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Michael P. Colaresi; Pittsburgh, Summer 2023 - Spring 2024.  
Project: Tracking Horizontal Inequalities Across Dimensions to Forecast and Understand Instability (TriAD).

Research Assistant, Aala Abdelgadir; Pittsburgh, Fall 2023, Spring 2024.  
Data Collection.

Research Assistant, Michael P. Colaresi; Pittsburgh, Fall 2021, Spring 2022.  
Project: Parsing Unstructured Language into Sentiment-Aspect Representations (PULSAR).

Research Assistant, Max Goplerud; Pittsburgh, Summer 2021 - Spring 2022.  
Data Cleaning and Replication, Research on Survival Models.

Research Assistant, Belgin San-Akca; Istanbul, Spring 2018 - Summer 2019.  
Project: State-NAG Cooperation Dataset.

Research Assistant, Mert Arslanarp and Deniz Erkmen; Istanbul, Summer 2017.  
Project: Emergency Rule: Protest, Law and Authoritarian Consolidation in Contemporary Turkey.

Research Assistant, Resat Bayer; Istanbul, Summer 2016.  
Project: Correlates of War (COW) Diplomatic Missions Dataset.

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE

**University of Pittsburgh**, Pittsburgh, PA

*Instructor* **Summer 2022, Summer 2024**  
Introduction to International Relations

*Instructor* **Summer 2023**  
International Law and Problems of World Order

*Teaching Assistant* **Fall 2020, Spring 2021**  
Introduction to International Relations

*Guest Lecturer* **Fall 2023**  
Civil Wars, “Civilian Agency in Civil Wars”

*Guest Lecturer* **Fall 2021**

Civil Wars, "Participation and Recruitment"

**Koc University**, Istanbul, Turkey

*Teaching Assistant*

**Summer 2018**

Introduction to International Relations

*Teaching Assistant*

**Spring 2018**

Terrorism, Insurgency, and World Politics

*Teaching Assistant*

**Fall 2017**

International Relations Capstone

**Bogazici University**, Istanbul, Turkey

*Teaching Assistant*

**Spring 2016**

Introduction to Turkish Politics

**FELLOWSHIPS  
& GRANTS**

2023, Travel Grant, Peace Science Society (International)

2023, Travel Grant, American Political Science Association & Conflict Processes Section

2022-2023 Social Science Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh

2022, Travel Grant, Graduate Student Government, University of Pittsburgh

2022, 2023, Travel Grant, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences, University of Pittsburgh

2021, Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Summer Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh

2019, Travel Grant, International Studies Association

2018-2019, 2210/A National Scholarship Program, The Scientific and Technological Research Council

2017-2019, Full Scholarship for Master of Arts, Koc University

**SERVICE**

**Workshop Organization**

- Violence, Instability, and Peace (VIP) Workshop, Spring 2024, Fall 2024

**Departmental Service**

- Committee Member, Assistant Professor in IR Search Committee, Fall 2023
- Committee Member, Mellon Endowed Chair Search Committee, Fall 2021
- Graduate Student Representative, Political Science Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Political Science Graduate Student Mentor, Fall 2022, Spring 2023

**Discussant**

- "Third Parties and Conflict Actors," 2023 APSA Annual Conference

**Reviewer**

International Interactions

SKILLS

- Software: R, Python, ArcGIS, INCEpTION
- Languages: Turkish (native), English (fluent)

REFERENCES

Available upon request.

*Last updated: May 2024*