

Curriculum Vitae- RABİA KARAKAYA POLAT

Işık University
Department of International Relations
Şile, Istanbul

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Employment History

02/2016 –	Professor Işık University, Department of International Relations
September 2017-July 2018	International Visiting Fellow University of Essex, Department of Government
09/2010 – 02/2016	Associate Professor Işık University, Department of International Relations
05/2005 - 09/2010	Assistant Professor Işık University, Department of International Relations

Education and Qualifications

PhD (with full scholarship), De Montfort University, Department of Politics and Public Policy, Leicester, United Kingdom, September 2004

Thesis Title: The Internet, Local Participation and Democracy: An Institutional Approach
Supervisors: Prof. Lawrence Pratchett, Prof. Vivien Lowndes

BA (with Honors), Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, 1999
Department of Political Science and International Relations

Research Interests

- Critical discourse analysis with particular interest on discourses on refugees
- Local government narratives and policies on refugees
- Political implications of technology including online democracy, digital inequalities, control of the Internet, e-government, technological dimension of civil-military relations, digital authoritarianism
- Critical security studies, with particular interest on securitisation and desecuritisation

Citations & Metrics

Web of Science citations: 386
Google Scholar citations: 1578
Google Scholar H-index: 12
Google Scholar i10-index: 14
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4843-3011>

Articles in International Refereed Journals

(with Vivien Lowndes) "How Does Multi-Level Governance Create Capacity to Address Refugee Needs, and with What Limitations? An Analysis of Municipal Responses to Syrian Refugees in Istanbul", *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 35(1), pp: 51-73, 2022, **SSCI, Q1**

(with Vivien Lowndes) "How do Local Actors Interpret, Enact and Contest Policy? An Analysis of Local Government Responses to Meeting the Needs of Syrian Refugees in Turkey", *Local Government Studies*, 48(3), pp: 555-569, 2020, **SSCI, Q1**

"Religious Solidarity, Historical Mission and Moral Superiority: Construction of External and Internal 'Others' in AKP's Discourses on Syrian Refugees", *Critical Discourse Studies*, 15(5), pp: 500-516, 2018, **SSCI, Q1**

(With Ozlem Kayhan Pusane) "Technology and Politics: Have the ICTs Turned into a Domain for Civil-Military Relations in Turkey", *South European Society and Politics*, 21(3), pp: 301-318, 2016, **SSCI, Q1**

(with Lawrence Pratchett) "Citizenship in the Age of the Internet: A Comparative Analysis of Britain and Turkey", *Citizenship Studies*, 18(1), pp. 63-80, 2014, **SSCI, Q1**

(with Elif Cagli) "New Directions for Women's Political Development in Turkey: Exploring the Implications of the Internet for Ka-der", *Information Polity*, 19 (3-4), pp: 179-194, 2014. **ESCI, Q2**

"Digital Exclusion in Turkey: A Policy Perspective", *Government Information Quarterly*, 29(4), pp. 589-596, 2012, **SSCI, Q1**

"The 2007 Parliamentary Elections in Turkey: Between Securitization and Desecuritization", *Parliamentary Affairs*, 62(1), pp. 129-148, 2009, **SSCI, Q1**

(with Bulent Aras) "From Conflict to Cooperation: Desecuritization of Turkey's Relations with Syria and Iran", *Security Dialogue*, 39(5), pp. 475-495, 2008, **SSCI, Q1**

"The Kurdish Issue: Can the AK Party Escape Securitization", *Insight Turkey*, 10(3), pp. 75-86, 2008. **Q3**

(with Bulent Aras) "Turkey and the Middle East: Frontiers of the New Geographic Imagination", *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 61 (4), pp. 471-488, 2007, **SSCI, Q2**

(with Lawrence Pratchett and Melvin Wingfield) Local Democracy Online: An Analysis of Local Government Websites in England and Wales, *International Journal of e-Government Research*, 2 (3), pp. 75-92, 2006. **ESCI, Q3**

"The Internet and Political Participation: Exploring the Explanatory Links", *European Journal of Communication*, 20 (4), pp. 435-459, 2005, **SSCI, Q1**

"The Internet and Democratic Local Governance: The Context of Britain", *International Information and Library Review*, 37 (2), pp. 87-97, 2005, **Scopus, Q2**

Books and Book Chapters

(with Mete Yildiz) "A Critical Assessment of E-Government Practice in Turkey" in Z. Sobaci and M. Yildiz *E-Devlet: Kamu Yonetimi ve Teknoloji Iliskisinde Guncel Gelismeler* [e-Government: Recent Developments in Public Policy and Technology], Nobel Publishers, 2012, pp: 423-447 ([in Turkish](#)).

The Internet, Local Participation and Democracy: An Institutional Approach, Saarbrücken: LAP Lambert Academic Publishing, 2010.

"How Far away from the Politics of Fear: Turkey in the EU Accession Process" in Tunkrova, L. and Saradin P. (eds.) *The Politics of EU Accession: Turkish Challenges and Central European Experiences*, London: Routledge, 2010, pp. 58-71.

(with Lawrence Pratchett) 'e-Citizenship: Reconstructing the Public Online' in Durose C., Greasley, S. and Richardson, L. (eds), *Changing Local Governance, Changing Citizens?* Bristol: Policy Press, 2009, pp. 193-209.

(with Lawrence Pratchett and Melvin Wingfield) "Local Democracy Online: An Analysis of Local Government Websites in England and Wales" in Norris, D. (ed), *E-Government Research: Policy and Management*, University of Maryland: Baltimore County, USA, 2008, pp. 120-139.

"From Securitization to Desecuritization? The Impact of the EU Membership Process on Political Culture in Turkey" in Tunkrova, L. and Saradin, P. (eds.) *Turecko a Evropska Unie: Ceska a Turecka Perspektiva (Turkey and the European Union: Czech and Turkish Perspectives)*, Olomouc: Vydavatelstvi UP, 2007, pp. 109-127.

"The Internet and Citizen Participation: Exploring the Barriers to Reform in the Context of UK Local Government" pp. 261-287 in Reynaert, H., Delwit, P., Steyvers, K., Pilet, J.B., (eds), *Revolution or Renovation? Reforming Local Politics in Europe*, Vanden Broele: Brugge, 2005, pp. 261-287.

Research Awards and Experience

Işık University Research Grant, for project titled "The Role of Local Government in Integration and Cohesion Policies: An Analysis of Obstacles and Facilitators", April 2022- August 2023.

British Academy, Newton Advanced Fellowship, grant for project titled "Syrian Refugees in Turkey: Understanding Local Government Responses", September 2018-September 2021, co-Applicant Prof. Vivien Lowndes, University of Birmingham, £61,745.

University of Essex, International Visiting Fellowship, September 2017-July 2018.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Threshold award for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) Global fellowship application, 2016, €2000.

Işık University Research Fund, Research grant for the project titled: Ideological Positioning of Political Parties in Turkey "A Closer Look at the 2007 Elections", (with Dr. Odul Celep), September 2007 - December 2009, €5000.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Research grant for the project titled “The Political Cartoons: Means of Political Change and Modernization in Azerbaijan and Turkey”, (with Dr. Salih Bicakci), January 2007 – January 2008, €5000.

Işık University Research Fund, Research grant for the project titled “The Political Cartoons: Means of Political Change and Modernization in Azerbaijan and Turkey”, (with Dr. Salih Bicakci), March 2006 – January 2008, €5000.

The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK), Grant for organizing an international workshop on “e-Democracy: Rethinking Concepts and Methods”, 2006, €1500.

National Project on Local e-Democracy: Developing the e-Democracy Environment. Research commissioned by the **Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, UK** and carried out by Local Governance Research Unit, De Montfort University, 2003 - 2005, £4million (Project assistant).

Central European University, Budapest, Full scholarship to study ‘Globalization and Public Policy’ in the Summer School July 2004, sponsored by Open Society Institute.

European Consortium for Political Research Grant for attending Essex Summer School on Data Collection and Analysis, August 2003.

Project on Defining the Parameters of e-Municipality in Turkey. Commissioned by **Turkish Informatics Society**, Dec 2004 - Feb 2005, €1000.

De Montfort University, **ESRC PhD Bursary**, 2001 – 2004.

Conference and Workshop Presentations

Çok Katmanlı Yönetişim Bağlamında Adana’da Mültecilere Yönelik Anlatılar ve Uygulamalar [Narratives and Policies towards Refugees in Adana in the Context of Multi-Level Governance], Workshop organised by Adana Metropolitan Municipality, November 2021.

Göç Yönetiminde Belediyelerin Rolü: İstanbul’da Çok Katmanlı Yönetişim [The Role of Municipalities in Migration Governance: Multi-Level Governance in Istanbul], Hybrid seminar co-organised by Migration Research Center and Institut Français d’Etudes Anatoliennes, October 2021.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *A Multi-Level Governance Approach to Understanding Turkey’s Refugee Policy*, Paper presented at the 26th IPSA World Congress, July 2021.

Policy responses to Covid-19 Pandemic in Turkey and the UK: What role for local government? Paper for the 71st Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, Belfast, United Kingdom, March 2021.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *Türkiye’de Yerel Yönetimler ve Suriyeli Mülteciler: Bir Çok Katmanlı Yönetişim Yaklaşımı* [Local Government and Syrian Refugees in Turkey: A Multi-Level Governance Approach], Ulusaldan Küresele Popülizm, Demokrasi ve Güvenlik Konferansı, Işık Üniversitesi, 10-11 December 2020.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *Shifting Responsibilities ‘Down’, ‘Up’ and ‘Out’: A Multi-Level Governance Approach to Understanding Turkey’s Refugee Policy*, Paper presented at the Institute for Research into Superdiversity (IRIS), University of Birmingham, 3 November 2020.

A Critical Analysis of AKP's Discourse on Syrian Refugees in Turkey: Religion, History and National Identity, Paper presented at the 40th Congress of the German Sociological Association, 22 September 2020.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *How do Local Actors Interpret, Enact and Contest policy? Investigating Local Government Responses to Meeting the Needs of Syrian Refugees in Turkey*, Paper presented at Centre for Ideology and Discourse Analysis, University of Essex, 16 October 2019.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *Local Responses to Syrian Refugees in Turkey: A Multi-Level Governance Approach*, paper presented at "Unpacking the Challenges & Possibilities for Migration Governance", University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, 17-19 October 2019.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *How are local responses to Syrian Refugees in Turkey shaped by multiple and competing interpretations: A Multi-Level Governance Approach*, Paper for Understanding International Migration in the 21st Century: Conceptual and Methodological Approaches – 16th Annual IMISCOE Conference, Malmö University, Sweden, June 26-28, 2019.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *How are local responses to Syrian Refugees in Turkey shaped by multiple and competing interpretations within a multi-level context?*, Paper for the 69th Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, Nottingham, United Kingdom, April 2019.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *Exploring the Local Dynamics of Refugee Policy Frames in Turkey*, Paper presented at the workshop "Mixed Migration Flows and the Changing Dynamics of Migration Research", Şehir University, Istanbul, 15 December 2018.

(with Vivien Lowndes) *Investigating the spatial dynamics of refugee policy frames in Turkey*, Paper presented at the workshop "The framing of the 'migration crisis' cross-nationally: From problem definition to institutionalization (or not)", Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, 4-5 October 2018.

Claiming Moral Superiority: Construction of Internal and External 'Others' in AKP's Discourses on Syrian Refugees, Paper presented at Centre for Ideology and Discourse Analysis, University of Essex, February, 2018.

Historical Mission, National Pride and Moral Superiority: Construction of External and Internal 'Others' in AKP's Discourses on Syrian Refugees, Paper presented at METU-Kent Workshop on Population Movements in/from the Eastern Mediterranean, University of Kent, November 2017.

Discourses on Syrian Refugees in the Turkish Parliamentary Debates and Presidential Speeches, Paper presented at the Middle East and North Africa Research Cluster Annual Conference, Nottingham Trent University, May 2017.

(with Ozlem Kayhan Pusane) *How the Internet Has Turned into a Domain for Civil-Military Power Struggle in Turkey*, Paper presented at the 73rd Midwest Political Studies Association Conference, Chicago, April 2015.

(with Elif Cagli) *The Internet and Women's NGOs in Turkey: The case of Ka-der*, Paper presented at the 63rd Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, Cardiff, United Kingdom, April 2013.

The Implications of the Arab Spring for Turkish Foreign Policy in the Middle East, International Conference on "Iran, Turkey and the Arab Spring: Foreign Policy towards Recent Developments in the Middle East", University of Tehran, Center for Graduate Studies, May 2011.

(with Lawrence Pratchett) *Electronic Citizenship in Britain and Turkey: Rights, Responsibilities, Liberties*, Paper presented at the 69th Annual National Conference of Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, March 2011.

(with Lawrence Pratchett) *Citizenship in the Age of the Internet: A Comparative Analysis of Britain and Turkey*, Paper presented at the 60th Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, Edinburgh, United Kingdom, April 2010.

The European Union as a Desecuritizer: Securitization and Desecuritization of Turkey's Kurdish Question, Paper presented at the 58th Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, Swansea University, United Kingdom, April 2008.

Constitutional Dimension of the Parliamentary Elections in Turkey, Paper presented at Strategic Research Center, Tehran, December 2007.

Europeanization and Turkish Foreign Policy toward the Middle East: A process of desecuritization?, Paper presented at Middle Eastern Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montréal, Canada, November 2007.

Securitization and desecuritization: Assessing the impact of the EU membership process on political culture in Turkey, Paper presented at European Political Science Network Plenary Conference "Europe Integration and/or Fragmentation", University of Ljubljana, June 2007.

Europeanization in Turkey: Searching for Impacts on Foreign Policy, Paper presented at the European Political Science Network Plenary Conference "Europe In Context: Debating the Project, Central European University, Budapest, June 2006.

(with Lawrence Pratchett) *Enacting Electronic Democracy*, Paper presented at the 55th Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, University of Leeds, April 2005.

The Internet and Citizens' Participation: Exploring the Barriers to Reform, Congress on Political and Electoral Reforms at the Local Level, Universiteit Gent, Belgium, December 2004.

The Internet and Citizen Participation: How Institutional Environment Impacts upon the Strategy of a Local Authority? Paper presented at European Consortium for Political Research General Conference, Marburg, Germany, September 2003.

The Use of the Internet for Citizen Participation: Enhancing Democratic Local Governance? Paper presented at the Annual Conference of Political Studies Association, University of Leicester, United Kingdom, April 2003.

Political Participation at the Local Level: New Challenges in Researching the Impacts of the Internet, Paper presented at the Central and Northern Universities Graduate Network Conference, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, November 2001.

External Peer Recognition

Referee Services for Journals (alphabetical order)

British Journal of Political Science

Citizenship Studies

Information Polity

International Journal of Communication

International Journal of Electronic Government Research
International Journal of Inclusive Education
Journal of Global Analysis
Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies
Local Government Studies
Nationalities Papers
Parliamentary Affairs
Patterns of Prejudice
Public Administration: An International Quarterly
Public Management Review
Security Dialogue
South European Society and Politics
Territory, Politics, Governance
Turkish Studies
Urban Studies

Other

-Regular participant at project review panels of TUBITAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey), Social Sciences and Humanities Research Group
-Manuscript review for “Understanding Systems of e-Government: e-Federalism and e-Centralism in the USA and Kazakhstan” (Lexington Books), 2015
-Invited reviewer for Icelandic Research Fund; project titled “Digital divide: Internet access and use in Iceland”, 2013
-Member of e-Turkey Awards jury sponsored by Turkish Informatics Society, 2012-2015
-Member of Scientific Committee, International symposium on “Online political participation and its critics”, 2013, Paris, France
-Committee member for IADIS International Conference on “e-Democracy, Equity and Social Justice”, 2010, Freiburg, Germany

Research Impact (Media, Policy and Civil Society)

‘Thinking about the Earthquakes in Turkey: A Call for Local Democracy’, INLOGOV Blog, 05 April 2023.

‘Yıkımın Düşündürdükleri: Bir Yerel Demokrasi Çağrısı’, *Cumhuriyet*, 30 Mart 2023

Podcast on local refugee response in Turkey, Governance and Local Development Institute, University of Gothenburg, March 2023,
<https://shows.acast.com/63c7e44c24a7040010747819/episodes/navigating-crises-understanding-the-impact-and-road-to-recov>

‘Salgınla Mücadelede Bilimsel Yaklaşım: Sosyal Bilimlerin Rolü?’, [A Scientific Approach to Fighting against the Pandemic: The Role of Social Sciences?], *Panorama*, Online, 23 March 2021.

Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Vision 2050 Office, contributor to “Technology, Innovation and Smart Urbanism” section, January 2021.

(with Vivien Lowndes) No Powers, No Funds. How Municipalities Are Working Creatively to Address the Needs of Syrian Refugees in Turkey, *INLOGOV Blog*, 08 January 2021.

(with Vivien Lowndes) Why are Municipalities So Important for Syrian Refugees in Turkey? *Panorama*, Online, 24 November 2020.

'Devlet, Salgın ve Teknoloji' [The State, Pandemic and Technology], *Cumhuriyet Newspaper*, 31 March 2020.

Podcast on Digital Inequalities (in Turkish), available at <https://open.spotify.com/episode/1a1QEGA6c1HcEab5N3Oub7?si=Y-zhPMj4RhayqhVIC2fMZA>

'Turkey Resists Erdoğan on Social Media as Snap Election Approaches', *The Conversation*, 19 June 2018

'Refugee Code Week': mobilized university students to obtain basic coding and animation skills and teach these skills to local and refugee kids (sponsored by SAP in coordination with Işık Primary School and the Educational Volunteers Foundation of Turkey), September 2016.

'Vote and Beyond': mobilized political science students in the June 2015 and November 2015 elections to increase voter turnout and to act as unofficial observers in polling stations.

Organised and participated in election observation tours with political science students in Latvia, Hungary, the USA and Iran between 2008 and 2011, funded by USAID (United States Agency for International Development).

TV commentary on CNNTurk, 'Political Developments in Libya and the Public Protests in the Middle East', 23 February 2011.

"Beyond Local Elections: Local Government Reform in Turkey", *Today's Zaman*, 29 March 2009.

"AKP and the Kurdish Issue: What Went Wrong?" *SETA Policy Brief No: 14*, Ankara: SETA, 2008.

"Politics and the Internet: Observations from the US elections", *Hurriyet Daily News*, 15 December 2008.

"Is Turkish Big Brother Watching Us", *Turkish Daily News*, 03 June 2008.

"AKP and the Kurds: What Went Wrong", *Turkish Daily News*, 16 June 2008.

"E-Belediyecilik Kılavuzu: Yerel Yonetim Vatandas Etkilesimi", [A Guide for e-Municipality: Citizen-Local Government Interaction], TASAM, Istanbul, 2006 ([policy report in Turkish](#)).

(with Lawrence Pratchett and Melvin Wingfield) "Barriers to e-Democracy: Local Government Experiences and Responses", final report prepared for Office for the Deputy Prime Minister as part of National Project on Local e-Democracy, 2005.

(with Lawrence Pratchett) "e-Democracy in the UK" – country report in Trechsel, A., Kies, R., Mendez, F., and Schmitter, P. *Evaluation of the Use of New Technologies in Order to Facilitate Democracy in Europe: e-Democratising the Parliaments and Parties of Europe*, European Parliament, 2003.

Teaching Experience

Designed and delivered the following modules since 2005:

- Political Theory (3rd year compulsory)
- Public Policy (4th year compulsory)
- Comparative Political Systems (3rd year compulsory)
- Comparative Politics (2nd year compulsory)
- Introduction to Political Science (1st year compulsory)
- Internet and Politics (3rd year elective)
- Turkey-EU Relations (3rd year elective)
- European Union Politics (2nd year elective)
- Political Change and Modernisation (2nd year elective)
- Political Change and Modernisation in the Middle East (MA level)
- International Migration (MA level)

Invited short-term teaching at the following universities as part of international exchange programmes (including Erasmus):

- University of Milan (Italy), 2022
- Tec de Monterrey (Mexico), 2016
- Université Paris-Est Créteil Val de Marne (France), 2016
- Palacký University (Czech Republic), 2014
- University of Warsaw (Poland), 2012
- University of Tartu (Estonia), 2010
- Universidad de Granada (Spain), 2009

Professional Memberships

- Member of Political Studies Association, United Kingdom, 2002-
- International Officer of the Turkish Politics Specialist Group under the Political Studies Association, UK, 2019-2022
- Member of Turkish Political Science Association, 2010-
- Member of ECPR Standing Group on Internet and Politics
- Member of ECPR Standing Group on Local Government and Politics
- Member of ECPR Standing Group on Forms of Participation

Other Professional Activities

- Organiser and moderator of Işık University Graduate School Panel Series, September-December 2021
- Member of organizing committee and panel chair, 'Ulusalda Küresele Popülizm, Demokrasi ve Güvenlik', 10-11 December 2020
- Panel organiser and chair, 'Current Developments in Turkish Foreign Policy', 27 December 2016
- Conference co-organiser and panel chair, 'The New Middle East: Society, Politics, Economy', 24-25 March 2016
- Panel organiser, 'Syrian Crisis and Its Regional Repercussions', 10 December 2015

Managerial Responsibilities

Director, School of Graduate Studies, Işık University, July 2021-April 2022

Responsible for managing all graduate programmes; leading a team of 6 full-time officers and 25 academic programme coordinators; acting as part of the high management of the University; coordinating relations with all departments and relevant higher education bureaucracy; recruiting students at the national and international levels; leading curriculum and new programme development; organising panels, conferences, and other academic events.

Head, Department of International Relations, Işık University, October 2010-January 2020

Responsible for managing two undergraduate and two graduate programmes; leading a team of 8 full-time and 8 part-time faculty; responsible for maintaining relations with the management team; coordination with other departments; recruiting students for undergraduate and graduate courses; curriculum development and revision; advising students with joint degrees; meeting the requirements of the academic calendar; organising panels, conferences, and other academic events.

Other

Member, Senate of Işık University, 2021-2022

Member, Executive Board of Işık University, 2019-2021

Member, Executive Board of Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, 2010-

Member, Scholarships Committee, 2008-2017

Member, International Office Advisory Board, 2005-2017

Erasmus Coordinator, Department of International Relations, 2005-2012

Mentor, International Relations Student Club, 2015-

Languages

Turkish (native)

English (fluent)

Serbian (beginner)