

SERCAN CANBOLAT

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

Ph.D., Political Science Spring 2023
University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, USA

- **CGPA:** 4.1/4.0 (The top GPA score among the cohort)
- **Concentration:** International Relations and Comparative Politics
- **Dissertation:** Leadership Types and Organizational Formation of Violent Non-State Actors in the MENA: An Arabic Operational Code Approach

M.A., *Cum Laude*, International Relations Summer 2014
Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

- **CGPA:** 3.84/4.0
- **Concentration:** Foreign Policy Analysis and Middle Eastern Politics
- **Thesis:** Understanding the New Middle Eastern Leaders: An Operational Code Approach

B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, International Relations and European Union Spring 2011
B.A., *with Honors*, Economics [Double Major]
Izmir University of Economics, Izmir, Turkey

- **CGPA:** 3.98/4.0
- **Concentration:** International Relations, European Studies

Additional Training

Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS) Summer 2019
Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, USA
Kadir Has University, Istanbul, Turkey

- **Courses:** Machine Learning, Network Analysis, Automated Text Analysis, Survey Analysis, Experimental Design

Summer Academy in Political Psychology Summer 2018
International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP)
San-Antonio, Texas, USA

- **Courses:** Profiling Political Leaders, Survey Methods, Experimental Analysis, Formal Modeling, Psychology of Terrorism, Voting Behavior

Publications

▪ Book

1. “Leaders in the Middle East and North Africa: How Ideology Shapes Foreign Policy” With Ozgur Ozdamar. Cambridge University Press. Publication Date: August 17, 2023. It is available [here](#).

- Received International Studies Association (ISA) Foreign Policy Analysis Section’s *The 2023 Best Book in Foreign Policy Award*.

▪ Peer-reviewed Articles

1. “Understanding New Middle Eastern Leadership: An Operational Code Approach.” With Ozgur Ozdamar, Political Research Quarterly. Volume 71, Issue 1, p. 19-31. 2018.

2. “Elite Survival Strategies and Authoritarian Reversal in Turkey.” With Oksan Bayulgen and Ekim Arbatli, Polity. Volume 50, Issue 3, p. 333-365. 2018.

- Received the *Polity Prize* in 2018 from Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA), which is given to the best research article published in the journal's previous volume.

3. “Profiling Leaders in Arabic.” In A Forum Coding in Tongues: Developing Non-English Coding Schemes for Leadership Profiling, International Studies Review. Volume 11, Issue 4, p. 1049-1053. 2020.

4. “Profiling Leaders in Turkish.” With Ozgur Ozdamar and Michael D. Young. In A Forum Coding in Tongues: Developing Non-English Coding Schemes for Leadership Profiling, International Studies Review. Volume 11, Issue 4, p. 1045-1050. 2020.

5. “Understanding Political Islamists’ Foreign Policy Rhetoric in Their Native Language: A Turkish Operational Code Analysis Approach.” Project Highlighting Essay. American Political Science Association (APSA): Middle East and North Africa Section’s Annual Newsletter. Volume 3, Issue 1, p. 13-16. 2020. Available at <https://apsamenaorg.files.wordpress.com/2020/06/apsa-mena-politics-newsletter-spring-2020-1.pdf>

- Received the *2021 Margaret Hermann Award* from International Studies Association Midwest (ISA-MW), which is given for the best use of text analysis in leadership studies presented at the conference each year.

6. “Systemism, Foreign Policy Analysis and Political Forecasting: Exercises in Systematic Synthesis and Bricolagic Bridging.” With Sarah Gansen and Patrick James. Canadian Foreign Policy Journal. Volume 27, Issue 3, p. 404-434. 2021.

7. “Systemism and International Relations: How a Graphic Method Can Enhance Communication.” With Patrick James and Sarah Gansen. International Studies Review. Volume 25, Issue 2, p. viad013. 2023.

8. “Dominating the Superpower: A Bounded Rationality Approach to Nuclear Proliferation and Inhibition in the U.S. / North Korea Dyad” With Stephen B. Dyson. Uluslararası İlişkiler Dergisi (Journal of International Relations). Volume 20, Issue 80, p. 49-71. 2023.

▪ **Book Chapters**

1. “The Palestinian Resistance Literature: A Political Psychology Approach.” In *the Exiled Prophet Selected Short Stories by Naji Dhaher*, edited by Hazza Abu Rabia, p. 33-44. San Diego, CA: Cognella Press. 2019.

- Also published in Arabic: “الأدب الفلسطيني من منظور علم النفس السياسي” Book chapter in “النبي المهجر” edited by Hazza Abu Rabia, translated by Naji Dhaher p. 30-40. 2019.

2. “Historical Foundations of American Foreign Policy.” With Balkan Devlen. In *American Foreign Policy*, edited by Mustafa Aydin and Nejat Dogan, Chapter 2, p. 30-63. Eskisehir, Turkey: Anadolu University Press. 2020.

3. “Deciphering Deadly Minds in Their Native Language: The Operational Codes and Formation Patterns of Militant Organizations in the Middle East and North Africa.” In *Operational Code Analysis and Foreign Policy Roles: Crossing Simon’s Bridge*, edited by Stephen G. Walker and Mark Schafer, Chapter 4, p. 69-93. London: Routledge. 2021.

- Received the *2020 Margaret Hermann Award* from International Studies Association Midwest (ISA-MW), which is given for the best use of text analysis in leadership studies presented at the conference each year.

▪ **Book Reviews**

1. Adam Quinn. US Foreign Policy in Context: National Ideology from the Founders to The Bush Doctrine (Palgrave, New York, 2010), for *Journal of Turkish Weekly* (USAK/ ISRO), September 2010.

2. John. J. Mearsheimer. Why Leaders Lie: The Truth about Lying in International Politics (Oxford University Press, New York, 2011), for *Perceptions* 18, (Spring 2013): 226-229.

▪ **Manuscripts Under Review**

“Have Middle Eastern Leaders Learned from the Arab Uprising: An Arabic Operational Code Approach” (With Zaid Eyadat).

“Democratic Peace in Their Mind: The Operational Codes and Sentiments of Trump, Obama, and Johnson on Modern Democracies and non-Democracies.” (With Melike Kocacik and Evgeniia Shahin).

Works in Progress

“Leadership Types and Organizational Formation of Armed Non-State Actors: Empirical Evidence from Palestinian Territories.”

“Understanding the Two-Level Game in Political Islamists' Foreign Policy Rhetoric: A Novel Turkish Operational Code Analysis Approach.”

“Visualization and International Relations Studies in Turkey: How Systemism Can Enhance Dialogue and Cross-Pollination.” (With Birol Yesilada, Patrick James and Sarah Gansen).

“L’État, c’est moi? Operational Codes of the World’s Leaders against Their Representatives.”
(With Baris Kesgin and Leah Windsor).

“The Operational Code of World Leaders: A New Comparison Sample Using the United Nations General Debate Corpus 1970-2021.” (With Baris Kesgin and Leah Windsor).

Experience

Inaugural Director of Abrahamic Programs May 2023-Present
Post-Doctoral Research Associate in the Global Affairs Office
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

Visiting Scholar and Lecturer August 2021-Present
Department of Political Science
University of Connecticut, Stamford, CT

Acting Faculty Director August 2020-Present
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Global House, An Interdisciplinary Learning Community at UConn

Assistant to the Vice President for Global Affairs January 2020-Present
Program Specialist in the Office of Global Affairs
University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Steering Committee Member, The Abrahamic Programs at UConn

Lecturer August 2015-Present

- Fall 2016: Pols 1202 “Introduction to Comparative Politics,” Leading discussion sections (2 class hours a week)
- Spring 2017: Pols 1402 “Introduction to International Politics,” Leading discussion sections (3 class hours a week)
- Fall 2017: Pols 2998 “Political Issues: International Relations in the Movies” (Instructor of record)
- Fall 2015-Spring 2021: UNIV 1810 Introduction to Global Citizenship (Instructor of record)
- Spring 2018: Pols 1202 “Introduction to Comparative Politics,” (Instructor of record)
- Fall 2018: Pols 1202 “Introduction to Comparative Politics,” (Instructor of record)
- Spring 2019: Pols 1402 “Introduction to International Politics,” (Instructor of record)
- Fall 2021: Pols 1202 “Introduction to Comparative Politics,” (Visiting Lecturer at UConn-Stamford Campus)
- Fall 2021: Pols 1402 “Introduction to International Relations,” (Visiting Lecturer at UConn-Stamford Campus)
- Fall 2021: Pols 3202 “Comparative Political Parties and Electoral Systems,” (Visiting Lecturer at UConn-Stamford Campus)

Research Assistant July-August 2015

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Assisting Dr. Oksan Bayulgen with her new book project: collecting archival data on Turkish energy politics and analyzing literature on the political economy of reforms.

Data Analyst and Project Assistant

June 2015-July 2015

Fortuna Consulting Ltd., Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

- Participated in a research project at Fortuna Consulting Ltd., Bilkent University and assisted an American linguist, Doug Fuller (MA), and an IR professor, Dr. Ozgur Ozdamar, with developing Turkish Operational Code Analysis.

Research Assistant

August 2013-May 2014

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

- Assisted Dr. Ersel Aydinli with his new book project on Violent Non-State Actors, Ihsan Dogramaci Peace Foundation Center for Foreign Policy and Peace Research, Bilkent University

Teaching Assistant

February 2012-June 2014

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

- Fall 2012; Spring 2013; Fall 2013; Spring 2014: International Relations in Movies (Dr. Ozgur Ozdamar)
- Spring 2014: Foreign Policy Analysis (Dr. Ozgur Ozdamar)

Conference Participation

ISA: 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024

APSA: 2016, 2018

ASMEA: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020

ISA-Midwest: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

ISA-Hong Kong: 2017

ISPP: 2018

MPSA: 2015

SPSA: 2017

Invited Talks and Workshops

“Leaders in the Middle East and North Africa: How Ideology Shapes Foreign Policy”, Book Talk, Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs at Middlebury College, Vermont, USA, March 2024.

“Not Your Grandfather's Authoritarianism!: Neo-authoritarian Elite Strategies for Regime Survival in Russia and Turkey” with Oksan Bayulgen and Ekim Arbatli, Comparative Democratization Workshop, Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow, Russia, April 2016.

“Foreign Policy Analysis and Leaders in Foreign Policymaking” Yeditepe University, Department of Political Science and International Relations, March 2021.

“Leaders and Belief Systems in Foreign Policymaking” Izmir University of Economics, Department of Political Science and International Relations, April 2021.

“Leaders and Foreign Policy: Operational Code Analysis Approach” Izmir Katip Celebi University, Department of International Relations, May 2021.

“Understanding Deadly Minds in Their Native Language: The Operational Codes and Formation Patterns of Militant Organizations in the Middle East and North Africa” Kadir Has University, Department of International Relations, June 2021.

“What Makes Them Tick? Leaders and Belief Systems in Foreign Policymaking” Elon University, Department of Political Science, September 2021.

Professional Service

Guest Editor, Special Issue Titled “Visualization and International Relations in the Digital Age.” Journal of International Relations/Uluslararası İlişkiler (with Patrick James and Sarah Gansen), Winter 2024.

Member, Steering Committee on Abrahamic Programs for Academic Collaboration in the MENA Region, Global Affairs, University of Connecticut, September 2019-Present.

Member, The Inaugural Board of The Visual International Relations Project (VIRP), Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, University of Southern California, April 2022-Present.

Member, Summer Academy Steering Committee, International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), July 2018-Present.

Graduate Student Senator for Political Science Department, Graduate Student Senate (GSS), University of Connecticut, September 2016-Present.

Reviewer for the following journals/publishers: International Studies Quarterly, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Studies Review, International Studies Perspectives, Journal of Global Security Studies, Global Studies Quarterly, Democratization, Third World Quarterly, Journal of International Relations/Uluslararası İlişkiler, Mediterranean Politics, Routledge.

Awards and Honors

2023, ISA FPA Section’s Best Book Award, San Francisco, CA, USA

2021, ISA-Midwest Margaret P. Hermann Award, Saint Louis, MO, USA

2021, The University Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), University of Connecticut

2020, ISA-Midwest Margaret P. Hermann Award, Saint Louis, MO, USA

2020, Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA)

2019, ISA Travel Grant for 2019 Annual Meeting, Honolulu, HI, USA

2019, Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA)

2019, Dissertation Research Grant, Global Affairs, University of Connecticut

2019, Initiative on Campus Dialogues Fellowship (ICD), Humanities Institute, University of Connecticut

2019, Travel Grant, Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS) in Turkey, Sloan Foundation and Princeton University

2018, Polity Prize, Northeastern Political Science Association (NPSA), Philadelphia, USA

2018, Michael L. Dunphy Fellowship, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2018, Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA)

2018, Summer Predoctoral Fellowship, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2018, ISA Travel Grant for 2018 Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, USA

2017, Dissertation Field Research (in Turkey) Travel Grant, Global Affairs, University of Connecticut

2017, Research Grant, Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa.

2017, Getulio P. Carvalho Endowment in Political Science, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2017, Collaborative Faculty Research Grant (with Dr. Stephen Benedict Dyson), Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2017, ISA Travel Grant for 2017 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, USA

2016, Graduate Student Travel Grant for the 5th Annual Han-Jyun Conference, Political Science Department, State University of New York at Binghamton, New York, USA

2016, Grad Initiative Research Grant (with Dr. Stephen Benedict Dyson), Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2016, ASMEA Travel Grant for the 2016 Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., USA

2016, APSA Travel Grant for 2016 Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA

2016, Summer Predoctoral Fellowship, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2016, Travel Grant, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2016, ISA Travel Grant for 2016 Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, USA

2015, Summer Predoctoral Fellowship, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2015, Travel Grant, Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2015, ISA Travel Grant for 2015 Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, USA

2015, Collaborative Faculty Research Grant (with Dr. Oksan Bayulgen), Political Science Department, University of Connecticut

2014, ISA Travel Grant for 2014 Annual Meeting, Toronto, CA

2014, Fulbright PhD Scholarship and Grant for post-graduate studies in the US (Host Institution: University of Connecticut)

2014, *Cum Laude* in MA Program, Department of International Relations, Bilkent University

2011, Bilkent University Full Tuition Scholarship for Post-Graduate Studies

2011, *Magna Cum Laude*, Izmir University of Economics

2011, Completion of Double Major Program with Honors, Department of Economics, Izmir University of Economics

2006, Full Tuition Scholarship for Undergraduate Studies, Izmir University of Economics

Languages

Turkish (native), English (fluent), Arabic (advanced), French (beginner)

Computer Skills

R, Stata, Profiler Plus (XERF, TERF), SPSS, MS-Office, Open-Office, Linux

Professional Memberships

International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), 2018-Present

American Political Science Association (APSA), 2014-Present

International Studies Association (ISA), 2012-Present

References

Daniel Weiner | Vice President for Global Affairs and Professor of Geography | University of Connecticut, e-mail: dan.weiner@uconn.edu | 368 Fairfield Way, U-4182, Storrs, CT 06269.

Patrick James | Dornsife Dean's Professor of International Relations | University of Southern California, e-mail: patrickj@usc.edu | Los Angeles, CA 90089-0911

Stephen G. Walker | Emeritus Professor of Political Science | Arizona State University, e-mail: stephen.walker@asu.edu | Tempe, AZ 85287.

Zaid Eyadat | Vice President of International Affairs, Quality and Accreditation and the Director of the Center for Strategic Studies | The University of Jordan, e-mail: z.eyadat@css-jordan.org | 2V8F+76X, Queen Rania St, Amman, Jordan.

Stephen B. Dyson | Professor of Political Science | University of Connecticut, e-mail: stephen.dyson@uconn.edu | 365 Fairfield Way, U-1024, Storrs, CT 06269.

Oksan Bayulgen | Professor of Political Science and Department Chair | University of Connecticut, e-mail: oksan.bayulgen@uconn.edu | 365 Fairfield Way, U-1024, Storrs, CT 06269.