

Fırat Kimya

Boğaziçi University
Department of Political Science & International Relations,
34342 Bebek, İstanbul

Email : firat.kimya@bogazici.edu.tr

EMPLOYMENT

Boğaziçi University, Assistant Professor	2026–
Swarthmore College, Visiting Assistant Professor	2023–2026
University of Virginia, Lecturer	2022–2023
University of Virginia, Research & Teaching Assistant	2017–2022
Koç University, Research & Teaching Assistant	2015–2017

EDUCATION

- **University of Virginia** 2023
PhD in Political Science
- **Koç University** 2017
M.A., International Relations
- **Boğaziçi University** 2014
B.A., Political Science & International Relations
B.A., Psychology (Double Major)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

The Institute for Qualitative & Multi-Method Research Syracuse University	2022
--	------

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Founding member of the *İstanbul Siyaset Bilimi Cemiyeti*
Faculty Fellow for the Association for Analytic Learning about Islam and Muslim Societies (AALIMS)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS

Comparative Politics: Historical political economy, regime dynamics, party politics, political economy, and causal inference.
Regional interests: Ottoman Empire, Turkish Politics, Middle East Politics, and European Politics.

PUBLICATIONS

- Institutions and Economic Growth: Cases of China and India, *METU Studies in Development*, Vol 45, No 2, 2018.
- Political economy of corruption in Turkey: declining petty corruption, rise of cronyism?, *Turkish Studies*, 20:3, 351-376, 2019.
- Executive decrees, omnibus bills, and the politics of abusive constitutionalism, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, Vol. 24(4): 881-903, 2023. (with Abdullah Sait Özcan).
- Democratic transition and party polarization: A fuzzy regression discontinuity design approach, *Party Politics*, 30(4), 736-749, 2024. (with Ubeydullah Ademi).

- The Stability and Growth Pact’s “Escape Clause” and the Funding of the Refugee Crisis in the European Union *International Journal of Public Administration.*, 2024. (with James Savage).
- Local power play: the post-election repression and local governance, *Democratization*, 32(3), 706–737, 2024 (with Abdullah Sait Özcan).
- Political Economy of Budgeting under Autocratization, *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 2025 (with James Savage).
- From Transition to Diffusion: Impact of Democratic Transitions on Neighboring Party Politics, *Political Studies*, 2026 (with Ubeydullah Ademi).
- Representational Gaps and Movement Institutionalization: Contrasting Experiences of German Greens and PEGIDA, *Party Politics*, 2026

WORK UNDER REVIEW OR REVISION

- “The Omnipresent Sultan: Spying in the Late Ottoman Empire”
- “Repression and Party Formation”
- “The Transparency Dividend: Public Funding, Donor Disclosure, and the Quest for Electoral Integrity” (*R & R*)
- “Elite Networks and Personalized Rule” (with A. Sait Özcan and Ömer Faruk Yalçın).
- “State Capacity Paradox: Can State Expansion Empower Political Opposition?” (with Ömer Akyıldız).
- “Doğal Deneyler” (Book Chapter). (*R & R*)
- “Sosyal Bilimlerde Araştırma Yöntemleri” (**Book Project**), Editor. Under contract with Boğaziçi University Press. (*R & R*)

SELECT WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Repression, Party Formation, and Democratic Consolidation” (**Book Project**)
- “Elite Turnover in Dominant Parties” *Data collection phase*
- “Retreat and Reorientation: Territorial Losses and the State Building in the Late Ottoman Empire” (with Ömer Akyıldız), *Data analysis phase*.
- “City Councils and Local Governance” (with Abdullah Sait Özcan & Ömer Faruk Köktaş) *Data collection phase, supported by TÜBİTAK 3005 Grant*.
- “Electoral Alliances and Party Brand Dilution: Evidence from MENA Democracies” (with M. Tahir Kilavuz)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Book Review: Europeanisation, good governance, and corruption in the public sector: the case of Turkey, *Turkish Studies*, 21:5, 808-810, 2020.
- Authoritarian Legacies, Weakness of Political Parties, and Prospects for Tunisian Democracy, *Al Sharq Strategic Research*, 16 August, 2021.
- Democracy Promotion No Longer? Autocratic Diffusion and Economic Barriers to Democratic Consolidation in Tunisia, *Al Sharq Strategic Research*, 16 November, 2021
- Syrian Immigration in Turkish Party Politics, *Al Sharq Strategic Research*, 8 April, 2022
- Refugees like Us: Ukrainian Refugee Surge demonstrates double standards in refugee treatment, *Al Sharq Strategic Research*, 7 November, 2022.

GRANTS, AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

AALIMS Conference at MIT, Travel and Accommodation Grant (\$1,000)	2026
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye 3005 Grant, (\$20,00)	2024-2026
Swarthmore College Research and Travel Fund (\$10,000)	2023-2024
University of Virginia Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$20,000)	2022-2023
The Quandt International Research Fund (\$2,500)	2022
University of Virginia, Department of Politics, Departmental Fellowship	2017-2022
Al Sharq Strategic Research Associate Fellow	2021-2022
Dumas Malone Graduate Research Fellowship, University of Virginia (\$11,000)	2020-2021
Summer Research Grant, Department of Politics, University of Virginia (\$2,000)	2020
Travel Grant, Department of Politics, University of Virginia (\$4,000)	2017-2023
John Allan Love Scholarship	2018-2019
Koç University, Full Educational and Assistantship Scholarship	2015-2017
Koç University Research and Travel Grant (\$1,500)	2016
Erasmus Exchange Scholarship, Universität Hamburg (\$2,500)	Fall 2013
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye Undergraduate Fellowship	2009-2014

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & INVITED TALKS

AALIMS Conference	2026
Northeastern Political Science Association	2025
İSAR İhtisas Seminar	2025
Authoritarian Political Systems Group	2024
EISA	2024
APSA	2023
MPSA	2020, 2023
University of Virginia, Lansing B. Lee, Jr./Bankard Seminar in Global Politics	2022
University of Basel, MUBIT Doctoral Workshop on Contemporary Turkish Politics	2021
University of Edinburgh, Arab Transitions Project	2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, Boğaziçi University
Populism and Democracy
Selected Topics in Comparative Politics

Reading and Research in Comparative Politics (*Graduate*)

Visiting Assistant Professor, Swarthmore College

Democracy and Dictatorship

Middle East Politics

Politics Across the World

Politics, Markets, and Policy

Politics of Religion and Radicalism

Instructor, University of Virginia

Islam, Democracy, and Authoritarianism

Politics of the Middle East and North Africa

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

University of Virginia

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Politics of Western Europe, Politics of Modernity, and Graduate Seminar on Linear Regression.

Koç University

Graduate Seminar on Political Economy of Globalization, Comparative International Relations of Asia and Pacific, Introduction to Political Science, History of Turkish Republic.

SERVICE

To Discipline

Reviewer: *Democratization* (*x2*), *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Journal of Politics*, *Public Administration Review*, *The International Spectator*, *Turkish Studies*.

To Department

Honor Thesis Advisor, Swarthmore College

MA Program Coordinator (Boğaziçi University)

Editorial Board Member (Boğaziçi University Press)

Memberships

American Political Science Association, European International Studies Association, Midwest Political Science Association, Northeastern Political Science Association

LANGUAGE

English (fluent) and German (Intermediate - B1)

SOFTWARE

R, STATA, L^AT_EX, GIS (basic).