

Açelya Altun

Seattle, WA · altun@uw.edu · [LinkedIn](#)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Repression, violence, state terror, historical legacies, contentious politics, quantitative methods, machine learning, data visualization.

EDUCATION

- University of Washington**, Seattle, WA 2025 – Present
PhD in Political Science
Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Economy, Methodology
- Sabancı University**, Istanbul, Turkey 2023 – 2025
MA in Political Science
Advisor: Assist. Prof. Serkant Adigüzel
- Bogazici University**, Istanbul, Turkey 2017 – 2023
BA in Political Science and International Relations
Certificate in Film Studies

WORKING PAPERS

- Tracing Autocrats:** Rethinking Repertoire of Repression and Measurement
- Ione E. Curtis Graduate Research Grant (2026-2027)

DATA PROJECTS

- TRACE – Turkey Repression and Contentious Events Dataset (2013-2025)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Teaching Assistant**, University of Washington
Pol S 204: Introduction to Comparative Politics - Prof. Asli Cansunar Autumn 2025
Pol S 331: Middle East and North Africa - Prof. Asli Cansunar Winter 2026
- Teaching Assistant**, Sabancı University
SPS 102: Humanity and Society II 2023 – 2025

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Assistant**, Sabancı University Summer 2024
Conducted a literature review on late Ottoman and early Republican media as part of a research project carried out by Prof. Serkant Adigüzel.
- Research Assistant**, Sabancı University Summer 2024
Conducted data analysis using STATA to support Prof. Esra Durceylan Kaygusuz in studying generational attitudes toward women's workforce participation.
- Research Assistant**, Bogazici University Summer 2022
Carried out archival research from newspapers for Prof. Mert Arslanalp and Prof. Deniz Erkmen's research project on protests and mobile emergency bans in Turkey.

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Ione E. Curtis Graduate Research Grant, University of Washington	2026-2027
Graduate School Fellowship, University of Washington	Spring 2026
Graduate School Fellowship, Sabancı University	2023 – 2025
Undergraduate Fellowship, Bogazici University Foundation	2017 – 2022

SKILLS

Languages: Turkish (native), English (advanced), Persian (beginner)

Software: R, L^AT_EX, Stata, Python (beginner)

REFERENCES

Assoc. Prof. Asli Cansunar

Department of Political Science
University of Washington
cansunar@uw.edu

Assist. Prof. Serkant Adıgüzel

Department of Political Science
Sabancı University
serkant.adiguzel@sabanciuniv.edu

Prof. Mine Eder

Department of Political Science and
International Relations
Bogazici University
eder@boun.edu.tr

Assist. Prof. Mert Arslanalp

Department of Political Science and
International Relations
Bogazici University
mert.arslanalp@boun.edu.tr