ALI BALCI

Ortadoğu Enstitüsü, Sakarya Üniversitesi, Esentepe Kampüsü, Serdivan, Sakarya, 14187, Türkiye •
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EDUCATION

Sakarya University — Sakarya, Turkey
Ph.D., International Relations — 2010
Dissertation: *A Periodization of State Discourse in Republican Turkey: A Foucauldian Approach*

Sakarya University — Sakarya, Turkey
M.S., International Relations — 2004

Uludağ University — Bursa, Turkey
Bachelor, International Relations — 2002

The University of Manchester — Manchester, UK
Visiting Scholar — 2012

Columbia University — New York, US
Visiting Scholar — 2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sakarya University — Sakarya, Turkey
Course Convenor, International Relations — June 2010 - Present

At the undergraduate level, I have taught a wide variety of courses over the past 14 years, including International Relations, International Politics, Ethnic Conflicts and Resolution, International Relations Theories, and Turkish Foreign Policy.

At the graduate level, my teaching portfolio includes Theoretical Approaches to Turkish Foreign Policy, Postcolonial Studies, Poststructuralism, Ottoman International Order, and Research Methods. In addition to supervising MA theses, I have successfully guided six PhD students to graduation.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

High-level Leader Diplomacy
UN Security Council
Ottoman International Politics
Theories of International Relations
Turkish Politics
Research Methods

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2025 – 2028, Jean Monnet Chair, awarded by the European Union Commission (Total Grant 60.000€)
2023 – 2028, Election to TUBA (Turkish Academy of Science) Associate Membership
2025 – 2027, TÜBİTAK 3005, Research Grant in Innovative Solutions Research Projects Support Program in Social Sciences and Humanities, (1.000.000₺ / 25.000€ in March 2025)
2024 – 2025, Research Grant, Sakarya University's Scientific Research Projects Unit, Turkey (90.000₺)
2023 – 2024, TÜBİTAK 3005, Research Grant in Innovative Solutions Research Projects Support Program in Social Sciences and Humanities, (300.000₺ / 14.000€ in May 2023, budget is extended due to high inflation rates in Turkey)
2021 – 2021, Publication Performance Award in the Field of Social Sciences, Sakarya University
2019 – 2022, 2019 Outstanding Young Scientist Award, National Academy of Sciences of Turkey (TUBA) (60.000₺ + 12.000₺ for Supervised PhD students)
2018 – 2019, TÜBİTAK 1002, Research Grant in Short Term R&D Funding Program, (5.500€)
2015 – 2016, TÜBİTAK 2219-International Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (27.000€)
2015 – 2016, Research Grant, Sakarya University's Scientific Research Projects Unit, Turkey (7.700€)
2013 – 2013, Publication Performance Award in the Field of Social Sciences, Sakarya University
2011 – 2012, Turkey's Council of Higher Education, Postdoctoral Research Scholarship

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books in English

1. *The PKK-Kurdistan Workers' Party's Regional Politics: During and After the Cold War*, (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017)

Selected Books in Turkish

1. *Türkiye Dış Politikası, Aktörler, İlkeler ve Uygulamalar (Foreign Policy of Turkey: Actors, Principles, and Practices)*, Kronik Kitap, İstanbul, 2025 (9th Edition)
2. *Birleşmiş Milletler Güvenlik Konseyi: Eleştirel Bir Giriş (The United Nations Security Council: A Critical Introduction)*, İstanbul: İstanbul Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları, 2024
3. *Ortadoğu ve Postkolonyalizm (Middle East and Postcolonialism)*, Pınar Yayınları, İstanbul, 2018 (2nd Edition)
4. *Dış Politikada Hesaplaşmak: AK Parti, Ordu ve Kemalizm (Settling Up Through Foreign Policy: AK Party, Military and Kemalism)*, Etkileşim Yayınları, İstanbul, 2015
5. (With Şaban Kardaş) (Edt.), *Uluslararası İlişkilere Giriş: Tarih, Kavram, Konu ve Uygulamalar (Introduction to International Relations: History, Theory, Concept and Issues)*, Kure Yayınları, İstanbul, 2022 (16th Edition)
6. *Türkiye'de Militarist Devlet Söylemi 1960-1983 (A Militarist State Discourse in Turkey, 1960-1983)*, Kadim Yayınları, Ankara, 2011

Selected Journal Articles

1. Balcı, Ali, Hüsna Taş Yetim and Müberra Dinler, "The Power of Disrespect: Overt Impoliteness and Hierarchy in Leader-Level Diplomacy," *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 2026, 10.1177/13691481251407495
2. (With James D. Kim, Jonathan D. Moyer, Collin Meisel, Kylie McKee, Alexander Baturo, Byungwon Woo, Seulah Choi, Minseon Ku, Eric Van Rythoven, Marcus Holmes) "High-

level Leader Visits: A Promising Area of Study in IR," *International Studies Perspectives* 2025, DOI: 10.1093/isp/ekaf008

3. (With Bülent Aras) "Giving a Hand to Autocrats: Are Russia's High-Level Visits for Authoritarian Durability?" *Journal of Peace Research* 2025, DOI: 10.1177/00223433251318911
4. (With Rumeysa Köktaş) "Beyond Direct Contact: Reconceptualizing 'Acculturation' in Postcolonial Tunisia", *Third World Quarterly*, 2025, DOI: 10.1080/01436597.2025.2511862
5. (With Md Anisur Rahman) "Late Ottoman Order in India: How Indian Muslims Created an International Order out of a Falling Giant." *Alternatives* (2025): 03043754251340282.
6. "Drivers of Iran's Africa Engagement: An Analysis of High-Level Leadership Visits" *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 2024, DOI: 10.1177/00219096241291060
7. "Where Small Powers Travel? Understanding Jordan's High-level Diplomatic Visit Patterns", *Political Studies Review*, 23(4), 2025, DOI: 10.1177/14789299241279037
8. (With Abdüssamed Pulat) "Love Money or Fame? Determinants of Turkey's Leader Visits", *International Studies Quarterly*, 2024, DOI: 10.1093/isq/sqad104
9. "Do Gladiators Fight for Their Masters? Voting Behavior of the US-promoted UNSC Members in the Early Cold War", *PS: Political Science & Politics*, 56(1) 2023, Doi: 10.1017/S1049096522001019
10. (With Tuncay Kardas), "The Ottoman International System: Power Projection, Interconnectedness, and the Autonomy of Frontier Polities", *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, 51(3), 2023, 866-891
11. (With Furkan Halit Yolcu), "The Ruling Group Survival: Why Pakistan and Hungary Move Away from the US-led Order?", *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 19(1), January 2023, https://doi.org/10.1093/fpa/orac026
12. (With Emel Akcalı), "Enjoy Your New Region! The US Strategy of Shifting Turkey's Caucus in the UN Security Council in 1953", 2023, *Geopolitics*, 10.1080/14650045.2021.1969918
13. "Algeria in Declining Ottoman Hierarchy: Why Algiers Remained Loyal to the Falling Patron?", *Cambridge Review of International Affairs*, 35(3), 2022, 375-393 Doi: 10.1080/09557571.2020.1795082
14. "Controlling International Institutions: How the US Engineered UNSC non-Permanent Members in the Early Cold War", *Global Policy*, 13(2), May 2022, 259-270, Doi: 10.1111/1758 5899.13039
15. (With Talha İsmail Duman), "Muslim Solidarity in the UN General Assembly: Evidence from Elections of Rotating Members to the Security Council", *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 28(3), 2022, 330–354, Doi: 10.1163/19426720-02803001
16. (With Tuncay Kardaş, Yıldırım Turan, and İsmail Ediz), "When Doves Feed Hawks: Ottoman War Decision and European Powers toward the Crimean War", *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, 47(2), 2022, 67–83
17. "Bringing the Ottoman Order back into IR: A Distinct International Order or Part of an Islamic International Society?", *International Studies Review*, 10.1093/isr/viab031 23(4), December 2021, 2090–2107
18. (With Ayşenur Hazar), "Turkey in the UN Security Council during the Cold War: Elections, Voting Motivations and Alliance Commitments", *Middle Eastern Studies*, 57(2), 2021: 279-291
19. (With İbrahim Efe), "Exogenous Dynamics and Leadership Traits: A Study of Change in the Personality Traits of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan", *All Azimuth: A Journal of Foreign Policy and Peace*, 10(2), 2021, Doi: 10.20991/allazimuth.956105

20. (With Filiz Cicioğlu), "Turkey in the Discourse of European Far Right: The Uses and Abuses of Turkey's Membership Process for a Counter-Hegemony", *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, 28(1), 2020: 100-113
21. (With Tuncay Kardaş, İsmail Ediz, and Yıldırım Turan), "War Decision and Neoclassical Realism: The Entry of the Ottoman Empire into the First World War", *War in History*, 27(4) 2020: 643–669, Doi: 10.1177/0968344518789707
22. (With Talha İsmail Duman), "Turkey's Candidature to the UN Security Council Seat in 1948: Why the West's 'Favorite' Candidate Lost?", *Turkish Historical Review*, Volume 11, No 2, 2020, Doi: 10.1163/18775462-bja10017
23. "Writing the World into Counter-hegemony: Identity, Power, and 'Foreign Policy' in Ethnic Movements", *International Relations*, 31.4 (2017): 466-483
24. (With Yıldırım Turan), "Eleştirinin Sefaleti: Batı'dan 15 Temmuz Darbe Girişimini Okumak", *Bilig: Türk Dünyası Sosyal Bilimler Dergisi*, Sayı: 83, Bahar 2017: 53-77
25. (With Tuncay Kardaş), "Inter-societal Security Trilemma in Turkey: Understanding the Failure of the 2009 Kurdish Opening", *Turkish Studies*, 2016, 17(1): 155-180
26. "The Kurdish movement's EU policy in Turkey: An analysis of a dissident ethnic bloc's foreign policy", *Ethnicities*, 15.1 (2015), pp. 72-91
27. "Foreign Policy as Politicking in the Sarikiz Coup Plot: Cyprus between the Coup Plotters and the AKP", *Middle East Critique*, Volume 21, Issue 2, 2012, pp. 157-170
28. (With Tim Jacoby), "Introduction: Ergenekon, Progression and Regression?", *Middle East Critique*, Volume 21, Issue 2, 2012, pp. 137-144
29. (With Tuncay Kardas), "The Changing Dynamics of Turkey's Relations with Israel: An Analysis of 'Securitization'", *Insight Turkey*, April-June 2012, Volume 14, Number 2, pp. 99-120
30. "'Dış Politika': Yeni Bir Kavramsallaştırma Bağlamında Egemenlik Mitinin Analizi", (Foreign Policy: An Analysis of the Myth of Sovereignty in the Context of a New Conceptualization), *Uluslararası İlişkiler*, Volume 7, Number 28, Winter 2011
31. "A Trajectory of Competing Narratives: Turkish Media Debates Ergenekon", *Mediterranean Quarterly*, Volume: 21, No: 1, Winter 2010, pp. 76-100
32. "The Alliance of Civilizations: The Poverty of the Clash/Alliance Dichotomy?", *Insight Turkey*, Volume 11, Number 2, April-June 2009, pp. 95-108
33. (With Nebi Mis), "Turkey's Role in the 'Alliance of Civilizations': A New Perspective in Turkish Foreign Policy?", *Turkish Studies*, Volume: 9, Number: 3, September 2008, pp. 387-406
34. "Diskors ve Pratik Olarak Dış Politika", (Foreign Policy as Discourse and Practice) *Uluslararası İlişkiler*, No: 15, Volume 4, Fall 2007
35. (With Murat Yeşiltaş), "Turkey's New Middle East Policy: The Case of the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Iraq's Neighboring Countries", *Journal of South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies,* 2006, 29(4): 18-37.
36. (With Murat Yeşiltaş), "Bir Dış Politika Aracı Olarak Dış Yardım: Japonya Örneği" (Foreign Aid as a Tool of Foreign Policy: The Case of Japan), *Uluslararası İlişkiler,* 2006, 2(8): 167-199

Selected Book Chapters

1. Balcı, Ali, "Bir Güvenlik Sorunu Olarak Yönetici Elitin Bekasi 2010 Sonrasi Türkiye'nin ABD ve Rusya ile Değişen Ilişkilerini Açıklamak" (The Ruling Elite's Survival as a Security Issue: Explaining the Changing Relations of Post-2010 Turkey with the US and Russia), Umut Kedikli ve Gökhan Telatar (Editörler), *Bölgesel Güvenlik Sorunları Ekseninde Türkiye*, Ankara: Nobel Yayınları, Eylül 2021, 13-28

2. "Al-Ghazālī, Ibn al-Arabī and Global IR: A Sufi Re-reading of Knowledge-Power Nexus", Deepshikha Shahi (Editor), *Sufism: A Theoretical Intervention in Global International Relations*, London: Rowman & Littlefield, 2020, 23-40
3. "*Stratejik Derinlik*'te Kemalizm ile Hesaplaşmak" (Settling Up with Kemalism in *Strategic Depth*"), Talha Köse, Ahmet Okumuş, and Burhanettin Duran (der.), Stratejik Zihniyet: Kuramdan Eyleme Ahmet Davutoğlu ve Stratejik Derinlik (Strategic Mind: From Theory to Practice in Ahmet Davutoğlu and *Strategic Depth*), Istanbul: Küre Yayınları, 2014
4. "1990 Sonrası Türk Dış Politikası Üzerine Bazı Notlar: Avrupa Birliği ve Kıbrıs Örneği", (Some Notes on Turkish Foreign Policy after 1990: The Case of European Union and Cyprus), *Türkiye'nin Değişen Dış Politikası* (Changing Foreign Policy of Turkey), Cüneyt Yenigün ve Ertan Efegil, Nobel Yayınları, İstanbul, 2010, ss. 87-99
5. (With Kemal İnat), "Dış Politika: Teorik Perspektifler" (Foreign Policy: Theoretical Perspectives), *Uluslararası Politikayı Anlamak: Ulus-devletten Küreselleşmeye* (Understanding International Politics: From Nation-State to Globalization), ed. Zeynep Dağı, Alfa Yayınları, İstanbul: February 2007, pp. 212-287

PRESENTATIONS

1. "Deciphering Tehran's Pursuit in Africa: A Study of Iran's Leader-Level Diplomatic Engagements", The 17th EISA Pan-European Conference on International Relations, The Université catholique de Lille, Lille, France, 27-31 August 2024.
2. "Küçük Ülkeler Nereye Gider: Ürdün Üst Düzey Liderlerinin Ziyaret Motivasyonları", Siyasi İlimler Türk Derneği, III. Ulusal Siyaset Bilimi Kongresi, Yeditepe Üniversitesi, İstanbul, 28-29 Eylül 2024.
3. "Explaining Turkey's High-Level Foreign Visits: Identity, Interests, and Regional Status Concerns", 16th Pan-European Conference on International Relations, Potsdam, Germany, 5-9 September 2023
4. "Türkiye'nin Üst Düzey Lider Ziyaretleri: Hangi Ülkelere Neden Gidiyorlar?", Siyasi İlimler Türk Derneği, II. Ulusal Siyaset Bilimi Kongresi, Bilkent Üniversitesi, Ankara, 7-8 Ekim 2023
5. (With Talha İsmail Duman), "Muslim Solidarity in the Elections of Rotating Members to the Security Council", *26th IPSA World Congress of Political Science*, 10-15 July 2021, The WC2021 Virtual Platform
6. (With Tuncay Kardaş), "Turkish IR Needs its Empire: The Empirical Riches of Ottoman Empire for Theorizing IR", 6th All Azimuth Workshop: "Think Global Act Local: The Globalization of Turkish IR", November 6-7, 2021, Ankara: Bilkent University, Online
7. "A Sufi Alternative to Causation: In Search of a Method for Studying Power/Knowledge in International Relations", Workshop: "Sufism as an Alternative Philosophical Foundation for a Global International Relations Theory", Kate Hamburger Kolleg/Center for Global Cooperation Research, 16-17 October 2017, Dusiburg, Germany
8. "Fighting Over the Kurdish Regional Government: How Northern Iraq Turned into a Battlefield Between the AKP and the Military", *Inside, Outside: 10 Years of the AK PARTY Government Revisited*, Istanbul Sehir University, 31 May - 1 June 2013, İstanbul, Turkey
9. "Kurdish Movement's EU Policy in Turkey: Opportunities and Constraints of a Neoclassical Realist Approach", Global Studies Association 11th International Conference, July 5-7th, 2012, Manchester Metropolitan University, the UK
10. "The Kurdish Movement's Policy towards the USA: An Understanding of a Dissident Power Block's Foreign Policy in Turkey", Contemporary Turkish Studies at a Glance -

Topics, Institutions and Future Perspectives, October 13&14, 2012, Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey

11. "Securitization and Foreign Policy: Cyprus between the Coup Plotters and the JDP", *Third Global International Studies Conference*, 17-20 August 2011, University of Porto, Portugal
12. "Turkish-Israeli Relations within the Context of Civil-Military Relations in Turkey", *World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies*, Barcelona, July 19th – 24th 2010

INVITED TALKS & LECTURES

1. "Where Do They Go and Why: Leader Diplomacy in Turkish Foreign Policy", Haydar Aliyev Center for Eurasian Studies, Ibn Haldun University, İstanbul, 27 April 2024.
2. Opening Speech, "Osmanlı Uluslararası İlişkileri: Bir Araştırma Ajandası", İLEM 2023-2024 Açılış Konferansı, Üsküdar Gençlik Merkezi, İstanbul, 14 Ekim 2023

EDITORIAL POSITIONS & REVIEW RECORD

1. Turkish Journal of Middle Eastern Studies, (Editor, 2018-2021)
2. Insight Turkey, (Assistant Editor, 2016-2018)
3. Ortadogu Analiz, bimonthly magazine in Turkish, (Editor between 2014-2017)
4. Ortadogu Yilligi, (Assistant Editor, 2005-2014)

In addition to my editorial experience, I have a strong record of peer reviewing for leading journals in international relations, political science, and area studies. I have completed over 70 verified peer reviews for prestigious outlets (WoS data), including Third World Quarterly (13 reviews), Foreign Policy Analysis (7), Turkish Studies (5), International Studies Quarterly (4), Security Dialogue (4), and among others. My review work spans a diverse set of journals covering global security, diplomacy, Middle East studies, and ethnicity and migration.