

Burak Giray | TU Munich

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EMPLOYMENT

Technical University of Munich

Postdoctoral Researcher at the Munich School of Politics and Public Policy's
Chair of European and Global Governance

Munich, Germany

May 2024 - Present

Hertie School

Postdoctoral Researcher at the Centre for International Security

Berlin, Germany

February 2023 - April 2024

Uppsala University

Visiting Researcher at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research

Uppsala, Sweden

March 2023 - February 2024

University of Houston

Research Assistant at the Hobby School of Public Affairs
Teaching Assistant at the Department of Political Science

Houston, Texas

August 2021 - December 2022

August 2017 - July 2021

EDUCATION

University of Houston

Ph.D. in Political Science

Houston, Texas

Fall 2022

Dissertation: "UN Peacekeeping Operations: Conflicting Interests and Effectiveness"

Committee: J. Tyson Chatagnier (Chair), Patrick Shea, Nikolay Marinov, J. Michael Greig

Social Sciences University of Ankara

M.A. in International Relations

Ankara, Turkey

Spring 2016

Çankaya University

B.A. in Translation Studies & Double Major in Political Science

Ankara, Turkey

Spring 2014

University of Valencia

Erasmus Exchange in English Language and Literature

Valencia, Spain

Spring 2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

UN Peacekeeping Operations • Conflict and Peace Processes • International Organizations • Causal Inference and Research Design • Computational Social Science

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- Giray, Burak and J. Tyson Chatagnier. (2024). Election Accomplished: Democracies and the Timing of Peacekeeper Drawdowns. *Political Research Quarterly*, 77(1), 3-16. DOI: 10.1177/10659129231190614.
- Giray, Burak. (2024). Do UN Missions Have an Expiration Date? Ideational Commitment to UN Peacekeeping and the Length of Missions. *International Peacekeeping*, 31(1), 1-28. DOI: 10.1080/13533312.2023. 2246362.
- Giray, Burak. (2023). Ideational Commitment to UN Peacekeeping and Effectiveness. *International*

Interactions, 49(3), 372-400. DOI: 10.1080/03050629.2023.2184813.

- Giray, Burak. (2022). Public Support for UN Missions and Attacks on Peacekeepers: Evidence From the Democratic Republic of the Congo. *Peace Economics, Peace Science and Public Policy*, 28(4), 305-332. DOI: 10.1515/peps-2022-0028.

WORK UNDER REVIEW

- "Winning Peace Indirectly: UN Peacekeepers' Security Activities as a Driver of Local Support", *invited to R&R at Global Studies Quarterly*
- "Introducing UNPAPS: A Dataset on United Nations Peacekeeping Activities and Public Services", *Under review*
- "From Field to Feed: Troop-Contributing Countries in the Spotlight of UN Social Media", *Under review*
- "Repaying Debt with Land: Debt Diplomacy, Domestic Politics, and Land Transactions" (with Jonas Bunte and Patrick Shea), *Under review*

WORK IN PROGRESS

- "Out of Sight, Out of Rights? Digital Responses to Protests in Democratic Territorial Possessions" (with J. Tyson Chatagnier)
- "Calibrating Voices in the Modern Agora: Dynamics of Online Self-Censorship in Turkey" (with Ilker Kalin)
- "UN Peacekeeping on Social Media: Strategic Communication with Local and International Audiences" (with Lisa Hultman)
- "The Composition of Peacekeepers and the Timing of Post-Civil War Elections"

POLICY REPORTS

- Argüelles, Maria P. Perez, Savannah L. Sipole, Karen Banda, Gail Buttorff, Renee Cross, **Burak Giray**, Jim Granato, Mark Jones, Samad Karimov, Richard Murray, Pablo M. Pinto, Bob Stein, Agustín Vallejo, and M. C. Sunny Wong. (July 25, 2022). *Social Vulnerability & Natural Disasters: 5 Years after Hurricane Harvey*. Hobby School of Public Affairs Report.
- Argüelles, Maria P. Perez, Gail Buttorff, Renee Cross, **Burak Giray**, Jim Granato, Mark Jones, Richard Murray, Pablo M. Pinto, Savannah L. Sipole, Bob Stein, Agustín Vallejo, and M. C. Sunny Wong. (August 25, 2022). *The Storm that Changed Houston: Reflections on Houstonians' Preparedness and Resiliency on Hurricane Harvey's Fifth Anniversary*. Hobby School of Public Affairs Report.

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

- "The Future of Peace Operations and Military Interventions", Swedish Defense University, Stockholm, Sweden. November 29-30, 2023.
- Guest Lecture, "Troop-Providers' Primary Interests and UN Peacekeeping Effectiveness", United Nations Student Association of Barcelona, Spain. November 27, 2023.
- "Civilian Dimension of Peacekeeping and Human Rights Promotion", Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. November 23-24, 2023.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS

- 13th Annual Conference of the Leibniz Institute for East and Southeast European Studies (IOS), 2026, (Paper)
- Annual Workshop of the Working Group "Empirical Methods in Peace and Conflict Research" of the German Association for Peace and Conflict Studies (AFK), 2025 (Paper)
- 24th Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, 2025 (Paper)
- Annual Meeting of ISA International Studies Association, 2025 (Paper)
- Annual Meeting of EPSA European Political Science Association, 2024 (Paper)
- 12th Eurasian Peace Science Conference, 2024 (Paper)
- Annual Meeting of MPSA Midwest Political Science Association, 2023 (Paper)
- Southern Workshop in Empirical Political Science, 2022 (Poster)
- Annual Meeting of SPSA Southern Political Science Association, 2022 (Paper), 2019 (Paper), 2018 (Paper)
- Texas Triangle International Relations Conference, 2021 (Paper), 2019 (Paper)
- Annual Meeting of APSA American Political Science Association, 2019 (Paper)
- Third Annual Tartu Conference on Russian and East European Studies, 2018 (Paper)

TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations • Comparative Politics • International Organizations • International Security
• Civil War & Terrorism

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Technical University of Munich

Munich, Germany

Lecturer

- Module (SOT86705) - Disruptions in Governance and Technology, Summer 2024 (G), Summer 2026 (G)
 - Civil Conflict and Peace Operations in Times of Disruption
- Module (SOT86707) - International Security, Winter 2024 (G), Summer 2025 (G), Winter 2025 (G)
 - Theoretical Understanding of Interstate and Intrastate Conflicts
 - Conflict Resolution Strategies for Peace
- Module (SOT86100) - Global Governance, Winter 2025 (G)
 - Decoding Global Politics: Text as Data in International Relations
- Module (POL60701) - Digital Transformations in Europe, Winter 2024 (G)
 - Textual Data Analytics in EU Contexts

Hertie School

Berlin, Germany

Lecturer

- GRAD-E1450, Origins of Conflict and Pathways to Peace, Spring 2024 (G)

University of Houston, Department of Political Science

Houston, Texas

Lecturer

- POLS 3389, European Union Politics, Spring 2021 (U)

Laboratory Assistant

- POLS 6481, Quantitative Methods II, Spring 2020 (G)
- POLS 3316, Statistics for Political Scientists, Spring 2020 (U)
- POLS 6480, Quantitative Methods I, Fall 2019 (G)

Teaching Assistant

- POLS 4343, Causes and Politics of War, Spring 2019 (U)
- POLS 3313, Introduction to International Relations, Spring 2018 & Fall 2018 (U)
- POLS 6332, Formal Models in International Relations, Fall 2018 (G)
- POLS 3331, American Foreign Policy, Fall 2017 & Spring 2018 (U)

SERVICE

- Thesis Supervision
 - Julia Pia Walter, Master's thesis, *in progress*
 - Johannes Boss, Bachelor's thesis, *in progress*
- Referee [Web of Science researcher profile]
 - *Journal of Politics*
 - *International Peacekeeping*
 - *Conflict Management and Peace Science*
 - *International Journal of Strategic Communication*
- Discussant
 - Workshop on Conflict Dynamics, October 9-10, 2024, Technical University of Munich, Raitanhaslach, Germany
 - SPSA 2022, Panel: International Conflict and Security
 - The Junior Scholars in International Security (JSISE) Workshop, January 31, 2023, *Online*
- Professional Memberships
 - Network of European Peace Scientists (NEPS)
 - Standing Groups on International Relations, and Critical Peace and Conflict Studies at the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)
 - Peace Research Community Europe (PEACE), COST Actions

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Technical University of Munich, Leonhard Lorenz-Stiftung, 2025, €3,150
- Technical University of Munich, HfP Seed Funding for Outstanding Postdoctoral Projects, 2025, €5,300
- The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) "Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience" (PRIME) Fellowship 2023/24
 - Remuneration at TV-L E13 pay scale
 - A monthly overseas bonus of €1,728 (Sweden phase)
- University of Houston, Graduate Tuition Fellowship, Spring 2017 - Fall 2022
- University of Houston, the Cullen Graduate Student Success Fellowship (CGSSF), 2021, \$500
- APSA Travel Grant, 2019, \$250
- The Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2018, \$300
- University of Houston, PhD Scholarship Student Excellence, Fall 2016, \$1,000

- Çankaya University, Undergraduate Tuition Fellowship

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- Survey Design, ECPR Methods School (virtual), March 24-28, 2025
- STaRT@Rice (Statistical Training and Research Techniques), Rice University, October 7-11, 2022
- CIRTl Associate Level, Summer 2022
- CIVICA Data Science Summer School, July 9-30, 2021
- Text Mining, Scraping and Sentiment Analysis with R, Udemy, 2021
- Data Manipulation with Dplyr in R, Udemy, 2021
- Text Analysis, University of Houston, 2020
- Data Analytics for Public Policy, Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston, 2020

KEY SKILLS

Programming Language	R for Statistical Computing, STATA
Languages	English (Fluent), Turkish (Native), Spanish (Intermediate), German (Lower Intermediate)

REFERENCES

Available upon request

Last updated April 21, 2026.