

Alev Çınar

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Political Science and Public Administration
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CURRENT POSITION (ends on 31 Aug. 2024)

Professor, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University, Turkey

EDUCATION

- 1991-1998 Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Pennsylvania
Dissertation Title: *Bodies, Places and Time: Islamic Visibilities in the Public Sphere and Contestations of Secular Modernity in Turkey*
- 1994-1988 M.A. in Sociology, Boğaziçi University, Turkey
- 1980-1983 B.A. with Honors in Psychology, Boğaziçi University, Turkey

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021-2024 H2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions/IF-Global Fellowship.
Project (no. 894197): *The Islamic Intellectual Field and Political Theorizing in Turkey: Toward an Anthropology of Political Thought.* <https://islampolthoughtinturkey.com/>
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/894197>;
Total Budget: €255,943.68.
- 2015-17 TUBITAK (Turkish Scientific and Technological Research Association) 1001 Grant.
Project (no.115K283): *The Production, Dynamics and Key Concepts of Current Islamic Political Thought in Turkey: Civilization, Justice and Order.*
Total Budget: approx. 100,000.00 USD
- 2012-13 Membership, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ.
Project: *The Particularism of Political Theory: Globalized Intellectual Traditions meet Islamic Knowledges in Turkey.*
- 2005 Sept. Fulbright Visiting Specialist, Bryn Mawr College, PA
Program on Direct Access to the Muslim World
- 2003-04 Social Science Research Council,
International Collaborative Research Grant from the Program on MENA
Project: *Icons, Images and Ideologies of Religion and Nation: Secularism, Religious Nationalism and the Public Sphere in Comparative Perspective*
Total Budget: 15,000.00 USD
- Fall 2001 Ford Associateship in Global Women's Studies, The Five College WSRC,
Project: *Gender and Images of Women in Turkish Cinema: Negotiations of Modernity, Nation and Citizenship.*
Total Budget: 15,000.00 USD
- 2001/2002 German and American Young Scholars' Institute Fellowships, Summer Workshops on
"Public Spheres and Muslim Identities," Institute for Advanced Study, Berlin
Project: *The Constitutive Function of the Public Gaze: Building the Perimeters of the Public Sphere around Islam and Secularism in Turkey*
- 1998-99 Mellon/Sawyer Postdoctoral Fellow, Project on Cities and Urban Knowledges,
International Center for Advanced Studies, New York University
Project: *The Use of Public Space in the Making of National Identity in Turkey*
- 1997-98 Women's Studies Dissertation Writing Grant,
School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania, PA

- 1995-96 Dissertation Research, United States Institute of Peace Scholarship Dissertation Grant, Project Title: *Clothing, Social Space and National History: Negotiations of Modernity, Nationalism and Secularism in Turkey*. Total Budget: 15,000.00 USD
- 1995 Ford Foundation Grant, Dissertation Proposal Development Grant for Summer Research
- 1991-92 Fulbright Grant for Ph.D. students, Institute of International Education

OTHER AWARDS

- 2017 Boğaziçi University, Siyaset Bilimi Üstün Ergüder Araştırma Ödülü (Üstün Ergüder Research Award in Political Science)
- 2008 Distinguished Teacher Award, Bilkent University, Ankara

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intellectual foundations of politics and political institutions; the decolonization of political thought; decoloniality; political thought in Turkey; the Islamic intellectual field in Turkey; Islamic thought; political Islam; nationalism and nation building; modernity, citizenship, nation-building, secularism, and Islam in Turkey; subject formation; gender, citizenship and state power; patriarchy and state-building; urban space and politics.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

- Alev Çınar. *Islam Theorizes Politics: The Predicament of Islamic Epistemic Localism in Turkey*, in preparation.
- Alev Çınar and Gizem Zencirci (ed). 2024. "Debating Civilization in the Islamic Intellectual Field in Turkey: The Search for Local Authenticity" *Turkish Studies*, in preparation as a Special Issue.
- Alev Çınar, Srirupa Roy and Maha Yahya (ed.). 2012. *Visualizing Secularism and Religion: Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey, India*. Michigan: University of Michigan Press.
- Alev Çınar and Thomas Bender (ed.). 2007. *Urban Imaginaries: Locating the Modern City*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press.
- Alev Çınar. 2005. *Modernity, Islam and Secularism in Turkey: Bodies, Places and Time*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. (Based partly on Ph.D. dissertation)

Journal Articles:

- Alev Çınar. 2024. "Historicizing Religion: Civilizationism in the Islamic Intellectual Field in Turkey." *Turkish Studies*, in preparation as part of a Special Issue.
- Alev Çınar. "Islam Theorizes the Political: Epistemic Nativism and the Emergence of the Islamic Intellectual Field in Turkey" in preparation.
- Alev Çınar and Seçkin Büyücek. "Modernity, (Im)morality and Love: The Rise of Cultural Decoloniality in Turkish Cinema" under revision.
- Alev Çınar. 2021. "Güneş Sokak, Kadın ve "Beyaz Türk" Denen Kâğıttan Bebek." [Günes Street, Woman and the Paper Doll called "White Turk"] *Feminist Tahayyül*, 2(2): 273-297. http://www.feministtahayyul.com/?page_id=2156
- Alev Çınar. 2019. "Negotiating the foundations of the modern state: the emasculated citizen and the call for a post-patriarchal state at Gezi protests." *Theory and Society*, 48(3), 453-482.
- Alev Çınar and Hakkı Tas. 2017. "Politics of Nationhood and the Displacement of the Founding Moment: Contending Histories of the Turkish Nation," *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, 59(3), 657–689.
- Alev Çınar. 2011. "The Justice and Development Party: Turkey's Experience with Islam, Democracy, Liberalism and Secularism" *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, 43, 529–541.

- Alev Çınar. 2010. "Globalism as the Product of Nationalism: Founding Ideology and the Erasure of the Local in Turkey" *Theory, Culture and Society*. 27 (4), 90-118.
- Alev Çınar. 2008. "Subversion and Subjugation in the Public Sphere: Secularism and the Islamic Headscarf" *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*. 33 (4), 891-913.
- Alev Çınar. 2006. "Secularism and Islamic Modernism in Turkey" *Etnografica*.10 (1), 85-96.
- Alev Çınar and Burak Arıkan. 2002. "The Nationalist Action Party: Representing the State, the Nation or the Nationalists?" *Turkish Studies*. 3 (1), 25-40.
- Alev Çınar. 2001. "National History as a Contested Site: The Conquest of Istanbul and Islamist Negotiations of the Nation" *Comparative Studies in Society and History*. 43 (2), 364-391. (Based on Ph.D. dissertation)
- Alev Çınar. 2001. "Cartel'in Rap'i, Melezlik ve Milliyetçiliğin Sarsılan Sınırları" *Doğu Batı*. 4 (15), 141-151.
- Alev Çınar. 1999. "Cartel: The Travels of German-Turkish Rap Music" *MERIP (Middle East Report)*. 29, 43-44.
- Alev Çınar. 1997. "Refah Party and The City Administration of Istanbul: Islamism, Localism and Hybridity," *New Perspectives on Turkey*. 16, 23-40.

Book Chapters:

- Alev Çınar and Beyza Çubukçu. 2024. "İslam Siyaset Düşüncesinde Erkekliğin ve Erkin Aşk Üzerinden İnşası: Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." [The Construction of Masculinity and Power through Love in Islamic Political Thought: Necip Fazıl Kısakürek], in *Adam Olmak: Türkiye Düşünce Tarihinden Kesitler*, ed. Akyüz et.al. İletişim Yayınları forthcoming.
- Alev Çınar. 2019. "İslamcı Dergilerde Siyasal Düşüncenin Üretimi: Siyasi Kuram-İslamî Düşünce İlişkisi." [The Production of Political Thought in Islamist Journals: The Relationship Between Political Theory and Islamic Thought], in *Bir Başka Hayata Karşı: 1980 Sonrası İslamcı Dergilerde Meseleler, Kavramlar ve İsimler - Cilt 2: Tarih, Siyaset, İktisat*, ed. Lütfi Sunar, 2:183-211. İstanbul: Konya Büyükşehir Belediyesi Kültür Yayınları.
- Alev Çınar. 2018. "Siyasette Adil Rekabetin Üç Ayağı Olarak Devlet, Siyasi Partiler ve Toplum" [State, Political Parties and Society as the Three Pillars of Political Competition] in *Siyasette Adil Rekabetin Koşulları ve Sorunları – Sempozyum Tebliğleri*, ed. Erdal Türkkan, Ankara: Rekabet Derneği Yayınları.
- Alev Çınar. 2016. "Kentler," [Cities] in *Dünden Bugüne Türkiye - Tarih, Politika, Toplum ve Kültür*, ed. Metin Heper and Sabri Sayarı, İstanbul: Bilgi Üniversitesi Yayınları, 391-406.
- Alev Çınar. 2014. "State Building as an Urban Experience: The Making of Turkey's Capital City," in *Power and Architecture: The Construction of Capitals and the Politics of Space*, ed. Michael W. Minkenberg, New York: Berghahn Books, 227-260.
- Alev Çınar. 2012. "Cities" in *The Routledge Handbook of Modern Turkey*, eds. Metin Heper and Sabri Sayarı, New York: Routledge, 303-314.
- Alev Çınar, Srirupa Roy and Maha Yahya. 2012. "Introduction: Religious Nationalism as a Consequence of Secularism" in *Visualizing Secularism and Religion: Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey, India*, eds. Alev Çınar, Srirupa Roy and Maha Yahya. Michigan: Univ. of Michigan Press.
- Alev Çınar. 2012. "Subversion and Subjugation in the Public Sphere: Secularism and the Islamic Headscarf" in *Visualizing Secularism and Religion: Egypt, Lebanon, Turkey, India*, eds. Alev Çınar, Srirupa Roy and Maha Yahya. Michigan: Univ. of Michigan Press.
- Alev Çınar and Ergun Özbudun. 2008. "Mesut Yılmaz" in *Türkiye'de Liderler ve Demokrasi*, eds. Metin Heper, Sabri Sayarı. Çev. Zuhâl Bilgin. İstanbul: Kitap Yayınevi Ltd., 206-226.
- Alev Çınar and Thomas Bender. 2007. "Introduction - The City: Experience, Imagination, and Place" in *Urban Imaginaries: Locating the Modern City*, eds. Alev Çınar and Thomas Bender, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, xi-xxvi.
- Alev Çınar. 2007. "The Imagined Community as Urban Reality: The Making of Ankara," in *Urban Imaginaries: Locating the Modern City*, eds. Alev Çınar and Thomas Bender, University of Minnesota Press, 151-181.

Alev Çınar and Ergun Özbudun. 2002. "Mesut Yılmaz: From Özal's Shadow to Mediator" in *Political Leaders and Democracy in Turkey*, eds. Metin Heper and Sabri Sayarı, Lexington Books, Lanham, Maryland, 181-198.

Alev Çınar and Burak Arıkan. 2002. "Nationalist Action Party: Representing the State, the Nation or the Nationalists?" in *Political Parties in Turkey*, eds. B. Rubin & M. Heper, Frank Cass Publ., 25-40.

RECENT LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, WORKSHOPS

"Historicizing Religion: Civilizationism in the Islamic Intellectual Field in Turkey." *New Civilizationism Network Workshop*, Organized by Stanford University and Göttingen University, location: Beirut, Lebanon, May 30, 2024 – June 2, 2024.
<https://thecivilizationismproject.sites.stanford.edu/>

"100th Anniversary of the Republic: Political Thought and Islam in Turkey (Cumhuriyet'in 100. Yılında: Türkiye'de Siyasi Düşünce ve İslam)." *100th Anniversary Talks*, Dept of Political Science, Bilkent University, 30 April, 2024.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nN2YsVyy5aA&t=1621s>

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey: Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *Global Studies Colloquium Series*, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA. 10 May 2023.

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey: Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *History of Consciousness Speaker Series*, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, USA. 2 May 2023.

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey: Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *The AbuSulayman Center for Global Islamic Studies Guest Lecture*, George Mason University, VA, USA. 26 April 2023.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Qw2uKnHrnk>

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey: Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *Center for Middle Eastern Studies*, University of California Berkeley, CA, USA. 19 April 2023.

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey: Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *The Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies and the Anthropology Department*, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA. 18 April 2023.

"The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality in Turkey Sufi Political Thought and the "Great East" Project of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek." *POLS Talks*, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. 14 March 2023.

"Mapping Islamic Political Ideologies in Turkey." *Keck Lunch Talk*, Keck Center for International and Strategic Studies, Claremont McKenna College, CA, 25 Feb. 2022.

"Türkiye'de İslami Siyasi İdeolojiler [Islamic Political Ideologies in Turkey]" *Sivil Siyaset Grubu Sohbetleri* [Autonomous Politics Group Talks], 24 December 2021.

"Türkiye'de İslami Siyasi Düşünce Çalışma Grubu [Islamic Political Thought in Turkey]" Study Group Meetings as part of H2020 MSCA-IF-GF Project titled *The Islamic Intellectual Field and Political Theorizing in Turkey*, Presentations on 3-15 March 2021, 9-23 Sept. 2021.

"Islamism vs. Islamic Conservatism: Civilizationism as a Constitutive Principle of Conservative Thought" *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington DC/Online only, USA, 5-17 Oct. 2020.

"Siyasette Adil Rekabetin Üç Ayağı Olarak Devlet, Siyasi Partiler ve Toplum" [Three Pillars of Fair Competition in Politics: State, Parties and Society] *Siyasette Adil Rekabetin Koşulları ve Sorunları Sempozyumu*, Rekabet Derneği, Ankara, 22 Sept. 2018.

"İslamcı Dergilerde Siyasal Düşüncenin Üretimi: Siyasal Kuram-İslami Düşünce İlişkisi" [The Production of Political Thought in Islamic Journals: The Relationship Between Political Theory and Islamic Thought] *1908'den Günümüze İslamcılık Düşüncesi ve Dergiler*, 3. İslamcı Dergiler Sempozyumu, İLEM (İlmi Etüdler Derneği), İstanbul, 20-22 April 2018.

“Toward an Anthropology of Political Theory: The Islamic Intellectual Field and the Reemergence of Political Theorizing in Turkey” *Middle East Studies Association Conference*, Washington, DC, USA, Nov. 18-21, 2017.

Alev Çınar and Meral Uğur Çınar, “Foundations of the Modern State: Patriarchy and its Subversion at Gezi Protests,” presented at the *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Philadelphia, USA, September 1-4, 2016.

“Courtroom Scenes and the Infantile Citizen: The Significance and Role of Yeşilçam Cinema in the Formation of Citizenship in Turkey” *İpek University Seminar Series*, 28 April 2016

“Bringing the Ottoman Back in: The New Role Model of Turkish Modernity at the Turn of the Century” *Middle East Studies Association Conference*, Denver, CO, USA, Nov. 21-25, 2015

“Locating Political Theory: Merging of Western Intellectual Traditions with Islamic Thought” *Middle East Studies Association Conference*, Washington DC, USA, Nov. 22-25, 2014.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 2013-2024 Professor at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Bilkent University, Turkey.
- 2021-23 Visiting Research Scholar, Anthropology Department, Stanford University, CA, USA.
- 2013-16 Chair at the Department of Political Science and P.A., Bilkent University, Turkey.
- 2012-13 Member, Institute for Advanced Study, School of Social Sciences, Princeton, NJ, USA.
- 2011-12 Professor and Chair at the Department of Political Science and International Relations, Mugla University, Turkey.
- 2010-11 Research Fellow, Department of Political Science, Bilkent University, Turkey.
- 2009-10 Associate Professor, Department of International Relations and the European Union, Izmir University of Economics, Izmir, Turkey.
- 1999-2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science Bilkent University, Turkey.
- 2005 Sept. Visiting Professor as Fulbright Specialist, Bryn Mawr College: Modern Middle Eastern Cities.
- Fall 2001 Visiting Faculty, Women’s Studies Department, Uni. of Massachusetts at Amherst.
- June 1996 Assistant Media Coordinator, United Nations Development Project Habitat II United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Istanbul, Turkey.
- 1994-96 Instructor, International Politics International Relations Department, University of Pennsylvania.
- 1992-94 Teaching Assistant, International Politics Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania.
- 1988-91 Free-lance Translator/Interpreter, Turkish Radio and Television, Istanbul.
- 1987-88 Reporter and Researcher, Research Department, *Hürriyet* (newspaper), Istanbul.

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Organized panel session titled “The Predicament of Islamic Epistemic Delinking: Hegemony and Critique in Contemporary Islamic Thought in Turkey” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, All Virtual Event, November 11-16, 2024.

Organized panel session titled “The Predicament of Islamic Decoloniality: Hegemony and Critique in Contemporary Islamic Thought in Turkey” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Montreal, Canada, 1-4 Nov. 2023. {**postponed** by MESA to the 2024 annual conference due to rejection of visa applications of the panelists}

Organized panel session titled “Civilizational Thought in the Islamic Intellectual Field in Turkey” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Denver, Colorado USA, 2-4 Dec. 2022.

Organized panel session titled “Current Debates in Islamic Political Thought in Turkey: Conservatism, Progressivism and Critical Modernism” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington DC/Online only, USA, 5-17 Oct. 2020.

Organized Workshop titled “Türkiye’de Güncel İslami Siyasi Düşünce” as part of Tubitak 1001 Sponsored Project titled *The Production, Dynamics and Key Concepts of Current Islamic Political Thought in Turkey: Civilization, Justice and Order*. Ankara: Bilkent University, 4 November 2017.

Organized panel session titled “Provincializing Political Theory: Islamic Intellectuals and the Production of Knowledge in Turkey” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington DC, USA, 18-21 Nov. 2017.

Organized panel session titled “Where Does the Intellectual Stand? Politics, Islam, Nationalism and Knowledge Production in Turkey” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Washington DC, USA, 22-25 Nov. 2014.

Organized panel session titled “Experiencing the Turkish State: Mourning, Marking, Remembering” at the *Middle East Studies Association Annual Conference*, Boston, USA, 17-21 Nov. 2006.

Organized international workshop titled *Secularism, Religious Nationalism, and the Public Sphere in Comparative Perspective*, 15-17 October 2004, in Bilkent University.
<http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/academic/crts/act5.html> .

Organized panel session titled “Discourses of Secularism and Religious Nationalism in Comparative Perspective” at the *American Political Science Association Annual Conference*, Philadelphia, USA, 28-31 August 2003.

Initiated and organized international conference titled *Locating the City: The Idea, Place, Politics, and Everyday Practice of the Urban*, held in Antalya, Turkey, 7-10 May 2001
<http://www.bilkent.edu.tr/bilkent/academic/crts/act2.html>.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- State and Power (graduate seminar)
- Politics, Nation, Race and Gender (graduate seminar)
- Politics and Society in Turkey (senior seminar)
- Politics of Turkish Modernization (graduate seminar)
- Contemporary Issues in Turkish Politics (senior seminar)
- The Public Sphere (graduate seminar)
- Nationalism and Citizenship in Comparative Perspective (senior seminar)
- The National, Gendered, Public Subject (graduate seminar)
- Introduction to Political Science I, II (two-semester freshmen level)
- Comparative Politics I & II (two-semester junior level)
- Transdisciplinary Senior Project

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- *International Journal of Middle East Studies* Editorial Board Member (2014-2017)
- *Middle East Report* (MERIP) Editorial Committee member (1998-1999)
- Ad-hoc reviewer for *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, *Current Anthropology*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *History and Memory*, *International Journal of Islamic Architecture*, *International Journal of Middle East Studies*, *International Journal of Turkish Studies*, *International Politics*, *Nations and Nationalism*, *New Perspectives on Turkey*, *South European Society and Politics*, *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, *Theory & Society*, *Theory Culture and Society*, *Turkish Studies*.

ASSOCIATIONAL and other AFFILIATIONS

- The New Civilizationism Network, <https://thecivilizationismproject.sites.stanford.edu/>
- Middle East Studies Association (intermittent)
- American Political Science Association (intermittent)
- American Anthropological Association (intermittent)

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in Turkish and English

SUPERVISED Ph.D. DISSERTATIONS (Completed):

- Talha Köseoğlu, *Identity versus Morality: Conceptions of Islam, Modernity and Politics in the Writings of Necip Fazıl Kısakürek and Nurettin Topçu*, Ph.D., ESBE, Bilkent University, 2021.
- Korhan Mühürçüoğlu, *The Alla Franca Dandies: Modern Individuality in The Late 19th Century Ottoman Society*, Ph.D., ESBE, Bilkent University, 2018.
- Chien Yang Erdem, *Ottomentality: Neoliberal Governance of Culture and Neo-Ottoman Management of Diversity in Turkey*, Ph.D., ESBE, Bilkent University, 2017.
- Petra Cafnik Uludağ, *Revolution, Modernity and the Arab Spring*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2017.
- Yasemin İpek, *Reclaiming the Nation, Moralizing Politics: Narratives of Political Legitimacy in Autobiographies of Progressive Republican Party Leaders*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2017.
- Ayşenur Kılıç Aslan, *Columnists as Idea Entrepreneurs in Turkey, 1983-2007: Conceptions of the State*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2016.
- Sezen Yaraş, *Gender and the Formation of Late Modern National Subjectivity in Turkey: Islamic and Kurdish Women in Local Politics*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2016.
- Salim Çevik, *Subverting the Secular-Religious Dichotomy: Religious Exclusion and Nation-Building in Turkey and Pakistan*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2015.
- Seher Şen, *The Production of Space and the Construction of Urbanity: Informal Practices in 1930s Ankara*, Ph.D., Political Science Department, Bilkent University, 2009.