

# Muhammet Akkus

Department of Political Science  
Binghamton University  
Binghamton, NY 13902  
(607) 727-4754  
makkus1@binghamton.edu  
www.muhammetakkus.com

## Education

---

### Binghamton University (SUNY), NY

Ph.D., Political Science

Expected May 2025

**Dissertation:** *Legitimacy, Survival, and Beyond: Strategic Competition Between States and Islamic Movements*

**Fields:** Comparative Politics, International Relations

**Committee:** Ekrem Karakoc (Chair), David L. Cingranelli, Olga Shvetsova

M.A., Political Science

2020

### Istanbul Sehir University, Istanbul

M.A., Political Science and International Relations

2019

### Marmara University, Istanbul

B.A., Political Science and International Relations

2016

## Work Experience

---

### Binghamton University (SUNY)

2024 – 2025

Adjunct Lecturer

### Binghamton University (SUNY)

2019 – 2024

Graduate Assistant

## Academic Interests

---

**Research Interests:** Religion and Politics, Islamic Movements, Political Regimes, Political Violence, State Capacity, Terrorism, Public Opinion

**Regional Focus:** Middle Eastern and North African Politics

**Methodology:** Mixed Research Methods, Survey Analysis, Geospatial Analysis

## Research Projects

---

### *Under Review*

Democracy, Sharia, and Beyond: Political Regime Preferences in Tunisia (first author, with Ekrem Karakoc, Marwa Shalaby)

### *Works in Progress*

State Capacity and Political Violence by Non-State Armed Groups: Evidence from Iraq

Dual Legitimacy: Exploring the Influence of Islamic Movement Affiliation on Support for Democracy

National Religious Interference Practices and Political Violence (with Oner Yigit)

Impact of Emigration on Political Regime Preferences (with Ekrem Karakoc and Abdinnasir Jimale)

Dams: Infrastructural Investment as a Tool of Development and Peace (with Ahmet Akbiyik and Selim Yaman)

## Skills and Languages

---

### *Skills*

R, Stata, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Python, ArcGIS, SPSS,

### *Methods*

Geospatial Analysis, Survival Analysis, Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE), Categorical Data Analysis, Field Research, Archival Methods, Multilevel Methods

### *Languages*

Turkish (Native), Kurdish (Native), Arabic (Fluent - Classical; Modern Standard), English (Fluent), Persian (Intermediate)

## Teaching and Research Experience

---

### *Instructor of Record*

<b>Introduction to Comparative Politics</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Fall 2023, 2024
<b>Religion and Politics</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Fall 2024
<b>Politics and Movies</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Winter 2023
<b>Religion and Politics in the Middle East</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Spring 2023
<b>Middle Eastern Politics (<i>Upcoming</i>)</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Spring 2025
<b>Introduction to Comparative Politics (<i>Upcoming</i>)</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Spring 2025

### *Teaching Assistant*

<b>Introduction to World Politics</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Fall 2019, 2020
<b>Introduction to American Politics</b> <i>Binghamton University</i>	Spring 2020, 2021

### *Research Assistant*

<b>Human Rights Data Project (CIRIGHTS)</b> Prof. David Cingranelli	2020
<b>Parties, Partners, Principals, and Agents: Coalition Politics and Individual Preferences in Institutional Context</b> Prof. William Heller	2022
<b>Data Cleaning, Modeling, and Visualization Tasks</b> Prof. Ekrem Karakoc	2022
<b>Project on Military Recruitment by State and Non-state Actors</b> Prof. Kanisha D. Bond	2021

## Conference Participation

---

American Political Science Association (APSA)	2024
---	------

<b>Middle East Studies Association (MESA)</b>	2024
<b>Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)</b>	2021, 2022, 2024
<b>ASN World Convention</b>	2023
<b>MENA Graduate Student Workshop, Cornell University</b>	2021

### **Grants, Fellowships, & Awards**

---

The Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH) Fellowship	Spring 2024
Harpur College Graduate Investment Initiative Award	Spring 2023
Binghamton University Dissertation Year Award	Fall 2022
Istanbul Sehir University Full Scholarship (Tuition)	Fall 2016 – Summer 2019

### **Additional Training**

---

<b>ICPSR</b> , Summer Program in Quantitative Methods for Political and Social Research University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI	2022
<b>Modern Standard Arabic Program</b> Qasid Institute, Amman, Jordan	2014
<b>Modern Standard Arabic Program</b> Language Center, University of Jordan, Amman	2011
<b>Summer School on Modernization and Islamic Movements</b> Istanbul, Turkey	2017
<b>Weekly Workshop on Modern Islamic Movements</b> Istanbul, Turkey	2016–2017
<b>Middle East Winter School</b> ORSAM and Sehir University, Istanbul	2016

### **Datasets**

---

<b>Varieties of Islamic Movements Dataset, MENA</b>	In Progress
<b>Geospatial State Capacity Dataset for Iraq (District-Level Public and Security Infrastructure)</b>	<b>2021</b>

### **Professional Affiliations**

---

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)  
 American Political Science Association (APSA)  
 Middle East Studies Association (MESA)

## References

---

**Ekrem Karakoc**

Professor of Political Science

Binghamton University

Email: ekarakoc@binghamton.edu

**David L. Cingranelli**

Professor of Political Science

Binghamton University

Email: davidc@binghamton.edu

**Olga Shvetsova**

Professor of Political Science

Binghamton University

Email: shvetso@binghamton.edu