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**YUNUS OZTURK, PH.D.**

**E-mail:** [y.ozturk@erdogan.edu.tr](mailto:y.ozturk@erdogan.edu.tr)

**LinkedIn:** [yunus-ozturk](#)

**Website:** [www.yns-ozturk.com](http://www.yns-ozturk.com)

RTE University  
Zihni Derin Campus  
Fener District  
Merkez/Rize 53100

## CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

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**Africa Foundation**, Ankara (Turkiye)  
*Non-Resident Fellow*, Horn of Africa Working Group May 2024-Present

**Recep Tayyip Erdogan University**, Rize (Turkiye)  
*Lecturer Dr.*, Department of International Relations March 2024-Present

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.** University of Delaware, *Political Science & International Relations*, Newark DE (USA) 2024

**M.A.** University of Delaware, *Political Science & International Relations*, Newark DE (USA) 2020

**M.A.** University of Denver, *International Studies*, Denver CO (USA) 2018  
Josef Korbel School of International Studies

**M.A.** Gazi University, *Politics & Social Sciences*, Ankara (Turkey) (LoA) 2018

**B.A.** Ufuk University, *Political Science & International Relations*, Ankara (Turkey) 2013  
Double Major in *International Trade & Finance*  
*Summa Cum Laude* (GPA: 3.95/4)

## AREAS OF INTEREST

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**Primary Field:** International Relations

**Second Field:** Comparative Politics

**Speciality Field:** International Security / Peace & Conflict Studies

**Research Interests:** Political Violence, Civil Wars, Human Security, Environmental Security

**Regional Interests:** Middle East & North Africa, Africa/Horn of Africa

**Ph.D. Dissertation:** "Droughts in the Midst of Conflicts: A Mixed-Method Analysis of Water Insecurity & Civil War Duration and Outcomes"

**Dissertation Committee:** Dr. Stuart Kaufman (*Co-Chair/Advisor*), Dr. Benjamin Bagozzi (*Co-Chair/Advisor*),  
Dr. Matthew Weinert (*Committee Member*), Dr. Ore Koren (*External Member*)

## JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

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Ozturk, Y. & Ozturk, E. (2025). Aid, Security and Diplomacy: A Framework for Evaluating Turkish Foreign Aid in War-Torn Countries. *Turkish Journal of International Development* 1(2), 63-92. (<https://doi.org/10.55888/TUJID.2025.23>)

Ozturk, Y. (2025). Emerging Powers' Strategy for Power Projection: Nigeria's Peacekeeping Through Regional & International Organizations. *JANUS.NET, e-journal of International Relations* 16(2, TD1), 205-229. (<https://doi.org/10.26619/1647-7251.DT0525.11>)

Ozturk, Y. (2025). Revisiting the Debate on the Obsolescence & Changing Character of Wars: Schools, Arguments & Critiques. *The Journal of Security Sciences*, 14(1), 161-182. (<https://doi.org/10.28956/gbd.1516943>)

Ozturk, Y. (2024). What Makes Civil Wars Protracted? A Review of Systemic, Organizational & Individual-Level Factors. *Turkish Journal of Security Studies*, 26(2), 180-199. (<https://doi.org/10.54627/gcd.1578510>)

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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Ozturk, Y. & Ozturk, E. (January 2026). “El-Sebab’ in Eleman Kazanmada Stratejik Soylem Insasi: Hedef Kitle, Platform ve Radikallesme Asamaları Ekseninde Bir Inceleme (Turkish)” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ankara Sosyal ve Beseri Bilimler Kongresi; Ihsan Dogramaci Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkiye.

Ozturk, Y. & Ozturk, E. (December 2025). “Turkish Aid in War-torn States: A Violence Dampener or a Violence Intensifier?” in the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Humanitarian Aid Symposium; Ankara Yildirim Bayezit University, Ankara, Turkiye.

Ozturk, Y. (November 2024). “When & Under What Conditions Persistent Droughts Lead to Prolonged Civil Wars? The Case of the Ethiopian Civil War under the DERG/Mengistu Regime,” The ISA-Northeast Region 2024 Annual Conference; The Hilton Inner Harbor, Baltimore, MD, USA.

Ozturk, Y. (June 2024). “Droughts in the Midst of Conflicts: A Mixed-Method Analysis of Water Insecurity & Civil War Duration and Outcomes” in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding; Leiden University, The Hague, Netherlands.

Ozturk, Y. (May 2024). “Weaponization of Water in Civil Wars: The Case of the Second Sudanese Civil War” in the International Africa Symposium; Inonu University, Malatya, Turkiye.

Ozturk, Y. (November 2023). “Droughts & Prolonged Civil Wars: The Case of Chad” in the ISA-Northeast 2023 Annual Conference; Providence, RI, USA.

Ozturk, Y. (April 2023). “Water Insecurity & Civil War Dynamics” in the 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference; Chicago, IL, USA.

## **INVITED TALKS, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, ET CETERA.**

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Presenter. (February 2026). “Turkiye’den Etiyopya Gundemine Bir Bakis (Turkish)” Invited Talk, Africa Foundation; Ankara, Turkiye.

Participant. (February 2026). “Turkiye-Africa Strategic Dialogue” Invited Forum, National Intelligence Academy of the Republic of Turkiye (MIA); Ankara, Turkiye.

Participant. (October 2025). “International Congress on Intelligence Studies” Invited Congress, National Intelligence Academy of the Republic of Turkiye (MIA); Istanbul, Turkiye.

Participant. (April 2025). “Antalya Diplomacy Forum 2025 (ADF2025): Reclaiming Diplomacy in a Fragmented World” Invited Forum, Center for Strategic Research of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkiye (SAM); Antalya, Turkiye.

Presenter. (January 2025). “Somalia-Turkiye Relations Workshop - Within the Framework of Defense and Economic Cooperation: Challenges and Opportunities” Invited Workshop, Africa Foundation & Heritage Institute for Policy Studies (HIPS); Mogadishu, Somalia.

Panelist. (December 2024). “2024 ABD Seçim Sonuçlarının Değerlendirilmesi (Turkish)” Invited Panel, Recep Tayyip Erdogan University; Rize, Turkiye.

Participant. (June 2024). “Yerel, Bölgesel ve Küresel Denklemdede DEAS Afrika Calistayi (Turkish)” Invited Workshop, National Intelligence Academy of the Republic of Turkiye (MIA); Ankara, Turkiye.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCES

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### Recep Tayyip Erdogan University, Rize (Turkiye)

#### Lecturer Dr.

Area Studies – MENA (IR 402, In-person, English)	Spring 2026
Political Science (IR 105, In-person, English)	Fall 2025
Siyaset Bilimi (ULS 103, In-person, Turkish)	Fall 2025
Bölge Çalışmaları - Afrika (ULS 404, In-person, Turkish)	Spring 2025, 2026
Turkish Foreign Policy - II (IR 302, In-person, English)	Spring 2025, 2026
Türkiye Dış Politikası - II (ULS 302, In-person, Turkish)	Spring 2025
International Organizations (IR 205, In-person, English)	Fall 2024
Uluslararası Örgütler (ULS 205, In-person, Turkish)	Fall 2024
Turkish Foreign Policy - I (IR 303, In-person, English)	Fall 2024, 2025
Türkiye Dış Politikası - I (ULS 303, In-person, Turkish)	Fall 2024

### University of Delaware, Newark DE (USA)

#### Instructor

Model United Nations (POSC 475, In-person)	Fall 2023
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#### Graduate Teaching Assistant

State & Local Government (POSC 301, In-person, Grader)	Spring 2023
Introduction to Comparative Politics (POSC 270, Online, Grader)	Fall 2022
Research Methods for Political Science (POSC 300, In-person, Discussion Leader)	Fall 2021; Spring 2021, 2022
Introduction to Public Policy (POSC 220, Online, Discussion Leader)	Fall 2020
Introduction to American Politics (POSC 150, Hybrid, Discussion Leader)	Spring 2020
Introduction to Global Politics (POSC 240, In-person, Discussion Leader)	Fall 2019
Contemporary Political Ideologies (POSC 333, In-person, Grader)	Spring 2019
Introduction to Law (POSC/LEST 380, In-person, Grader)	Fall 2018

#### Peer Mentor

Middle East Partnership Initiative Student Leaders Program	Summer 2022
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## RESEARCH, PROJECT & WORK EXPERIENCES

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### Africa Foundation, Ankara (Turkiye)

#### Principal Investigator

Leaders' Visits & Agreements Database (LEAD) Project

September 2025-Present

### University of Delaware, Newark DE (USA)

#### Graduate Research Assistant

PI: Dr. Stuart Kaufman

Department of Political Science & International Relations

Article: Kaufman, S. J. (2022). Is the U.S. Heading for a Civil War? Scenarios for 2024-25. *Studies in Conflict & Terrorism*, 1-29. (<https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2022.2137892>)

Summer 2021

**University of Denver**, Denver CO (USA) April 2016 – June 2017  
**Graduate Research Assistant**  
 Diplometrics Project – Country & Organization Leader Travel Database (COLT)  
 PI: Dr. Jonathan Moyer  
 Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures  
 Josef Korbel School of International Studies  
 Website: <https://korbel.du.edu/pardee/content/country-organization-leader-travel>

**Institute of Strategic Thinking (SDE)**, Ankara (Turkiye) June-July 2013  
**Research Intern**  
 Salafi-Jihadist Movements in the Middle East & North Africa  
 PI: Dr. Birol Akgun

**Turkish Cooperation & Coordination Agency (TIKA)**, Ankara (Turkiye) August 2012  
**Trainee**  
 Tajikistan Research Office  
 Department of Central Asia & Caucasia

**Kocaeli Metropolitan Municipality**, Kocaeli (Turkiye) August 2011  
**Trainee**  
 Legal Council

#### GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

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**The Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)**, Chicago IL (USA) 2024, 2026  
 Developing Nations Scholarship (2-year renewal)

**University of Delaware**, Newark DE (USA)  
 Graduate Student Travel Award: The ISA-Northeast 2023 Annual Conference 2023  
 Graduate Student Travel Award: The 80<sup>th</sup> MPSA Annual Conference 2023  
 Participation Award: Institute for Qualitative & Multi-Method Research (IQMR) 2022  
 Teaching Assistant Fellowship 2018-2023  
 Full Tuition Waiver 2018-2023

**Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education**, Ankara (Turkiye)  
 YLSY Scholarship for Ph.D. Studies Abroad 2018-2023  
 YLSY Scholarship for M.A. Studies Abroad 2016-2018

**OSYM Undergraduate Scholarship/Ufuk University**, Ankara (Turkiye) 2008-2013  
 Full Tuition Waiver

#### HONORS & AWARDS

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**Ufuk University**, Ankara (Turkiye) 2013  
 High Honor Student (*Summa Cum Laude*, GPA: 3.95/4)  
 Department of Political Science & International Relations  
 Faculty of Economic & Administrative Sciences

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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### Editorial Board

*Turkish Journal of International Development (2025)*

### Reviewer

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Gulf Studies Symposium; The International Symposium on Post-Conflict Reconstruction of Syria (x2); JANUS.NET, e-journal of International Relations; Turkish Journal of Security Studies; Lectio Socialis*

### Mentorship

*The Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Mentoring Program* 2024

## UNIVERSITY SERVICES

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### Recep Tayyip Erdogan University, Rize (Turkiye)

Student Organization Advisor - Turkic World Youth Association 2025-Present

Internship Committee & Coordinator 2025-Present

Foreign National Student Coordination Office 2025-Present

Student Admission & Equivalence Committee 2024-Present

### University of Delaware, Newark DE (USA)

Mentorship for M.A. students Fall 2023, Fall 2021

Grad LEAP: Alumni Mentoring Program for Graduate Students, Mentor Collective

### Turkey International Relations Studies Platform (TUIC), Ankara (Turkiye)

Representative of Ufuk University 2011-2013

### Ufuk University, Ankara (Turkiye)

Founding Member 2009-2013

Political Platform Student Community

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

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### Resadiye Zihni Derin Middle School, Rize (Turkiye)

October 2025

Career Guidance Days, Psychological Counseling & Guidance Service

### Young Guru Academy, Ankara (Turkiye)

January-June 2011

Volunteer Mentorship in the Read, Think and Share Project

### Amnesty International, Ankara (Turkiye)

September 2010-June 2011

Volunteer Internship at the Ankara Office

## LANGUAGES

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**Turkish:** Native Language

**English:** Professional Working Proficiency

IELTS Academic (January 2015): Overall: 7,5 | L: 7,5 R: 7,5 W: 7,5 S: 6,5

**German:** Limited Working Proficiency  
McGraw-Hill Education (January 2019): Certificate of Level Completion | Level A1 in German

## COMPUTER SKILLS

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**MS Office:** Word, Excel, PowerPoint

**Software:** STATA, R, MAXQDA

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & TRAINING

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<b>Africa Foundation</b> , Ankara (Turkiye) Horn of Africa Studies	January-February 2025
<b>Syracuse University</b> , Syracuse NY (USA) Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs The Institute for Qualitative & Multi-Method Research (IQMR)	June 2022
<b>International Political Science Association (IPSA)</b> , Antalya (Turkiye) Certificate in Qualitative Content Analysis Program	September 2021
<b>University of Delaware</b> , Newark DE (USA) Certificate of Participation in the Summer Institute on Teaching	September 2021
<b>University of Georgia</b> , Athens GA (USA) Attendance to the Intensive English Language Program	October 2014 - April 2015
<b>Hacettepe University</b> , Ankara (Turkey) Attendance to the Intensive English Language Program	February-September 2014
<b>NATO Public Diplomacy &amp; ClimSity</b> , Istanbul (Turkiye) Certificate in Security Implications of Climate Change	November 2021
<b>US Institute of Peace</b> , Washington DC (USA) Certificate of Completion in Introduction to Peacebuilding	June 2021
<b>Mentor Collective</b> , Boston MA (USA) Trained Mentor Certificate	October 2021
<b>Small &amp; Medium Enterprises Development Organization (KOSGEB)</b> , Kocaeli (Turkiye) Certificate in Applied Entrepreneurship Education	November 2012
<b>Amnesty International</b> , Ankara (Turkiye) Participation in the Economic, Social & Cultural Rights Training Program for Trainers	October 2011
<b>Young Guru Academy</b> , Istanbul (Turkiye) Invited Participant of the Leadership Summit	November 2010

## MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

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**Peace Science Society (International)**

Membership

June 2024-Present

**Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)**

Membership

February 2023-Present

**American Political Science Association (APSA)**

Membership

September 2019-Present

**Frederick S. Pardee Center for International Futures, Denver CO (USA)**

Associate Alumni

June 2017-Present

**International Studies Associations (ISA)**

Membership

April 2016-Present