BILGE FIRAT

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EDUCATION

Degrees

2011 Ph.D. in Anthropology, Binghamton University, State University of New York
2006 M.A. in Anthropology, Binghamton University State University of New York
2002 B.A. in Sociology, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

Certificates and Trainings *(to mainly aid research)*

2022 Certificate in Geopolitical Analysis, Florida Atlantic University & Stratfor Forecasting Inc.
2015 Baku Summer Energy School, Caspian Center for Energy and Environment, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Baku, Azerbaijan
2013 *Spring* "Energy Geopolitics" Graduate Course Audit, Energy Institute, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2026- Fulbright-Diplomatic Academy Visiting Professor of International Studies, *Diplomatische Akademie Wien*/Vienna School of International Studies, Vienna, Austria
2018-2026 Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology & Faculty Associate, Center for Inter-American and Border Studies, The University of Texas at El Paso
2025-2026 Research Fellow, International Research Center for Cultural Studies (IFK), University of Art and Design Linz, Vienna, Austria
2024 *Fall* Visiting Researcher, Research Center for Anthropology and Health (CIAS), University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal (*non-remunerated*)
2022-2024 Visiting Research Fellow, Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies, United Nations University (UNU-CRIS), Bruges, Belgium (*non-remunerated*)
2016-2018 Assistant Professor, Department of International Studies & Faculty Fellow, Energy Institute, Texas A&M University
2002-2016 Research Associate, Lecturer, Assistant Professor (tenure-track), Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey
2015-2016 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Binghamton University
2013-2014 Visiting Faculty Fellow, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Binghamton University (*non-remunerated*)
2008-2009 Visiting Researcher, Centre de recherche en ethnologie européenne, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium (*non-remunerated*)

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming *Biography of a Pipeline: The Quiet Lives of Geopolitics in the Southern Gas Corridor*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, Expertise: Cultures and Technologies of Knowledge Book Series.

Forthcoming "What Is It About a Big Metal Tube That Is Such a Big Deal?" Geopolitical Infrastructures, Sovereignty, and Expertise in the Southern Gas Corridor. In *Mapping the Corridor of Impact: Affects and Pathways of Energy Transportation*. Edited by Arthur Mason, Caura Wood, and Michael Watts.

2026 Geopolitical/Geoeconomic Expertise as Dilettante Ethnography. *Anthropological Theory,* https://doi.org/10.21428/4566d66c.dac7fcc7.

2025 Geopolitics, Infrastructure and Scale-Making in the Southern Gas Corridor. *Ethnos* 90(2): 265-286, https://doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2023.2240543.

2022 Geopolitics as an Ethnographic Object and Agenda. *Geography Compass* 16(7):e12649https://doi.org/10.1111/gec3.12649.

2019 *Diplomacy and Lobbying during Turkey's Europeanisation: The Private Life of Politics.* Manchester: Manchester University Press, https://doi.org/10.7765/9781526133632.

2018 Integrative Currents? Electrifying the Turkey-EU Relations in Times of Blackout. In *Energy, Resource Extraction and Society: Impacts and Contested Futures*. Edited by A. Szolucha, 177-196. New York: Routledge, https://doi.org/10.4324/9781351213943-11.

2017a Infrastructure as New Life? *Platypus, Committee on the Anthropology of Science, Technology and Computing Blog*, http://blog.castac.org/2017/07/infrastructure-life/ (*invited*)

2017b Divided by Democracy? Reflections on the Turkish Referendum from the Top. *Association for Political and Legal Anthropology,* Series on Emergency for Turkish Democracy, https://politicalandlegalanthro.org/2017/04/27/divided-by-democracy-reflections-on-the-turkish-referendum-from-the-top/ (*invited*)

2016a Political Documents and Bureaucratic Entrepreneurs: Lobbying the European Parliament during Turkey's EU Integration. *Political and Legal Anthropology Review* 39(2):190-205, https://doi.org/10.1111/plar.12189.

2016b "The Most Eastern of the West, the Most Western of the East": Energy-Transport Infrastructures and Regional Politics of the Periphery in Turkey. *Economic Anthropology* 3(1):81-93, https://doi.org/10.1002/sea2.12046.

2015 White Elephants and Cannibals through the Glass Wall of Policymaking in Euroland: Enlargement, Energy, and Infrastructure. *Reviews & Critical Commentary, Council for European Studies*, Sept 16. (*invited*)

2014a Culture, Power, and Policymaking in the New Europe. Special issue of *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* 23(1):1-120.

2014b Crisis, Power, and Policymaking in the New Europe: Why Should Anthropologists Care? *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* 23(1):1-20, https://doi.org/10.3167/ajec.2014.230101.

2014c The Accession Pedagogy: Power, Policy, and Politics in Turkey's Bid for EU Membership. *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* 23(1):99-120, https://doi.org/10.3167/ajec.2014.230106.

2014d Europeanization alla Turca? A Communicative Engagement Event Towards the Positive Agenda. *The Wenner Gren Blog*, https://wennergren.org/article/engaged-anthropology-grant-bilge-firat/.

2014e Crisis, Power, and Policymaking in the New Europe. Special Guest Editorial, Jun 19, https://www.berghahnbooks.com/blog/crisis-power-and-policymaking-in-the-new-europe-anthropology-firat#more-3716.

2013 Failed Promises: Economic Integration, Bureaucratic Encounters, and the EU-Turkey Customs Union. *Dialectical Anthropology* 37(1):1-26, https://doi.org/10.1007/s10624-012-9283-9.

2009 Negotiating Europe/*Avrupa*: Prelude for an Anthropological Approach to Turkish Europeanization and the Cultures of EU lobbying in Brussels. *European Journal of Turkish Studies* 9: Special Issue on EU-Turkey: Sociological Approaches.

HONORS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2026 U.S. Department of State, Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award

2025 University of Art and Design Linz, International Research Center for Cultural Studies-ifk Research Fellowship
2024 American Council of Learned Societies, Summer Institute for the Study of East Central and Southeastern Europe Resident Fellowship
2021 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Post-Ph.D. Research Grant
2021 UTEP, College of Liberal Arts, Career Enhancement Summer Award
2020 UTEP, University Research Institute Grant
2020 UTEP, College of Liberal Arts, Deans' Speakers Series for Interdisciplinary Research
2018 Texas A&M University, Melbern C. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, Faculty Research Fellowship (*declined*)
2017 Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program, 2018-2020 (*university nomination*)
2017 Texas A&M University, College of Liberal Arts, International Travel Support
2015 Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Summer Energy School Tuition Support
2015 Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, International Scholarly Travel Support to participate at the Baku Summer Energy School
2015 Wenner-Gren Foundation & International Society for Ethnology and Folklore, Conference Travel Support
2015 Istanbul Technical University Research Fund, International Scholarly Travel Support
2013 Binghamton University, Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities Fellowship
2013 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Engaged Anthropology Grant
2012 Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, International Scholarly Travel Support
2012 Istanbul Technical University Research Fund, International Scholarly Travel Support
2009 Binghamton University, Department of Anthropology, Richard T. Antoun Graduate Fellowship
2008 Wenner-Gren Foundation, Dissertation Fieldwork Grant
2002-2006 Council for Higher Education of Turkey, Graduate Scholarship

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- *Expertly Securitization and the Middle Corridor as Critical Infrastructure* (under development)
- *Geopolitical/Geoeconomic Expertise in Times of Global Uncertainty* (2027-…; fieldwork in Vienna funded under the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Award program; fieldwork in Brussels and Istanbul pending funding decisions by Wilson Center Research Fellowship and ACLS Fellowship)
- *The Southern Gas Corridor as a Geopolitical Infrastructure: An Ethnography of the European Union's Energy Security and Union* (2020-2023, fieldwork funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research [2022: Gr.#10202]).
- *Energy Transport Infrastructures and Regional Integration around the Bosporus: Material Futures or Political Dreamscapes?* (2013-2018)
- *The Negotiation of Turkish Europeanization in Brussels* (2005-2013, funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research [2008-2009: Gr.#7783 & 2013: EAG-20]).

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

*American Anthropological * European Association of Social Anthropologists * Council of European Studies * University Association for Contemporary European Studies * American Association of Geographers * Middle East Studies Association * The Society for Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty * Risk Management Society*