

Ugur Altundal

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Academic Positions

Burt Dorsett '53 Postdoctoral Fellow in Ethics, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 2023-
Visiting Assistant Professor, Loyola University Maryland, Baltimore, MD 2022-2023
Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow, Brown University, Providence, RI 2021-2022

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 2022
Fields: Political Theory, Comparative Politics
Dissertation: *The Right to Travel: Toward an Ethics of Short-Term Mobility*
Committee: Elizabeth F. Cohen (Supervisor), Kenneth Baynes, Glyn Morgan, Dennis C. Rasmussen, Ayelet Shachar, and Verena Erlenbusch-Anderson
Winner of Best Dissertation Award in Migration & Citizenship in 2023 at American Political Science Association
Nominated for Leo Strauss Award for Best Dissertation in Political Philosophy
M.A. Government, Georgetown University, Washington, DC 2015
B.A. Philosophy, Middle East Technical University, Ankara 2013
B.S. Political Science (*with Honors*), Middle East Technical University, Ankara 2011

Research Interests

Contemporary Political Theory, Democratic Theory, Migration, Citizenship, Global Justice

Book Project: *The Right to Travel* (under contract with Cambridge University Press)

This book manuscript theorizes and defends a right to travel drawing on moral and political conceptions of human rights. It includes chapters that trace the concept of travel back in the history of political thought, explain that the moral and practical limits of the right to travel in non-ideal circumstances, and examine the normative implications of such a right for democratic politics.

The Ethics Institute at Dartmouth College organized a manuscript review on September 30, 2024. Participants included Rainer Bauböck, Sarah Song, Julie Rose, Lucas Swaine, and Sonu Bedi.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

“[Democracy, Visa-Waivers, and International Mobility](#),” *Comparative Migration Studies* (2024): 1-21 (with Omer Zarpli)
“[The Open Borders Debate, Migration-as-Settlement, and the Right to Travel](#),” *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy* (2022): 1-25

[“Democratic Citizenship,”](#) *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Political Science*. Ed. L. Sandy Maisel. New York: Oxford University Press (2020) (with Rick Valelly)

[“The Individual in Political Liberalism: A Critical Perspective,”](#) *Journal of Individual and Society* (2017): 59-78. (*In Turkish*, with Mehmet Kocaoğlu)

[“Regime Change within Defective Democracies: Turkey in the Early 1990s and 2010s,”](#) *Journal of Democracy and Society* (2016): 10-14

Book Reviews

[“Immigration and Freedom,”](#) *Contemporary Political Theory* (2023): 141-144

[“Review of Nazli Avdan’s *Visas and Walls: Border Security in the Age of Terrorism*,”](#) *Political Science Quarterly* (2020): 536-538

Revise & Resubmit

“Two Conceptions of the *Demos*: A Mobility Perspective to the Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory”

“Crossing Temporal Boundaries: The Ethics of Visa Overstays”

Works in Progress

“Critical Exchange on the Right to Travel” (Review essay)

“Tacit Dissent to Immigration Law” (Journal article manuscript)

“Cross-border Mobility and Global Duties” (Book chapter)

“Statelessness, *De Facto* States, and the Right to Exit” (Journal article manuscript)

“The Politics of Non-Immigrant Visas” (Book project)

Teaching Experience

- **Instructor** (Dartmouth College)

Ethics of Immigration, Winter 2025

- **Instructor** (Loyola University Maryland)

Contemporary Political Theory, Spring 2023

Global Justice, Spring 2023

Refugees and International Politics, Spring 2023

Politics of Belonging and Migration, Fall 2022

American Political Thought, Fall 2022

- **Instructor** (Syracuse University)

Introduction to Political Theory, Summer 2021

Politics of Immigration, Spring 2020

- **Teaching Assistant** (Syracuse University)

Comparative Politics and Government (Instructor: Erin Hern), Spring 2021

Human Rights & Global Affairs (Instructor: Lamis Abdelaaty), Fall 2020

Politics of Citizenship (Instructor: Elizabeth F. Cohen), Spring 2019

Refugees in International Politics (Instructor: Lamis Abdelaaty), Fall 2018

Contemporary Political Philosophy (Instructor: Elizabeth F. Cohen), Fall 2017

Introduction to Political Theory (Instructors: Laurence Thomas, Fall 2016; Glyn Morgan, Spring 2017; Pamela Ryan, Spring 2018)

Conference Talks

Presenter, “Crossing Temporal Boundaries,” Southern Political Science Association Conference 2025, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Discussant, “Migrant Agency,” Southern Political Science Association Conference 2025, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Discussant, “Citizenship, Participation, and Identity,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Conference 2024, Boston, MA

Presenter, “Tacit Dissent to Immigration Law: The Case of Short-Term Migration,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2024, Philadelphia, PA

Discussant, “Immigration and Justified Borders,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2024, Philadelphia, PA

Discussant, “The Specter of Statelessness by Lucia Rafanelli,” Moral and Political Philosophy Workshop 2024, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

Presenter, “The Ethics of Visa Overstays,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Conference 2023, Boston, MA

Panel Chair, “Social Media, Populism, and Identity Politics,” Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2023, Boston, MA

Presenter, “Cross-border Mobility and Democratic Theory,” Association for Political Theory 2022, Houston, TX

Presenter, “The Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory: A Mobility Perspective,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2022, Montreal, Canada

Presenter, “Mobility and Democratic Citizenship,” The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Society Fifth Annual Meeting 2022, New Orleans, LA

Presenter, “The Boundary Problem in Democratic Theory: A Mobility Perspective,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2021, Seattle, WA (Virtual)

Presenter, “A Normative Debate on Borders, Short-term and Long-term Migration,” Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies 2021, Neuchâtel, Switzerland (Virtual)

Discussant, “Normative Approaches,” Neuchâtel Graduate Conference of Migration and Mobility Studies 2021, Neuchâtel, Switzerland (Virtual)

Presenter, “The Open Borders Debate, Migration, and Travelers,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2019, Washington, DC

Panel Chair, Author Meets Critics, *Citizenship beyond Nationality: Immigrant Voting Rights across the World*, by Luicy Pedroza (U Penn Press, 2019), American Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2019, Washington DC

Presenter, “Open Borders, Sovereignty, and Travelers,” New York State Political Science Association Conference 2019, New York, NY

Presenter, “Freedom from Hate Speech: A Libertarian Justification of Hate Speech Regulations,” Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting 2017, New Orleans, LA

Presenter, “The Individual and the Culture of Living Together in the Liberal Theory,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference 2016, Chicago, IL (with Mehmet Kocaoglu)

Presenter, “The Problem of Justice at the International Level,” Midwest Political Science Association Conference 2016, Chicago, IL (with Mehmet Kocaoglu)

Other Invited Talks

“Short-Term Migration and the Limits of Democratic Rights,” Inaugural Winter Retreat, Dartmouth College, 2026, Hanover, NH

“Is There a Right to Travel?” Ethics Institute, Law and Ethics Fellowship Program, Dartmouth College, 2024, Hanover, NH

“What are Human Rights for Refugees?” Invited by the Alexander Hamilton Society, Loyola University Maryland, 2023, Baltimore, MD

Public Writing

“[Wealth, Geopolitics, and the Great Mobility Divide](#),” *Global Mobility Report*, 2022 (with Omer Zarpli).

“[The Ethical Dilemmas Related to Covid-19 Vaccine Passports](#),” *Global Mobility Report*, 2021 (with Omer Zarpli).

“[The Impact of Health Security on Travel Freedom](#),” *Henley Passport Index*, 2020 (with Omer Zarpli).

“[The relationship Between Political, Economic and Travel Freedom](#),” *Henley Passport Index and Global Mobility Report*, 2020 (with Omer Zarpli).

“[The Effect of Travel Freedom on Economic Growth and Democracy](#),” *Global Citizenship Review*, January 9, 2019 (with Omer Zarpli).

“[Saving Juan Manuel Santos](#),” *The Huffington Post*, October 8, 2016.

Selected Media Coverage

TRT World: [Why some passports are more powerful than others](#), by Saad Hasan, Feb 15, 2025

CNN: [The world's most powerful passports for 2021](#), by Maureen O'Hare, April 13, 2021.

The Independent: [Japan Has World's Most Powerful Passport](#) by Helen Coffey, Jan 7, 2020.

La Vanguardia: [Asia domina cuando se trata de poder del pasaporte en 2020](#), Jan 7, 2020.

La Vanguardia: [Es la era de Asia en lo que respecta al poder del pasaporte](#), Oct 1, 2019.

VOX Europe: [How good are EU passports?](#) by Alexander Damiano Ricci, July 30, 2019.

The Newswweek: [Ranked: The World's Least Powerful Passports in 2019](#), by David Sim, Jan 9, 2019.

The Daily Orange: [U.S.-Turkey visa suspension could affect prospective SU students](#), by Gabe Stern, Oct 17, 2017.

Professional Service & Experience

Award Committee Member, Migration and Citizenship Best Dissertation Award Committee, American Political Science Association 2024

Editorial Assistant, American Journal of Political Science (2019-2025)

Reviewer, *Journal of Politics*; *Palgrave Macmillan*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Critical Review of International Social and Political Philosophy*; *Comparative Migration Studies*; *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power*; *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*

Section Chair, Identity Politics Section, Northeastern Political Science Association, 2023-2025

Research Associate, Campbell Public Affairs Institute, Maxwell School of Citizenship & Public Affairs, Syracuse, NY (2017-2021)

Editor, *Journal of Democracy and Society*, the Center for Democracy and Civil Society, Georgetown University, Washington, DC (2013-2015)

Fellowships, Grants & Awards

Best Dissertation Award, Migration & Citizenship section, APSA, 2023

Dissertation Nominated for APSA's Leo Strauss Award for Best Dissertation in Political Philosophy by Syracuse University, 2023

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Syracuse University, 2022

Ketcham Award, Department of Political Science, Syracuse University, 2021

Cohn Fund, Department of Political Science, Syracuse University, 2020

APSA Travel Grant, American Political Science Association, 2019

Andersen Award, Department of Political Science, Syracuse University, 2019

Prestage-Cook Travel Award, SPSA 2017

IHS Conference Grant, The Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University, 2017

Additional Training

Certificate in University Teaching, Syracuse University, 2022

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University, 2019

Future Professoriate Program, Syracuse University, 2018, 2019

Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association

Association for Political Theory

Midwest Political Science Association

Northeastern Political Science Association

Southern Political Science Association

Languages

Turkish (Native), Spanish (Proficient)

References

Dr. Sonu Bedi

Joel Parker 1811 Professor in Law and Political Science
Hans '80 and Kate Morris Director of the Ethics Institute
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Dr. Elizabeth F. Cohen

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Dr. Glyn Morgan

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Dr. Kenneth Baynes

Professor of Philosophy
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Dr. Ayelet Shachar

Irving G. and Eleanor D. Tragen Chair in Comparative Law
School of Law
University of California, Berkeley
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Dr. Lamis Abdelaaty

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