

Cem Birol

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EDUCATION

Rice University – *Houston, Texas*

PhD in Political Science; Minor in Comparative Politics Overall GPA: 3.85/4.00 Aug 2019

Koc University – *Istanbul, Turkey*

Master of Arts in International Relations Aug. 2012

Bachelor of Arts in Economics Jun. 2010

RELEVANT PROJECTS

Dissertation: “Assessing the Role of Publicly-Conducted Missile Tests in International Relations”

- Collected a new dataset on publicly conducted missile tests of 11 countries between 1949 and 2015
- Created graphs to map countries’ missile test locations and to display missile test trends using R Software
- Conducted the GLM analyses to investigate why countries test missiles publicly and whether these tests increase the risk of militarized conflicts as well as wars.

“Threats, Impositions and Economic Sanctions Dataset”, Rice University Houston, TX Spring 2014-Summer 2018

- Coordinated junior research assistants in writing up narratives for economic sanction episodes
- Coded new variables recording what actors/economic sectors were targeted in each sanction episode between 1945-2005 using Excel, STATA Software
- Wrote narratives for the sanction episodes in the dataset through a Lexis-Nexis and ProQuest Online News Archives investigation

“Forecasting Major and Severe Economic Sanctions Project”, Rice University Houston, TX Jun. 2016 – Oct. 2016

- Collected data, employed CART and Random Forest models to forecast which countries are at the risk of severe/major economic sanctions

MA Thesis: “Correlates of Anti-Americanism, A Multilevel Analysis”, Koc University Istanbul, Turkey August 2012

- Employed multilevel statistical models to analyze PEW Global Attitudes Project surveys

“Voting Compass Turkey 2011”, Istanbul, Turkey Spring 2011

- Coded Turkish party positions before the 2011 Turkish General Elections under supervision of Prof. Ali Carkoglu of Koc University, Istanbul

SKILLS

- *Computer Skills:* R, Stata, JAGS/WinBUGS, Mathematica, MS Office, LaTeX
- *Language Skills:* Turkish (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Italian (beginner)
- *Industry Specific Skills:* Statistics (Bayesian Estimation, Ensemble Models, CART, and Maximum Likelihood), Expertise in International Conflict (Bargaining, coercive diplomacy, uses of military force, and economic sanctions)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Rice University’s Baker Institute for Public Policy – Houston, TX July 2020-Present

Temporary Research Associate

Rice University’s Baker Institute for Public Policy – Houston, TX Oct 2019-May 2020

Visiting Research Fellow

PUBLICATIONS AND RELEVANT CONFERENCE PAPERS

“Why do Countries Publicly Conduct Missile Tests?” Submitted for Peer Review

“Turkey’s S-400 Missile Crisis: Four Possible Outcomes” Baker Institute Issue Brief, June 2019, web: <https://www.bakerinstitute.org/media/files/files/ccb6afd6/bi-brief-062819-cme-missiles.pdf>

“Force Cordon Bleu: Military Force and Economic Sanctions,” at the Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, June 26-28, 2017. Antwerp, Belgium. (presented by T. C. Morgan).

“Coping with Sanctions: The Effect of Economic Sanctions on the Target’s Foreign Policy” Paper presented at International Studies Association, February 2017, Baltimore, Maryland. (with Santiago Sosa)