

# ONUR BAKINER

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## EMPLOYMENT:

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**SEATTLE UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
Assistant Professor (2014-)

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**  
Limited Term Assistant Professor (2011-2014)

## EDUCATION:

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**YALE UNIVERSITY, GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**  
Ph.D. in Political Science, with University and Departmental Distinction (2011)  
*Dissertation:* Coming to Terms with the Past: Power, Memory and Legitimacy in Truth Commissions  
*Examination Fields:* Comparative Politics, Contemporary Political Theory, History of Political Philosophy

M.Phil. in Political Science (2007)

**BOGAZICI UNIVERSITY, ISTANBUL**  
B.A., with High Honors, in Political Science and Economics (2005)

## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS:

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2013-2015 Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council of Canada – Insight Development Grant  
2009 University Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University  
2008 MacMillan Center Dissertation Research Grant, Yale University  
2008 Latin American and Iberian Studies Travel Grant, Yale University  
2007 MacMillan Center for Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, Yale University  
2007 Council on European Studies Language Study Grant, Yale University  
2005–2011 Graduate Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Yale University

## BOOK MANUSCRIPT:

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*The Politics of Truth Commissions: Memory, Power and Legitimacy in the Contemporary World* (under contract at University of Pennsylvania Press)

#### **PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES:**

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[“Truth Commission Impact: an Assessment of How Commissions Influence Politics and Society.”](#) *International Journal of Transitional Justice* 8(1) (2014): 6-30.

“One Truth Among Others? Truth Commissions’ Struggle for Truth and Memory.” *Memory Studies* (Forthcoming, 2015)

[“Is Turkey Coming to Terms with its Past? Politics of Memory and Majoritarian Conservatism.”](#) *Nationalities Papers: the Journal of Nationalism and Ethnicity* 41(5) (2013): 691-708.

[”From Denial to Reluctant Dialogue: the Chilean Military’s Confrontation with Human Rights \(1990-2006\).”](#) *International Journal of Transitional Justice* 4(1) (2010): 47-66.

#### **NON-PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES:**

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[“The 2014 Presidential Elections in Turkey: Old Wine in a New Bottle?”](#) co-authored with Bahar Başer, *Ethnopolitics Papers* 4(31) (2014-2015)

#### **BOOK REVIEWS:**

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[\*Before the Shining Path: Politics in Rural Ayacucho, 1895-1980.\* Jaymie Patricia Heilman, \(Stanford University Press, 2010\)](#) in *Latin American Politics and Society* 53(2) (2011): 178-181

[\*Rethinking Islam and Liberal Democracy: Islamist Women in Turkish Politics.\* Yeşim Arat, \(SUNY Press, 2005\)](#) in *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 7(1) (2007): 177–207

[\*Transitional Justice in South Asia: A Study of Afghanistan and Nepal.\* Tazreena Sajjad. \(London; New York: Routledge, 2013\)](#) in *Pacific Affairs* (Forthcoming; 2014).

#### **BOOK CHAPTERS:**

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[“Can the 'Spirit Of Gezi' Transform Progressive Politics in Turkey?”](#) in *The Making of a Protest Movement in Turkey* (Edited by Umut Ozkirimli), Palgrave Pivot (May 2014)

“Promoting Historical Justice through Truth Commissions: an Uneasy Relationship,” under review for an edited volume; Janna Thompson and Klaus Neumann (eds.), University of Wisconsin Press (Forthcoming, 2014)

“Postneoliberal Regional Integration in Latin America: *Alianza Bolivariana para los Pueblos de Nuestra América* (ALBA),” co-authored with Efe Can Gürcan, Ashgate Publishing (Forthcoming, 2014)

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#### **ARTICLE MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS:**

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“Judges Discover Politics: Justice, Realpolitik, and Judges’ Activism in Contemporary Turkey”

“*Never Again?* Truth Commissions and Conflict Prevention”

“Historical Justice: the Missing Dimension in Contemporary Recognition Discourse”

#### **REFERENCE WORKS:**

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[“Truth Commissions”](#) in *The Encyclopedia of Political Thought*, Michael Gibbons, William Connolly, Diana Coole (eds.) (Wiley-Blackwell Publishing, 2014)

#### **OP-EDS:**

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[“Visionary Failure: on Turkey’s Foreign Policy.”](#) *Research Turkey*, December 15, 2014

[“Gezi at One: Rethinking the Legacy of the Protests.”](#) *Jadaliyya*, June 6, 2014

[“Can the ‘Spirit of Gezi’ Transform Progressive Politics in Turkey?”](#) *Jadaliyya*, July 3, 2013

#### **CONFERENCE PAPERS:**

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“Judges at War: Exploring Judicial Behavior during Political Violence,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2014

“Never Again? Truth Commissions and Conflict Prevention,” presented at the American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 2013

“The Domestic Origins of the Regional Integration Norm: the Case of Latin America,” presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, April 2013, and Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference, Victoria, BC, June 2013

“Is Turkey Coming to Terms with its Past? Politics of Memory and Majoritarian Conservatism,” presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, April 2013, and Law on the Edge Conference, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, July 2013

“La verdad y sus otras consecuencias: el activismo de jóvenes líderes en la estela de la Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación del Perú,” presented at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) International Congress, San Francisco, CA, May 2012

“History, Ethics, Politics: Rethinking the Legacy of Truth Commissions,” presented at the International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, April 2012, and American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., September 2010

“Between Immanence and Transcendence: Truth Commissions’ Struggle for Truth and Memory,” presented at the Historical Justice and Memory Conference, Melbourne, Australia, February 2012

“Situating Truth Commissions’ Historical Narratives in Context: Chile and Peru,” presented at the Simon Fraser University and the University of British Columbia Latin American Studies Working Paper Series, 2011-2012

“The Past in the Present: Recognition and Constitutionalism in the Wake of Past Violence and Injustice,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2011

“Why Does Truth Matter? Evaluating the Aftermath of Truth Commissions in Chile and Peru,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2010

“One Truth among Others: a Critical Evaluation of the Political Construction of Truth by Truth Commissions,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2010

“Genocide Recognition as Social Memory: History, Memory and the Nation in Genocide Laws,” presented at The Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) 2010 World Convention, Columbia University

“Coming to Terms with the Past: an Emerging Political Norm,” presented at the “Coming to Terms with the Past” Workshop, October 31–November 2, 2008, Yale University

“Forgiving the Unforgivable? An Ethico-Political Approach to Political Violence and Forgiveness,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2008

“Memory-truths in Politics: towards an Interactive Theory of Collective Memory,” presented at the Interdisciplinary Memory Conference, New School for Social Research, February 2008

“Violence and Power in the Works of Arendt, Benjamin and Agamben,” presented at 9th Political Science Graduate Students Conference, McGill University, May 2007

“Heroes and Fools: the Idea of Responsibility in Nietzsche and Arendt,” presented at Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2007

**BLOG CONTRIBUTIONS:**

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[Failibelli.org](http://Failibelli.org) (Turkish)

**GUEST LECTURES:**

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11 April 2011 “Transitional Justice in Latin America,” at the Department of Government, Wesleyan University

2 February 2011 “The Political History of Chile,” at the Yale School of Management

23 December 2010 “Truth Commissions and Coming to Terms with the Past: When, How and Why?” at the Sociology Department, Bogazici University, Istanbul

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

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May 2014-July 2014

Field Research in Istanbul and Ankara, Turkey:

Semi-structured interviews lawyers, judges, prosecutors and public intellectuals

March 2009–July 2009

Field Research in Lima, Peru, and Ayacucho, Peru:

Semi-structured interviews with Peruvian politicians, NGO activists, intellectuals, victims of political violence and their relatives

Archival Research at *Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos (APRODEH)*, Lima, Peru, and *Centro de Información para la Memoria Colectiva y los Derechos Humanos*, Lima, Peru

September 2008–March 2009

Field Research in Santiago, Chile:

Semi-structured interviews with Chilean politicians, NGO activists, intellectuals, victims of political violence and their relatives

Archival Research at *La Vicaría de la Solidaridad*, Santiago, Chile.

**TEACHING INTERESTS:**

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Transitional justice; judicial politics; state failure and state building; civil war; Middle Eastern politics; Latin American politics; normative political theory; comparative regional integration; politics of memory; politics of human rights

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

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**Winter 2015**     **Assistant Professor**, Seattle University

Comparing Nations (undergraduate seminar)

Politics of the Middle East (undergraduate seminar)

**Fall 2014**         **Assistant Professor**, Seattle University

Transitional Justice (undergraduate seminar)

**Spring 2014**     **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Theories of Latin American Development (undergraduate / graduate seminar)

State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative Perspectives (Graduate seminar)

**Fall 2013**         **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Perspectives in International Studies (Graduate seminar)

Transitional Justice: Confronting the Past, Building the Future (Undergraduate and graduate seminar)

**Spring 2013**     **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Comparative Regional Cooperation (Undergraduate seminar)

State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative Perspectives (Graduate seminar)

Directed Reading: Transitional Justice (Graduate course)

Directed Reading: Humanitarian Intervention (Honors seminar)

**Fall 2012**         **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Introduction to International Studies (Undergraduate lecture)

Social and Political Change in Latin America (Undergraduate/graduate seminar)

**Spring 2012**     **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Transitional Justice: Confronting the Past, Building the Future (Undergraduate seminar)

Complex Emergencies and Humanitarian Intervention (Graduate seminar)

**Fall 2011**         **Assistant Professor**, Simon Fraser University

Introduction to International Studies (Undergraduate lecture)

State Failure and Reconstruction: Comparative perspectives (Graduate seminar)

**Summer 2011**     **Instructor**, Yale University

Latin American Politics (Undergraduate lecture)

**Summer 2010**     **Instructor**, Bogazici University, Istanbul

Politics of Latin America (Undergraduate lecture)

**Summer 2008**     **Instructor**, Bogazici University, Istanbul

History of Political Thought (Undergraduate lecture)

**2007-2011 Teaching Fellow**, Yale University  
Moral Foundations of Politics, Professor Ian Shapiro  
International Security, Professor Matthew Kocher  
Moral Foundations of Politics, Professor Paulina Ochoa-Espejo and Professor Ian Shapiro  
Religion and Violence, Professor Vivek Sharma

**UNIVERSITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:**

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*Organizer:* “Give Peace a Chance? Peace Negotiations in Colombia and Turkey,” Workshop, Simon Fraser University (May 2013)

*Faculty participant:* President’s Dream Colloquium, Simon Fraser University (Spring 2013)

*Member of Graduate Committee:* School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University (2011-2013)

*Panel Chair:* “Arendt: Resistance and Reconciliation,” MPSA Annual National Conference, Chicago, April 2010

*Co-Organizer:* “Coming to Terms with the Past” Workshop, October 31 – November 2, 2008, Yale University

*Co-Coordinator:* Yale University Political Philosophy Colloquium, 2007-2008

*Reviewer:* Routledge Press, Foreign Policy Analysis, Rethinking History, Latin American Research Review, International Journal of Transitional Justice, Constellations, Macquarie Law Journal, Memory Studies, Law and Social Inquiry

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP:**

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American Political Science Association  
Canadian Political Science Association  
Midwest Political Science Association  
Latin American Studies Association  
Law and Society Association  
Association for the Study of Nationalities  
International Studies Association  
Historical Justice and Memory Network

**INVITED TALKS:**

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3 October 2013 “Social Protest in the Middle East: Promises and Challenges in Egypt and Turkey,” at the Vancouver Peace Talks

4 July 2012 “Unchopping a Tree? Peacebuilding in the 21st Century,” at the Vancouver Peace Talks  
8 March 2009 “Los Primeros 100 Días de Obama,” (The First Hundred Days of Obama) at Radio Universidad de Chile, Santiago (In Spanish)

**LANGUAGES:**

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Turkish (native speaker)  
Spanish (fluent)  
German (intermediate)  
French (intermediate)  
Farsi (beginner)