

Ezgican Özdemir Kelly

Özyeğin University
Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Anthropology
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EDUCATION

Central European University, Vienna, Austria - Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology and Social Anthropology

AY 2014 - AY 2023

Dissertation Title: Pipe Dreams on a “Half-island”: Water, Authority, Belonging in Northern Cyprus

Supervisor: Prof. Dorit Geva (Uni. of Vienna)

Examiners: Sarah Green (Uni. of Helsinki); Prem Kumar Rajaram (CEU)

Central European University, Budapest, Hungary - Master of Arts in Sociology and Social Anthropology

AY 2012 - AY 2013

New York University, NY, USA - Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology

AY 2007 - AY 2011

Minor in Sociology

EMPLOYMENT

**Assistant Professor at Özyeğin University
İstanbul, Turkey**

SEPTEMBER 2025 - ongoing

**Part-time Lecturer at Özyeğin University
İstanbul, Turkey**

FEBRUARY-JUNE 2025

Taught BA-level elective course “Environment and Society” in the Anthropology Department.

**Research Assistant for Prof. Dorit Geva, Central European University,
Vienna, Austria**

FEBRUARY – JULY 2021

Conducted literature reviews and provided extensive literature summaries for relevant research topics as requested, edited manuscripts of the professor, organised administrative matters. Relevant research topics are, but not limited to, fascism, internationalism, capitalism, ordonationalism, histories of Jewish communities in Vienna, Christian democracy in the context of Eastern Europe and decolonising curricula.

**Teaching Assistant for Prof. Prem Kumar Rajaram, Central European
University, Budapest, Hungary**

SEPT – JAN 2017

Co-taught “Logic of Social Inquiry” course in Fall 2017, a mandatory MA-level course at the Dept. of Sociology and Social Anthropology. Updated and edited the course curriculum in conversation with professor. Led weekly group discussions both online and on-site classes. Assisted to the supervision of MA students’ research proposals for their theses. Lectured several sessions. Gave assignments, marked response papers, and midterm and final assignments.

**Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation, Istanbul, Turkey - Program
Assistant for the Good Governance Program**

2013 - 2014

Directed and coordinated two separate projects. Organized conferences for release of project reports and round-table discussions on certain political issues with stakeholders. Conducted extensive research for analytical reports in progress; wrote, copyedited and/or

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Anthropology of the state and sovereignty; urban development; political geography; unrecognized states; infrastructure studies; minority studies; water governance; Anthropocene; ecology and environment; social memory; critical policy studies; Eastern Mediterranean geopolitics; northern Cyprus, Turkey; Western Asia

GRANTS & CERTIFICATES

Research Fellowship at IWM
(Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen), Vienna, Austria
(Jan-June 2021)

Certificate for Excellence in Teaching - Elkana Center for Teaching and Learning, CEU
(2017-2020)

Research Fellowship at CPS
Center for Policy Studies at CEU
(2019)

Doctoral Research Support Grant Central European University (2018)

proofread the upcoming reports and policy briefs regarding the ongoing projects.
Coordinated budgeting, reporting and other executive and administrative matters.

Symphony Space, New York, USA - Assistant to the Senior Manager of Business Development

2011 - 2012

Acted as a representative for customer service and managed e-commerce sales. Managed accounts with publishing companies and suppliers. Edited and produced actor and author contracts.

PUBLICATIONS

Scales of exception: water infrastructure, place, and ‘half-island’ in Cyprus - *Ethnos Journal* - July 2023

Special Issue on “Making Megaprojects: The Practices and Politics of Scale-Making”. Co-Edited by Susann Baez Ullberg, Gabriella Körling, and Cristiana Strava.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00141844.2023.2240536>

From water-scarce to water-dependent: reproduction of hydro-scales and infrastructural intervention in Cyprus - *Completed Manuscript*

Tentative Venue: *Geoforum*

Entangled histories of waterscapes: a genealogy of water management in Cyprus at the turn of the 20th century - *Completed Manuscript*

Tentative Venue: *History & Anthropology*

The strange case of Varosha in Cyprus- *IWM Post* - 2021

Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen (IWM). Vienna: Austria.

<https://www.iwm.at/publication/iwmpost-article/the-strange-case-of-varosha-in-cyprus>

“Time to protect Kyrenia”: defending the right to landscape in north Cyprus - *Routledge* - 2019

in *Commoning the City: Empirical Perspectives on Urban Ecology, Economics, and Ethics*. Edited by Güldem Baykal Büyüksaraç and Derya Özkan. Routledge: New York

Infrastructuring Geographies: Histories and Presents in and of the Middle East and North Africa- *Middle East: Topics and Arguments Journal* - 2018

Issue 10. Co-authored editorial article and co-edited journal issue with Amina Nolte.

<https://archiv.ub.uni-marburg.de/ep/0003/issue/view/192>

CONFERENCES & TALKS

Contesting privatization, looking for “normalcy”: A case of Turkish hegemony-building and water privatization in northern Cyprus– *Boğaziçi University, İstanbul, Turkey* – 28 Nov 2024

Guest Speaker at the Boğaziçi Sociology Talks seminar series

Water Politics and the Partition of Cyprus: A Legacy of Conflict and Cooperation – *City, University of London* – 7-8 Nov 2024

Partitioning for Peace? Cyprus and the violence of bordering 50 years on, London, UK

Studying Infrastructural Politics: A Case of Turkish Hegemony-building and Water Privatization in Northern Cyprus – *Bilgi University, İstanbul, Turkey* – 16 Oct 2024

Guest Speaker at Sociology Talks at Bilgi Santralİstanbul Campus

Fluid zones of connection: hydro-scales, cartographic rule and place in northern Cyprus - *GAA* - Sep 2021

Utopian and Dystopian Futures of Water Worlds—Mediterranean Crises and the Making of Liminal Infrastructures, German Anthropological Association; Annual conference panel (online)

SKILLS

teaching anthropology and social sciences; critical thinking; social and political analysis; ethnographic research; policy analysis; teamwork and collaboration; qualitative research; effective communication; grant writing; project management

LANGUAGES

English (fluent); Turkish (native); French (intermediate); Arabic (beginner)

Fluid zones of connection: exceptionality and infrastructure in Cyprus - IWM - June 2021

Vising Scholars Conference at IWM (Institut für die Wissenschaften vom Menschen) in Vienna, Austria

Fluid zones of connection: exceptionality and infrastructure in Cyprus - University of Helsinki - May 2021

Trade, transit and travel: knots of global capital in passageways and bufferzones, (online) Symposium organized by University of Helsinki, Finland

Commoning the City Book Launch - İyi Tasarım - Good Design İzmir - Dec 2020

Theme: Common Futures – Müşterek Gelecekler. Book launch and panel on Kenti Müşterekleştirmek: Ekoloji, Ekonomi, Etik - Commoning the City: Ecology, Economy, Ethics
<https://www.iyitasarimizmir.org/>

Owning the state: Politics of water and infrastructural state(s) in north Cyprus - University of Stockholm - Sep 2019

Ethnographies of Megaprojects: Social and Political Worlds of Large-Scale Infrastructures, Symposium organized by Stockholm University and Uppsala University, Stockholm, Sweden

“Project of the Century”: Water infrastructure and imagining the political community in north Cyprus - University of Babes-Bolyai - May 2019

Guest Lecture at University of Babes-Bolyai in Cluj-Napoca, Romania

Lethargic present, uncertain future: the water conundrum in north Cyprus - ASA at the University of Oxford- Sep 2018

Sociality, matter, and the imagination: re-creating Anthropology, ASA (Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK) Annual Conference at the University of Oxford, UK.

Project of the Century: the technical and the political in north Cyprus - ASA at the University of Adelaide - Dec 2017

Shifting States, Joint AAS/ASA/ASAANZ Conference at University of Adelaide, Australia.

Fluid (dis)connections and moral struggles: the politics of water in northern Cyprus - University of Warsaw - June 2016

Spaces of the Political, Conference at University of Warsaw, Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology in Warsaw, Poland.

Kemalist Tattooing: distinctive ink and reproduction of the secular in contemporary Turkey - Mimar Sinan University - Oct 2013

Eastern Mediterranean Research Center - DAKAM Conferences: Cultural History of Symbols in Istanbul, Turkey.

“Shifting memories of a nation: the magnificent century and re-remembering the Ottoman times in Turkey” - Eötvös József College - Oct 2013

Social Sciences Workshop - Interdisciplinary Conference for Social Sciences: The Shifting Relations of Individuals and Communities, Budapest, Hungary.