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Dolunay Bulut is a Ph.D. candidate in Politics at the New School for Social Research. Her research draws from critical and democratic theory with a focus on the themes of legitimacy and authoritarianism, empirically drawing upon the post-1989 liberal hegemony and its illiberal challengers. With the title of *Janus-faced Authoritarianism: A New Playbook for Autocrats on the Edge of Liberal Democracy*, her dissertation investigates the most important domains of contestation for institutional consolidation and legitimation of authoritarian regimes and offers a theoretical-interpretive device to inspect the phenomenon in comparable contexts. As an empirically informed theoretical inquiry, it mainly concentrates on robust autocracies in semi-peripheries of the hegemonic liberal Euro-Atlantic core. Through the cases of Hungary and Turkey, her research proposes a tripartite theoretical toolkit to distinguish durable, institutionally consolidated autocracies in constitutional settings by their deployment of three domains of conflict and contestation to generate support, validation, and eventually legitimacy. Before joining the New School, she worked as a research assistant at the UN CEDAW projects and the Middle East Technical University. Since 2016, while publishing quarterly reports on academic freedom at *Social Research Journal: An International Quarterly*, she has worked as a research associate and editor for *Endangered Scholars Worldwide* (ESW) under the New University in Exile Consortium, engaging with at-risk academics, and conducting research on the state of academic freedom and the autonomy of higher education institutions in authoritarian settings, and providing editorial feedback to other ESW researchers.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **PhD in Political Science** | The New School for Social Research | 2023

Political theory (major), comparative politics (minor)

**Dissertation Committee:** Andrew Arato (Chair), Andreas Kalyvas, Banu Bargu, Sandipto Dasgupta

### **MPhil in Political Science** | The New School for Social Research | 2020

### **MS in Political Science** | Middle East Technical University | 2013

**Advisor:** Asli Cirakman

**Thesis:** Reading the Crisis of Parliamentary Democracy in Turkey Through Carl Schmitt: 1971 to 1980

### **BA in Political Science and Public Administration** | Bilkent University | 2010

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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- **Lecturer** | NYU Liberal Studies for Arts and Science  
*Global Works and Society: Modernity* | 2022 - 2023
- **Lecturer** | Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts, New School  
*Techno-social Imaginaries and Conceptual Change* | Spring 2021, Spring 2022
- **Lecturer** | City College of New York, CUNY  
*Introduction to American Politics and Government* | 2016 – 17, Fall 2019
- **Lecturer** | Fashion Institute of Technology  
*Comparative Political Systems* | 2017 – 18
- **Teaching Assistant** | Parsons School of Design  
*Design, Self, and Society* | 2019 – 2023, Instructor: Matthew Robb
- **Teaching Assistant (graduate seminar)** | New School for Social Research  
*Habermas and After* | Spring 2019, Instructor: Hubertus Buchstein
- **Teaching Assistant (graduate seminar)** | New School for Social Research  
*Politics, Democracy, and Sovereignty: Carl Schmitt and Modern Political Theory* | Fall 2018, Instructor: Hubertus Buchstein
- **Teaching Assistant (graduate seminar)** | New School for Social Research  
*Sociology of Critical Theory* | Fall 2018, Instructors: Andrew Arato, Hubertus Buchstein
- **Teaching Assistant (graduate seminar)** | TCDS Poland Summer School  
*Time is Out of Joint* | Summer 2018, Instructor: Agnes Heller

## ACADEMIC HONORS AND AWARDS

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NSSR Dissertation Fellowship	2022-23
<i>Critical Theory in Berlin</i> Summer Fellowship, Humboldt University	2019
TCDS Fellowship, Open Society	2018
NSSR Dean's Fellowship	2016- 17
The New School President's Scholarship	2013 - 18
Graduate Education Scholarship, TUBITAK	2010 - 12
Comprehensive Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Bilkent University	2006 - 10

## PROJECTS & RESEARCH

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- **Endangered Scholars Worldwide** | 2016 -

Monitoring and reporting the developments concerning academic freedom violations in the Middle East and Central and Eastern Europe

Available at: <https://www.endangeredscholarsworldwide.net/>

Authoring quarterly reports for *Social Research Journal* on latest developments concerning academic freedom and rights violations.

Available at: <https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/644>

Collecting and sorting data to list the opportunities and resources available to scholars and students at risk, and to create a sourcebook for academic freedom solidarity networks

See: <https://newuniversityinexileconsortium.org/sourcebook/>

- **Otto Kirchheimer and critical institutionalism** | 2018 – 2019

Supervisor: Hubertus Buchstein, University of Greifswald, NSSR Politics

- **Self-destructive violence and weaponization of the body in Turkey** | 2017 – 2018

Supervisor: Banu Bargu, NSSR Politics

- **Mapping the DNA of Community Building** | 2016

Parsons-NYC Mayor's Office joint project on gentrification and urban transformation

Supervisor: Anasa Scott, Parsons School of Design

- **UN-CEDAW and Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) joint project on domestic violence and sexism in Turkey** | 2011 -2013

Supervisor: Feride Acar, UN CEDAW & Middle East Technical University

- **Non-Muslim ethnic minorities in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century Ottoman Empire, history of political trauma** | 2010

Supervisor: Banu Helvacıoğlu, Bilkent University Political Science

## CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

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- “Constitution as an Authoritarian Object of Fetish”

**Global Summit on Constitutionalism – University of Texas Austin Law School, 2023**

- “Authoritarianism between Constitutional Politics and International Institutions: A Corner Case in Liberal Democratic Parameter Space”

**International Law and Constitution-Making – Rutgers Center for Transnational Law, 2022**

- “Janus-faced Authoritarianism: A Layered Narrative”  
**A Wider Discipline for A Smaller World – ISA Annual Convention, 2022**
- “Democratic Confederation: A Proto-Constitutional Experiment amid Civil War”  
**Stateless Democracy in Syrian and Turkish Kurdistan: Origins, Inspiration, and the Man Thing – Columbia University, 2016.**

## INVITED TALKS

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- “Constitutionalism and Constitutional Change in Turkey”  
**Constitutional Comparisons Lecture Series – N SSR, December 13, 2021.**
- “Whither Turkey? Authoritarian Deadlock”  
**N SSR General Seminar, September 28, 2016.**

## PUBLICATIONS

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- “Authoritarianism between Constitutionalism and International Law: A Corner Case in the Liberal Democratic Parameter Space” (submitted)  
**Rutgers International Law and Human Rights Journal – Spring 2023**

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OTHER ACTIVITIES

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**Social Research Journal: An International Quarterly**, Editorial Assistant | 2018 - 21

**Constellations, An International Journal of Critical and Democratic Theory**, Book Review Coordinator | 2015 - 20

**Political Concepts Graduate Student Conference**, Moderator & Discussant | 2022, N SSR

**Continuing Threats to Academic Freedom Roundtable**, Co-organizer | 2016, NYC

**Constitutional Politics in Turkey**, Co-organizer | 2016, N SSR

**The Civil War in Turkey and Right to Democratic Autonomy**, Panel Co-organizer | 2016, NYC

**Stateless Democracy in Syrian and Turkish Kurdistan: Origins, Inspiration, and the Man Thing**, Co-organizer | 2016, Columbia University, NYC