

**BURCU SAVUN**  
*Curriculum Vitae*  
August 2026

Rutgers University, New Brunswick  
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## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Anita and Moses Beck Professor of Political Science, Rutgers University - New Brunswick (2026-)

Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh (2023-2026)

Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh (2012-2023)

Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh (2006-2012)

## **EDUCATION**

**Rice University:** Ph.D. in Political Science, 2006

**Rice University:** M.A. in Political Science, 2003

**University of Pittsburgh:** M.A. in Political Science, 2001

**University of Michigan, Ann Arbor:** Senior Year as Exchange Student, majored in Political Science, 1998-1999

**Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey:** B.A. in International Relations, 1999, *High Honors*

## **OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Participant in Summer School in International Politics (IBEI, Spain, 2009)
- Participant in Summer Workshop on Teaching about Terrorism, University of Oklahoma, (2007)
- Participant in Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute, (2004)
- Participant in the Texas A&M Winter Institute in Mathematical Modeling: Program in Foreign Policy Decision-Making (2003)
- Participant in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program (2000, 2002)

## PUBLICATIONS

*\*Graduate student*

### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

Morrison, Kelly, Daniela Donno, **Burcu Savun**, and Perisa Davutoglu\*. 2025. "Competing Verdicts: Multiple Election Monitors and Post-Election Violence" *Review of International Organizations* 20(2): 293-321.

Johnson, Jesse, Ashley Leeds, and **Burcu Savun**. 2024. "Alliances and Civil War Intervention" *International Studies Quarterly* 68(4).

**Savun, Burcu**, Jessica Stanton, Caroline Hartzell, and Lindsay Reid. 2024. "Violence Beyond the Battlefield: Civilian Targeting, Sexual Violence, and Women's Political Empowerment" *Journal of Global Security Studies* 9(1).

Salehyan, Idean and **Savun, Burcu**. 2024. "Strategic Humanitarianism: Host States and Refugee Policy" *Annual Review of Political Science* 27:107-125.

Spaniel, William and **Burcu Savun**. 2024. "Less Is More? Shifting Power and Third-Party Military Assistance" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 68(7-8): 1332-1357.

**Savun, Burcu**. 2022. "Refugee Flows, Refugee Rights, and Political Violence." *International Studies Quarterly* 66(1).

Donno, Daniela, Kelly Morrison and **Burcu Savun**. 2022. "Not all Elections are Created Equal: Election Quality and Civil Conflict." *Journal of Politics* 84(1):134-147.

Braithwaite, Alex, Michael Frith, **Burcu Savun**, and Faten Ghosn. 2022. "Government Targeting of Refugees in the Midst of Epidemics." *Perspectives on Politics* 20(2):490-506.

**Savun, Burcu** and Christian Gineste\* 2019. "From Protection to Persecution: Threat Environment & Refugee Scapegoating." *Journal of Peace Research* 56(1): 88-102.

Gineste, Christian\* and **Burcu Savun**. 2019. "Introducing POSVAR: A Dataset on Refugee-Related Violence." *Journal of Peace Research* 56(1): 134-145.

Bormann, Nils-Christian and **Burcu Savun**. 2018. "Reputation, Concessions, and Territorial Civil War: Do Ethnic Dominoes Fall, or Don't They?" *Journal of Peace Research* 55(5): 671-686.

**Savun, Burcu** and Daniel Tirone. 2018. "Foreign Aid as a Counterterrorism Tool: More Liberty, Less Terror?" *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 62(8): 1607-1635

Cook, Scott and **Burcu Savun**. 2016. "New Democracies and the Risk of Civil Conflict: The Lasting Legacy of Military Rule." *Journal of Peace Research* 53: 745-757.

**Savun, Burcu** and Daniel Tirone\*. 2012. "Exogenous Shocks, Foreign Aid, and Civil War" *International Organization* 66: 363-393. -The recipient of the Robert O. Keohane Award for the best research article published in *International Organization* by an untenured scholar-

**Savun, Burcu** and Daniel Tirone\*. 2011. "Foreign Aid, Democratization, and Civil Conflict: How does Democracy Aid Affect Civil Conflict?" *American Journal of Political Science* 55: 233-246.

Mattes, Michaela and **Burcu Savun**. 2010. "Information, Agreement Design and the Durability of Civil War Settlements." *American Journal of Political Science* 54: 511-524.

**Savun, Burcu** and Brian J. Phillips\* 2009. "Democracy, Foreign Policy, and Terrorism." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53: 878- 904.

Mattes, Michaela and **Burcu Savun**. 2009. "Fostering Peace after Civil War: Commitment Problems and Agreement Design." *International Studies Quarterly* 53: 733-755.

**Savun, Burcu**. 2008. "Information, Bias, and Mediation Success." 2008. *International Studies Quarterly* 52:25-47.

Leeds, Brett Ashley and **Burcu Savun**. 2007. "Terminating Alliances: Why do States Abrogate Agreements?" *Journal of Politics* 69: 1118-1132.

## **Other Publications**

Braithwaite, Alex, Idean Salehyan, and **Burcu Savun**. 2019. "Refugees, Forced Migration, and Conflict: Introduction to Special Issue" *Journal of Peace Research* 56(1): 5-11.

**Savun, Burcu** and Daniel Tirone. 2017. "Foreign Aid and Counterterrorism." *Sustainable Security*

Braithwaite, Alex, Kerstin Fisk, Idean Salehyan, **Burcu Savun** and Thorin Wright. 2017. "What Will Taught us about Refugees and Forced Migrants." *Political Violence @ Glance*

**Savun, Burcu**. 2009. "Mediator Types and the Effectiveness of Information Provision Strategies in the Resolution of International Conflict" in *New Approaches to Mediation*. Jacob Bercovitch and Scott Gartner (eds.). Routledge, pp. 96-114.

**Savun, Burcu**. 2008. Review of *Crafting Peace: Power-Sharing Institutions and the Negotiated Settlement of Civil Wars* by Caroline Hartzell and Matthew Hoddie. *Political Science Quarterly* 123(3).

## **Working Papers**

“Do Refugees Fuel Conflict, or Just Make It Visible?” (with Christopher Blair and Zhejun Qiu) (Under Review)

“Citizen Acceptance of Elections in Authoritarian Regimes: Survey Evidence from Turkey” (with Daniela Donno and Kelly Morrison) (Under Review)

“Leader Turnover and Conflict Recurrence” (with Jeff Carter)

“Liberal Refugee Policies and Political Violence” (with Christopher Blair and Zhejun Qiu)

”When Hosts Reform: Refugee Policy Shocks and Conflict in Origin States” (with Zhejun Qiu)

“When Democracy Retreats: International Signals and Electoral Legitimacy and Violence in Authoritarian Regime” (with Daniela Donno and Kelly Morrison)

## **INVITED TALKS and WORKSHOPS**

Georgetown University, 2025

Washington University in St.Louis, 2025

University of California, Los Angeles, 2025

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2025

University of Oklahoma, 2024

Florida State University, 2023

University of Iowa, 2022 (*Journeys in World Politics* - Senior Scholar Mentor)

Rutgers University, 2022, 2025

University of Tennessee, 2021

American University, 2018

University of Maryland, 2017

University of Arizona, 2017

University of California, Berkeley, 2016

Uppsala University, Sweden, 2015

Carlos III-Juan March Institute (IC3JM), Madrid, Spain, 2014

AidData Research Consortium, William & Mary, 2014

University of Houston, 2013

Penn State University, 2013

Duke University, 2013

Emory University, 2012

Visions in Methodology Conference, Penn State University, 2012

Conference on Terrorism and Policy, University of Texas at Dallas, 2011

Visions in Methodology Conference, Ohio State University, 2011

Program on International Conflict and Cooperation, Texas A&M University, 2010

Journeys in World Politics, University of Iowa, 2008

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

### Paper Presentations

**American Political Science Association (APSA):** 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2015, 2013, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007

**International Studies Association (ISA):** 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2019, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2008, 2006, 2002

**Peace Science Society, International (PSSI):** 2026, 2025, 2024, 2023, 2022, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2004

**European Peace Science Conference:** 2026, 2019, 2018

**European Political Science Association (EPSA):** 2024, 2023, 2022

**Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA):** 2004, 2001

**Southern Political Science Association (SPSA):** 2000, 2025

### Other Conference Participation

Discussant (D) / Chair (C):

**International Studies Association (ISA):** 2024 (C), 2021 (C), 2018 (D), 2017 (C, D), 2014 (D), 2009 (D/C), 2008 (D/C)

**American Political Science Association (APSA):** 2025 (D/C), 2019 (C), 2016 (C), 2015 (D/C), 2014 (D), 2011 (D/C, C), 2010 (D/C), 2009 (D/C), 2008 (D/C), 2006 (D/C)

**European Political Science Association (EPSA):** 2022 (D)

**Peace Science Colloquium (Online):** 2016 (D)

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

**Provost's Award for Excellence in Doctoral Mentoring,** University of Pittsburgh, 2025

Robert Keohane Award for the Best Research Article published in *International Organization*, 2012

ISA Catalyst Workshop Grant, Spring 2018 (with Alex Braithwaite and Idean Salehyan)

Hewlett International Grant, University of Pittsburgh, 2011, 2012, 2015- 2019, 2022, 2023

Global Studies Center Grant, University of Pittsburgh, 2013

Faculty Grant, University of Pittsburgh, Summer 2008

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Courses Taught**

#### *Undergraduate*

Introduction to International Relations, Peacemaking and Peacekeeping, Civil Wars, Capstone in International Relations: Conflict Management and Resolution

#### *Graduate*

Civil Wars, Peacemaking and Peacekeeping, Dissertation Overview

### **Ph.D. Dissertation Committees Served**

#### Chair/Co-Chair

1. Zhejun Qiu (ABD)
2. Muyao Hang (ABD)
3. Perisa Davutoglu (PhD 2026, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Central Florida, co-chair)
4. Merve Keskin (PhD 2025, Postdoctoral Fellow, Arizona State University, co-chair)
5. Hyunjung Park (PhD 2024, Postdoctoral Fellow, York University, UK, 2024-2026)
6. Leonardo Gentil Fernandes (PhD 2023, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, co-chair)
7. Kelly Morrison (PhD 2021, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
8. Dong Ju Lee (PhD 2020, Associate Professor at Musashi University, Japan, co-chair)
9. Scott Cook (PhD 2014, Associate Professor of Political Science, Ohio State University, co-chair)
10. Dan Tirone (PhD 2012, Associate Professor of Political Science, LSU)
11. Brian Phillips (PhD 2012, Professor, University of Essex)

#### Member

1. Cigdem Unal (PhD 2025)
2. Jungmin Han (PhD 2024, Postdoctoral Fellow, Trinity College)
3. Huseyin Zengin (PhD 2023)
4. Omer Zarpli (PhD 2021, Assistant Professor, Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey)
5. Kevin Greene (PhD 2020, Academic Research Manager, Empirical Studies of Conflict,

Princeton University)

6. Huseyin Ilgaz (PhD 2020)
7. Shawna Metzger (PhD 2013, Associate Professor, University of Buffalo)
8. Hideaki Ashitate (PhD, 2009, Professor, Kyoto Sangyo University, Japan)
9. Kate Floros (PhD, 2007, Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois, Chicago)

#### External Committee Member

10. Eirin Haugseth (PhD 2025, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU))
11. Oguzhan Cat (Phd 2025, University of Texas, Austin)
12. Tyler Evans (PhD 2019, American University)
13. Tatjana Stankovic (PhD 2016, University of Oslo)
14. Nils-Christian Bormann (PhD 2014, ETH Zurich)
15. Art Maxwell (PhD 2010, GSPIA, University of Pittsburgh)

### **MA Qualifying Paper Committees Served**

#### Chair

1. Hussein Fayad (2026)
2. Zhejun Qiu (2024)
3. Perisa Davutoglu (2022)
4. Leonardo Gentil Fernandes (2019)
5. Kelly Morrison (2018)
6. Omer Zarpli (2016)
7. Matthew Jackson (2016) 8. Li Chen (2016)
9. Joshua Kaasik (2015)
10. Anne-Kathrin Kreft (2015)
11. Michael Neureiter (2015)
12. Dongju Lee (2015) 13. Christian Gineste (2014)
14. Kevin McQuade (2013)
15. Scott Cook (2010)
15. Brian Phillips (2008)

#### Member

Isil Idrisoglu (2024), Merve Keskin (2021), Huseyin Zengin (2020), Hyunjung Park (2020), Cigdem Unal (2019) Sara Fox (2018), Huseyin Ilgaz (2016), Isabel Ranner (2016)

### **BPhil. Thesis Committees**

Rohan Lambore (2015)  
Michelle Everson (2012)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### 1.DISCIPLINE

#### ***Editorial Activity***

Co-Editor, *International Interactions*, 2019-2023

Associate Editor, *International Interactions*, 2013-2018

Guest co-editor, *Journal of Peace Research*, 2019

Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Politics*, 2025-Present

Editorial Board Member, *International Studies Quarterly*, 2024-Present

Editorial Board Member, *American Political Science Review*, 2020-2024

Editorial Board Member, *American Journal of Political Science*, 2012-2014

Editorial Board Member, *International Interactions*, 2012-2014

#### ***Reviewer***

NSF, Advisory Panel Member, Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES) (2022-2025), Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, Civil Wars, Comparative Political Studies Conflict Management and Peace Science, European Political Science Review, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Interactions, International Migration Review, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly International Studies Review, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics Perspectives on Politics, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Review of International Organizations Security Studies, Terrorism and Political Violence, World Development, World Politics

#### ***Elected and Appointed Committee Positions at Professional Associations***

Program Co-Chair. Conflict Processes Section. *American Political Science Association*, 2024  
Chair, Scientific Studies of Political Processes Section. *International Studies Association* (2023-2025)

Treasurer, *Peace Science Society (International)*, 2019-Present

Chair, Lifetime Achievement Award Committee. Conflict Processes Section. *American Political Science Association*, 2021

Member, President and Officers Nominating Council. *International Studies Association*, 2017-2020

Council Member, *Peace Science Society (International)*, 2014-2017 (elected)

Chair, Best Dissertation Award Committee. *Peace Science Society (International)*, 2016

Program Organizer, International Security Section. *Midwest Political Science Association*, 2015

Member, Editor Selection Committee, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 2014

Member, Conflict Processes Section Council. *American Political Science Association*, 2012-14

Member, Best Paper Award Committee. Conflict Processes Section. *American Political*

*Science Association*, 2013

Program Co-Chair. Conflict Processes Section. *American Political Science Association*, 2012  
Member, Lifetime Achievement Award Committee. Conflict Processes Section. *American Political Science Association*, 2011.

Member, Councilor and President Nominating Committee. *Peace Science Society*, 2009-2011.

### ***Disciplinary Mentorship***

Mentor, Rising Scholars Workshop, Peace Science Society (International): 2023, 2024

APSA Mentoring Program: 2022

## **2.UNIVERSITY of PITTSBURGH**

GSPIA, International Relations Search Committee Member, 2023-2024

GSPIA, Third Year Review Committee Member, 2023-2024

University Center for Social and Urban Research Director Search Committee Member, 2021-2022

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Tenure and Promotion Council Secretary, 2021-2022

GSPIA, Personnel Committee Member, 2019-2021

GSPIA, Tenure and Promotion Committee Member, 2018-2019

GSPIA, Senior Lecturer in Intelligence Studies Search Committee Member, 2016-2017

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Tenure and Promotion Council Member, 2016-2019

Provost Advisory Committee on Undergraduate Programs (PACUP) Member, 2016-2019

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council Member, 2013-2016

University Senate Anti-Discriminatory Policies Committee Member, 2013-2016

University Faculty Assembly Member, 2013-2014

University Senate Council Member, 2013-2014

### **Director of Graduate Studies, 2018-2022 and 2023-2024**

#### **Director of Undergraduate Studies, 2012-2015**

Chair, Graduate Education Committee, 2018-2022, 2023-2024

Chair, Graduate Awards Committee, 2018-2022, 2023-2024

Chair, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2018-2021

Chair, Undergraduate Education Committee, 2012-2015

Member, Graduate Education Committee, 2024-2026

Member, Graduate Awards Committee, 2009, 2024, 2025

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2012, 2017, 2024, 2026

Member, Undergraduate Education Committee, 2011-2012, 2024-2025

Chair, International Relations Search Committee, 2015-2016, 2023-2024

Member, International Relations Search Committee, 2007-2008, 2009-2010, 2011-2012

Member, Dietrich Chair Search Committee, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017

Member, Computational Social Science Search Committee, 2019-2020

Member, Environmental Politics Search Committee, 2013-2014

Member, European Politics Search Committee, 2010-2011

Member, Formal Theory Search Committee, 2006-2007  
Chair, Post-Doc Selection Committee, 2015  
Member, Post-Doc Selection Committee, 2014  
Member, Tenure and Promotion Committee, 2014, 2021  
Member, Third Year Review Committee, 2018  
Member, Chair Selection Committee, 2011

Speaker Series Organizer

Global Politics Seminar (GPS), 2014-2019, 2023-2026  
Human Rights and Migration Seminar (HUMS), 2019-2020  
Symposium in Political Violence (SPV), 2012-2014  
Research in International Politics Speaker Series, 2007-2012