

Yasemin Gülsüm Acar

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Academic Background

2015 Claremont Graduate University, PhD
Applied Social Psychology

2009 New York University, MA
General Psychology

2007 University of Colorado at Boulder, BA
Psychology
Minor in Biology

Employment

Özyeğin University
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Social Sciences
Istanbul, Turkey
September 2015 – Present

Instructor
Faculty of Social Sciences
Istanbul, Turkey
September 2012 – August 2015

Relevant Experience

Süreç Analysis Research Center
Researcher and field coordinator
Istanbul, Turkey
September 2013 – May 2015

Claremont Graduate University
Research assistant
School of Politics and Economics
School of Behavioral and Organization Sciences, Social Identity Lab
Claremont, CA
September 2010 – May 2015

New York University
Grading assistant
General Psychology
New York, NY
September 2008 – December 2008

Research assistant
Center for Research on Culture, Development, and Education
New York, NY
September 2007 – January 2009

University of Colorado at Boulder

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Teaching assistant
Instructor, Recitation General Psychology

Boulder, CO
August 2006 – December 2006

Research assistant
Judgment, Emotion, Decision, and Intuition Lab

Boulder, CO
January 2006 – May 2007

Current Research Interests

Political protest and its consequences; political solidarity; politicization and social identity; social (ethnic, religious, political) identity, intergroup relations/conflict.

Journal articles

Acar, Y. G. (2017). Village guards in the Turkish-Kurdish conflict: Approaching identification, intergroup relations, and resolution, *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*. Under review.

Moss, S. M., Uluğ, Ö. M., & **Acar, Y. G.** (2017). Doing research in difficult contexts: Practical and ethical challenges for researchers in the field. *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*. Revised and resubmitted.

Acar, Y. G. & Önal, E. S. (2017). Military coups in Turkey and their effect on collective memory and national identity, *Turkish Studies*. Revised and resubmitted.

Acar, Y. G. (2017). Kolektif eyleme dair niyetler: Güçlendirme ve kimlik politikleşmesinin rolü [Collective action intentions: The role of empowerment and identity politicization], *Turkish Psychology Articles*. In press.

Uluğ, Ö. M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2017). What happens after the protests? Understanding protest outcomes through multi-level social change, *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, DOI: 10.1037/pac0000269.

Acar, Y. G. & Uluğ, Ö. M. (2016). Examining prejudice reduction through solidarity and togetherness experiences among Gezi Park activists in Turkey. *Journal of Social and Political Psychology*, 4(1), 166-179.

Book chapters

Acar, Y. G. (2016). Grupların politik psikolojisi [The political psychology of the group]. In Ö. D. Gümüş, *Siyaset Psikolojisi 2. Cilt* [Political Psychology, Volume 2]. Nobel Akademik Yayıncılık.

Acar, Y. G. & Uluğ, Ö. M. (2016). “Becoming us without being one”: A social psychological perspective on the Gezi Park protesters and negotiating levels of identity. In G. Koç & H. Aksu (Eds.), *Another brick in the barricade: The Gezi Resistance and its aftermath*. Wiener Verlag für Sozialforschung.

Uluğ, Ö. M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2015). “We are more than alliances between groups”: A social psychological perspective on the Gezi Park protesters and negotiating levels of identity. In I. David & K. Toktamış (Eds.), “*Everywhere Taksim*”: *The Gezi Spirit and the New Dynamics in Turkish Politics*. Amsterdam University Press.

Books

Uluğ, Ö. M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2014). *Bir olmadan biz olmak: Farklı gruplardan aktivistlerin gözüyle Gezi Direnişi* [Becoming us without being one: The Gezi Resistance from the perspective of different activists]. Ankara: Dipnot Yayınları.

Reports

Balta, E., Yüksel, M., & **Acar, Y. G.** (2015). Koruculuk Sistem ve Çözüm Süreci [The Village Guard System and the Peace Process]. *Süreç Analiz*.

Yaman, A., Yükleyen, A., Köse, T., & **Acar, Y. G.** (2014) Kürt Alevileri ve Çözüm Süreci [Kurdish Alevis and the Peace Process]. *Süreç Analiz*.

Ongoing Projects

Understanding collective action in repressive contexts: The role of perceived risk in shaping collective action intentions. With Arin Ayanian, Nicole Tausch, M. Chayinska, W. Y. Cheung, Y. Lukyanova, and O. Shestakovskiy. In preparation for submission.

Post-Gezi political dynamics in Turkey: A group-based analysis. With Özden Melis Uluğ. Book manuscript in preparation for submission.

Identity content in Alevis and its consequences for forgiveness, identification, and collective action in a conflict context. With Serap Dakak, Ege Akpınar, Özden Melis Uluğ, and Brian Lickel. In progress.

The role of political efficacy in the relationship between political trust and mental health. With Özden Melis Uluğ. In progress.

How crowds stop social change: An analysis of pro-government Democracy Meetings in post-coup Turkey. With Stephen D. Reicher. In progress.

Prototypes of Kurdish and Turkish actors in the frame of differential perceptions of narratives of the Kurdish issue. With Justin Marcus.

Presentations

Acar, Y. G. & Reicher, S. D. (2017, July). How crowds stop social change: An analysis of pro-government Democracy Meetings in post-coup Turkey. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the European Association of Social Psychology, Granada, Spain.

Acar, Y. G. & Uluę, . M. (2017, July). What happens after the protests? Understanding protest outcomes through multi-level social change. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Acar, Y. G. & Sandal nal, E. (July, 2017). Military coups in Turkey and their effect on political culture and national identity. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Acar, Y. G., Uluę, . M., & Moss, S. M. (2017, June). "What would you wish to know before data collection?" Difficulties of doing research in challenging contexts. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Acar, Y. G. (2017, June). Perceptions on identification, conflict, and peace from Turkey's village guards. Paper presented at EASP Medium Sized Conference on Challenging the Narratives of Intractable Conflict, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Acar, Y. G. (2017, March). *Sosyal benlikler yaratmak: Topluma gruplar zerinden bakmak grup iliřkilerini, gruplararası çatıřmayı ve çatıřma zm nasıl etkiler?* [Creating social selves: How seeing society through groups affects group relations, intergroup conflict, and resolution] Invited talk at Istanbul řehir University, Istanbul, Turkey.

Uluę, . M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2017, February). *Changing political dynamics in Turkey from Gezi to post-coup state of emergency: The consequences of collective action and increasing pressure on opposition groups.* Paper presented at Turkey at Critical Crossroads: Dynamics trajectories for society, politics and culture, Lisbon, Portugal.

Acar, Y. G. (2016, October). *The role of empowerment and identity politicization on collective action participation.* Invited talk at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Acar, Y. G. (2016, September). *Ky korucuları ve barıř sreci: Kimlik, gruplar arası iliřkiler, ve zm* [Turkey's village guards: identification, intergroup relations, and resolution]. Paper presented at the 19th National Psychology Congress, Izmir, Turkey.

Acar, Y. G., & Uluę, . M. (2016, July). *Examining prejudice reduction through solidarity and togetherness experiences among Gezi Park activists.* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Warsaw, Poland.

Acar, Y. G., & Uluę, . M. (2016, May). *Solidarity is the kindness between peoples: An exploration of solidarity experiences among Gezi Park activists.* Paper presented at New directions in the social psychology of solidarity: EASP small group meeting, Brighton, England.

Acar, Y. G. (2016, March). *Turkey's village guards in the Turkish-Kurdish conflict: A social psychological approach to identification, intergroup relations, and resolution.* Paper presented at Critical Approaches to the Peace Process in Turkey, London, England.

Acar, Y. G. (2016, February). *Psikolojinin farklı alanlarında Kürt sorunu: Politik psikoloji* [The Kurdish issue in psychology's different fields: Political psychology. Paper presented at TODAP's Psikolojinin Kürt Sorunuyla Yüzleşme(me)si Çalıştayı [Workshop for psychology to face the Kurdish issue], Istanbul, Turkey.

Acar, Y. G. (2015, July). *Lived history: The Gezi uprising*. Paper presented at the 24th Annual World History Association Conference, Savannah, Georgia.

Acar, Y. G. (2015, May). *Kolektif eyleme dair niyetler: güçlendirme ve kimliğin siyasallaşmasının rolü* [Collective action intentions: The role of empowerment and identity politicization]. Paper presented at Society, Identity, and Politics: Social Psychological Approaches, Istanbul, Turkey.

Uluğ, Ö. M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2014, September). *Bir olmadan biz olmak: Farklı gruplardan aktivistlerin gözüyle Gezi Direnişi*. Paper presented at the Fourth Annual Critical Psychology Seminar, Ankara, Turkey.

Acar, Y. G. (2014, July). *But what did it all mean? Perceptions of legitimacy and success in the Gezi Park protests*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Rome, Italy.

Acar, Y. G., & Hogg, M. A. (2014, July). *Politicization of Identity as a Result of Collective Action in the Gezi Park Protests*. Paper presented as part of the Theories of Collective Action Applied in Current Protests Around the World symposium conducted at the 17th General Meeting of the European Association of Social Psychology, Amsterdam, Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Uluğ, Ö. M. & **Acar, Y. G.** (2014, February). *We are more than the alliances between groups*. Paper presented at Gezi Protests and Beyond: Contesting AKP Rule, Lisbon, Portugal.

Acar, Y. G. (2012, July). *Ethnic and National Identification in Turkey: Perceived Threat in the Form of Extremism and Separatism and its Consequences for the Ethnic Minority*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology, Chicago, Illinois.

Acar, Y. G. (2012, June). *Turkish Identification: Perceived Threat and Consequences for the Minority*. Poster presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Acar, Y. G. (2012, April). *Türkiye'de Etnik ve Ulusal Kimlik Tehdidi ve Sonuçları*. Poster presented at 17. Ulusal Psikoloji Kongresi [17th Annual National Psychology Congress], Istanbul, Turkey.

Acar, Y. G. (2009, April). *The Perception of Traditional Gender Roles and Feminism Among Muslims*. Poster presented at the annual New York University MA Psychology Research Conference, Honorable Mention.

Professional Development

An Interdisciplinary Workshop on Accepting the Other: Learning to Live Together With Differences, in conjunction with Istanbul Bilgi University Center for Migration Research, International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), and the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBİTAK) (2016)

Rethinking Prefigurative Politics Workshop, in conjunction with the Journal of Social and Political Psychology (2015)

Early Career Scholars Pre-Conference Workshop on Equity, Environment, and Education, in conjunction with the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) 2012 Biennial Conference

International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP) Summer Academy Workshop on research in political psychology in conjunction with the 2012 ISPP International Conference

Organized Conferences

Organizer, Routes to Collective Action in Academia: The Survival of Social and Political Psychology in Turkey, held at Kadir Has University, June 2017.

Organizer, Toplum, Kimlik, Siyaset: Sosyal Psikolojik Yaklaşımlar [Society, Identity, Politics: Social Psychological Approaches], held at Istanbul Şehir University, May 2015.

Awards and Grants Received

Istanbul Policy Center, research grant 2014.

Open Society Foundation, research grant 2014.

Claremont Graduate University Graduate Student Council Travel Award, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014.

Claremont Graduate University, Graduate Student Fellowship 2010-2015.

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) 2012 Early Career Scholar

Professional Affiliations

European Association of Social Psychology	February 2013 – Present
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues	October 2010 – Present
Society of Personality and Social Psychology	October 2010 – Present

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International Society of Political Psychology

October 2010 – Present

Relevant Skills

Languages: English (native), Turkish (fluent), Kurdish (intermediate)