

# Curriculum Vitae – R. Melis Baydag, PhD

---

## Contact

Email: [melis.baydag@idos-research.de](mailto:melis.baydag@idos-research.de)  
[melis.baydag@tum.de](mailto:melis.baydag@tum.de)  
[melis.baydag@rub.de](mailto:melis.baydag@rub.de)

## Affiliations

Researcher at **German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)**.  
Lecturer at **Technical University of Munich** and **Ruhr University Bochum**.  
Web: [www.melisbaydag.de](http://www.melisbaydag.de)

## CURRENT POSITIONS

- 2024 Oct-present **Lecturer**, Chair of European and Global Governance.  
Munich School of Politics and Public Policy, Technical University of Munich.
- 2024 Apr-present **Researcher**, Department Inter- and Transnational Cooperation.  
German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS).
- 2018 Oct-present **Lecturer**, Chair of International Politics.  
Faculty of Social Science, Ruhr University Bochum.

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

- 2020-2024 **Research Associate and Lecturer**  
Chair of International Politics, Ruhr University Bochum.
- 2023 Oct-Dec **Guest Researcher**  
Department Inter- and Transnational Cooperation, IDOS.
- 2023 May **Visiting Lecturer**  
Institute of International Studies, University of Wroclaw.
- 2018-2020 **Lecturer and PhD Candidate**  
Chair of International Politics, Ruhr University Bochum.
- 2018 Sep-Oct **Guest Researcher**  
Department Inter- and Transnational Cooperation, German Development Institute.
- 2017 Oct **Guest Researcher**  
Department Bi- and Multilateral Development Cooperation, German Development Institute.

## EDUCATION

- 2023 **PhD** in Social Sciences (*Magna cum laude*).  
Major field: Political Science/International Relations  
Chair of International Politics, Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), Germany.
- 2017 **MSc** in International Relations (GPA 3.90/4.00).  
Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey.
- 2015-2016 *Exchange year*, MA International Development Studies, Philipps-University Marburg, Germany.
- 2014 **BSc** in International Relations (GPA 3.53/4.00, *with High Honors*).  
Middle East Technical University (METU), Ankara, Turkey.
- 2013-2014 *Exchange semester*, BA Political Science, Duisburg-Essen University, Germany.

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

IR, international political economy, domestic politics theories, international economic cooperation, foreign aid and development, middle powers, global governance, qualitative methods, and process-tracing.

**PUBLICATIONS**Monograph

The Domestic Politics of Aid: Development Policies among Emerging Middle Powers  
Palgrave Macmillan | *International Studies* (in progress)

Peer-reviewed publications

**2025:** Populist narratives and personalized national role conception in middle powers: The cases of Mexico and Turkey during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Politics & Policy* 53(1), e12645, 1-14 (with R. Villanueva Ullgard).

**2024:** Domestic ideas and interests in development cooperation of emerging donors: The case of Mexican development policy. *Contemporary Politics*, 1-23.

**2024:** Positions of Established and Emerging Powers towards Climate Finance: The Cases of Germany and Korea. In Klingebiel, S., Kalinowski T. & Keijzer, N. (Eds.) *Emerging trends in international development and climate policy: A focus on Korea and Germany*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.

**2023:** Partner country selection between development narratives and self-interests: A new method for analysing complex donor approaches. *Review of Development Economics* 27(2), 1199-1223 (with S. Klingebiel).

**2021:** Middle powers in international development cooperation: Assessing the roles of South Korea and Turkey. In Chaturvedi, S. et al. (Eds.) *The Palgrave handbook of development cooperation for achieving the 2030 agenda: Contested collaboration*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.

Other publications

**2018:** Shaping the patterns of aid allocation: A comparative analysis of seven bilateral donors and the European Union. *Discussion Paper* (No. 22). German Development Institute/Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Bonn (with S. Klingebiel & P. Marschall).

Papers under review, submitted, or in progress

Forum: Dialogue Instead of Mutual Neglect? International Political Economy Meets Foreign Policy Analysis, prepared for *Cooperation and Conflict* (co-edited with S. Fouquet).

“Like-mindedness under threat? The OECD's strategy between a universal actor and a western club,” *work in progress*.

“Domestic drivers of aid: How economic interests and societal ideas shape development policies in South Korea and Turkey,” *work in progress*.

“European and emerging middle powers in global climate governance: Diverging preferences in international climate finance,” *work in progress*.

**RESEARCH FUNDING**

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2020-2023 | <b>Mercator Research Center Ruhr (MERCUR) Foundation</b> for the PhD project as part of Promotionskolleg 'Graduate School on Political Cohesion (GSPC)' (employment).  |
| 2020      | <b>German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, DFG)</b> Germany's Excellence Initiative [DFG GSC 98/3] for the field research project “Mexican governmental preferences towards development policy” conducted in Mexico City, Mexico, 1-20 Mar, 2020. It was received via RUB Research School PLUS – Project International (2100€). |
| 2016      | <b>METU Scientific Research Projects Coordination Unit</b> [BAP-04-04-2016-001] for the field research project “South Korean foreign aid and middle power diplomacy” conducted in Seoul, Republic of Korea, 1-14 Oct, 2016. (1700€).   |

**GRANTS, AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2024 **Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft / German Research Foundation (DFG)**  
Travel grant/ISA 2024 Annual Convention, San Francisco, USA.  
**German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)**  
Travel grant/7th WISC Global International Studies Conference. Warsaw, Poland.  
**International Studies Association (ISA)**  
Travel grant/ISA 2024 Annual Convention, San Francisco, USA.
- 2023 **MERCUR Graduate School on Political Cohesion**  
Travel grant/16th EISA-PEC. Potsdam, Germany. 5-9 Sep, 2023.  
**German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)**  
Travel grant/expert workshop (Palgrave book project). Seoul, South Korea.  
**Erasmus+ Staff Mobility for Teaching**  
Erasmus grant/Visiting Lecturer at University of Wrocław, Poland.
- 2022 **RUB Faculty of Social Science**  
Travel grant/ISA 2022 Annual Convention, Nashville, USA. 28 Mar-2 Apr, 2022.  
**MERCUR Graduate School on Political Cohesion**  
Travel grant/ISA 2022 Annual Convention. Nashville, USA.
- 2021 **RUB Faculty of Social Science**  
Grant/14th EISA-PEC. Virtual. (120€).  
Grant/8th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS). Virtual.  
**MERCUR Graduate School on Political Cohesion**  
Grant/ISA 2021 Annual Convention. Virtual. 6-9 Apr, 2021.
- 2020 **MERCUR Graduate School on Political Cohesion**  
Participation grant/European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Virtual Summer School in Methods and Techniques, Process-Tracing Methods.  
**RUB Faculty of Social Science**  
Participation grant/ECPR Virtual Summer School in Methods and Techniques.
- 2019 **RUB Research School PLUS – ECR Board Funding**  
Travel grant/13th EISA-PEC, Sofia, Bulgaria.  
**RUB Faculty of Social Science**  
Travel grant/13th EISA-PEC, Sofia, Bulgaria.  
**German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)**  
Travel grant/expert workshop (Palgrave handbook project). Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 2018 **German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)**  
Travel grant/expert workshop. New York, USA.
- 2017 **European International Studies Association (EISA)**  
Early career researchers grant/4th EWIS. Cardiff, UK.
- 2016 **Erasmus+Academic Exchange Program**  
Philipps-University Marburg, Germany. Oct-Jun.
- 2014 **Erasmus+Academic Exchange Program**  
Duisburg-Essen University, Germany. Oct-Feb.
- 2011-2014 **Mehmet Zorlu Foundation**  
Scholarship (via METU).
- 2009-2014 **Ankara Atatürk Lisesi Education Foundation (ALEV)**  
Scholarship

**TRAINING**

2020 “Process Tracing Methods,” Instructor: Derek Beach (Aarhus University).  
Central European University | ECPR Summer School in Methods and Techniques

**TEACHING AND ADVISING**

SUPERVISION 12 BA-Theses [*as 1st Supervisor: 9 (completed), 1 (in progress); as 2nd supervisor: 2 (completed)*].  
ADVISING Reviewing and commenting on MA-Theses and PhD dissertation exposés at weekly colloquiums.

TEACHING 10 completed BA-Seminars, 3 completed MA-Seminars  
- Independent planning, preparation, and teaching (e.g. course syllabus, reading list, online tools: Moodle).  
- Preparing, marking and commenting on class presentations, reflection and term papers; holding office hours.  
- Student evaluation as principal examiner (oral exams, module exams and term papers).

INSTITUTIONS Technical University of Munich (TUM)  
Ruhr Univeristy Bochum (RUB)  
University of Wroclaw (UWr)

TEACHING International Relations, International Political Economy, International Organizations, Emerging Powers,  
INTEREST Regional and European Integration, Global Governance.

**CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & TALKS**

2025 (*upcoming*) **Section Chair:** The Geopolitics and Geoeconomics of Fragmented World Order (with S. Schirm), 18th Pan-European Conference on International Relations (EISA-PEC). 25-29 August 2025, Bologna, Italy.  
**Conference Paper:** International Political Economy (IPE) meets Foreign Policy Analysis (FPA): How institutions, interests and ideas interact in decision-making processes, International Studies Association (ISA) 2025 Annual Convention. 2-5 March 2025, Chicago, USA.  
**Conference Paper:** Populist narratives and personalized national role conception in middle powers: The cases of Mexico and Turkey during the COVID-19 Pandemic, ISA 2025 Annual Convention. 2-5 March 2025, Chicago, USA.

2024 **Conference Paper:** The changing role and identity of international organizations: The OECD’s strategy between a universal actor and a Western club, 29th DVPW Convention, 24-27 September 2024. Göttingen, Germany.  
**Conference Paper:** Domestic drivers of development policy decision-making in emerging middle powers: A comparative analysis of Mexico and Turkey, 7th World International Studies Committee (WISC) Global International Studies Conference, 24-26 July 2024. Warsaw, Poland.  
**Conference Paper:** The changing role and identity of international organizations: The OECD’s strategy between a universal actor and a Western club, 7th WISC Global International Studies Conference, 24-26 July 2024. Warshaw, Poland.  
**Roundtable:** The Changing Dynamics of International Institutions in an Era of Multiple Crises, co-organized by Marmara University and IDOS, 12 June 2024, virtual.  
**Conference Paper:** Established and emerging powers in international cooperation: Domestic driving forces on German and Korean positions towards international climate finance, ISA 2024 Annual Convention. 3-6 April 2024, San Francisco, USA.  
**Conference Paper:** Preference formation in foreign aid policies of emerging donors: The cases of Mexico and Turkey, ISA 2024 Annual Convention. 3-6 April 2024, San Francisco, USA.  
**Discussant:** Panel Social Data Insights in Foreign Aid, ISA 2024 Annual Convention. 3-6 April 2024, San Francisco, USA. Domestic drivers of development policy decision-making in emerging middle powers: A comparative analysis of Mexico and Turkey to be presented at the 7th WISC Global International Studies Conference, 24-26 Jul, 2024. Warsaw, Poland.

- 2023 **Conference Paper:** The political economy of emerging donors' aid preferences: The cases of Mexico and Turkey, 16th Pan-European Conference on International Relations (EISA-PEC). 5-9 September 2023, Potsdam, Germany.  
**Conference Paper:** The political economy of South Korean development aid: Ideas and Interests shaping the preferences of the Lee Government's Green and Climate ODA, 3rd Workshop of the Korean-German Research Network organized by Ewha Womans University & German Institute for Development and Sustainability (IDOS), 12-13 June 2023, Seoul, South Korea.
- 2022 **Conference Paper:** Aid-climate nexus: Domestic driving forces on Korean development policy preferences during the President Lee administration, 2nd Workshop of the Korean-German Research Network organized by Ewha Womans University & IDOS. 17-18 October 2022, Bonn, Germany.  
**Conference Paper:** Domestic politics of development aid: Interests and ideas in bilateral development aid preferences of South Korea and Turkey, ISA 2022 Annual Convention. 28 March-2 April 2022. Nashville, United States.  
**Conference Paper:** Shaping policy responses of middle powers to the covid-19 crisis: The role of populist leaders in Mexico and Turkey, ISA 2022 Annual Convention. 28 March-2 April 2022. Nashville, United States.  
**2021Sep**Societal influences on foreign aid preferences: Diverging governmental positions of South Korea and Turkey in international development cooperation. The 14th EISA-PEC. 13-17 Sep, 2021, virtual.
- 2021 **Conference Paper:** Societal influences on foreign aid preferences: Diverging governmental positions of South Korea and Turkey in international development cooperation, 14th EISA-PEC. 13-17 September 2021, virtual.  
**Conference Paper:** Societal influences on emerging donors' development assistance preferences: A comparative analysis of Mexican and Turkish governmental positions, 8th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS). 30 June-3 July 2021, virtual.  
**Discussant:** Workshop Non-Western Agency in World Politics: Decentering practices, Actions and Perceptions at the 8th European Workshops in International Studies (EWIS). 30 June – 3 July 2021, virtual.  
**Workshop Organization:** PhD training workshop Qualitative Methods in Political Science. Keynote Speaker: Derek Beach (Professor, University of Aarhus) "Process tracing methods," 28 April 2021, virtual.  
**Conference Paper:** Diverging positions of middle-sized emerging donors in international development cooperation: The cases of Mexico and Turkey, ISA 2021 Annual Convention. 6-9 April 2021, virtual.  
**Discussant:** Panel Globalization and Poverty at the ISA 2021 Annual Convention. 8 April 2021, virtual.
- 2020 **Workshop Organization:** The GSPC workshop Political cohesion and societal division (with Daniel Beck and Daniel Gloris). 18 & 24 November 2020, virtual.  
**Discussant:** Webinar "How can middle powers sharpen the global development cooperation discourse? A discussion between representatives of MIKTA development agencies and academia" organized by the UNDP Seoul Policy Centre. 27 October 2020, virtual.  
**Presentation:** Mexico's development cooperation: The impact of material interests and societal ideas on governmental preferences, Conversatorio „International Cooperation of Emerging Countries: Perspectives on Foreign Policy and Forced Migration“organized by El Instituto de Investigaciones Dr. José María Luis Mora (Instituto MORA). 13 March 2020, Mexico City, Mexico.
- 2019 **Presentation:** The role of development cooperation in migration management: Between donor interests and development concerns, International Forum on Refugee Protection & Migration Issues (IFRP). 28-29 November 2019, Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany.  
**Conference Paper:** Emerging donors' development policy preferences: An analysis of value-based ideas and material interests shaping the Mexican governmental position, 13th EISA-PEC. 11-14 September 2019, Sofia University, Bulgaria.  
**Conference Paper:** Middle powers in international development cooperation: Assessing South Korea and Turkey, Workshop „Development Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda“ organized by the German Development Institute/Deutsche Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE) and the Network for Southern Think Tanks (NeST) for a handbook project at the margins of the 2019 Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40). 19 March 2019. Buenos Aires, Argentina.

- 2018 **Conference Paper:** Forum shopping for rising powers in proliferation of club governance formats: The rationale for Turkey, Conference „The G20@10: Benefits, Limitations and the Future of Global Club Governance“, organized by DIE, Chatham House, and the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies (SIIS). 23 October 2018, Bonn, Germany.  
**Conference Paper:** A Middle Way towards Development Cooperation: Foreign Aid Discourse of South Korea and Turkey in Relation to the OECD DAC, Expert Workshop “Development Cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda: The Way Forward”, organized by DIE at the margins of the 2018 High-Level Meeting of the United Nations Development Cooperation Forum, 23 May 2018, New York, United States.
- 2017 **Conference Paper:** Middle Powers and International Development Architecture: The Cases of Turkey and Korea, 4th European Workshops in International Studies (EISA), 7-10 June 2017, University of Cardiff, United Kingdom.

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- PEER REVIEW Contemporary Politics, Brazilian Journal of International Politics, Forum for Development Studies, RUB Research School, IDOS.
- MEMBERSHIP International Studies Association (ISA). European International Studies Association (EISA). British International Studies Association (BISA). German Political Science Association (DVPW). Turkish Political Science Association (TPSA). ECPR Standing Group on International Relations (SGIR). European Platform of Women Scientists (EPWS).
- FACULTY WORK Participating at regular faculty (and teaching) meetings; serving as a reviewer of postgraduate funding proposals; interviewing candidates in recruitment processes.
- LANGUAGES Turkish (native), English (fluent, *working*), German (fluent, *working*), French (intermediate, *reading and listening*), Spanish (basic, *reading and listening*)
- OTHERS *Membership* Ankara Atatürk Lisesi Education Foundation (ALEV). The Turkish Foundation for Combatting Soil Erosion, Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats (TEMA).

**Last update:** January 7, 2025