

**Banu Durdag, Ph.D.**

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**Education**

- **Ph.D. of Communication Sciences at Graduate School of Social Sciences**, Faculty of Communication, Department of Journalism, Ankara University, Ankara - Turkey, March 2018.

PhD Dissertation Title: “The Relationship between Technology and Social Change: Counter-Hegemonic Communication Platforms/Media in Social Movements” [in Turkish, “*Teknoloji ve Toplumsal Değişim İlişkisi: Toplumsal Başkaldırı Momentinde Karşı-Hegemonik İletişim Platformları/Medyaları*”].

The thesis analyses the role of communication technologies in social change by focusing on contemporary political developments in Turkey. It asks: How did activists in the Gezi movement make use of Internet platforms as tools of organisation and communication? It puts an emphasis on the relationship between alternative communication practices and social movements. Given that her thesis provides an understanding of the general dynamics of communication processes constantly evolving with the development of technology, the thesis aims to contribute to a critical understanding of the relationship between communication technology and the dynamics of social and political change. It sheds light on the complex and stratified nature of the relationship between technology and social change. In the context of Turkey, it studies digital forms of what Hans Magnus Enzensberger terms emancipatory media as well as what he terms repressive media use. It analysed seven Turkish non-profit alternative media platforms. The methodology combined in-depth interviews with tech-activists running and participant observation. In addition, critical discourse analysis was used as qualitative method for analysing how users communicated on these platforms.

- **M.A. in International Relations**, Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, North Cyprus, 2007.

Master Thesis Title: “The Political Identity of the EU and Turkey’s Europeanness”.

- **B.A. in International Relations**, Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, North Cyprus, 2005.

## **Academic Work Experience**

- September 2022 - : PAUSE post-doctoral fellow at Laboratoire Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Éducation et de la Communication LISEC – UR 2310, l'Université de Strasbourg.

Post-doctoral research project title: “A New Phase in the AKP’s Diaspora Policy: Digital Media, Pro-AKP Organizations and Radicalisation of Turkish Diaspora”.

- February 2013 – February 2017: Research and Teaching Assistant, full-time, at Ankara University, Faculty of Communication, Ankara, Turkey (Forced dismissal by a government decree called No. 686 because of signing the Academics for Peace-Petition).

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- May 2020 – June 2022: Researcher and online learning co-coordinator in the project, “Promoting Gender Equality via the Network of Solidarity Academies” – AĞ-DA, carried out by ADA Cooperative for Education (Ankara Solidarity Academy-ADA) and BIRARADA Association, and financialised by the European Commission Support to Civil Society Networks and Platforms in Turkey. The field research includes an online survey with 100 academics working in the field of gender studies; 7 focus groups with the participation of scholars in the field of gender studies, and regional CSOs members working in the field of women rights and LGBTIQ+ rights, and 20 semi-structured interviews with the directors and volunteers of CSOs including those closed during the State of Emergency in Turkey. The field research aims provide a basis for the assessment of the damage caused by the State of Emergency in the field of gender studies and the struggle for gender equality in Turkey. [www.ag-da.org](http://www.ag-da.org)

## **Thesis Conducted**

Master Thesis – Co-supervisor

KOLAT Nurdan, LLCER études turques M1, l'Université de Strasbourg.

“Après le retrait de la Turquie de la Convention d'Istanbul le discours de haine tenu par des responsables politiques contre les personnes LGBT+ sur les réseaux sociaux notamment Twitter”. Sous la codirection de Banu DURDAĞ et Samim Akgönül,

## **Courses Conducted**

- January 2023 - : Histoire de la Turquie contemporaine (in Turkish), Master course at Département d'Etudes turques, l'Université de Strasbourg.

- January 2023 - : Documentation audiovisuelle (in Turkish), Undergraduate course at Département d'Etudes turques, l'Université de Strasbourg.

-September 2022 – December 2022: Outils pour l'approche du domaine turc: presse (in Turkish), Undergraduate course at Département d'Etudes turques, l'Université de Strasbourg.

## **Publication List:**

### **Book Chapters**

Durdağ, B. (2017). “Towards a Critical Understanding of ‘Alternative Media’: Resistance, Technology and Social Change”, In *The Future Information Society Social and Technological Problems*, Wolfgang Hofkirchner and Mark Burgin (eds.), London: World Scientific Books, pp. 353-372. <http://www.worldscientific.com/worldscibooks/10.1142/10015>

Durdağ, B. (2016). “Creating the Myth of Better a Future: Technological Determinism and Reproducing Social Inequalities”, In *Social Inequalities, Media, and Communication: Theory and Roots*, Jan Serveas and Toks Oyedimi (eds.), Lanham: Lexington Books, pp. 149-165. <https://rowman.com/isbn/9781498523431/social-inequalities-media-and-communication-%20theory-and-roots>

### **Articles**

Durdağ, B. (2017). “Communication and Technology in the Process of Social Change: A Critical Appraisal of the Early Communication Theories”, [in Turkish, “Toplumsal Değişim Sürecinde İletişim ve Teknoloji: Erken Dönem İletişim Kuramlarının Eleştirel Bir Değerlendirmesi”], *Gaziantep University Journal of Social Sciences*, Vol. 16(1), pp. 169-287. <http://dergipark.gov.tr/download/article-file/276932>

### **Open-Source Field Research Financialising by the European Union**

Çelik, N. B. and Durdağ, B. (2022). *The Struggle for Gender Equality After the State of Emergency and Gender Studies Problems, Expectations, Suggestions in Academia and Civil Society*. Promoting Gender Equality via the Network of Solidarity Academies Project Financed by the European Union.

<https://ag-da.org/the-struggle-for-gender-equality-after-the-state-of-emergency-and-gender-studies/>

## **Conferences and Published Proceedings**

Durdağ, B. (2023). “Digital Networked Authoritarianism: Turkey’s Diaspora Policy and Right-Wing Populist Digital Discourse”. *International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) 2023-Lyon*, France from 9 to 13 July 2023.

Durdağ, B. (2023). “Digital Freedoms in Turkey: Coercive Isolation versus Emancipation”. *International Symposium, "Isolation and Space in the Eastern, Slavic and Neo-Hellenic worlds"*, May 3, 4 and 5, 2023, University of Strasbourg, France.

Durdağ, B. (2023). “Digitalisation of NGOs in Turkey: Possibilities, Limitations, and Obstacles”. *Médias Sociaux Et Services Numériques Business, Innovation, Durabilité*, to be held in 23-24 Mars 2023, Centre Universitaire d'Informatique, Université de Genève en présentiel ET en distanciel, Geneva, Switzerland.

Durdağ, B. (2018). “Ethical Dilemmas and Methodological Debates on Social Media Research”, [in Turkish, “Sosyal Medya Araştırmalarında Etik İkilemler ve Metodoloji Tartışmaları”], *The Thirteenth Karaburun Science Congress*, 5-9 September 2018, Izmir, Turkey.

Durdağ, B. (2017). “Emancipation or Authoritarianism? Antagonistic Nature of Communication Technologies”, [in Turkish, “Özgürleşim mi, Otoriterleşme mi? İletişim Teknolojilerinin Antagonistik Niteliği”], *The Sixth HUN (Hasan Ünal Nalbantoğlu) Symposium 2017*, 5-7 April 2017, Middle East Technical University, Ankara-Turkey.

Durdağ, B. (2016). “The Advance of Communication Technology: Machinery of Tyranny vs. Machinery of Emancipation”, *International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) 2016*, Leicester, UK 27-31 July 2016, (The paper was accepted, but could not be presented at the conference in Leicester, UK, because of a travel ban that affected the Academics for Peace). <https://iamcr.org/sites/default/files/POE-abstracts-2016.pdf>

Durdağ, B. (2015). “Creating Alternative Communication Spaces: Resistance, Technology and Social Change”, *In Proceedings of the ISIS Summit Vienna 2015*, 3–7 June 2015, Vienna,

<http://sciforum.net/search/general/Salvatore%20Stramondo>

Durdağ, B. (2014). “Deus Ex Machina or Reproducing Social Inequalities”, [in Turkish, “Deus Ex Machina ya da Toplumsal Eşitsizliklerin Yeniden Üretimi], *Fourth International Conference in Communication and Media Studies*, 19-21 November 2104, Famagusta, North Cyprus. [http://crcp.emu.edu.tr/Documents/crcp-2014/crcp2014\\_program.pdf](http://crcp.emu.edu.tr/Documents/crcp-2014/crcp2014_program.pdf)

Durdağ, B. (2014). “Technological Determinism with its Different Aspects in the Relationship between Technology and Social Change”, [in Turkish, “Teknoloji ve Toplumsal Değişim İlişkisinde Teknolojik Determinist Yaklaşım ve Farklı Veçheleri], *In LaborComm 2014 Proceeding*, Hakan Yüksel (ed.) pp. 25-35. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/278673025\\_Teknoloji\\_ve\\_Toplumsal\\_Degisim\\_Illiskisinde\\_Teknolojik\\_Determinist\\_Yaklasim\\_ve\\_Farkli\\_Vecheleri](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/278673025_Teknoloji_ve_Toplumsal_Degisim_Illiskisinde_Teknolojik_Determinist_Yaklasim_ve_Farkli_Vecheleri)

### **Editorship**

*LaborComm 2015 – 6th International Labor and Communication Conference Proceedings*. Hakan Yüksel, Banu Durdağ and Zafer Kıyan (Eds).

### **Book Review**

Durdağ, B. (2014). “Marx is Back”, [in Turkish, “Marx Geri Döndü], *Kültür ve İletişim - Kİ*, No: 34, pp. 222-228.

### **Academic Translations**

Manzerolle, Vincent R. and Kjösen, Atle Mikkola (2014), “The Communication of Capital: Digital Media and the Logic of Acceleration”. In *Marx is Back* [in Turkish, “Sermayenin İletişimi: Sayısal Medya ve Hızlanmanın Mantığı], Funda Başaran (ed.), (translation Banu Durdağ), Ankara: NotoBene, pp. 217-253.

Hall, Richard and Stahl Bernd (2014), “Against Commodification: The University, Cognitive Capitalism and Emergent Technologies”. In *Marx is Back* [in Turkish, “Metalaştırmaya Karşı: Üniversite, Bişisel Kapitalizm ve Yeni Gelişen Teknolojiler], Funda Başaran (ed.), (translation Banu Durdağ and Hakan Yüksel), Ankara: NotoBene, pp. 151-192.

## **Teaching Assistantship**

During her doctoral studies, Banu Durdağ has assisted as teaching assistant in several undergraduate courses that her PhD supervisor, Prof. Funda Başaran, led Durdağ as part of this work also prepared and delivered lectures in the modules “Communication, Technology and Society” and “Political Economy of International Communication”. She was responsible for students’ assignments in these two courses.

## **Seminars / Workshops**

- January 2021: “Raymond Williams: Culture, Communication and Technology”, [in Turkish, “Raymond Williams: Kültür, İletişim ve Teknoloji”]. It was one of the free online seminars of the Cultural Studies Program organising by ADA Cooperative for Education (Ankara Solidarity Academy-ADA) in cooperation with the Duvar Media Foundation. It was a 6 weeks online seminar aiming to read more deeply and discuss William’s works in the context of culture, communication and communication technologies in order to offer a holistic and critical way of thinking for undergraduate, graduate students and activists/volunteers of civil society organisations.

- April 2020: “Social Movements and Alternative Media”, [in Turkish, “Toplumsal Hareketler ve Alternatif Medya”]. It was a free online 8 weeks seminar for undergraduate, graduate students and activists/volunteers of civil society organisations, which was organised by ADA Cooperative for Education (Ankara Solidarity Academy-ADA) and in cooperation with the Civil Rights Defenders. The seminar aimed to examine key theories and selected approaches of social movements and alternative media in order to trace how these theoretical approaches describe contemporary social movements, alternative media practices.

- May 2015: “Alternative Media Workshop” was held within the LaborComm-2015, The 6th International Labour and Communication Conference, on May 09-10, 2015, in Ankara, Turkey. The workshop brought together the alternative media platforms, Çapul TV (capul.tv) direnisteyiz.net, inadinahaber.org, seyrisokak.org, jiyani.org and sendika.org in order to discuss the possibility of the creation of a common platform.

- February 2013: “HE Haber, Citizen Journalism and Video Activism Workshop”, was held on February 02-24 2013, in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey. The workshop aimed to empower the minority groups by theoretical and practical open courses on citizen journalism and video activism.

### **IT Skills**

SPSS, MAXQDA, Netvizz, NodeXL, DiscoverTex, Moodle.