



Democratic Crisis and Governance Research Group

Objectives and Scope: Democratic Crisis and Governance Research Group is a joint initiative of academics from Kadir Has University, Istanbul. The core of the group has a multidisciplinary framework and philosophy, comprised of five researchers from different disciplines including economics, political science, and international relations.

The main objective of the group is to understand the **economic** and **political** causes, dynamics, implications and polarizing consequences of rising **economic nationalist** and **populist** discourses/policies on **European democracies**. The group turns a keen eye on the dynamic **democracy-trust relation** by focusing on **how economic nationalism and populism affect trust** and **how changes in trust affect quality of democracy**, *vice versa*. In addition to theoretical debates and other empirical cases including the EU, the group is currently interested in **Turkey** as the rise of populist and nationalist discourse along with major overhaul of public administration in the wake of the attempted coup has turned the country into a **laboratory for democracy studies**.

The group aims to **generate public policy debate** on the **perils** of **economic nationalism**, **populism**, and **polarization** on democracy. Our goal is to contribute to the **revitalization of trust** in democratic institutions through **evidence-based research** and **trust-enhancing suggestions for public policy**.

Skills and Expertise: The group's expertise covers a comprehensive set of research methods both qualitative and quantitative: historical, institutional, and political economy analysis, theoretical modelling, quasi-experimental causal methods in econometrics, panel data, time series, structural econometrics, ethnographic research, survey, elite interviewing, process tracing, archival research, discourse analysis, and case studies.

Recent Successful Projects: The group has involved in many EU, international, and national projects including but not limited to: **EU** 2012-2016: FP7-People-2011 Marie Curie International Reintegration Grant, No: 303981 "Financialization, economic development and crisis", **EU** 2016-2021: ERC-2016-STG "Emerging Welfare", **EU** FP7-Theme, 2011-16: SSH-2010-1.2-1, Grant No: 26680, "Financialization, economy, society and sustainable development", **SSHRC** (Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada) Grant, Program: 410, "Globalization and the New Political Economy of Un/employment", **TUBITAK** (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) 2019-21 Grant No: 218K247 "The Effect of Taxes, Social Spending, and Squatter Housing Forbearance on Income Inequality and Poverty", **TUBITAK** 2016 Grant No: 115K762 "Export decisions and financing constraints in Turkish manufacturing sector", **Kadir Has University (KHAS) Scientific Research Grant** No: 2017-BAP-0, 2017-18, "Estimating a Social Policy Relevant Multidimensional Poverty Index for Turkey", **KHAS Scientific Research Grant** No: 2016-BAP-03, 2016, "An empirical analysis of the industrial sector in Turkey: Research and development investment and external dependency", **KHAS Scientific Research Grant** No: 2014-BAP-10, 2014-15, "An empirical analysis of the nonfinancial corporate sector in Turkey: Growth, investment and fragility", **KHAS Scientific Research Grant**, No: 2012-BAP-01, 2012-13, "Capital inflows and economic development: A theoretical and empirical examination".



We are interested in the following H2020 calls: Governance-17-2019 “Democratic crisis? Resolving socio-economic and political challenges to reinvigorate democracies” and **Governance-01-2019** “Trust in governance”.

Role as a Partner: The group may take active part in project design and management, basic and applied research, data gathering and analysis, event management (conferences, workshops, meetings, etc.), policy impact analysis, and project dissemination strategies.

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