

# Rozelin Vurgun

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Kadir Has University ◊ Istanbul, Turkey

## EDUCATION

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### **Kadir Has University**

Istanbul, Turkey

M.A. in Psychological Science

GPA: 4.00

2022 - present

### **Middle East Technical University**

Ankara, Turkey

B.A. in Psychology

GPA: 3.55

2017 - 2022

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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### **Erasmus+ Intern** | *Moral & Social Brain Lab, Ghent University*

Advisors: Prof. Emilie Caspar & Dr. Eva Vives

September 2024 - present

- Contributing to a project on the impact of social presence on moral decision-making by independently collecting EEG data from approximately 40 participants and preprocessing the data using the MNE Python package.
- Leading an experiment to test the influence of the 'watching eyes' effect on utilitarian decision-making, preparing the experimental paradigm on OpenSesame.

### **Project Coordinator** | *MINT Lab, Kadir Has University*

Advisors: Assoc. Prof. Onurcan Yılmaz & Assoc. Prof. Burak Doğruyol

March 2024 - present

- Providing administrative support to MINT Lab leaders on funded projects.
- Coordinating and delegating tasks among undergraduate assistants.
- Managing the lab's website and social media platforms.

### **Graduate Research Assistant** | *MINT Lab, Kadir Has University*

Advisor: Assoc. Prof. Onurcan Yılmaz

September 2022 - present

#### ***Ongoing Projects:***

#### *1. Political ideology and sharing behavior*

- Leading a study investigating the ideological asymmetry hypothesis through cognitive thinking manipulations following the 2024 U.S. presidential election.

#### *2. Cognitive reflection predicts utilitarian behavior after 17-months (Master's Thesis)*

- Investigated the relationship between cognitive reflection and ability with utilitarian intentions and behavior among pre-test and post-test (post-test is preregistered: [osf.io/6r7gn/](https://osf.io/6r7gn/)).

#### *3. Religion as universal moral compass (Project funded by Templeton Religion Trust)*

- Led a study testing the effect of religious and secular authority primes on utilitarian decisions across different group identities ([osf.io/f2vp3/](https://osf.io/f2vp3/)).
- Visualized data and reported findings in the manuscript "Divine Verification: Introducing a CAPTCHA-based Religious Priming Technique."
- Co-authored four studies within the project, contributing to preregistrations, material preparation, and data analysis.
  - The effect of religion and secular authority primes on generosity in the USA ([osf.io/rzsfj/](https://osf.io/rzsfj/)).

- The effect of religion and secular authority primes on generosity toward different group identities in the USA (osf.io/3pjbdl/).
- Religion and secular authority prime testing in Turkey (osf.io/csfxk/).
- The effect of religion and secular authority primes on generosity toward in- and out-groups in Turkey (osf.io/prbna/).

4. *The effect of reflective and intuitive thinking styles on behavioral utilitarian decision-making*

- Led a study utilizing incentivized behavioral game, prepared the experimental design and materials, conducted data analysis (osf.io/2yn9z).

5. *How can we promote cooperation under resource scarcity?*

- Reported the project's final results, contributing to the manuscript's development.

6. *Schadenfreude and moral foundations*

- Mentoring an undergraduate in conducting a study on how schadenfreude varies with misfortunes resulting from moral transgressions.

**Erasmus+ Intern** | *The Center for Social and Cultural Psychology, KU Leuven*  
Advisors: Prof. Colette van Laar & Dr. Katy Greenland

Summer 2022

- Completed various tasks, including data analysis, manipulating recorded voices, conducting a literature review, and reaching out to participants in person.

**Research Assistant** | *Political Psychology Lab, METU*  
Advisor: Assoc. Prof. Banu Cingöz-Ulu

2021 - 2022

- Conducted data analysis for two studies on collective action and reported the results in the manuscript.

## MANUSCRIPTS

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**Vurgun, R., & Yılmaz, O.** (under review). *Faydacı ahlakın psikolojik kökenleri [Psychological origins of utilitarianism]*. *Istanbul University Press*. (in Turkish).

**Vurgun, R., Acem, E., Şeker, F., Doğruyol, B., Isler, O., Bahçekapılı, H., Zizzo, D., & Yılmaz, O.** (in prep). *Cognitive reflection predicts utilitarian behavior after 17 months*.

**Şeker, F., Acem, E., Vurgun, R., Doğruyol, B., Isler, O., Bahçekapılı, H., & Yılmaz, O.** (in prep). *Divine verification: Introducing a CAPTCHA-based religious priming technique*.

**Bagcı, E. S., Vurgun, R., & Cingoz-Ulu, B.** (in prep). *Solidarity-based activism: Exploring moral motivators and risks in collective action*.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Şeker, F., Acem, E., Vurgun, R., Doğruyol, B., Isler, O., Bahçekapılı, H., & Yılmaz, O.** (2025, February). *Divine verification: Introducing a CAPTCHA-based religious priming technique*. Poster will be presented at SPSP Annual Convention, Denver, CO.

**Vurgun, R., Doğruyol, B., Isler, O., & Yılmaz, O.** (2024, December). *The role of reflective thinking on utilitarian intention and behavior*. Talk will be given at V. Social Psychology Congress, Başkent University, Ankara.

**Vurgun, R., & Yılmaz, O.** (2023, November). *Comparing the Dual Process Model and the Two-Dimensional (2D) Model in explaining utilitarianism*. Talk given at II. National Symposium on Morality Studies in Social Psychology, Istanbul University, Online.

**Bagcı, E. S., Vurgun, R., Coşkun, M. & Cingoz-Ulu, B.** (2022, June). *Advantaged group members' moral motivations to participate in collective action on behalf of a disadvantaged group in a high-risk context*. Poster presented at IV. Social Psychology Congress, 9 Eylül University, İzmir, Turkey.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Teaching Assistant

- PSY502 Advanced Research Methods and Data Analysis in Psychology (graduate level – Spring 2024)
- KHAS1120 Thinking Mathematically (undergraduate level – Spring 2024)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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<b>Programming Languages</b>	R, Python (beginner)
<b>Software and Tools</b>	SPSS, Jamovi, MPlus, Qualtrics, Prolific, OpenSesame, Biosemi

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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Erasmus+ Internship Grant (€1,500), Kadir Has University, Fall 2024  
Master's Students Scholarship Program (monthly stipend), TÜBİTAK BİDEB, 2023 - 2025  
Full Tuition Waiver (M.A.), Kadir Has University, 2022 - 2025  
Erasmus+ Internship Grant (€1,500), Middle East Technical University, Summer 2022  
Undergraduate Research Assistant (monthly stipend), TUBİTAK STAR Program, 2021 - 2022