

Project Title: Cultural Foundations of Foreign Policy: A Quantitative Cross-Country Analysis with A Novel Data Set

Project Duration: 36 Months (April 2022-April 2025)

Funding Institution: TUBITAK (1001 Program)

Project Code: 221K029

Project Team: Assoc. Prof. Dr. I. Cerem Cenk-Özek (Principal Investigator), Assist. Prof. Dr. B. Toygar Halistoprak (Researcher)

Project Fellows: Emre Erdemir (Ph.D. Fellow), Yağmur Yetimoğlu (Ph.D. Fellow), Çağrı Çimen (M.A. Fellow), Serra Ünalı (M.A. Fellow)

Project Summary: This project investigates how the political culture values that are effective in domestic politics shape the foreign policy behavior of countries. The research project is built on the research question of "How do the political culture values of decision makers affect the foreign policy roles of countries?" Role Theory is used in the conceptualization and operationalization of foreign policy behavior, which is the dependent variable of the research. Alternatively, political culture theory of Inglehart is used for the conceptualization and operationalization of cultural values, the project's independent variable. The project focuses on five country cases for a thirty-year period. Speeches of the leaders (heads of the executive organ) between 1990 and 2020 in Turkey, the USA, the UK, Russia and Germany are subjected to content analysis and a broad dataset is built. By analyzing the dataset with statistical methods, the project findings will shed light to the relationship between political culture and foreign policy making and contribute to the academic literature on the subject.