Ibrahim Enes Atac

Department of Sociology and Criminology
The Pennsylvania State University
244 Susan Welch Liberal Arts Building, University Park, PA 16802

E-mail: iza5155@psu.edu
Website: enesatac.org

Education

Ongoing Ph.D. in Sociology and Social Data Analytics — **The Pennsylvania State University**.
2024 M.A. in Sociology — **The Pennsylvania State University**.
Thesis: Varieties of Group Threat: Ethnic Group Position, Individual-Level Status, and Anti-Immigrant Sentiments.
Committee: Charles Seguin (Chair), Daniel DellaPosta, Gary Adler, Brandon Gorman.
Award: *2024 Huber-Form Sociology Master Thesis Award.*
2022 M.A. in Sociology — **University of Mannheim**.
2019 B.A. in Sociology — **Boğaziçi University**.
2018 Exchange Semester — **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**.

Publications

graduate student co-author[*], equal authorship[†]

Journal Articles

Forthc. Iceland, John, Ashton Verdery, Ibrahim Enes Atac, & Abdul Basit Adeel[*]. "From Fertility Rates to Social Inequalities: The Evolving Focus of Demographic Research." ***Demography***.

2026 Atac, Omer, Abdul Basit Adeel[*], & Ibrahim Enes Atac. "Health discourse and Syrian refugees in Türkiye: A large-scale sentiment and stance analysis of Twitter (2011-2022)." ***Journal of Medical Internet Research***.

2026 Atac, Ibrahim Enes, Charles Seguin, & Brandon Gorman. "Cultural Solidarity, Economic Threat: How Discrimination Influences Anti-Immigrant Attitudes." ***Current Sociology***.

2026 Atac, Ibrahim Enes, Lena Kunjan[*], Forrest Lovette[*], & Samuel L. Perry. "What Would Jesus Fund? Christian Nationalism and Americans' Views on Government Spending." ***Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World***.

2026 Iceland, John, Eric Silver, & Ibrahim Enes Atac . "Moral Intuitions and Support for Immigration." ***Social Science Quarterly***.

2025 Atac, Ibrahim Enes , Charles Seguin, & Brandon Gorman. "The Wages of Ethnic Power: Socioeconomic Status, Group Threat, and Anti-Immigrant Attitudes in Western Europe." ***International Journal of Comparative Sociology***.

- **Award:** *Honorable Mention of 2026 Penn State Sociology Student Paper Competition.*

2025 Atac, Ibrahim Enes & Gary J. Adler Jr. "Religious Rebound, Political Backlash, and the Youngest Cohort: Understanding Religious Change in Turkey." ***Social Forces*** 103(3):1144–66.

- **Award:** *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) 2025 Distinguished Article Award.*
- **Award:** *Penn State College of the Liberal Arts 2025 Lombra Outstanding Research Award,* for the best article published by a graduate student in the social sciences.
- **Award:** *Winner of 2024 Penn State Sociology Student Paper Competition.*

Manuscripts Under Review

Jungsik Choi* & Ibrahim Enes Atac . "Is Science a World Culture? Restricted Actorhood and Public Trust in Science."

Abdul Basit Adeel*, Ibrahim Enes Atac , & David Baker. "Is Sociology Becoming Predominately a Science of Inequality? Implications of a Hundred-Year Bibliometric Trend for the Future of the Discipline."

Ibrahim Enes Atac & Samuel L. Perry. "Religious Nationalism and Confidence in Authoritarian Leaders: A Cross-National Study."

- Selected to receive the Global Religious Futures Research Grant from the Pew Research Center and the John Templeton Foundation (2026).

Selected Work In Progress

Ibrahim Enes Atac , Eric Silver, & John Iceland. "Racial Stereotyping and Public Attitudes Toward Immigration." ***Draft available.***

Abdul Basit Adeel* & Ibrahim Enes Atac . "Electoral Disruptions and Autocratic Displacement in Hybrid Regimes: Evidence from the 2019 Istanbul Mayoral Elections." ***Draft available***.

Ibrahim Enes Atac . "Defended Enclaves: Spatial Group Threat and Christian Nationalist Preaching." ***Draft available.***

Honors, Grants, & Awards

External

2026 Global Religious Futures Research Grant (**$3,000**).
Pew Research Center-John Templeton Foundation.

2025 Distinguished Article Award (**$1,000**).
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR).

2024 Student Travel Award (**$850**).
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR).

2024 Travel Grant (**$800**).
Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture (ASREC).

2019-22 DAAD-TEV Master's Degree Scholarship (**€25,500**).
German Academic Exchange Service & Turkish Education Foundation.

2018-19 National Scholarship Program for Undergraduate Students (**TL15,000**).
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK).

Internal

2026 Alan Booth Award for Outstanding Graduate Student Work in Sociology (**$1,200**).
Department of Sociology & Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University.

2026 Second place in the Sociology Paper Competition, Published Paper Category (**$50**).
Department of Sociology & Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University.

2025 Raymond E. Lombra and Roberta Lombra Outstanding Graduate Research Award (**$1,000**).
College of the Liberal Arts, The Pennsylvania State University.

2025 Research Grant (**$400**).
The McCourtney Institute for Democracy, The Pennsylvania State University.

2024 Huber-Form Sociology Master Thesis Award (**$750**).
Department of Sociology & Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University.

2024 First place in the Sociology Paper Competition, Working Paper Category (**$250**).
Department of Sociology & Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University.

Conference Presentations

2026 Religious Nationalism and Confidence in Authoritarian Leaders: A Cross-National Study (with Samuel Perry).
Accepted for *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion — Denver, CO.*
American Sociological Association — New York City, NY.

2026 Electoral Disruptions and Autocratic Displacement in Hybrid Regimes: Evidence from the 2019 Istanbul Mayoral Elections (with Abdul Basit Adeel[*]).
American Sociological Association — New York City, NY.

2025 Health and Syrian refugees in Türkiye: Trends in public discussions on X, 2011–2022 (with Omer Atac and Abdul Basit Adeel[*]).

European Public Healh Conference — Helsinki, Finland.

2025 Is Science a World Culture? Restricted Actorhood and Public Trust in Science (with Jungsik Choi[*]).
American Sociological Association — Chicago, IL.

2024 Faith and Frontiers: Uncovering Thematic Divergence in Sermons at Home and Abroad Using Large Language Models (with Abdul Basit Adeel[*]).
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion — Pittsburgh, PA.

2024 The Wages of Ethnic Power: Socioeconomic Status, Group Threat, and Anti-Immigrant Attitudes in Europe (with Charles Seguin and Brandon Gorman).
ZEW Immigration Workshop — Mannheim, Germany.
American Sociological Association — Montreal, Canada.

2024 How Electoral Dynamics Affect Sentiments Against Refugees (with Abdul Basit Adeel[*]).
International Conference on Computational Social Science — Philadelphia, PA.

2023 Political Backlash and Period Effects: Examining Secularization in Turkey.
Society for the Scientific Study of Religion — Salt Lake City, UT.
American Sociological Association — Philadelphia, PA.

Invited Talks

2026 Varieties of Group Threat: Understanding Anti-Immigrant Attitudes among Majority and Minority Groups.
Institute of Population and Social Research, Marmara University.

2024 Religious Rebound, Political Backlash, and the Youngest Cohort: Understanding Religious Change in Turkey.
Sociology Paper Competition Presentation, Pennsylvania State University.

2024 The Wages of Ethnic Power: Socioeconomic Status, Group Threat, and Anti-Immigrant Attitudes in Europe.
Migration Studies Project, Pennsylvania State University.

Public Engagement

Podcast & Interviews

2024 Türkiye'deki sığınmacılar hakkında doğru bilinen yanlışlar.
Medyascope interview with the journalist Ruşen Çakır on common misconceptions about refugees in Turkey.

Courses Taught

Instructor of Record

2025 SOC 5 — *Social Problems.*

Guest Lecturer

2024 SOC 001 — *Honors Introductory Sociology.*

Research Experience

2022– Graduate Research Assistant — Department of Sociology & Criminology, The Pennsylvania State University.

2020-22 Research Assistant — Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, University of Mannheim.

2018 Research Assistant — Migration Research Center, Koc University (MiReKoc).

Work Experience

2018 Translator

Book: Dromgold-Sermen, M. (2020). Farkliliklari Yonetme Kulturu: Goc Yonetimi Alani ve Turkiye'ye'ye Goc Eden Suriyeliler (A Culture of Managing Difference: The Field of Migration Management and Syrian Movers to Turkey). Ankara: Middle East Technical University.

Additional Training

2025 Penn State CIRTL Teaching Certificate

2025 Wheatley Institute Seminar on Religion and Politics

2024 ASREC Graduate Student Workshop

Professional Membership

2023- American Sociological Association (ASA).

Collective Behavior & Social Movements
Global & Transnational Sociology
Global MENA
Political Sociology
Social Psychology

2023- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR).

Reviewer

Journal Articles

British Journal of Sociology (1), Gender & Society (1), International Journal of Comparative Sociology (1), Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology (1), Journal of International Migration and Integration (3), Policy Studies (1), Social Forces (1), Sociology of Religion (1), Sociological Science (1), The Sociological Quarterly (1).

Conference

International Conference on Computational Social Science (5).

Skills

Software: LaTeX, Python, Stata, Tableau.
Languages: Turkish, English, Persian (reading), German (reading).

References

Charles Seguin (Chair)
Associate Professor of Sociology
and Social Data Analytics
The Pennsylvania State University
czs792@psu.edu

Daniel DellaPosta
Associate Professor of Sociology
and Social Data Analytics
The Pennsylvania State University
djd78@psu.edu

Gary Adler
Associate Professor of Sociology
The Pennsylvania State University
gja13@psu.edu