

Nisan Gorgulu

– Curriculum Vitae - [Updated: December 2023]

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Economist with an interest in policy-related topics in finance, private capital mobilization, and climate policy. Experience includes working with International Organizations. Winner of the 2020 World Bank's ECA Academy Best Paper Award. Experienced in the collection and geospatial analysis of big panel firm and household data using ArcGIS, Stata, and Python. Proficient in Chinese (B2) and a native speaker of Turkish.

Education

- **George Washington University**, Ph.D. in Economics, 2021
Thesis: Regional Development and Growth: Impact of Politics, Geography and Digital Engagement
- **George Washington University**, M.S. & M.Phil. in Economics, 2018 & 2019
- **Duke University**, M.A. in Economics, 2016
- **Bilkent University**, B.A. in Economics with a minor in Mathematics, 2014

Employment

- **Economist (ETC) - The World Bank Infrastructure Chief Economist's Office, Jul/2023-**
 - contributing to the design of empirical work, conducting the econometric/geospatial analysis, and contributing to the write up of the background papers for WDR 2024
 - acting as the focal point for the update of the Global Infrastructure Dashboard and integration of Infrastructure data to the Bank's Data360 Platform
 - supporting analytical work; reviewing corporate documents
 - contributing to the planning and execution of Infra4Dev Conference
- **Consultant - The World Bank Infrastructure Chief Economist's Office, Jan/2020**
 - supporting analytical work (Flagship reports); reviewing corporate documents (e.g., Systematic Country Diagnostics); contributing to the drafting of research studies; contributing to econometric and geospatial analysis of country and firm data using Stata, ArcGIS, R and Python; contributing to data initiatives such as data curation and management
 - being responsible for the (macro-climate focused) development linkages analysis (> 25 countries) as a part of InfraSAP 2.0 (that provides a comprehensive and consistent approach to evaluating the infrastructure situation in a country)
 - meta-analysis of the infrastructure literature (based on over 300 studies, synthesizing the current evidence on the ways in which different types of infrastructure contribute to the development)
 - analyzing the cross-country dynamics of infrastructure spending and its cyclical properties by using BOOST database (background paper for the Infrastructure Vice-Presidency Flagship on "Fiscal Costs and Risks from Infrastructure in an Era of High Debt Vulnerabilities")
 - analyzing the impacts of conflicts in private sector participation in infrastructure investments
 - analyzing the employment impact of infrastructure (by using national accounts and GLD surveys on selected countries, and empirical analysis of the literature for the Background paper for the Job Flagship Report)
 - working on the analysis of climate-resilient infrastructure for private capital mobilization in selected countries
- **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow - Copenhagen Business School, Aug/2021 - July/2022**
working on projects on public sentiment and green energy transition, energy sector reforms, supervising master's theses and business projects of 11 M.A. students, teaching (1) Regulation of Markets, (2) Energy Economics, Markets & Policy, (3) Advanced Topics in Energy and Environment: Sustainable Development and Policy

World Bank & IFC, Washington, D.C.

- **Consultant - Health, Nutrition and Population ECA, Dec/2019 - Jan/2020**
working on the economic analysis of policies in the healthcare access in Europe and Central Asia Region; spatial analysis for hospital sector in Moldova using ArcGIS and Stata (as a part of the Towards Universal Health Coverage Project)

- **Consultant - IFC Thought Leadership Unit, July - Aug/2019**
contributing to the drafting of reports; conducting quantitative analysis using firm-level data; conducting independent data collection (for Global Investment Competitiveness Report 2019/2020 and Making It Big: Why Developing Countries Need More Large Firms)
- **Consultant - Development Research Group: Environment and Energy, May - June/2019**
contributing to econometric and geospatial analysis of household survey data; conducting independent data collection for Nepal and Brazil Electricity Projects; working on the econometric modelling of the Rethinking Power Sector Reform in the Developing World Report

Duke University, Durham, N.C.

- **Research Assistant, June/2014 - June/2016**
Projects: (1) Group-related interest rate differences in Türkiye; (2) Financial inclusion rate of Türkiye; (3) Locational determinants of commercial and financial interactions in Istanbul

Turkish Competition Authority, Ankara

- **Competition Law Intern, Dec/2013 - Jan/2014**
contributing to the market competition assessments to prevent anti-competitive business practices and the impact evaluation analysis of mergers and acquisitions on market outcomes

Research Interest

Applied Economics, Spatial Economics, Private Sector Development, Finance

Technical Skills and Languages

- **Computer Skills:** ArcGIS, Stata, Matlab, LaTeX, E-Views, GAMS, M. Office, Python (web-scraping), R, QGIS
- **Languages:** Turkish (Native), English (Fluent), Chinese (Limited Working Proficiency), Spanish & German (Basic)

Awards

- World Bank Infrastructure Practice Group VPU Team Award, 2023
- Certificate of Recognition: Egypt InfraSAP-Mobilizing Private Capital for Climate Transition, 2023
- World Bank Academy Award for Best Research Paper on Europe and Central Asia Region, 2020
- The George Washington University Fellowship and Graduate Teaching Assistantship, 2016-2021
- Fulbright Master Scholarship & Duke University Graduate School Scholarship, 2014-2016
- Bilkent University Full Merit scholarship, 2009-2014

Research

Publications and Working Papers

- "Understanding Public Spending Trends for Infrastructure in Developing Countries" (with Vivien Foster and Anshul Rana), World Bank Policy Research Paper 9903.
- "What Have We Learned About The Effectiveness of Infrastructure As Fiscal Stimulus?" (with Maria Vagliasindi), World Bank Policy Research Paper 9796.
- "Gauging the Development Impact of Infrastructure: A Qualitative Review of Four Decades of Literature" (with Vivien Foster, Maria Vagliasindi, and Stephane Straub), World Bank Policy Research Paper 10343.
- "The Impact of Infrastructure on Development Outcomes: A Meta-Analysis" (with Vivien Foster, Maria Vagliasindi, Stephane Straub, and Dhruv Jain), World Bank Policy Research Paper 10350.
- "Digital Technologies and Authoritarian Regimes: A Case of Pothole Management in Moscow" (with Gulnaz Sharafutdinova), PONARS Eurasia Policy Memo No.661 (2020)
- "Mathematical Expression of Law" (with Haluk Emiroglu), *Journal of the Faculty of Law, Ankara University*, 62(1), 73-92 (2013)

Works Under Review in Peer Reviewed Journals

- "The Impact of the Spatial Population Distribution on Economic Growth" (with Constantin Burgi), Copenhagen Business School, CSEI Working Paper 2021-07 and CESifo Working Paper No. 10008, *Revise&Resubmit, Journal of Regional Science*
Country level data are published at the [World Bank's Data Catalog](#)
- "Political Competition and the Spread of Banking in Turkey, 1961-2016"

- "Political Dividends of Digital Participatory Governance: Evidence from Moscow Pothole Management" (with G. Sharafutdinova and J. Steinbuks), World Bank Policy Research Paper 9445.
- "Social Distancing and the Economic Impact of COVID-19 in the United States" (with Constantin Burgi), CESifo Working Paper No.8577.

Research in Progress (working titles)

- "Revisiting the Social Rate of Return on Green Infrastructure Projects" (with Maria Vagliasindi)
- "Public Sentiment and Green Energy Infrastructure: Leveraging Twitter Data on Electricity Systems"
- "The impact of infrastructure on job outcomes" (with Maria Vagliasindi)
- "The Role of Overseas Investment & Trade Offices on FDI inflows in the U.S."
- "The First Century of Modern Banking in Istanbul: The Curbing of Economic Interests by Political Power" (with Timur Kuran)
- "Transition Economies Corruption in the Health Care Markets", to be submitted soon

Blog Posts

- "Beyond Brick and Mortar: The Impact of Infrastructure on Economic Development", World Bank - Getting Infrastructure Finance Right, May 4, 2023 (with Maria Vagliasindi)
- "The effectiveness of infrastructure investment as a fiscal stimulus: What we've learned", World Bank - Infra4Dev, Feb 2, 2022 (with Vivien Foster and Maria Vagliasindi)
- "Spatial Closeness of Population and Economic Growth", CSEI Policy Brief 2022
- "Can political competition provide more public financial services? Evidence from Turkish state-owned banks", World Bank - All About Finance, Nov 25, 2020
- "How can potholes empower? Lessons from Moscow" (with Gulnaz Sharafutdinova and Jevgenijs Steinbuks), World Bank - Let's Talk Development, Nov 10, 2020

Conference and Seminar Presentations and Participations

- World Bank Jobs Group Seminar, Feb 2023
 - The 6th Global Conference on Economic Geography, June 2022*
 - Copenhagen Business School ENERforsk Workshop, June 2022
 - Copenhagen Business School Brown Bag Seminar, April 2022
 - European Investment Bank Job Market Presentation, March 2022
 - University College Dublin, School of Economics Brown Bag Seminar, Jan 2022*
 - Duke University - Guest Presenter to Urban Economics Class, Nov 2021
 - World Bank Authors' Workshop - Fiscal Costs and Risks from Infrastructure in an Era of High Debt Vulnerability Flagship Report, July 2021
 - ECA Academy, the World Bank, May 2021
 - OECD Job Market Talk, Apr 2021
 - Duke University - Guest Presenter to Urban Economics Class, Nov 2020
 - George Washington University Job Market Seminar, Nov 2020
 - 2020 APSA Annual Meeting, Sep 10-13*
 - 9th ICSID Conference & EACES-HSE Workshop, National Research University, June 2020*
 - George Washington University Economics Department Development Tea Seminar, June 4, 2020
 - George Washington University Economics Department Development Tea Seminar, Apr 23, 2020
 - 2020 Society of Government Economists Annual Conference, Mar 27 (cancelled due to COVID-19)
 - George Washington University Economics Department Development Tea Seminar, Oct 24, 2019
 - GW Student Research Conference in Economics, 2019
 - George Washington University Economics Department Development Tea Seminar, Mar 28, 2019
 - ASREC Workshop - Introduction to the Economics of Religion (Mar 2018, Chapman University)
 - George Washington University Economics Department Development Tea Seminar, Nov 29, 2017
 - Global Leadership Forum - panelist to Climate Change and Sustainable Resource Management panel (Mar 29-30, 2016, The University of Virginia)
 - GWU Research Day 2018 - serving as judge for the undergrad research poster presentations
- * presented by co-author

Organized Conferences/Seminars

- Team Member of the Organizing Committee for the World Bank's Infra4Dev Conference - Infrastructure, Recovery & Growth: Building out from the Pandemic, 2022; The Future of Infrastructure Financing, 2024
- Vice President of GW Student Associations of Graduate Economists (SAGE), 2018-2019
- Co-organizer of the "Development Tea Seminars", George Washington University, 2018,2019,2020
- Co-organizer of the GW Student Research Conference in Economics, 2019

Refereeing

- Demographic Research, The Energy Journal, Applied Economics Letters

Teaching Experience

- Instructor, Copenhagen Business School, Sep/2021 - July/2022
- Teaching Assistant, George Washington University, Aug/2016 - Dec/2020
- Teaching Assistant, Bilkent University, Jan/2011 - June/2014

Extracurricular Activities

- Chinese Conversation Club - Duke University, 2014-2016
- Team leader of the "Eco(no)parking", a team of graduate students and professors, for Duke's Unpark Yourself Competition aiming to promote the use of public transportation (2nd place among 122 teams), 2015
- Student Mentor - Mentoring freshmen and sophomores at Bilkent University, 2013-2015
- Playing piano and violin; Taekwondo (received a license); Equestrianism; Hiking

References

Available upon request.