

# Nisan Gorgulu

– Curriculum Vitae – [Updated: October 2022]

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Economist with an interest in policy-related topics in development economics, finance, and growth. Worked with the International Organizations. Won the 2020 World Bank's ECA Academy Best Paper Award. Experienced in the collection and analysis of big data and spatial data. Proficient in Chinese (B2).

## Education

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- **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

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- **Consultant - The World Bank Infrastructure Chief Economist's Office, Jan/2020 -** supporting analytical work (Flagship reports); 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 (> 20 countries) as a part of InfraSAP 2.0; meta-analysis of the infrastructure literature; analyzing the impacts of conflicts on private sector participation in infrastructure in fragile and conflict affected economies
- **Post-Doctoral Research Fellow - Copenhagen Business School, Aug/2021 - July/2022** working on the projects on public sentiment and green energy infrastructure, supervising master's theses and business projects, 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 (Nepal and Brazil Electricity Projects & Rethinking Power Sector Reform in the Developing World)

### Duke University, Durham, N.C.

- **Research Assistant, June/2014 - June/2016**  
Projects: (1) Group-related interest rate differences in Turkey; (2) Financial inclusion rate of Turkey; (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

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Applied Microeconomics, Infrastructure Economics, Private Sector Development, Spatial Economics

## Technical Skills and Languages

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- **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

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- World Bank Academy Award for Best Research Paper on Europe and Central Asia Region (2020) ("Political Dividends of Digital Participatory Governance" with G. Sharafutdinova and J. Steinbuks)
- 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

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### Publications

- "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.
- "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

- "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.
- "The Impact of the Spatial Population Distribution on Economic Growth" (with Constantin Burgi), Copenhagen Business School, CSEI Working Paper 2021-07. Country level data are published at the [World Bank's Data Catalog](#)
- "Political Competition and the Spread of Banking in Turkey, 1961-2016"

### Research in Progress (working titles)

- "Gauging the Development Impact of Infrastructure: A Meta-Analysis of the Literature" (with Vivien Foster, Maria Vagliasindi, and Stephane Straub)
- "The Role of Overseas Investment & Trade Offices on FDI inflows in the U.S."
- "Economic and Political Outcomes of Digital Modernization" (with Gulnaz Sharafutdinova and Jevgenijs Steinbuks)
- "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

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- "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

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- The 6<sup>th</sup> Global Conference on Economic Geography, 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\*
  - 9<sup>th</sup> 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

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- Team Member of the Organizing Committee for the World Bank's Infra4Dev Conference - Infrastructure, Recovery Growth: Building out from the Pandemic, 2022
- 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

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- Demographic Research, The Energy Journal

## Teaching Experience

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- 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

## Supervision

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- Master's Theses and Business Projects, 2021-22: Rasmus Sorensen, Edin Husadzic, Tobias Jensen, Niels Jorgensen, Alexander Brassow, Daniel Kristensen, Konstantinos Vasiliou, Florian Herget

## Extracurricular Activities

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- 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 (2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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Available upon request