Oğuz Kaan Pehlivan

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Education

Ankara University — Ankara, Türkiye
PhD in Law (Public International Law) — *2017 – 2024*
- GPA: 3.94/4.00, *Summa Cum Laude*
- *Thesis: Protection of Digital Assets within the Framework of the Full Protection and Security Principle in Investment Treaties*

Queen Mary University of London — London, UK
Postgraduate Certificate in Public International Law (Chevening Scholar) — *2014 – 2015*
- Merit

Galatasaray University — Istanbul, Türkiye
LL.M. in Public Law — *2012 – 2016*
- GPA: 3.76/4.00, Merit
- *Thesis: Confronting Economic and Industrial Cyberespionage under International Law*

Bilkent University, Faculty of Law — Ankara, Türkiye
LL.B. (Merit-based Full Scholarship) — *2006 – 2012*
- GPA: 3.17/4.00, Honor
- Erasmus exchange student, KU Leuven, Belgium (2010 – 2011)

Pendik Anadolu Lisesi — Istanbul, Türkiye
High School Diploma — *2002 – 2006*
- GPA: 94/100

Academic Appointments and Affiliations

Gerda Henkel Foundation — Germany
Research Fellow — *11/2026 – present*

University of Oslo, Faculty of Law — Oslo, Norway
Guest Researcher, Department of Public and International Law — *05/2026 – present*
- Research areas: public international law, international investment law, cybersecurity law, digital assets, and law & technology.

Research Interests

International investment law; human rights law; cybersecurity law; personal data protection; e-commerce law; intellectual property, digital assets and rights; blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

Professional Experience

Grand National Assembly of Türkiye — Ankara, Türkiye
Legal and Political Advisor to Members of Parliament — *10/2016 – 10/2023*
- **Aykut Kaya, MP (Antalya)**, 06/2023 – 10/2023: prepared 40 parliamentary questions, 7 legislative proposals and 5 proposals for parliamentary investigation commissions.
- **Hasan Subaşı, MP (Antalya)**, 09/2018 – 06/2023: prepared 84 parliamentary questions, 12 legislative proposals, 5 proposals for parliamentary investigation commissions and 37 dissenting opinions.
- **Prof. Dr. Ekmeleddin İhsanoğlu, MP (Istanbul)**, 10/2016 – 06/2018.
- Supported the legislative process: drafting bills, reviewing draft texts, providing legal advice and monitoring legislation, including on constitutional and international law matters.
- Conducted research and prepared analytical reports on law, economics and international relations; advised on committee work, agenda debates and political positions.
- Prepared written and oral questions to the government; managed communication with the public, media and other institutions.

DLA Piper LLP — Istanbul, Türkiye
Associate Lawyer — *01/2016 – 06/2016*

- Advised the Türkiye operations of Nike, Audi, Netflix, Huawei and Riot Games on data protection, cybersecurity and privacy issues.

PublicFeed and Newstag Global Ankara, Türkiye
Legal Advisor to Start-ups *09/2015 – 01/2016*

Volterra Fietta (Public International Law Firm) London, UK
Intern *07/2015 – 09/2015*

Ankara Bar Association Ankara, Türkiye
Lawyer *08/2014 – present*

- **Information technology law:** data protection compliance (KVKK/GDPR) and data breach disputes; cybercrime litigation and corporate cybersecurity policies; e-commerce, software licensing, technology contracts, user agreements and privacy policies; intellectual property.
- **International law:** investment and commercial arbitration (ICSID, ICC); foreign investment and international trade consultancy; applications before the European Court of Human Rights; refugee and migration law.

International Strategic Research Organization (USAK) Ankara, Türkiye
Researcher, Center for International Law Studies *02/2012 – 10/2015*

- Conducted research and wrote reports, policy briefs and white papers on international law, global governance, cybersecurity and regional conflicts.
- Led and coordinated research projects, including methodology, timelines and budgets; contributed to grant proposals and fundraising.
- Organised and spoke at conferences, workshops and roundtables; briefed policymakers and represented the institute in panels and media interviews.
- Authored articles and op-eds for academic journals, media outlets and the institute's periodic strategic reports.

Publications

Books

- *Tacir, Sermaye ve Güvenlik: Doğu Akdeniz Koruma Pratiklerinden Tam Koruma ve Güvenlik Standardına* (Merchants, Capital and Security: From Eastern Mediterranean Protection Practices to the Full Protection and Security Standard), Adalet Yayınevi, Ankara, 2026. ISBN: 9786253778965.
- *Tam Koruma ve Güvenlik Standardı Çerçevesinde Dijital Varlıkların Korunması* (Protection of Digital Assets under the Full Protection and Security Principle), Adalet Yayınevi, Ankara, 2024. ISBN: 9786052648797.
- *Teoriden Pratiğe Uluslararası Hukukun Sınırlarında* (From Theory to Practice: On the Boundaries of International Law), Aristo Yayınevi, İstanbul, 2024. ISBN: 9786256018372.
- *Özgürlük ve Güvenlik Dengesinde Siber Dünya* (Cyberspace in the Balance of Freedoms and Security), Aristo Yayınevi, İstanbul, 2024. ISBN: 9786256018365.
- *Confronting Cyberespionage under International Law*, Routledge (Routledge Research in International Law), 2018. ISBN: 9781138476424.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- "Autopoiesis and the Limits of Closure in International Law: Interpretation, Social Practice, and the Temporal Life of Legal Meaning", *International Journal for the Semiotics of Law*, 2026. doi:10.1007/s11196-026-10585-9.
- "Trol Ağı'nda Takılan Haklar: Türkiye'de Önleyici Veri Madenciliğinin Eleştirel Analizi" (Rights Caught in the "Trawl Net": A Critical Analysis of Preventive Data Mining in Türkiye), *Terazi Hukuk Dergisi*, no. 241, September 2026, pp. 119–140. DOI: 10.67051/thd.241.09.
- "Gölgedeki Tehdit: Yalnız Aktör Terörizminin Evrimi ve Mücadele Yöntemleri" (Threat in the Shadow: The Evolution of Lone Actor Terrorism and Countering Methods), *Terörizm ve Radikalleşme Araştırmaları Dergisi* (Journal of Terrorism and Radicalization Studies), 4(1), 2025, pp. 110–135. doi:10.61314/traddergi.1502822.
- "End of 'End of Human Rights' Debate: Critical Junctures and Incremental Changes of Human Rights", *Law & Justice Review*, issue 28, 2024, pp. 77–94.
- "Yeni Devletlerin Uluslararası Örgüt Üyeliğine Halefiyeti: Teorik Bir Değerlendirme" (Succession of New States to Membership in International Organizations: A Theoretical Assessment), *Türkiye Adalet Akademisi Dergisi*, vol. 59, 2024, pp. 181–204.
- "Uluslararası Adalet Divanı'nda Görülen Davalara Dostane Katılım (Amicus Curiae) ve Dostane Mütalaa (Amicus Brief) Usulü" (Amicus Curiae Participation in the International Court of Justice and the Procedure of Amicus Brief), *Türkiye Adalet Akademisi Dergisi*, vol. 38, 2019, pp. 315–342.

- "Yatırım Anlaşmalarında Yer Alan Adil ve Eşit Muamele İlkesinin Hukuki Niteliği" (The Legal Nature of the Principle of Fair and Equitable Treatment in Investment Treaties), *Türkiye Barolar Birliği Dergisi*, vol. 139, 2018, pp. 239–256.
- "Siber Saldırılar Karşısında Meşru Müdafaa Hakkı" (The Right to Self-Defense Against Cyber Attacks), *Kamu Hukuku Arşivi*, vol. 1–2, 2016, pp. 55–65.

Book Chapters

- "Avrupa İnsan Hakları Mahkemesi ve Avrupa Adalet Divanı Kararları Işığında Sosyo-Ekonomik Hakların Korunması" (Protection of Socio-Economic Rights in Light of the Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union), in K. Akkoyunlu Ertan, F. Kartal and Y. Şanlı Atay (eds.), *Sosyal Adalet için İnsan Hakları: Sosyal Haklar Bildiriler Kitabı*, TODAİE, 2014, pp. 121–131.

Book Reviews

- "Changing Norms through Actions: The Evolution of Sovereignty by Jennifer M. Ramos (Oxford University Press, 2013)", *Review of International Law and Politics*, Issue 34, 2013, pp. 150–152.
- *Türkiye'de Çini Düşünmek: Ekonomik, Siyasi ve Kültürel İlişkilere Yeni Yaklaşımlar*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *The European Debt Crisis: The Greek Case*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Yükselen Güney: Gelişen Ekonomilerde Düzenleyici Devlet*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Türkiye'de Demokrasi, Kimlik ve Dış Politika*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Uluslararası İlişkiler Teorilerini Kendi Penceremizden Okumak*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Eğitim, Demokrasi ve Kalkınma*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Lobicilik ve Baskı Grupları: Devlet, Sivil Toplum ve Demokrasi*, *Analist Dergisi*.
- *Mega-güçlerin Düşüşü, Mikro-güçlerin Yükselişi*, *Analist Dergisi*.

Research Datasets and Open-Source Software

- Pehlivan, O. K. (2026). *Turkish Bilateral Investment Treaties Corpus (1962–2025)* (Version 2.0) [Research dataset]. DataverseNO, University of Oslo. doi:10.18710/JX4WHH.
- Pehlivan, O. K. (2026). *Turkish BIT Clause-Level Annotation Dataset* [Research dataset; 118 substantive variables coded per treaty]. DataverseNO. doi:10.18710/FPNLKS.
- Pehlivan, O. K. (2026). *Turkish BIT Treaty Diffusion and Genealogy Network* [Research dataset; pairwise textual similarity, treaty families and genealogy edges]. DataverseNO. doi:10.18710/WA7HEO.
- Pehlivan, O. K. (2026). *Turkish BIT Corpus: Reproduction Toolkit* [Open-source software and reproducibility code]. GitHub. https://github.com/ouzpehlivan/turkish-bit-corpus.

Academic Commentary and Opinion Pieces

- "Kişisel Verilerin Korunması Kanunu Ne Vadediyor?" (What Does the Law on Protection of Personal Data Promise?), *Al Jazeera Türk*, 01.03.2016.
- "Savaş Suçlularını Ararken" (In Search of War Criminals), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 51, May 2015, pp. 38–39.
- "Yeni Dünya'nın Keşfi: Siber Fırsatlar ve Tehditler" (The Discovery of the New World: Cyber Opportunities and Threats), with Reyhan Güner, *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 40, June 2014, pp. 30–39.
- "Kırım Referandumla Ukrayna'dan Ayrılabilir mi?" (Can Crimea Secede from Ukraine via Referendum?), *Radikal Gazetesi*, 13.03.2014.
- "Rusya'nın Tezleri, Batı'nın Antitezleri: Kırım ve Uluslararası Hukuk" (Russia's Theses, the West's Antitheses: Crimea and International Law), Policy Analysis, 07.03.2014.
- "Where Does Freedom of Speech Stop? The Removal of Innocence of Muslims", *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 03.03.2014.
- "Açık İnternet Yapısından Balkanlaşan İnternet Yapısına" (From Open to Balkanized Internet Structure), Policy Brief, 02.03.2014.
- "Responding to a Cyber Catastrophe", *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 18.02.2014.

- "Suriye'de Savaş Suçlularını Yargılamak: Hibrit Mahkeme Modeli" (Prosecuting War Crimes in Syria: The Hybrid Court Model), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 36, February 2014, pp. 54–57.
- "Legal Perspectives on the Recent Findings on War Crimes in the Syrian Conflict", *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 21.01.2014.
- "İpin Ucunu Kaçırmak: NSA" (Losing Control: The NSA), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 34, December 2013, pp. 24–25.
- "Amerika'da Paradigma Değişimi: NSA ve İstihbaratın Denetimi" (Paradigm Shift in America: The NSA and Oversight of Intelligence), *Radikal Gazetesi*, 29.11.2013.
- "İnternet Özgürlüğü: Siber Güvenlik Denkleminde Birey" (The Individual in the Internet Freedom and Cybersecurity Equation), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 33, November 2013, pp. 70–71.
- "Siber Güç Kapasitesi Asimetrik Savaşın Parametreleri" (Cyber Power Capacity and Parameters of Asymmetric Warfare), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 32, October 2013, pp. 64–67.
- "Düşürülen Jet, Vurulan Helikopter: Hukuka Uygunluğun Sınırı" (The Downed Jet, the Shot-Down Helicopter: The Limits of Legal Compliance), Policy Brief, 20.09.2013.
- "Applying the Kosovo Model to Syria", *Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 09.09.2013.
- "Siber Dünya: Gerçeklikler ve Reel Tehditler" (The Cyber World: Realities and Actual Threats), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 31, September 2013, pp. 62–63.
- "Ulus-Devlet Olma Arifesinde İskoçya" (Scotland on the Verge of Becoming a Nation-State), *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 29, July 2013, pp. 16–17.
- "Ulus-devlet, Vatansızlık ve Uluslararası Hukuk Üçgeninde Rohingyalı Müslümanlar" (The Rohingya Muslims in the Triangle of Nation-State, Statelessness, and International Law), with Sema Karaca, *Analist Dergisi*, September 2012, pp. 16–19.
- "Radikalleşen Bireyler ve Almanya'da Kurulan Radikalleşme Başvuru Merkezi" (Radicalized Individuals and the Radicalization Reference Center Established in Germany), *Analist Dergisi*, pp. 8–11.
- "Downing Military Jet and Türkiye's Rights under International Air Law", Policy Brief, 04.07.2012.

Interviews Conducted

- Blaise Misztal, Foreign Policy Director, Bipartisan Policy Center (Washington, D.C.): "Legislative and Regulatory Restrictions in Cyberspace", *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 17.12.2014.
- Bakhtiyar Aslanbayli, Lecturer, Baku State University: "NATO Article 4.5: A New Format for Providing Security against Cyber-Attacks", *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 11.12.2014.
- Prof. Joseph Nye: "Siber Güvenlik Üzerine" (On Cybersecurity), co-interviewer: Reyhan Güner, *Analist Dergisi*, vol. 40, June 2014, pp. 28–31.
- Prof. Ergün Özbudun: "Turkey in 2013: Constitutional Process, Politics and Democracy", *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 29.01.2014.
- Dr. Larry Duane White, TOBB University of Economics and Technology: "Cyber Terrorism to be Equated with Weapons of Mass Destruction", *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 13.11.2013.
- Assoc. Prof. Stuart MacDonald, Deputy Director, Centre for Criminal Justice & Criminology, Swansea University: "A New Phenomena of Security Challenges: Cyberterrorism and Beyond", co-interviewer: Reyhan Güner, *The Journal of Turkish Weekly*, 11.11.2013.

International Conferences

Speaker, "IT Revolution and Diplomacy: Challenges, Opportunities and Risks", *Diplomacy in the 21st Century*, Durham University, Foreign & Commonwealth Office and Chevening, Durham, UK — *17.04.2015*

Speaker, "Computing Power and 'Intent Standard' Approach to Identify Legal vs Illegal Botnets", International Botnets Fighting Alliance, Nancy, France — *03–05.12.2014*

Speaker, Advanced Research Workshop "Strengthening Cyber Defense of Critical Infrastructure", Kyiv, Ukraine — *29–31.10.2014*

Speaker, "Self-Defence in Cyber Incidents", *Siber Güvenlik ve Uluslararası Politika Konferansı* (Cyber Security and International Policy Conference), Hacettepe University — *24.04.2014*

Speaker, "Legal Limits of Proactive Actions: Coreflood Botnet Example", Botconf 2013, International Botnets Fighting Alliance, Nantes, France — *05–06.12.2013*

Media Appearances

BBC Radio, "Ankara Bombing"	*07.10.2015*
Voice of Russia, "Crimea and International Law"	*13.03.2014*
Voice of Russia, "International Law and the NSA"	*05.11.2013*
TRT, "Cyber Security and International Law"	*31.10.2013*
TRT, "ECJ and Cases against Türkiye"	*25.09.2013*
Deutsch Türkische Nachrichten, commentary on a kidnapped plane	*08.09.2013*
TRT, "ECHR and the Use of Tear Gas as a Chemical Weapon in Social Protests"	*20.07.2013*

Scholarships and Awards

The Yamani Cultural and Charitable Foundation, PhD Scholarship	*2017 – 2023*
TÜBİTAK 2211-A PhD Scholarship, Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye	*2017 – 2021*
Chevening Scholarship, UK Government (FCO): Academic Excellence and Outstanding Leadership Potential	*2014 – 2015*
Best Decision Paper Award, Atlantic Council Cyber 9/12 Student Challenge, Washington, D.C.	*2014*
Rapporteur, "Terrorist Use of Cyber Space", NATO Centre of Excellence Defence Against Terrorism	*2013*
Best Working Paper on Cyberwarfare and Deterrence, TÜBİTAK Cyber Camp	*2013*
Legal English Certificate, awarded by Prof. Dr. Helena Silverberg, UC Berkeley	*2013*
Bilkent University, Merit-based Full Scholarship; Honor and High Honor Certificates	*2006 – 2012*
Ranked 138th among over 1.8 million candidates in the national University Entrance Exam (ÖSS)	*2006*

Certificates and Training

Amateur Maritime and Captaincy License; Short-Range Radio Operator Certificate	*2022*
Red Crescent First Aid Training	*2022*
METU Penetration Testing Certificate Training	*2022*
Civil Aviation Authority İHA-1 (UAV) License	*2020*
Election Observer, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)	*2018*
International Cyber Policy Course, Cranfield University & UK Defence Academy	*2015*
IBM SPSS Statistics	*2014*
CIPR Certificate in Training, Writing Skills for PR	*2014*
International Negotiation Techniques, Netherlands Institute for Higher Education, Ankara	*2012*

Languages and Skills

Languages: Turkish (native); English (advanced; TOEFL 91, IELTS 7); French (intermediate); German (intermediate)
Research tools: SPSS Statistics; Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint
Technical: Digital forensic tools (FTK, Autopsy); network analysis (Wireshark)

Memberships and Activities

American Society of International Law (Member); International Bar Association (Member); Strategic Studies Institute (Member); TED, English and French to Turkish Translator