



Università  
Ca'Foscari  
Venezia

**PROJECT ACRONYM AND TITLE:** CRAFT - To Craft an Authoritarian Regime: Politicisation of Civil Society and the Judiciary in Turkey

**FUNDING PROGRAMME:** HORIZON 2020

**CALL:** H2020-MSCA-IF-2017-EF – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Individual Fellowships – Global Fellowship

**SCIENTIFIC FIELDS:** Turkey, authoritarianisation, hybrid regimes, politicisation, judiciary, civil society, EU Turkey relations

**HOST DEPARTMENT:** DFBC - Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage

**FELLOW:** Bilge Yabanci

**SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBLE:** Matteo Legrenzi

**FINANCIAL DATA:**

Project total costs	Overall funding assigned to UNIVE
€ 178.156,80	€118.771,20

**ABSTRACT:**

Turkey's authoritarian drift under the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) receives an unprecedented attention. However, the existing studies lack novel primary data ergo methodological depth and focus mainly on macro-structures and partisan institutions. This research project seeks to investigate the causes and consequences of 'politicisation of civil society and the judiciary' -the control and utilisation by political authority to consolidate power and eliminate potential dissent. The aim is to understand the lasting repercussions of politicisation of nonpartisan institutions on state-society relations and to explain how authoritarian governance takes root at institutional, civic and societal levels. The project also seeks to develop a set of policy recommendations for the EU on the question of how to re-route its government-oriented support for the judiciary and civil society, and to empower actors of reform and democratic resistance from bottom-up. Grounded in case study design, the project focuses on 3 major issues:

- (1) dependent-CSOs and politicised associational sphere
- (2) a systematic measure of to what extent high courts' judicial output reflects the incumbent's interests and other non-legal variables
- (3) the implications of politicised judiciary and civil society on the EU-Turkey relations.

The project analyses original data through mixed methods research, combining statistical measurement with field research, interviews and documentary analysis. Its interdisciplinary approach and methodological rigour aims to contribute to the understanding of democratic regression and authoritarian governance in Turkey, and to advance the applicant's career towards professional independence. Findings will be shared with the academic community, civil society, international organisations, and the European and Turkish publics. The project will also increase the research and teaching impact and output of the host institution.

Planned Start date at UNIVE	Planned End date at UNIVE
1 <sup>st</sup> December 2019	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021

**Beneficiary:**

1 Università Ca' Foscari Venezia	Italy
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