

KURSAT K. PEKGOZ

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EDUCATION

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

Bachelor of Science, Molecular Biology and Genetics (2004-2009)

Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey

Master of Arts, English Language and Literature (2010-2014)

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Doctor of Philosophy, English Literature (2014-2020, incomplete)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Translator/Interpreter (since 2005). Worked as a translator for various companies, such as Straker and Lionbridge. Turkish-English. Areas of specialization include: biomedicine, literature, law, European Union regulations. 15+ years of experience, including simultaneous interpretation.

European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany. Research Intern (2007, Summer). Performed research into lateral primordium development in *D. rerio*.

University of Southern California, California. Assistant Lecturer (2015 - 2018). Taught critical writing and thinking to freshmen and sophomores.

Rosenberg & Ball Co, LPA, Ohio. *Legal Assistant (2018-19).* Handled complex documentation and wrote legal briefs.

Hathaway & Parker LLP, California. *Legal Assistant (since 2019).* Handled complex documentation and engaged in legal research.

Doruk Inc., Turkey. *CEO (Present).* Chief executive of a real estate company.

Academica Press, Washington DC. *Author (Upcoming).* Writing a book about civil rights theory and due process.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Turkish: native speaker.

English: native speaker.

Ancient Greek: advanced

Russian: intermediate

German, Latin, French: beginner

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Bilkent University: Comprehensive (100%) Scholarship: awarded to students who achieve exceptional success in a Turkish college admissions exam.

Turkish Prime Ministry Scholarship (2004-2009).

Bogazici University: The Selcuk Altun Scholarship for Creative Writing (2010-2014).

The Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies: Merit-Based Award (2012).

University of Southern California: Provost's Fellowship: the most exclusive on campus, granted once per annum for each cohort (2014 - 2019).

University of Southern California: Summer Study Grants (2015, 2016, 2017).

Olive Tree Initiative: Student Diplomat Scholarship (2017, Summer).

MISCELLANEOUS

- Ranked 412th out of 1.6 million applicants in a Turkish college admissions exam (OSS)
- Human rights advocacy in multiple venues. For example, created a petition to oppose the prosecution of a dissident woman politician critical of Islam.¹
- Has absolute pitch, the rare ability to recognize notes in the absence of a referent.² Can memorize complex orchestral passages.^{3,4}

¹ <https://www.change.org/p/court-of-cassation-turkey-petition-to-free-canan-kaftancioglu-human-rights-activist-critic-of-radical-islam>

² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhmkd6w93Qs>

³ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAnjte5rUJ8>

⁴ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EF6GCZ0OoHI>

MEN'S RIGHTS ADVOCACY

- Created new legal precedent by persuading the United States government to press sexual assault charges against a female student and later expand the investigation into a class-action complaint on behalf of men⁵
- Created new legal precedent by persuading the United States government to recognize men as a minority in colleges, thus shifting the operational logic of affirmative action laws⁶
- Defended students wrongfully accused of disciplinary infractions who were unable to afford legal counsel
- Engaged in a hunger strike for 32 days

PRESS COVERAGE

My advocacy has been covered by Campus Reform,⁷ The College Fix,⁸ Fox News,⁹ Wall Street Journal,¹⁰ The Hill,¹¹ NBC News,¹² The Post Millennial,¹³ The Daily Wire,¹⁴ The Daily Caller,¹⁵ PJ Media,¹⁶ USA Today,¹⁷ The Associated Press,¹⁸ Taiwan News,¹⁹ Euro News.²⁰

⁵ <https://www.scribd.com/document/422749552/USC-Title-IX-Due-Process-Class-Action-09-16-2128>

⁶ <https://www.scribd.com/document/429025544/05-USC-Title-IX-Affirmative-Action-09-18-2031>

⁷ <https://www.campusreform.org/?ID=10899>

⁸ <https://www.thecollegefix.com/male-sexual-harassment-claims-ignored-by-the-feds-title-ix-office-in-boston-for-eight-years/>

⁹ <https://www.foxnews.com/us/yale-being-probed-by-doe-accused-of-toxic-environment-against-men>

¹⁰ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/do-pro-women-groups-on-campus-discriminate-against-men-1527067800>

¹¹ <https://thehill.com/regulation/administration/388675-ed-dept-investigating-whether-yale-discriminates-against-men>

¹² <https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/doe-investigating-title-ix-complaints-from-men-who-say-it-discriminates-in-support-of-women-1399057987509>

¹³ <https://thepostmillennial.com/one-brave-young-man-takes-on-gender-inequality-at-usc>

ARTICLES

Articles I wrote were published on Inside Higher Education,²¹ The James Martin Center,²² The Federalist.²³

RESPONSE AGAINST DEFAMATION

I have struggled with online defamation in the aftermath of publicity. Below is a letter that debunks the false publication in question.

<https://www.scribd.com/document/551733672/Response-to-Defamation>

GOFUNDME

I have created a GoFundMe to cover some of the expenses accrued during my advocacy, as well as to compensate for thousands of hours of *pro bono* labour.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/let039s-oppose-discrimination-against-men-title-ix>

¹⁴ <https://www.dailywire.com/news/foia-request-reveals-boston-title-ix-office-has-ashe-schow>

¹⁵ <https://dailycaller.com/2018/05/14/education-department-yale-university-programs-scholarships-men-women/>

¹⁶ <https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/tyler-o-neil/2019/06/20/ph-d-student-files-federal-complaint-says-usc-retaliated-against-his-pro-men-title-ix-activism-n66503>

¹⁷ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/02/12/colleges-universities-discriminate-men-title-ix-complaints-toxic-masculinity-column/2831834002/>

¹⁸ <https://apnews.com/article/north-america-us-news-ap-top-news-education-ca-state-wire-3c30816a631240cc8f1ee7051c129388>

¹⁹ <https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3578393>

²⁰ <https://www.euronews.com/2018/12/15/men-s-rights-activists-are-attacking-women-s-scholarships-programs-n947886>

²¹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/users/james-moore-and-kursat-christoff-pekgoz>

²² <https://www.jamesmartin.center/2019/10/the-ministry-of-love-ongoing-gender-partisanship-in-the-department-of-education/>

²³ <https://thefederalist.com/2019/11/26/u-s-department-of-education-to-investigate-georgetown-for-giving-women-privileges-it-doesnt-give-men/>