

BASAK KUS

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EMPLOYMENT

Faculty Appointments

2025-to date	Professor of Government & Environmental Studies, Wesleyan University
2017-2025	Associate Professor, Wesleyan University
2012-2017	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Wesleyan University
2010-2012	Lecturer in Comparative Public Policy, University College Dublin, Ireland

Visiting Scholar/Faculty Fellow

Spring 2027	Visiting Fellow, Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Spain
2025-2026	Faculty Fellow, Bailey College of the Environmental Studies, Wesleyan University
Spring 2024	Scholar in Residence, Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne
Winter 2024	Visiting Researcher, Asia School of Business, Kuala Lumpur
Summer 2023	Summer Institute Faculty, Harvard Science and Technology Studies
Summer 2018	Research Fellow, Sciences Po Paris
2015-2016	Visiting Faculty, Yale University MacMillan Center
Fall 2014	Faculty Fellow, Wesleyan University Center for Humanities

Postdoctoral Fellow

2009-2010	Princeton University, School of Public and International Affairs
2008-2009	Yale University, MacMillan Center for International Studies

Professional Service/Leadership

Since 2026	Executive Council Member, Society for the Study of Socio-Economics
2025-26	Advisory Committee, Wesleyan University
Since 2023	Editor, <i>Socio-Economic Review</i> (Oxford University Press)
2020-21	Co-Chair, College of Social Studies
2019-20	Chair, Educational Policy Committee, Wesleyan University.
2019-20	Faculty Representative to the Board of Trustees
2019-20	Member, Faculty Executive Committee
2018-20	Faculty Advisor, Wesleyan Continuing Studies
2010-2012	Director of the PhD Program in Politics and IR, University College Dublin

AREAS OF TEACHING & SCHOLARSHIP

American and comparative political economy, public policy, law, theories of the state

EDUCATION

2008	PhD Sociology- University of California-Berkeley
2003	MA Sociology- SUNY-Stony Brook,
1999	BA (Honors) Economics and Administrative Sciences- Bogazici University, Istanbul.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Disembedded: Regulation, Crisis, and Democracy in the Age of Finance (OUP, 2024).

➤ Featured talks/Author Meets Critics Sessions:

- 1) Asia School of Business, Kuala Lumpur, November 13, 2024.
- 2) SASE Annual Meeting, Limerick. “Neoliberalism, Finance, and Democracy in the US: Two Books in Conversation,” featuring *Disembedded* by Basak Kus and *Democracy in Default* by Brian Judge, June 28, 2024.
- 3) University Carlos III of Madrid, Department of Social Sciences, May 14, 2024.
- 4) SASE Women and Gender Forum (WAG). “Politics and Sociology of Finance,” featuring *Disembedded* by Basak Kus and *Visions of Financial Order* by Kim Pernell (Discussant: Megan Tobias Neely), May 3, 2024.
- 5) Sciences Po, Center for European Studies and AxPo Center, April 29, 2024.

Edited Special Issues

- 1) 2025. “Greening the Economy: Toward a New Political Economy,” *Regulation & Governance*. (co-edited with Gregory Jackson).
- 2) 2013. “Credit, Consumption, and Debt,” *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*.
- 3) 2012. “Politics of Financialization,” *The Economic and Social Review*.

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- 1) Forthcoming, “From Pricing Carbon to Green Industrial Policy: New Moment, Old Dilemmas, Divergent Pathways” *Socioeconomic Review*.
- 2) Forthcoming, “Deer in England, Fallen Wood in Germany, Pigs in New York: Karl Marx, E. P. Thompson, and Hendrik Hartog on Custom, Law, and the Poor” *The Docket: The Online Imprint of Law and History Review*.
- 3) 2025. “From Kuznets to Daly: Growth, Social Justice and the State in the Age of Climate Crisis,” *Intereconomics: Review of European Political Economy*.
- 4) 2025. (with Gregory Jackson). “Green Transitions: Rethinking Political Economy in the Context of Climate Change,” *Regulation & Governance*.
- 5) 2020. “Relief, Recovery, Reform: A Retrospective on the Policy Responses to the Great Recession,” *Intereconomics: Review of European Political Economy*.
- 6) 2018. (with Dana Louie). “Vautrin’s Lesson: Historical Trends, Universal Challenges, and Policy Responses,” in *Twenty-first Century Inequality: Marx, Piketty and Beyond*, edited by Lauren Langman and David A. Smith, Brill Series in Critical Social Sciences.
- 7) 2018. “Dodd-Frank: From Economic Crisis to Regulatory Reform,” *Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute Working Paper Series*, No. 29 (editor-reviewed).
- 8) 2016. “Wealth Inequality in a Comparative and Historical Perspective,” *Sociology Compass*.
- 9) 2016. “Financial Citizenship and the Hidden Crisis of the Working Class in the New Turkey,” *Middle East Report*.
- 10) 2016. (with Brian Nolan and Chris Whelan). “Material Deprivation and Consumption,” in *The Oxford Handbook of the Social Science of Poverty*, edited by David Brady and Linda Burton, OUP.
- 11) 2015. (with Wen Fan). “Access to Credit, Income Inequality, and Public Support for Redistribution,” *Intereconomics: Review of European Economic Policy*.
- 12) 2015. “Sociology of Debt: States, Credit Markets, and Indebted Citizens,” *Sociology Compass*.
- 13) 2015. “Weak States, Unruly Capitalists, and the Rise of Etatism in Late Developers: The Case of Turkey,” *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*.

- 14) 2014. "The Informal Road to Markets: Neoliberal Reforms, Private Entrepreneurship and the Informal Economy in Turkey," *International Journal of Social Economics*.
- 15) 2013. "Consumer Welfare and Redistributive Politics: The Effect of Credit and China," *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*.
- 16) 2013. "Credit, Consumption, and Debt: Comparative Perspectives," *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*.
- 17) 2013. "Neoliberal Reforms, Regulatory Change and the Informal Economy: The Case of Turkey from a Comparative Perspective," in *Securing Livelihoods: Informal Economy Practices and Institutions*, edited by Lapeyre, Lemaitre and Hillenkamp, OUP.
- 18) 2012. "Financialization and Income Inequality in OECD Countries: 1995–2007," *The Economic and Social Review*.
- 19) 2010. "Regulatory Governance and the Informal Economy: Cross-National Comparisons," *Socio-Economic Review*.
- 20) 2010. (with Isik Ozel). "United We Restrain, Divided We Rule: Neoliberalism and Labor Unions in Turkey and Mexico," *European Journal of Turkish Studies*.
- 21) 2006. "Neoliberalism, Institutional Change and the Welfare State: The Case of Britain and France," *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*.

Public-Facing Work

- 1) 2026. "Climate Adaptation Requires More than Disaster Relief," *Scholars Strategy Network*.
- 2) 2026. (with Mitali Thakor and Tim Sahay). "cdmx: dignity and possible futures," *coexist*.
- 3) 2025. "The New Great Divergence: China's Global Green Manufacturing Surge," *Economic Sociology & Political Economy*.
- 4) 2024. "Rising Tides, Sinking Boats: Growth, Climate, and Justice," *Social Europe*.
- 5) 2024. "The New Right Roots of Donald Trump and JD Vance's Populism," *LSE US Politics*.
- 6) 2024. "America's (Un)protected Consumer: From Oversight to Literacy," *Public Seminar*.
- 7) 2024. "The Right Hand of the State and the American Left," *Public Seminar*.
- 8) 2024. "Polanyi on Wall Street," *Economic Sociology and Political Economy Blog*.
- 9) 2018. "Blaming Immigrants for Economic Troubles," *Social Europe*.
- 10) 2016. "Inequality Has Contributed to Increasing Credit Use," *Policy Trajectories*.
- 11) 2016. "Democracy and the Origins of the American Regulatory State," *Policy Trajectories*.
- 12) 2015. "Household Debt: We Must Address Supply and Demand," *LSE Politics & Policy*.
- 13) 2015. "Turkey's General Election Upset: The Rise of the AKP Interrupted," *The Conversation*.
- 14) 2015. "GE's Return to Its Industrial Roots," *The Conversation*.

Short Documentary (in progress)

Sandy Was a Bitch: State and Community in the Eye of the Storm

INVITED TALKS (Last Five Years)

- 1) Harvard University Sociology Department, "From Carbon Pricing to Green Industrial Policy" March 27, 2026.
- 2) Industrial Policy Symposium, Hanover, Germany, "Learning from Industrial Policy Mistakes of the Past," April 15, 2026.
- 3) Wesleyan University Division II Talk: "The Protective State: From Finance to Climate," November 12, 2025.
- 4) Asia School of Business, Center of Technology, Strategy and Sustainability, "Designing Research in the Social Sciences: Data, Theory, Analysis," November 21, 2024.

- 5) Max Planck Institute–Cologne, Scholar-in-Residence Public Lectures, May–June 2024.
“Counting Backwards from the US Financial Crisis” May 28, 2024.
“There Is More to It Than the Repeal of Glass-Steagall” June 4, 2024.
“From Finance to Climate: Risk Mitigation in the US,” June 18, 2024.
- 6) International Karl Polanyi Society, Vienna University of Economics and Business.
Commentary, “Planning for Climate Change Expert Workshop,” May 22, 2024.
- 7) Max Planck Institute, Economic Sociology Research Group. “Quo Vadis Economic Sociology? Are We All Political Economists Now?” April 24, 2024.
- 8) University of Montreal, Center for Research on Ethics. “Guardians of Prudence? Economists and the Protective State,” February 8, 2024.
- 9) Harvard University, Science and Technology Studies Summer School. “Economists, Expertise and Regulatory Policymaking,” August 23, 2023.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED

- 1) Organizer, 2026 Shasha Seminar: The New Global Economic Order, November 13-14, 2026.
- 2) Organizer, “Risk, Uncertainty and the State” workshop, Wesleyan University, November 2025.
- 3) Co-organizer (with Frederic Merand), “Politics, Culture, and Markets” (conference in celebration of the work and legacy of Neil Fligstein), UC Berkeley, May 9–11, 2025.
- 4) Co-organizer (with Wolfgang Streeck), “Law & Political Economy: American and European Perspectives,” Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies, Cologne.
- 5) Co-organizer (with Gregory Jackson), “Greening the Economy: Towards a New Political Economy” conference, Freie Universität Berlin, June 2–5, 2023.
- 6) Co-host (with Elsa Clara Massoc), SASE Women and Gender Forum event, “Adaptive Political Economy: A Conversation with Yuen Yuen Ang,” May 24, 2024.
- 7) Organizer, “Unpacking Turkey’s Elections: What Happened? What Is Next?” Wesleyan University Allbritton Center–sponsored webinar.
- 8) Organizer, “CAPITAL: A Panel Discussion on Piketty,” Wesleyan Humanities Center, 2014.
- 9) Organizer, “Dublin Workshops on Financialization and Social Welfare Politics,” 2012.

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 1) Featured Speaker, Book Salon for Yuen Yuen Ang, *China’s Gilded Age: The Paradox of Economic Boom and Vast Corruption*, SASE Annual Meeting, Montreal, July 2025.
- 2) “American Political Economy in the Twentieth Century: A View from the Bench,” panel on Alternatives to Capitalism, SASE Annual Meeting, Montreal, July 2025.
- 3) Discussant, Book Salon: *Visions of Financial Order* by Kim Pernel (Princeton University Press, 2024), SASE Annual Meeting, Montreal, July 2025.
- 4) “Tradeoff: Value and Values in the Making of US Climate Policy,” Politics, Culture and Markets Conference, Berkeley Economy and Society Initiative, UC Berkeley, May 10, 2025.
- 5) “Twentieth-Century American Political Economy: A View from the Bench,” Law and Political Economy: American and European Perspectives Workshop, Max Planck Institute, Cologne, October 28, 2024.
- 6) “Taking Neoliberalism Out of the Gutter: A Polanyian Fix,” Yale Law School, Law and Political Economy Project, Neoliberalism and Capitalism as Keywords in Contemporary History Conference, February 24, 2024.
- 7) “Neoliberal Regulation, Financialization, and Crisis,” Law & Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, 2021.
- 8) “The Remaking of the American Regulatory State and Financialization,” ECPR 8th Biennial Regulatory Conference, 2021.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- (1) Wesleyan Faculty Research Grants; Faculty-Student Internship Grant (multiple years, 2012-26)
- (2) Irish Research Council Grant (2010-2012)
- (3) UC Berkeley John L. Simpson Fellow (2006-2007)
- (4) UC Berkeley Dean's Normative Time Fellow (2005-2006)
- (5) Institute for Turkish Studies Grant (2006)
- (6) Council on European Studies Pre-Dissertation Awardee (2005)
- (7) Institute of European Studies Fellow (2002-2004)

References

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