

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Serdar San  
BA, MA, PhD

August 2025

## Contents

SECTION I: PERSONAL DATA .....	3
PERSONAL DETAILS .....	3
EDUCATION .....	3
ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT .....	3
SECTION II: PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS .....	4
REFEREED PUBLICATIONS .....	4
NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS .....	5
Online Magazine Articles – OP-EDs .....	5
PRESENTATIONS.....	5
Academic Conference Presentations.....	5
Professional Conference Presentations.....	5
Media Appearances .....	5
SECTION III: FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS.....	6
FELLOWSHIPS.....	6
AWARDS.....	7
SECTION IV: TEACHING EXPERIENCE .....	8
COURSES TAUGHT .....	8
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS.....	9
SECTION V: PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.....	10
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE.....	10
POLICING EXPERIENCE .....	10
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS .....	10
SECTION VI: CERTIFICATES, COURSES AND SKILLS.....	11
CERTIFICATES .....	11
COURSES .....	11
SKILLS .....	11
SECTION VII: REFERENCES.....	12

## SECTION I: PERSONAL DATA

### PERSONAL DETAILS

Department of Sociology  
and Criminal Justice  
East Texas A&M University  
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Commerce, TX 75429-3011

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Linkedin: [www.linkedin.com/in/serdarsan](http://www.linkedin.com/in/serdarsan)

### EDUCATION

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2015 – 2023 | Doctor of Philosophy in Criminology, University of Toronto.<br>Thesis title - <i>Policing and police reform in Turkey since 1980: Regime transitions and policing transformations</i><br>(Supervisor: Dr. Matthew A. Light)                |
| 2013 – 2015 | Master of Arts in Criminology, University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Thesis title – <i>The policing of terrorism: A comparative analysis of Turkish and Canadian counter-terrorism responses</i> (Supervisor: Dr. Carla Cesaroni) |
| 2002 – 2006 | Bachelor of Arts in Security & Police Studies, Turkish National Police Academy.  |

### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

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|--------------------------------|---|
| January 2024 – Current         | Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, East Texas A&M University, Commerce, TX, USA |
| January 2021 – December 2023   | Contract Lecturer, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Lakehead University, Orillia, ON, Canada            |
| January 2020 – April 2020      | Course Instructor, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada    |
| September 2015 – December 2021 | Teaching Assistant, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada   |
| September 2013 – August 2015   | Teaching Assistant, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON, Canada                           |

## SECTION II: PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

### REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

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#### *Published/In Press*

- San, S.** (2024). Transformation of coercion under democratic backsliding: The case of Turkey. *Connections: The Quarterly Journal*, 23(4), Preview.  
<https://doi.org/10.11610/Connections.23.4.02>
- San, S.** (2022). Transnational policing between national political regimes and human rights norms: The case of the Interpol Red Notice System. *Theoretical Criminology*, 26(4), 601-619. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13624806221105280>
- San, S., & Akca, D.** (2021). How Turkey's democratic backsliding compromises the international dimension of democratization. *Digest of Middle East Studies*, 30(1), 34-52.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/dome.12223>
- San, S., Bastug, M. F., & Basli, H.** (2021). Crisis management in authoritarian regimes: A comparative study of COVID-19 responses in Turkey and Iran. *Global Public Health*, 16(4), 485-501. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17441692.2020.1867880>
- Onat, I., & San, S.** (2021). Global displacement of ISIS activities and effectiveness of police arrests as a means of deterrence. In J. A. Goldstone, E. Y. Alimi, S. Ozeren, & S. Cubukcu (Eds.), *From territorial defeat to global ISIS: Lessons learned* (pp. 178-192). IOS Press. <https://doi.org/10.3233/NHSDP200083>
- San, S.** (2020). Counter-terrorism policing innovations in Turkey: A case study of Turkish National Police CVE experiment. *Policing and Society*, 30(5), 583-598.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/10439463.2018.1561697>

#### *Under Review/In Progress*

- San, S., Pereda, V., & Light, M.** Geopolitical incentive structures and policy responses to drug-related violence in Mexico and Turkey. (revise & resubmit to *Theoretical Criminology*).
- San, S.** Democratic policing in an emerging autocracy? The case of the Turkish National Police. (under review in *Democracy and Security*).

## NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

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### Online Magazine Articles – OP-EDs

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- San, S. (2021, June 16). Turkish spies are abducting Erdogan's political opponents abroad. *openDemocracy*. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/north-africa-west-asia/turkish-spies-are-abducting-erdogans-political-opponents-abroad/>
- San, S. (2020, July 22). Erdogan's private police force: A new blow to Turkish democracy. *openDemocracy*. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/north-africa-west-asia/erdogans-private-police-force-a-new-blow-to-turkish-democracy/>

## PRESENTATIONS

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### Academic Conference Presentations

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- Pereda, V. & San, S. (2017, June). *Violence and private protection rackets in Mexico and Turkey*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Law and Society Association (LSA), Mexico City, Mexico.
- San, S. (2017, March). *Turkey's drift toward authoritarianism: An analysis on terrorism and insecurity*. Paper presented at the Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies Graduate Student Conference 2017, University of Toronto.

### Professional Conference Presentations

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- San, S. (2008). *Turkey's counterterrorism experience*. Presented at the workshop on counterterrorism organized by the Southeast European Cooperation Initiative Center's (SECI) Anti-Terrorism Task Force. Bucharest, Romania.

### Media Appearances

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- San, S. (2021, July 28). Interview with Nick Morgan. *Why the West should take Turkey's international abductions more seriously*. Ahval News. [https://ahval.io/turkish-abductions/why-west-should-take-turkeys-international-abductions-more-seriously?utm\\_term=Autofeed&utm\\_medium=Social&utm\\_source=Twitter#Echobox=1627473907](https://ahval.io/turkish-abductions/why-west-should-take-turkeys-international-abductions-more-seriously?utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1627473907)
- San, S. (2020, October 16). Interview with Rahul Kalvapalle. *A former police officer, U of T's Serdar San now studies the Turkish regime that cost him his job*. U of T News. <https://www.utoronto.ca/news/former-police-officer-u-t-s-serdar-san-now-studies-turkish-regime-cost-him-his-job>

## SECTION III: FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

### FELLOWSHIPS

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2022-2023	Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Council of Ontario Universities. Value: \$15,000.00
2022-2023	Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies Tony Doob Doctoral Scholarship. Value: \$ 1,500.00
2021-2022	Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies Tony Doob Doctoral Scholarship. Value: \$ 1,500.00
2020-2021	Scholars-At-Risk Fellowship. Value: \$10,000.00
2020-2021	University of Toronto, Faculty of Arts and Science. Doctoral Completion Award. Value: \$9,933.33
2020-2021	Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies Graduate Program Award. Value: \$5,975.00
2019-2020	Ontario Graduate Scholarship, Council of Ontario Universities. Value: \$15,000.00
2015-2019	University of Toronto Tuition Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science. Value: \$76,961.00
2015-2019	University of Toronto Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Science. Value: \$27,874.00
2018	University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science Program-Level Fellowship. Value: \$1,000.00
2017	University of Toronto Faculty of Arts and Science Program-Level Fellowship. Value: \$500.00
2013-2015	International Graduate Education Scholarship. Turkish National Police. This scholarship funds graduate education abroad for Turkish police officers. The award covers the recipient's educational expenses for two years.
2002-2006	Undergraduate Education Scholarship. Turkish National Police Academy. This scholarship covers all expenses during undergraduate education such as tuition, stipend, accommodation, and health insurance.
1999-2002	High School Education Scholarship. Turkish National Police College. This scholarship funds a four-year high school education for future ranking police officers. It is intended to lead to matriculation at the Turkish National Police Academy.

## AWARDS

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|-----------|--|
| 2016      | Canadian Sociological Association (CSA) Outstanding Graduating Sociology Student Award in 2015/2016.   |
| 2007-2013 | Merit bonuses. Granted salary awards fifteen times by the Turkish National Police for my success in specific operations and overall professional achievement.  |
| 2010      | Letter of Appreciation. This letter of appreciation was granted to me by the chief of TNP Intelligence Department for my service performance and my contributions to regional and international security and police cooperation against terrorism.                         |
| 2008      | Letter of Appreciation. This letter of appreciation was granted by the U.S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Robert S. Mueller III in February 2008 for my assistance in a joint investigative effort against international terrorism. |

## SECTION IV: TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### COURSES TAUGHT

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CJ 2314	Criminal Investigation (Fall 2024) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 2328	Police Systems (Spring 2024; Spring 2025) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 384	Terrorism (Spring 2025) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 501	Seminar in Police and Law Enforcement (Fall 2024) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 505	Terrorism (Spring 2024; Summer 2024, Summer 2025) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 515	Homeland Security (Fall 2024) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 516	Counterintelligence (Spring 2025) – East Texas A&M University
CJ 525	Red Teaming (Summer 2024, Summer 2025) – East Texas A&M University
CRIM 4090 FAO	Right Wing Extremism (Fall 2022) – Lakehead University
CRIM 4090 FDE	Organized Crime & Corruption (Fall 2022) – Lakehead University
CRIM 4070	Trafficking (Winter 2023) – Lakehead University
CRIM 4030	Comparative Criminology (Winter 2022; Winter 2023) – Lakehead University
CRIM 4015	Criminal Profiling (Spring 2021; Winter 2022; Summer 2022; Winter 2023; Summer 2023; Fall 2023) – Lakehead University
CRIM 3138	Policing (Winter 2021; Winter 2022) – Lakehead University
CRIM 3010	Special Topics: Terrorism and Criminal Justice (Winter 2022) – Lakehead University
CRI490H1S	Advanced Topics in Criminology and Sociolegal Studies: Terrorism and Criminal Justice (Winter 2020) – University of Toronto

## TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

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CRI225H	Criminal Law (Fall 2015; Summer 2018) – University of Toronto
CRI335H1	Policing (Winter 2016; Fall 2016; Winter 2018) – University of Toronto
CRI350H1	Criminological Research (Winter 2017; Winter 2018) – University of Toronto
CRI370H1	Youth Justice (Winter 2021) – University of Toronto
CRI383H1	Immigration, Ethnicity & Crime (Winter 2017; Fall 2017; Fall 2018; Fall 2019; Fall 2020) – University of Toronto
CRI392H1	Regulating Citizenship (Fall 2021) – University of Toronto
CRI393H1	Human Rights & Security (Winter 2019) – University of Toronto
SOC310H5	Youth Justice (Fall 2016) – University of Toronto
SOC323H5	Law & Society (Fall 2018) – University of Toronto
SSCI-1470U-001	Impact of Science and Technology on Society (Summer 2015) – University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)
SSCI-1200U-001	Introduction to Social Policy (Winter 2015) – University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)
SOCI-1000U-001	Introductory Sociology (Winter 2014; Summer 2014; Fall 2014) – University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)
SSCI-1300U-001	Social Problems (Fall 2013) – University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)

## **SECTION V: PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

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2015-2018      Research Assistant, Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada – I have worked as a research assistant for Dr. Matthew A. Light's projects on the constraints on the growth of private policing and the influence of gun culture and exogenous political events on gun control policies in post-Soviet Georgia.

### **POLICING EXPERIENCE**

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2007-2013      Inspector/Counter-terrorism and international cooperation specialist - Turkish National Police Intelligence Department, International Relations Section, Ankara, Turkey - I worked on international terrorism and serious transnational crime cases, often involving security cooperation with foreign police services through information-sharing and joint operations.

2006-2007      Deputy Inspector/Shift supervisor - Karabuk Police Department 3 Nisan Police Station, Karabuk City, Turkey - I served as shift leader at a local police station in Karabuk city, Turkey. In this position, I coordinated police patrols, processed criminal complaints brought by citizens, interviewed witnesses, and helped administer the police station.

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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American Society of Criminology (ASC)

Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (TSAS)

International Studies Association (ISA)

Canadian Practitioners' Network for the Prevention of Radicalization and Violent Extremism (CPN-PREV)

### **EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

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Reviewer for *Digest of Middle East Studies*; *European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research*; *Government and Opposition*; *International Criminal Justice Review*; *Cogent Social Sciences* and *Journal of Policing, Intelligence, and Counterterrorism*.

## SECTION VI: CERTIFICATES, COURSES AND SKILLS

### CERTIFICATES

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Effective Online Teaching Practices – Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) (2025)

Teaching Fundamentals Certificate – University of Toronto (2020)

Terrorism and Counterterrorism: Comparing Theory and Practice by Universiteit Leiden on Coursera (2015)

Basic Intelligence Training Certificate - Turkish National Police Intelligence Academy (2008)

### COURSES

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Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society (TSAS) Summer Academy (2019)

Crisis Management Seminar - Turkish National Police Intelligence Academy (2013)

Analytical Data Preparation and Review (Basic Level) Course - Turkish National Police Intelligence Academy (2012)

Basic Intelligence Course - Turkish National Police Intelligence Academy (2008)

International Relations in Security Course - Turkish National Police Intelligence Academy (2007)

General Development Training - Turkish National Police (2007)

### SKILLS

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#### *Language Skills*

English	Full professional proficiency
Turkish	Native proficiency
German	Elementary proficiency

#### *Computer Skills*

SPSS, Microsoft Office

## SECTION VII: REFERENCES

Dr. Matthew A. Light  
Centre for Criminology and Sociolegal Studies  
University of Toronto  
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