



Energy and Sustainability Governance Research Group

Objectives and Scope: Energy and Governance Research Group is a joint initiative of academics from Kadir Has University, Istanbul. The core of the group has a multidisciplinary framework and philosophy, comprised of five researchers from different disciplines including economics, political science, public administration, and international relations.

The main objective of the group is to understand the **economic, political, and sociological** causes, dynamics, implications, and consequences of the **transition to low-carbon energy systems** in Europe with a particular focus on its periphery. The group turns a keen eye on how **technological, regulatory, and investment-related dimensions** of the transition processes are intertwined with **the rise of populism and anti-democratic attitudes**. In addition to **wider theoretical debates**, the group is currently interested in **Turkey**, a developing country seeking European Union (EU) membership, which aims to reduce her foreign energy dependence and shift to renewable energy for both security and environmental purposes. As Turkey tries to diversify her energy sources away from the dominance of coal in the face of economic growth and rising energy demand, and thereby **reduce her dependence on fossil fuel-based industries, many societal challenges emerge** regarding the **livelihoods of people in the coal-intensive regions**.

The group aims to engage in **scientific research** to unpack the socio-economic challenges of renewable energy transition in the pursuit of **sustainable development**. Our goal is to **generate public policy debate** through **research and evidence-based** policy recommendations.

Skills and Expertise: The group's expertise covers a comprehensive set of qualitative and quantitative research methods: historical, institutional, and political economy analysis, theoretical modelling, quasi-experimental causal methods in econometrics, panel data, time series, structural econometrics, ethnographic research, survey, elite interviewing, process tracing, archival research, discourse analysis, and case studies.

The group engaged with research and project activities on multiple topics with a wide range of stakeholders, including **local governments** (Istanbul, Izmir, Ankara, and other metropolitan municipalities), **Ministries** (Energy and Natural Resources, Labor and Social Security, Development, etc.), **governmental organizations** (The Central Bank of The Republic of Turkey, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, etc.), **civil society organizations** (Financial Literacy and Inclusion Association of Turkey, etc.), **research institutes** (Political Economy Research Institute–Environmental and Energy Economics, etc.), and the **private sector** in Turkey.

Recent Successful Projects: The group has been involved in many granted EU, international, and national projects including but not limited to: EU: FP7-People-2011 Marie Curie International Reintegration, No: 303981 “**Financialization, economic development and crisis**”, EU H2020: ERC-2016-STG “**Emerging Welfare**”, EU FP7-Theme, 2011-16: SSH-2010-1.2-1, Grant No: 26680, “**Financialization, economy, society and sustainable development**”, SSHRC (Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada), Program: 410, “**Globalization and the New Political Economy of Un/employment**”, TUBITAK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) H2020 “**The Effect of Taxes, Social Spending, and Squatter Housing Forbearance on Income Inequality and Poverty**”, TUBITAK 2016 “**Export decisions and financing constraints in Turkish manufacturing sector**”, Kadir Has University (KHAS) Scientific Research Grant, 2017-18, “**Estimating a Social Policy Relevant Multidimensional Poverty Index for Turkey**”, KHAS Scientific Research Grant, 2016, “**An empirical analysis of the industrial sector in Turkey: Research and development investment and external dependency**”, KHAS Scientific Research Grant, 2014-15, “**An empirical analysis of the nonfinancial corporate sector in Turkey: Growth, investment and fragility**”, KHAS Scientific Research Grant, , 2012-13, “**Capital inflows and economic development: A theoretical and empirical examination**”.



We are interested in the following **H2020 call: LC-SC3-CC-1-2018-2019-2020** “Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) aspects of the Clean-Energy Transition”.

Role as a Partner: The major contribution of our research group would be to bring a political economy perspective on clean energy transition. The group may take active part in project design and management, basic and applied research, data gathering and analysis, event management (conferences, workshops, meetings, etc.), policy impact analysis, and project dissemination strategies.

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