

KURSAT CHRISTOFF PEKGOZ
Email: pekgoz@usc.edu
Twitter: https://twitter.com/pekgoz_kursat

EDUCATION

Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey

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

Bosphorus University, Istanbul, Turkey

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

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California

Master of Arts, English Literature (2014-2016)

Doctor of Philosophy, English Literature (2014-2020, incomplete)¹

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. 17+ 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 engaged in legal research.

Hathaway & Parker LLP, California. *Legal Assistant (2019-2022).* Handled complex documentation and engaged in legal research.

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

¹ <https://thepostmillennial.com/one-brave-young-man-takes-on-gender-inequality-at-usc>

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).

ADVOCACY ON BEHALF OF WOMEN & MINORITIES

- Participated in various protests to oppose discrimination against the Christian, Jewish, Alevi minorities of Turkey
- Participated in the Gezi Protests (2013) as a bodyguard volunteer
- Taught English *pro bono* for CYDD, a secularist organization that seeks to eliminate illiteracy among women, in Ankara (2009-2010).
- Signatory to the human rights declaration, *We Will Not Be A Party To This Crime*, which condemned the oppression of the Kurdish minority, in 2016. Signatories have been persecuted by the Turkish government.²
- Collected 5000+ signatures for a petition to oppose the prosecution of a dissident woman politician critical of Islam.³

² <https://barisicinakademisyenler.net/node/1386>

³ <https://www.change.org/p/court-of-cassation-turkey-petition-to-free-canan-kaftancioglu-human-rights-activist-critic-of-radical-islam>

ADVOCACY ON BEHALF OF MEN

- Created legal precedent by persuading the United States to press sexual assault charges against a female martial artist and later expand the investigation into a class-action complaint on behalf of men⁴
- Created legal precedent by persuading the United States to recognize men as a minority in colleges, thus shifting the operational logic of affirmative action laws and creating legal liability for female-only scholarships worth billions of dollars nationwide⁵
- Created legal precedent by persuading the United States to investigate employment preferences for women⁶
- Created legal precedent by persuading the United States to investigate Women's Centers and Women's Studies⁷
- Filed an administrative complaint against Laura Faer, former Regional Director of OCR: San Francisco. Faer resigned soon after the complaint. This likely marks the first time a high-ranking US administrator was forced to resign for discrimination against men
- Collected 700+ signatures for a coalition complaint against Cornell University. Signatories include think tank presidents, famous authors and activists, specialist lawyers, law professors, and a former NATO commander
- Assisted students wrongfully accused of disciplinary infractions who were unable to afford legal counsel.
- Engaged in a hunger strike for 32 days

⁴ https://www.kursatchristoffpekgoz.com/files/ugd/ea7b71_667ed4da5c1141e8b509fd05a7e52232.pdf

⁵ https://www.kursatchristoffpekgoz.com/files/ugd/ea7b71_13f98bffb69a47398a2bbf29a15a82b1.pdf

⁶ https://www.kursatchristoffpekgoz.com/files/ugd/ea7b71_1d1d7576223c42cfbd1cc666ef10b910.pdf

⁷ https://www.kursatchristoffpekgoz.com/files/ugd/ea7b71_33be0325dfa945e0b81fe845db0d1076.pdf

PRESS COVERAGE

Advocacy covered by Campus Reform,⁸ The College Fix,⁹ Fox News,¹⁰ Wall Street Journal,¹¹ The Hill,¹² NBC News,¹³ The Post Millennial,¹⁴ The Daily Wire,¹⁵ The Daily Caller,¹⁶ PJ Media,¹⁷ USA Today,¹⁸ The Associated Press,¹⁹ Taiwan News,²⁰ Euro News,²¹ New Delhi Times,²² Forbes,²³ The Stanford Daily,²⁴ The Stanford Review,²⁵ Trojan Daily.²⁶ Appeared at an episode of *Jubilee: Middle Ground* to discuss discrimination on the basis of sex, which currently has 13 million+ views.²⁷

ARTICLES

Articles published on Newsweek,²⁸ Inside Higher Education,²⁹ Front Page Magazine,³⁰ Northeast Bylines,³¹ The James Martin Center,³² The Federalist,³³ and The European Conservative.³⁴

⁸ <https://www.campusreform.org/?ID=10899>

⁹ <https://www.thecollegefix.com/male-sexual-harassment-claims-ignored-by-the-feds-title-ix-office-in-boston-for-eight-years/>

¹⁰ <https://www.foxnews.com/us/yale-being-probed-by-doe-accused-of-toxic-environment-against-men>

¹¹ <https://www.wsj.com/articles/do-pro-women-groups-on-campus-discriminate-against-men-1527067800>

¹² <https://thehill.com/regulation/administration/388675-ed-dept-investigating-whether-yale-discriminates-against-men>

¹³ <https://www.nbcnews.com/nightly-news/video/doe-investigating-title-ix-complaints-from-men-who-say-it-discriminates-in-support-of-women-1399057987509>

¹⁴ <https://thepostmillennial.com/one-brave-young-man-takes-on-gender-inequality-at-usc>

¹⁵ <https://www.dailywire.com/news/foia-request-reveals-boston-title-ix-office-has-ashe-schow>

¹⁶ <https://dailycaller.com/2018/05/14/education-department-yale-university-programs-scholarships-men-women/>

¹⁷ <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>

¹⁸ <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2019/02/12/colleges-universities-discriminate-men-title-ix-complaints-toxic-masculinity-column/2831834002/>

¹⁹ <https://apnews.com/article/north-america-us-news-ap-top-news-education-ca-state-wire-3c30816a631240cc8f1ee7051c129388>

²⁰ <https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3578393>

²¹ <https://www.euronews.com/2018/12/15/men-s-rights-activists-are-attacking-women-s-scholarships-programs-n947886>

²² <https://www.newdelhitimes.com/ed-department-investigates-claims-against-womens-programs/>

²³ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kimelsesser/2022/11/30/stanford-university-under-investigation-for-sex-bias-against-men/?sh=2d92e45a3c17>

²⁴ <https://stanforddaily.com/2022/12/01/department-of-education-opens-investigation-into-stanford-for-bias-against-male-students/>

²⁵ <https://stanfordreview.org/stanford-under-investigation-for-discrimination-against-men/>

²⁶ <https://dailytrojan.com/2019/01/08/student-accuses-university-of-discriminating-against-men/>

²⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hOUGNGWmN0k&t=595s>

²⁸ <https://www.newsweek.com/biden-administration-unwilling-oppose-discrimination-against-men-opinion-1762731>

²⁹ <https://www.insidehighered.com/users/james-moore-and-kursat-christoff-pekgoz>

³⁰ <https://www.frontpagemag.com/turkish-dissident-faces-ten-years-prison-blasphemy-frontpagemagcom/>

³¹ <https://northeastbylines.co.uk/keir-starmers-deafening-silence-on-the-failures-of-brexit/>

³² <https://www.jamesmartin.center/2019/10/the-ministry-of-love-ongoing-gender-partisanship-in-the-department-of-education/>

³³ <https://thefederalist.com/2019/11/26/u-s-department-of-education-to-investigate-georgetown-for-giving-women-privileges-it-doesnt-give-men/>

³⁴ <https://europeanconservative.com/articles/commentary/is-eu-law-more-conservative-than-american-law/>

RESPONSE AGAINST DEFAMATION

I have struggled with online defamation in the aftermath of publicity.
[Here is a letter that debunks the false publication in question.](#)

MISCELLANEOUS

- Ranked 412th out of 1.6 million applicants in a Turkish college admissions exam (OSS)
- Has absolute pitch, the rare ability to recognize notes in the absence of a referent.³⁵ Can memorize complex orchestral passages.³⁶³⁷

³⁵ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhmkd6w93Qs>

³⁶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAnjte5rUJ8>

³⁷ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EF6GCZ0oHI>