

CANSU HEPÇAĞLAYAN

Ravenhill Mansion Suite 202
3480 W School House Ln
Thomas Jefferson University East Falls Campus
Philadelphia, PA 19129
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Areas of Specialization: Social and Political Philosophy, Ancient Greek Philosophy (esp. Aristotle)
Areas of Competence: Ethics, Social Ontology
Additional Teaching Competence: Introductory Logic

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of Philosophy (tenure-track),
Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, PA August 2023-ongoing

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Philosophy, Boston University, Boston, MA August 2023
Dissertation: *Friendship between Strangers:
Retrieving Aristotle's Political Friendship in an Age of Polarization*
Committee: David Roochnik, Susanne Sreedhar, Charles L. Griswold, Marc Gasser-Wingate

M.A. in Philosophy, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey August 2017
Thesis: *Who are the Political Friends?
Homonoia and Political Friendship in Aristotle's Political Thinking*
Committee: Chryssi Sidiropoulou, Türker Armaner, Yıldız Silier

B.S. in Physics,
B.A. in Philosophy, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Turkey May 2015

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Hepçağlayan, Cansu. (2024). Political friendship as joint commitment: Aristotle on *homonoia*. *Inquiry*.

Hepçağlayan, Cansu. (2023). Reasons for Political Friendship. *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice* 26:343-359.

Hepçağlayan, Cansu. (2017). The Value Problem in Allen's Non-Adaptive Understanding of Knowledge. *Kriterion - Journal of Philosophy* 31 (2):43-54.

BOOK REVIEW

Hepçavaşlayan, Cansu; Watkins, Aja & Powell, Rachell. (2020). What is Paradoxical About ‘Fermi’s Paradox’?: Review of Milan Ćirković: *The Great Silence*, Oxford University Press, 2018. *Acta Biotheoretica* 68 (4):469-477.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

“A Theory of Political Friendship”

For political friendship to be a useful conceptual tool rather than a mere catch-all term for all the qualities we take to be remedies for faction, there needs to be a *coherent*, *realistic*, and *practical* conception of political friendship with a clear definition. The literature on political friendship so far has failed to provide a rigorous conceptual analysis that provides a definition of political friendship as such, or so I will argue. In this paper, I use Aristotelian insight to present a new framework for defining political friendship.

In preparation

“How to Cultivate Political Friendship in Polarized Societies”

In *Overdoing Democracy*, Robert B. Talisse offers a solution to overcome polarization: cultivating political friendship by engaging in nonpolitical activities with members of one’s political opposition. In this paper, I argue against Talisse’s suggestion that engaging in non-political activities with members of one’s political opposition is sufficient for cultivating political friendship. I instead argue that genuine political friendship can be re-established only through systematic efforts to raise citizens’ awareness of shared political goals.

In preparation

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“A Theory of Political Friendship”

- Philadelphia Normative Philosophy Conference
UPenn, Philadelphia, PA
- Social Ontology 2024
Duke University, Durham, NC

October 2024

July 2024

“Public Reason and Civic Friendship”

- Zicklin Center Normative Business Ethics Workshop
Wharton School, Philadelphia, PA
- 14th Braga Meetings
Braga, Portugal

March 2025

June 2024

“How to Care for the Ones We Care About: The Impact of Organizational Wrongdoings in the Context of Natural Disasters”, co-authored with Deniz Ozturk

- European Academy of Management Conference (EURAM) 2024
Bath, UK
- 16th Philosophy of Management Conference
Oxford, UK

June 2024

June 2024

“Political Friendship as Joint Commitment: Aristotle on *Homonoia*”

- APA Central Division Meeting
Denver, CO February 2023
- Social Ontology & Collective Intentionality
University of Vienna, Austria, hybrid August 2022
- History of Philosophy Society (HOPS)
Baylor University, Waco, TX May 2022

“How to Cultivate Civic Friendship in Polarized Societies”

- 15th Braga Meetings
Braga, Portugal June 2025 (upcoming)
- Constitutional Democracy in Crisis
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA March 2025
- APA Eastern Division Meeting
Concerned Philosophers for Peace (CPP) Group Session
Montreal, Quebec January 2023

“Reasons for Political Friendship”

- Graduate Conference in Political Theory
New School of Social Research and Loyola University, online April 2022

“Why the Value of Citizenship Doesn’t Ground Political Obligations”

- Social Ontology 2021
UC San Diego, online August 2021

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS

Seed Grant, Thomas Jefferson University	2024-2025
Graduate Writing Fellowship, Boston University	2022-2023
Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award, Boston University	2022
Hellenic Studies Grant, Boston University	Summers 2021, 2022
Stata Fund Grant, Boston University	Summers 2019, 2020
Peter Diamandopoulos Fellowship in Hellenic Studies, Boston University	Summer 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Evil & Good, Thomas Jefferson University	Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024
Honors Moral Philosophy, Thomas Jefferson University	Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024
Ethics of Immigration, Boston University	Spring 2023
The Social Contract: Then and Now, Boston University	Fall 2022
Reason and Argumentation, Boston University	Summer 2020

SERVICE TO TJU

Member of the Research Subcommittee of CHS Executive Committee

2024-2025

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Invited chair

- Eastern APA
Colloquium: Deliberative Democracy
- Philadelphia Normative Philosophy Conference
Elvira Basevich, "The Circumstances of Injustice"

January 2024

October 2023

EARLIER SERVICE

Boston University Minorities and Philosophy (MAP) Representative	2022-2023
Boston University MAP Mentor Program Coordinator	2022-2023
Graduate Conference Organizer ("Sustainability & Environmental Ethics")	2021-2022
Graduate Student President	2020-2021
New Teaching Fellow Workshop Leader	2020
Referee for Boston University Graduate Conference	2020
Incoming Student Mentor	2019
Commentator for Boston University Graduate Conference	2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participant in MAP Workshop with Philosophers for Sustainability, Boston University	Spring 2022
Participant in MAP Workshop on Linguistic Injustice, Boston University	Fall 2021
Graduate of Ancient Greek Summer Program, Harvard University	Summer 2018

REFERENCES

David Roochnik
Emeritus Professor of Philosophy
Boston University
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Charles L. Griswold
Emeritus Professor of Philosophy
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Marc Gasser-Wingate
Associate Professor of Philosophy
Boston University

Aaron Garrett (Teaching)
Professor of Philosophy
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