OGUZ KAAN PEHLIVAN

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PhD-qualified Legal Counsel and Policy Expert with 10+ years of hybrid experience spanning International Law, Cybersecurity, and Legislative Affairs. Proven ability to operate at the intersection of government and corporate sectors, having advised Members of Parliament on complex legislative strategies and guided global brands (Nike, Netflix, Huawei) on GDPR/KVKK compliance. Specialist in the protection of digital assets, investment arbitration, and public policy formulation.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Legal & Regulatory Expertise:** International Investment Law, Data Protection (GDPR/KVKK), International Arbitration & Dispute Resolution, E-commerce Law.
- **Policy & Legislative Affairs:** Public Policy Development, Government Relations, Legislative Drafting, Global Governance Analysis.
- **Technology & Digital Law:** Cybersecurity Law, Digital Assets, Blockchain & Cryptocurrencies, Digital Forensic Tools.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Legal and Political Advisor | Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (Ankara)
2016 – October 2023

- Served as a senior advisor to three different Members of Parliament, driving the legislative agenda and managing high-level political strategy for nearly seven years.
- Orchestrated the legislative output, drafting **12 legislative proposals** and submitting **124 Parliamentary questions** aimed at government accountability and policy change.
- Developed strategic recommendations on committee work and political decisions, leveraging expertise in law, economics, and international relations.
- Led the preparation and legal drafting of **37 dissenting opinions** on critical draft legislation across various commissions.

Associate Lawyer | DLA PIPER LLP (Istanbul/Türkiye)
January 2016 – June 2016

- Delivered high-stakes data protection and cybersecurity compliance consultancy to global clients, including **Nike, Audi, Netflix, Huawei, and RIOT Games**.
- Ensured company operations were fully compliant with international regulations (GDPR) and national law (KVKK) by designing internal data processing procedures.
- Drafted e-commerce contracts, user agreements, and provided legal guidance on digital payment systems for platform rules and user rights.

Legal Advisor for Startups | PublicFeed and Newstag Global (Ankara/Türkiye)
September 2015 – January 2016

- Provided specialized legal counsel on technology contracts, software licensing, and the legal management of online platforms and mobile applications.

Intern | Volterra Fietta Public International Law Firm (London/UK)
July 2015 – September 2015

- Supported legal teams in preparing briefs and managing dispute resolution processes for international commercial and investment arbitration cases.

Researcher | Center for International Law Studies, Think-Tank (Ankara)
February 2012 – October 2015

- Conducted in-depth research on geopolitical and security-related issues, with a focus on international law and global governance.
- Authored and co-authored detailed reports, policy briefs, and op-eds on strategic issues such as cybersecurity, regional conflicts, and foreign policy.

EDUCATION

PhD, Law | Ankara University (Ankara/Türkiye)
2017 – 2024

- **GPA:** 3.94 out of 4, Summa Cum Laude
- **Thesis Title:** Protection of Digital Assets within the Framework of the Full Protection and Security Principle in Investment Treaties

Postgraduate Certificate in Public International Law | Queen Mary University of London
2014 – 2015

- Merit
- Recipient of the **Chevening Scholarship** (The UK Government's Global Scholarship Program)

LL.M., Law | Galatasaray University (Istanbul/Türkiye)
2012 – 2015

- **GPA:** 3.76 out of 4, Merit
- **Thesis Title:** Confronting Cyberespionage under International Law

LL.B., Law | Bilkent University (Ankara/Türkiye)
2006 – 2012

- Honor Degree, Full Scholarship

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Book:** *Protection of Digital Assets under Full Protection and Security Principle*, Adalet Yayınevi (2024).
- **Book:** *Confronting Cyberespionage under International Law*, Routledge Publishing (2018).
- **Peer-Reviewed Article:** "Gölgedeki Tehdit: Yalnız Aktör Terörizminin Evrimi ve Mücadele Yöntemleri" (*Threat in the Shadow*), *Journal of Terrorism and Radicalization Studies* (2025).
- **Award:** Atlantic Council, Best Decision Paper Award, Cyber 9/12 Competition in Washington D.C. (2014).

CERTIFICATES & SKILLS

Certifications & Training

- METU Penetration Testing Certificate Training (2022)
- International Cyber Policy Course, Cranfield University & UK Defence Academy (2015)
- Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE-ODIHR) Election Observer (2018)
- The International Negotiation Techniques, Netherlands Institute for Higher Education Ankara (2012)

Technical Skills

- **Tools:** Digital Forensic Tools (FTK, Autopsy), Network Analysis Tools (Wireshark), SPSS Statistics, Microsoft Office Suite.

Languages

- **Turkish:** Native
- **English:** Advanced (TOEFL/IELTS 91/7)
- **French:** Intermediate
- **German:** Intermediate

Memberships

- American Society of International Law, Member
- International Bar Association, Member
- Strategic Studies Institute, Member