



# INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON OSTROM WORKSHOP

## RESEARCH SERIES

### Salih Yasun

*Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Political Science, IU*

Wednesday, April 7: 12:00 – 1:00 pm ET

Virtual via Zoom: [Click here for link to Zoom meeting](#)



### Party Organizations and Hierarchical Local Governance in Emerging Democracies: A Case Study of Tunisia

What explains the modes of participatory local governance in emerging democracies? I answer this question through conducting a case study of Tunisia, which went through a revolution in 2011 and implemented a new Local Code in 2018. Employing a mix of qualitative and quantitative data, including interview and survey instruments, my analysis identifies political parties as key units influencing both procedures and outcomes of local governance. The distributive and clientele politics enable parties to recruit bureaucrats, control public offices, access financial resources and employ party networks. Partisanship appointment of governors limit the inclusiveness of local governance through perpetuating hierarchical relations with co-partisan mayors at the expense of inclusive local engagement mechanisms. Furthermore, Tunisians who are not co-partisan with their mayors tend to develop lower levels of trust in local governance institutions. The non-inclusive manners of governance can have implications at different layers of governance institutions, which can generate consequences for democratic erosion. These findings challenge the conventional wisdom that considers parties as “catch-all” organizations without a clear ideology and steady organizational base in emerging democracies.

**Salih Yasun** is a PhD Candidate at the Department of Political Science of IU-Bloomington. He holds a Master’s Degree in Applied Statistics from the same university. Salih employs both qualitative and quantitative methods in his research, which focuses on democratization, local governance, property rights and voting behavior in the Middle East and North Africa region. Salih is fluent in Turkish (native) and Arabic. More info is available at: [www.syasun.com](http://www.syasun.com)

Ostrom Workshop  
513 N. Park Ave  
Bloomington, IN 47408

[ostromworkshop.indiana.edu](http://ostromworkshop.indiana.edu)

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Ostrom workshop presentations will be virtual until further notice. Join instantly using the link above. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon ([sturgeon@iu.edu](mailto:sturgeon@iu.edu))*