

# *Participant Biographies*

*Second Annual GLD Conference,*

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## *Ana Arjona*

Ana Arjona, PhD, Yale University, is an Assistant Professor at Northwestern University. She was a post-doctoral researcher at the Earth Institute at Columbia University and a fellow at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame. Her scholarship investigates theoretically and empirically how institutions change in contexts of organized violence and how these changes, in turn, shape individuals' decision-making. She is the author of *Rebelocracy: Social Order in Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2016) and co-editor of *Rebel Governance in Civil War* (Cambridge University Press, 2015). Her work has been funded by the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, SSRC, the United States Institute of Peace, Yale University, and Columbia University in the U.S.; the International Development Research Centre in Canada; the Folke Bernadotte Academy in Sweden; and the Department for International Development and the Economic and Social Research Council in the U.K.

[ana.arjona@northwestern.edu](mailto:ana.arjona@northwestern.edu)



## *Kate Baldwin*

Kate Baldwin, Ph.D., Columbia University, 2010, is the Peter Strauss Family Assistant Professor of Political Science at Yale University. Her research focuses on political accountability, state-building and the politics of development, with a regional focus on sub-Saharan Africa. Her book, *the Paradox of Traditional Chiefs in Democratic Africa*, received honorable mentions for the William Riker award for the best book in political economy and for the best book award from the African Politics Conference Group. Her research has appeared in the *American Political Science Review*, the *American Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, and *Comparative Politics*.

[katharine.baldwin@yale.edu](mailto:katharine.baldwin@yale.edu)



### *Daniela Behr*

Daniela Behr is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Department of Politics and Public Administration at the University of Konstanz, Germany. She received her PhD in early 2018 examining the relationship of traditional governance and socio-economic development. Daniela's research focuses on (customary) governance, (rural) development, human rights, and land governance, with a regional focus on sub-Saharan Africa. She has done field research in Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania, and Uganda. She studied Political Science and Public Administration at the University of Konstanz, at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and at York University in Toronto.

[dbehr@worldbank.org](mailto:dbehr@worldbank.org)



### *Hana Brix*

As Practice Manager, Dr. Brix leads the World Bank engagement on social protection and As Practice Manager, Dr. Brix leads the World Bank engagement on social protection and employment in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In her career in the World Bank, Dr. Brix has been advancing analytic and operational contribution to human development, service delivery, and public sector governance. She led the Global Solutions Group on Public Service Delivery and a Thematic Group on Quality of Fiscal Adjustment; and held senior technical positions across regions, including Program Leader for the Gulf countries, Lead Economist for Human Development in the MENA region, and Senior Economist in China and in countries of Europe and Central & South East Asia. Based in China during 2001-10, she served as World Health Organization's Sector Leader for Health Sector Development and UNICEF Social Policy Chief; and she taught international development as a Visiting Professor at Tsinghua University, School of Public Policy and Management, in Beijing. She published several books, including *Trust, Voice and Incentives* on governance and service delivery and *Government at Risk* on contingent liabilities and fiscal risk management (Oxford University Press), and numerous articles on topics of public finance, governance, and human development in professional journals.

[hbrix@worldbank.org](mailto:hbrix@worldbank.org)



### *Ruth Carlitz*

Ruth Carlitz is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD) at the University of Gothenburg. She received her PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles in June 2016. Her research looks at government responsiveness from the ‘top down’ (how governments distribute public goods) and the ‘bottom up’ (what citizens and non-governmental organizations can do to promote transparency and accountability). Ruth’s dissertation focuses on Tanzania, where nearly half of the population languishes without access to a clean and safe source of drinking water despite massive investments in this sector in recent years. In order to make sense of this disconnect, she analyzes finely-grained, geo-coded data on spending and infrastructure construction for water provision, contextualized by public opinion surveys, interviews and focus group discussions. She finds that Tanzania's strategy of decentralizing water provision to local governments has largely failed to improve access, due to political favoritism at the local level as well as a ‘demand-responsive approach’ that privileges wealthier communities. In addition to her academic research, Ruth has worked on evaluations commissioned by organizations including the World Bank, the International Budget Partnership, and the Institute of Development Studies. Ruth lived in Tanzania from 2006-2008, where she worked with the local NGO HakiElimu. She has also conducted fieldwork in Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Uganda.



[ruth.carlitz@gu.se](mailto:ruth.carlitz@gu.se)

### *Christopher Carter*

Christopher Carter is a PhD candidate in Political Science and Research Associate at the Center on the Politics of Development at the University of California, Berkeley. His dissertation project examines the historical causes of contemporary interethnic inequality in Latin America. A complementary project uses experimental data to show how traditional institutions improve access to public goods and services for rural indigenous communities in Andean South America and Mexico.



[christopher.carter@berkeley.edu](mailto:christopher.carter@berkeley.edu)

### *Jasper Cooper*

Jasper Cooper is a PhD candidate at Columbia University. His research analyzes the ways in which formal and informal policing institutions complement and substitute one another in weak state societies, with a focus on how gender-based inequality mediates these processes. He has conducted large-scale field experiments on community policing in remote areas of Papua New Guinea, a mass media campaign to encourage informal channels for reducing violence against women in rural Uganda, and police extortion along highways in West Africa. He is currently working on one of the first field experiments to attempt to reduce mob violence in favor of formal prosecution in one of the largest open-air markets in East Africa. Jasper's research also combines ethnographic induction with deductive formal modeling to develop a general theory of the conditions under which state institutions crowd out or complement informal institutions. In addition to his field research, Jasper is co-authoring a book and suite of software, DeclareDesign, which seek to contribute to the move toward greater transparency in the social sciences.

[jjc2247@columbia.edu](mailto:jjc2247@columbia.edu)



### *Moa Dahlberg*

Moa Dahlberg is a PhD-student in Political Science at Luleå University of Technology at the Department of Business Administration, Technology and Social Sciences. She has studied Development Studies at Uppsala University and Södertörn University. During her academic studies and previous work she has conducted field research in Tanzania, Kenya and South Africa on themes such as democratization, migration, gender and land-rights. In her PhD, Moa focuses on transboundary governance of natural resources. This research relies on qualitative fieldwork and surveys collected in Southern Africa.

[moa.dahlberg@ltu.se](mailto:moa.dahlberg@ltu.se)



### *Boniface Dulani*

Boniface Dulani lectures in Political Science at the University of Malawi. He also doubles as the Fieldwork Operations Manager for the Afrobarometer- a comparative series of national public opinion surveys that measure public attitudes toward democracy, governance, the economy and market reform, leadership and other issues in more than 30 African countries. Boniface holds a PhD in Political Science from Michigan State University, where he graduated in 2011. His PhD research was on “Personal Rule and Presidential Term Limits in Africa.” Boniface has also studied at the Universities of York and Sussex in the United Kingdom, from where he respectively graduated with a BA (Political Science, 1999) and Master of Philosophy (Development Studies, 2002). He is a recipient of several awards, including the prestigious Fulbright Fellowship for his doctoral studies at Michigan State. Boniface continues to research and write on the topic of term limits and the broader areas of Democracy and Governance.



[dulanibo@msu.edu](mailto:dulanibo@msu.edu)

### *Felix Dwinger*

Felix is a PhD candidate at the Department of Political Science and the V-Dem institute. He holds an MA in Political Science from Heidelberg University, Germany. Felix also worked as research assistant at the Mannheim Centre for European Social Research, which is located at the University of Mannheim, Germany, from September, 2015 to August, 2016. He was involved in the European Election Studies, particularly the Euromanifesto Project. His research interests are comparative political institutions, comparative democratization and comparative nondemocratic politics. His current research focuses on origins, functions, and effects of formal political institutions in both autocracy and democracy and the effects of formal political institutions on democratization.



[felix.dwinger@gu.se](mailto:felix.dwinger@gu.se)



### *Karen E. Ferree*

Karen Ferree studies democratization in Africa. Her work sits at the intersection of institutional and behavioral approaches to politics, with a particular focus on how ethnic and racial divisions and formal and informal institutions shape voting behavior and election outcomes in emerging democracies. She has written about South African politics in her book, *Framing the Race in South Africa: the Political Origins of Racial Census Elections* (Cambridge University Press, 2011). She has also written about electoral institutions, electoral integrity, and issues related to survey design in Africa.

[keferree@mail.ucsd.edu](mailto:keferree@mail.ucsd.edu)



### *Josephine G. Gatua*

Josephine G. Gatua is a PhD Candidate in Economics at the University of Gothenburg, studying issues in Health and Behavioral economics. She received her Master's degree in Economics from the University of Dar-es-Salaam. Prior to joining the PhD program, Josephine worked for various organizations among them The University of Nairobi Institute of Tropical and Infectious Diseases, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis and the World Bank. Her research deals with individual responses to their subjective beliefs and external Information and the impact of these beliefs and information on bed net usage in malaria prevention. In addition, she is working on evaluating health related policy. She is particularly interested in health and environment, with a regional focus on Sub-Saharan Africa.

[josephine.gakii@gu.se](mailto:josephine.gakii@gu.se)



### *Marcia Grimes*

Marcia Grimes is a lecturer at the Political Science Department and researcher at the Quality of Government Institute, University of Gothenburg. Her research interests include the role of civil society in combating corruption, both in terms of contributing to societal accountability, as well as advocacy efforts to bring about legal and institutional change. Her earlier work focuses on whether citizens' perceptions of fairness in decision making affect their inclination to trust political institutions. Marcia Grimes is currently working on two projects related to government transparency, one related to its measurement and the second exploring its implications for civic activism and in the longer term, for the possibility of reducing



corruption. Additionally, together with Lena Wängnerud she co-authored the chapter “Gender and Corruption in Mexico: Building a Theory of Conditioned Causality” in the new book “Gender and Corruption”, exploring the relationship between women’s representation and levels of corruption. Since 2009, Marcia Grimes has been the Director of Studies for the Master of Science program International Administration and Global Governance.

[marcia.grimes@pol.gu.se](mailto:marcia.grimes@pol.gu.se)

### *Adam Harris*

Adam Harris is an Assistant Professor and Lecturer in Development Politics at University College London and received his Ph.D. from New York University in August 2015. He specializes in ethnic and African politics. In his dissertation, he seeks to understand why some voters (up to 52% of African voters) do not support their ethnic group’s party. To answer this question, he develops and measures the concept of ethnic proximity that moves beyond the academic convention of co-ethnicity to more fully consider the complex role ethnicity plays in political preference formation. The dissertation argues that the degree to which ethnic group membership influences political preferences is determined by one’s position in her ethnic group, which is in turn determined by her ethnic attributes (her ethnic proximity). The dissertation uses original panel survey and experimental data to test the effect of ethnic proximity on voter preferences in South Africa. The results are also replicated in the US and Ugandan contexts. In short, his dissertation concludes that those who are less proximate to their own group and more proximate to an out-group are more likely to be swing voters and will have weaker preferences for their ethnic group’s party. Adam has also conducted research on ethnic identifiability (recently published in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*), ethnic and immigrant prejudice, the determinants of political protests, ideological ideal point estimation among African legislators, and the effects of foreign aid in recipient countries. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, New York University, and Columbia University.



[asharris4@gmail.com](mailto:asharris4@gmail.com)

### *Felix Hartmann*

Felix Hartmann is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. His research is broadly focused on the Political Economy of Development. He studies the formation of endogenous preferences, in particular how economic and social factors influence norms and political preferences. In his dissertation, he investigates how the behavioural effects of poverty and violence shape political preferences and affect political outcomes. Prior to pursuing his PhD, Felix was a research



associate at the Quality of Government Institute. He holds a Diploma in Political Science from the University of Bamberg and has also studied at the American University, Washington, DC. He has work experience from the German Development Institute, Bonn and the Fund for Peace, Washington, DC.

[felix.hartmann@gu.se](mailto:felix.hartmann@gu.se)

### *Danielle Higgins*

Danielle Higgins is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Government at American University, specializing in Comparative Politics. Her dissertation focuses on attitudes toward women in politics globally and uses laws and policies surrounding women's rights and issues to proxy for the ways societies construct gender and gender roles, measuring the extent to which this affects public opinion. She also conducts research on spatial inequality for TADAMUN, the Cairo Urban Solidarity Initiative.

[dh6087a@american.edu](mailto:dh6087a@american.edu)



### *Katharina Holzinger*

Katharina Holzinger is Professor of International Relations and Conflict Management at the University of Konstanz since 2007. From 2004 to 2007 she was Professor of Government and Director at the Center for Globalization and Governance at the University of Hamburg. She studied political science and German linguistics and literature at the Universities of Munich and Augsburg and received her doctorate in political science in 1993. She was a research fellow at the Social Science Research Center in Berlin (WZB), the Max Planck Institute for Research in Collective Goods in Bonn and at the European University Institute in Florence. She has published in journals such as *International Organization*, *Political Communication*, *Public Administration*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *European Union Politics*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *European Political Science Review*, *Journal of Common Market Studies* and with Cambridge University Press. Her current research focusses on differentiated integration in Europe, the analysis of argumentation in political communication and on traditional forms of governance and political dualism.

[katharina.holzinger@uni-konstanz.de](mailto:katharina.holzinger@uni-konstanz.de)





### *Geoffrey Hughes*

Geoffrey Hughes is a fellow in the Department of Anthropology at the London School of Economics. His research is broadly concerned with the technological management of populations, with a strong focus on Jordan, where he has lived and worked for over four years. He has written on the information infrastructure of Jordan's government Sharia Courts, struggles over land rights, and Islamic training courses for newlyweds. His current research examines how new media technologies are transforming the nature of feuding and social conflict in Jordan.

[G.F.Hughes@lse.ac.uk](mailto:G.F.Hughes@lse.ac.uk)



### *Macartan Humphreys*

Macartan Humphreys is director of the research unit Institutions and Political Inequality at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center and a professor of Political Science at Columbia University. His research combines experimental approaches, survey research, and formal theory to study the political economy of development, governance, and conflict processes. Field experiments focus on political accountability in Congo and Uganda and bureaucratic structures in Sierra Leone. Macartan has published widely in peer-reviewed journals and has authored or coauthored books on ethnic politics, natural resource politics, and game theory. He sits on the editorial board of the American Political Science Review and PSRM. He has won multiple scholarly prizes including the Luebbert prize for best book in comparative politics, the Heinz Eulau prize for best article in the APSR, the Russett prize for best article in JCR, and the Trudeau fellowship. He is a founding member of the Evidence in Governance and Politics network and is President of the APSA Experiments section. He holds a B.A. in history and political science from Trinity College Dublin (1994), an M.Phil. in economics from Oxford (2000), and an A.M. and Ph.D. in government from Harvard University (1998, 2003).

[macartan@gmail.com](mailto:macartan@gmail.com)



### *Ezgi Irgil*

Ezgi Irgil is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. Her research is broadly focused on local governance and forced migration. Ezgi studies the roles of local actors during humanitarian crises, with a particular interest in refugees. In her dissertation, she investigate how municipalities operate during refugee reception when there is a gap in the legal and administrative framework assigned for them. Prior to pursuing her PhD, Ezgi was working as a Research Assistant at the Migration Research Center at Koc University. Ezgi got her MA diploma in International Affairs from the George Washington University, Washington, DC, and her BA diploma in Political Science from Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey.



[ezgi.irgil@gu.se](mailto:ezgi.irgil@gu.se)

### *Prisca Jöst*

Prisca Jöst is a PhD candidate in Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. In her PhD thesis, she aims to investigate structures of political marginalization in newly democratized societies. She holds a MA degree in Peace and Conflict Research and International Politics from the University of Tübingen (Germany) and a BA degree in Political Science and Sociology from the University of Frankfurt (Germany). Moreover, she has working experience as a research assistant at the Department of Political Science at the University of Tübingen (Germany) and the Peace Research Institute in Frankfurt (PRIF). During her time at PRIF, she worked on the evolution of socioeconomic protests in Tunisia and Egypt since 2011.



[prisca.jost@gu.se](mailto:prisca.jost@gu.se)

### *Kristen Kao*

Kristen Kao received her PhD in 2015 from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow with the Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD) at the University of Gothenburg. Kristen's dissertation investigates the effects of electoral institutions on tribal voting behavior, ethnic clientelism, and authoritarian rule in the Middle East, where she spent over two years conducting fieldwork. Her broader research interests include the study of electoral authoritarianism, clientelism, ethnic politics, survey methodology, field experiments, politics of the MENA region, and voter behavior. Her research has received funding from the National Science



Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the American Political Science Association, the National Security Education Program, the American Center of Oriental Research, and the Project on Middle East Political Science, among others.

[kristen.kao@gu.se](mailto:kristen.kao@gu.se)

### *Lucas Katera*

Dr Katera is an Economist with practical experience on research and policy analysis particularly in the areas of poverty, public policy, governance and service delivery. He has worked and published intensively on Local Government in areas of service delivery; finance and financial management; and governance and accountability. In his recent assignment, Dr Katera is a team leader of researchers working on the World Bank Service Delivery Indicators (SDI) survey, a research that benchmarks health and education indicators for future impact assessment. The survey is being conducted in Seven African Countries. In addition, Dr Katera is a team member of the five years research programme on “Tanzania as a future Petro State”. This is a collaborative research between REPOA and Christian Michelsen Institute (CMI) of Norway. He is leading a team working on the Governance component. Currently, he is a Director of the Governance and Service Delivery Research programme at REPOA.



[katera@repoa.or.tz](mailto:katera@repoa.or.tz)

### *Happy Mickson Kayuni*

Happy Kayuni is Associate Professor and Head in University of Malawi’s Political and Administrative Studies Department. He holds a PhD (Political Science) from University of the Western Cape. His PhD focused on areas of informal inter-state relations, perception of sovereignty and trans-border ethnic identity amongst the Chewa of Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia. He attained his Master of Public Administration degree (MPA) Cum laude from the University of Stellenbosch in 2004. Apart from University of Malawi where he is currently employed, Kayuni has also been teaching undergraduate and post-graduate programmes (Political Science and Public Management) in the University of the Western Cape as well as Cape Peninsula University of Technology in South Africa. Kayuni has to date co-edited a book and authored (or co-authored) over thirty-five peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters as well as over seventy research/consultancy reports or conference papers in the areas of public sector reform and management, public & development policy formulation, gender relations in politics, ethnicity, trans-border state and informal relations and party politics.



[hkayuni@cc.ac.mw](mailto:hkayuni@cc.ac.mw)

### *Gabriel Koehler-Derrick*

Gabriel Koehler-Derrick is a 4th year PhD Candidate in the Department of Government at Harvard University. His research interests include state building and economic development with a regional emphasis on the Middle East and North Africa. Before undertaking his doctoral studies, Gabriel worked at the Combating Terrorism Center and the Department of Social Sciences at West Point University from 2010 to 2014.

[koehlerderrick@g.harvard.edu](mailto:koehlerderrick@g.harvard.edu)



### *Lasse Kantz*

Lasse Kantz is currently a guest researcher at the Unit of Human Geography, Department of Economy and Society at the University of Gothenburg, where he forms part of a research project on community-based tenure reforms in Tanzania and Mozambique. Lasse made several large contributions in the area of rural development as a programme officer at Sida-Sthlm (2001-2003). From 2004 to 2007, He was posted at the Swedish Embassy in Managua, Nicaragua, responsible for the Swedish regional support to environment and natural resources in Central America. In 2008/2009, he was temporarily posted at the Swedish Embassy in Maputo as programme officer for the Swedish development co-operation to Mozambique in the area of agriculture and private sector development. As senior policy adviser at Sida-Sthlm (2009-2011) he had a particular thematic responsibility for land issues and coordinated the internal Sida working group on this theme. Lasse also represented Sida in the EU Working Group on Land. Before joining Sida as a staff member Lasse worked as a rural development consultant for more than 10 years, and before that as Head of the Development Studies Unit, Stockholm University, providing Sida with research expertise in the area of social anthropology and rural sociology. Lasse undertook his doctoral studies at the Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University, which culminated with the presentation of a doctoral thesis in 1991 on the land reform at community level in Mexico based on long-term field research in that country.

[lassekrantz15@gmail.com](mailto:lassekrantz15@gmail.com)





### *Pierre F. Landry*

Pierre F. Landry is a Professor of Political Science and Director of Global China Studies at NYU-Shanghai, as well as a Research Fellow at the Research Center for the Study of Contemporary China at Peking University. His undergraduate training was in economics and law at Sciences-Po in Paris. He received his Ph.D in Political Science at the University of Michigan. He is also an alumnus of the Hopkins-Nanjing program. His research interests focus on Asian and Chinese politics, comparative local government, quantitative comparative analysis and survey research. His work has focused on governance and the political management of officials in China. Besides articles and book chapters in comparative politics and political methodology, he is the author of “Decentralized Authoritarianism in China” with Cambridge University Press (2008). He is a consultant at the Universities Service Centre for China Studies at the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he participates in the development of the Barometer on China’s Development (BOCD) and serves on the international advisory committee of the Centre. He also collaborates with the Governance and Local Development project as well as the UNDP and the World Bank on developing indicators of the variability of local governance in a variety of countries, particularly in Vietnam, Tunisia, Jordan and Malawi.



[pierrelandry@gmail.com](mailto:pierrelandry@gmail.com)

### *Egor Lazarev*

Egor Lazarev is a Ph.D candidate at Columbia University who specializes in comparative politics and international relations with a focus on post-Soviet Eurasia. His primary research interests are conflict and political violence, law and society, gender, ethnic and religious politics. His dissertation explores how legacies of prolonged military conflict affect individual choices among alternative legal orders in Chechnya, where Russian statutory law co-exists with Sharia and customary law. This research relies on extensive qualitative fieldwork, surveys, and experiments. Egor's work has been published in *World Politics and Political Science Research and Methods*. In 2016-2017 Egor was a Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence at Yale University and a United States Institute of Peace Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar.



[el2666@columbia.edu](mailto:el2666@columbia.edu)

### *Ellen Lust*

Ellen Lust is the Founding Director of the Programs on Governance and Local Development at Yale University (est. 2013) and at the University of Gothenburg (est. 2015), and Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg. She also serves as a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Project on Middle East Democracy in Washington, DC. She received her M.A. in Modern Middle East and North African Studies (1993) and PhD in Political Science from the University of Michigan (1997). She held faculty positions at Rice University and Yale University, and was a visiting scholar at the Institute of Graduate Studies (Geneva, Switzerland) and the Straus Institute at NYU. Ellen has conducted fieldwork and implemented surveys in Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria and Tunisia. She has authored numerous books and articles, including most recently, *Trust, Voice and Incentives: Learning from Local Successes in Service Delivery in the Middle East and North Africa*, (Washington, DC: World Bank, 2015) in collaboration with Hana Brixi and Michael Woolcock. Her current research is aimed at developing local governance indicators and examining the role of social institutions in governance. She was a co-founder of the Transitional Governance Project, a founding associate editor of *Middle East Law and Governance*, and has served as an advisor and consultant to such organizations as the Carter Center, Freedom House, NDI, UNDEF, UNDP, USAID, and the World Bank. Foundations such as the Moulay Hicham Foundation, National Science Foundation, Social Science Research Council, and the Swedish Research Council have supported her work.

[ellen.lust@gu.se](mailto:ellen.lust@gu.se)



### *Lauren MacLean*

Lauren M. MacLean is the Arthur F. Bentley Chair and Professor of political science at Indiana University at Bloomington. MacLean's research interests focus on the politics of state formation, public service provision, and citizenship in Africa. Currently, she is a Carnegie Fellow (2017-19) and working on a new book focused on the politics of electricity provision and citizenship in Ghana. MacLean has published award-winning books including: *Informal Institutions and Citizenship in Rural Africa: Risk and Reciprocity in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire* (Cambridge University Press, 2010), *The Politics of Non-State Social Welfare in the Global South* (Cornell University Press, 2014), co-edited with Melani Cammett, and *Field Research in Political Science* (Cambridge University Press, 2015), coauthored with Diana Kapiszewski and Ben Read. Her research has been published in a wide range of journals and



supported by grants, including from NSF, SSRC, RWJ, and Fulbright-Hays. She is the recipient of the APSA 2016 David Collier Mid-Career Achievement Award.

[macleanl@indiana.edu](mailto:macleanl@indiana.edu)

### *Alexander Makulilo*

Alexander Makulilo is a Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Dar es Salaam. He has widely researched on governance, traditional authorities, party politics, elections, gender, human rights, and public opinion. Prof. Makulilo is also the Chief Editor of the *African Review: A Journal of African Politics, Development and African Affairs*.

[makulilo76@udsm.ac.tz](mailto:makulilo76@udsm.ac.tz), [makulilo76@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:makulilo76@yahoo.co.uk)



### *Daniel Masterson*

Daniel Masterson will be a postdoctoral fellow at Stanford's Immigration Policy Lab starting in August 2018. He received his PhD in Political Science from Yale University in May 2018. He specializes in comparative politics, political economy, refugee studies, and the modern Middle East. His research examines how Syrian refugees build institutions, both formal and informal, for self-support and self-governance. In another project, he studies the politics and effectiveness of humanitarian responses to the Syrian refugee crisis. He has conducted research in partnership with the World Bank, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the International Rescue Committee.

[daniel.masterson@yale.edu](mailto:daniel.masterson@yale.edu)



### *John McCauley*

John McCauley is an Associate Professor of Government and Politics and a Research Associate in the Center for International Development and Conflict Management. His research focuses on ethnic and religious politics, economic development, and informal political institutions in Africa. He has published articles on these topics in the *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, the *British Journal of Political Science*, and *Political Science Research and Methods*, among others. He has conducted field research in Burkina Faso, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Madagascar, Niger, and



Nigeria. He is the author of *The Logic of Ethnic and Religious Conflict in Africa* (2017, Cambridge University Press). Dr. McCauley received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles. He has a B.A. in Economics from the College of William & Mary and an M.A. in International Relations from Yale University. Prior to joining the faculty at Maryland, he was a post-doctoral research fellow in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. In addition to his research, Dr. McCauley teaches courses on the Politics of the Developing World, African Politics, Field Research Methods, and Religion and Politics around the World. He is a past winner of the Excellence in Teaching award from the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences.

[mccauley@umd.edu](mailto:mccauley@umd.edu)

### *Valeriya Mechkova*

Valeriya Mechkova is a PhD candidate at the Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg, within the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) project since the autumn of 2016. In her dissertation she focuses on how government accountability affects human development outcomes such as education and healthcare. She also focuses on the gender aspects of accountability as well as on clientelism as a specific type of accountability strategy. Valeriya is part of the project FASDEM - Failing and Successful Sequences of Democratization. The project develops a set of novel analytical approaches and methods adapted from modeling in evolutionary biology to study democratization history. Valeriya works part-time with the policy and outreach program of the V-Dem Institute. In particular with leading the work of the V-Dem input to the Post-2015 development agenda and measurement of Sustainable Development Goal 16. She is also conducting capacity building trainings in developing countries, and writing policy analyses.



[valeriya.mechkova@gu.se](mailto:valeriya.mechkova@gu.se)

### *Eduardo Moncada*

Eduardo Moncada is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Barnard College, Columbia University. His research focuses on crime, violence, subnational politics, and the political economy of development. He is the author of *Cities, Business, and the Politics of Urban Violence in Latin America* (Stanford, 2016) and co-editor of *Inside Countries: Subnational Research in Comparative Politics* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). Moncada is currently writing a book on variation in forms of social resistance to taxation and domination by criminal organizations in the developing world.



[emoncada@barnard.edu](mailto:emoncada@barnard.edu)



### *Jennifer Murtazashvili*

Jennifer Murtazashvili is Associate Professor and Director of the International Development Program at the [Graduate School of Public and International Affairs](#) at the University of Pittsburgh. Her research explores questions of governance in fragile states with a geographical focus on Central and South Asia and the former Soviet Union. Her first book, [Informal Order and the State in Afghanistan](#), was published by Cambridge University Press in 2016. A second book manuscript, *Land, the State, and War: Property Rights and Political Order in Afghanistan* (with Ilia Murtazashvili) is under revision. Her current projects include research related to the (unexpected) role of bureaucracy in fragile states, social institutions in weak states, and the geopolitics of Central Eurasia. She has collected diverse types of original data employing a wide range of tools to answer important policy questions ranging from ethnographic fieldwork, interviews, focus group discussions, public opinion surveys, as well as field experiments. Murtazashvili is an elected board member of the Central Eurasian Studies Society.



[jmurtaz@pitt.edu](mailto:jmurtaz@pitt.edu)

### *Alexandra (Xaxa) Panman*

Alexandra (Xaxa) Panman is a PhD candidate in the Department of International Development, University of Oxford. Her research explores the role of informal institutions in shaping land and housing markets in developing country cities. She works with mixed methods, combining large-scale survey data with qualitative fieldwork. Her thesis is focused on the case study city of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Xaxa has previously worked for the World Bank and United Nations, including projects in Latin America and the Caribbean (Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Haiti) and Sub-Saharan Africa (Cote d'Ivoire, Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Kenya).



[alexandra.panman@sjc.ox.ac.uk](mailto:alexandra.panman@sjc.ox.ac.uk)

### *Rakesh Rajani*

Rakesh Rajani leads the Civic Engagement and Government team and has directed the foundation's work to advance democratic participation and transparent, effective, and accountable governance. Rakesh joined the foundation in 2015. A global leader on issues of social justice, he has been at the forefront of citizen engagement and government accountability for two decades. He



currently serves on the board of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the board of directors at the International Budget Partnership, and the steering committee of the Transparency and Accountability Initiative. Before joining the foundation in 2015, Rakesh was based in Tanzania, where he served as head of Twaweza (We Can Make It Happen), an organization he founded to promote basic learning, advance access to information, and increase government responsiveness. Previously, Rakesh served as the lead civil society chair for the Open Government Partnership, an initiative to promote government transparency and accountability. He founded and served as executive director for HakiElimu (Education Rights), combining pioneering research with humor and satire to engage citizens in education reform. An earlier venture, Kuleana Centre for Children's Rights, which Rakesh co-founded in his hometown of Mwanza, Tanzania, became one of Africa's leading centers for children's rights and established Tanzania's first center for sexual health, linking work on HIV/AIDS, sexuality, youth, gender, and human rights. Rakesh holds a master's degree in theological studies from Harvard University and earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy and English and American literature from Brandeis University.

[R.Rajani@fordfoundation.org](mailto:R.Rajani@fordfoundation.org)

### *Mara Revkin*

Mara Revkin is a Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science at Yale University, where her research focuses on governance and lawmaking by armed groups. Her dissertation examines the state-building project (and eventual state failure) of the Islamic State (IS) through multi-method data collection and analysis of archival documents, social media data, surveys, and interviews with key informants including former IS employees conducted during extensive fieldwork in Turkey and Iraq. She is currently based in Istanbul as a Yale Fox Fellow and USIP Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar. Mara holds a J.D. from Yale Law School, where she was an Islamic Law & Civilization Research Fellow in 2016-2017. Her



legal scholarship focuses on the treatment of civilians who have lived in areas controlled and governed by terrorist groups under international humanitarian law and domestic material support laws. Her work has been published in the Annual Review of Law and Social Science, the Oxford Handbook of Islamic Law, and the UCLA Journal of Near Eastern and Islamic Law, among others. She is the lead researcher on Syria and Iraq for United Nations University's forthcoming studies on "Children and Extreme Violence" and "The Limits of Punishment."

[mara.revkin@yale.edu](mailto:mara.revkin@yale.edu)

### *David Rousseau*

Dr. David L. Rousseau is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science and the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security and Cybersecurity at the University of Albany (State University at New York). He previously served as Dean of the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany and was founding Dean of the College of Emergency Preparedness. Dr. Rousseau holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan (1996), a master's degree in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (1987), and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He is the author of *Democracy and War: Institutions, Norms, and the Evolution of International Conflict* (Stanford University Press, 2005) and *Identifying Threats and Threatening Identities: The Social Construction of Realism and Liberalism* (Stanford University Press, 2006). He has published scholarly articles in the *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Defence and Peace Economics*, *Political Psychology*, and the *Journal of Peace Research*. His current research focuses on a book project exploring war and political rights as well as papers examining emotions, ethics, missile defense, demographics, and sentiment analysis.



[drousseau@albany.edu](mailto:drousseau@albany.edu)

### *Marika Sosnowski*

Marika Sosnowski is a PhD candidate in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne and an admitted lawyer. Her research, with Dr Bart Klem, focuses on how ceasefires impact wartime social order. Over the past five years, she has worked as a researcher on a number of development projects in the Middle East including with communities in northern Syria that aimed to engage local council, police and judicial actors. She has also written about the region for numerous publications and is a regular media commentator.



[marika.sosnowski@gmail.com](mailto:marika.sosnowski@gmail.com)

### *Nora Stel*

Nora Stel works as Assistant Professor in Governance and Human Rights at the Maastricht School of Management, the Netherlands. She is Affiliated Scholar at Utrecht University's Centre for Conflict Studies, the Netherlands, and the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. Nora works on the political anthropology of governance, authority and legitimacy in conflict-affected contexts, with a particular focus on non-state actors, informal institutions and refugee communities in the Levant. She has done fieldwork in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Burundi and Ethiopia for which she has been awarded several research grants, including one from Yale University. Nora has published with Oxford University Press and in journals such as *Antipode*, the *Journal of Refugee Studies*, *Development and Change* and *Mediterranean Politics*. As a visiting scholar to the Governance and Local Development program at Gothenburg University, Nora is currently working on a postdoctoral research project titled 'Hybrid Political Order and the Politics of Uncertainty: The Governance of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon' under a Niels Stensen Fellowship.

[nora.stel@hotmail.com](mailto:nora.stel@hotmail.com)



### *Marcus Tannenberg*

Marcus Tannenberg is a PhD student at the Department of Political Science and the Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute since the autumn 2015. His research interests include corruption, democratization, censorship, middle class, political economy and development. His dissertation focuses on citizen-state interactions under authoritarian rule. Including strategies for legitimizing autocratic systems, accountability in the absence of democratic institutions and the responsiveness and repressiveness of the state.

[marcus.tannenberg@gu.se](mailto:marcus.tannenberg@gu.se)



### *Niels Terpstra*

Niels Terpstra is a PhD Candidate at the Centre for Conflict Studies, Utrecht University. His research focuses on political violence, more specifically on the role of non-state armed actors in violent conflict. He is interested in foreign policy, such as peace- and statebuilding policies and counterterrorism. He has gained specific expertise on the armed conflicts in Afghanistan and Sri Lanka and has carried out field work in both countries since 2013. He has published about armed groups, governance, and legitimacy, in the journals of *Civil*





*Wars and Modern Asian Studies*, and in a number of book chapters. He teaches courses in conflict analysis and post-war reconstruction. In 2016 Niels was awarded a national NWO grant for a four-year PhD research project titled: 'Why Do Civilians Comply with a Rebel Group? Towards a Better Understanding of Rebel Governance and Legitimation Processes during Civil War'. In 2013, Niels received the J.C. Baak MA thesis prize for research on the enhancement of peaceful societies, awarded by the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities.

[N.M.Terpstra@uu.nl](mailto:N.M.Terpstra@uu.nl)

### *Paul Thissen*

Paul Thissen is a Ph.D. candidate in Political Science at the University of California, Berkeley. His research interests include governance in weakly-institutionalized states and civil conflict, with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. His dissertation, based on extensive field research in Chad, investigates variation in the ability of non-state institutions to produce political order in weak states. His research has received support from the United States Institute of Peace and the National Science Foundation. He holds a M.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley, and a B.S. in journalism and economics from Northwestern University.



[pthissen@berkeley.edu](mailto:pthissen@berkeley.edu)

### *Martha Wilfahrt*

Martha Wilfahrt is a visiting assistant professor of Political Science at Northwestern University. Her research interests focus on the political economy of development and public goods provision in sub-Saharan Africa. In her book manuscript, she argues that the contemporary politics of representation and local service provision in rural Senegal are shaped by historical legacies of the pre-colonial past. In this project and others, she conducts research on democratic decentralization, informal institutions and the politics of subnational boundaries. She received her PhD from Cornell University in 2015 and her work has appeared in *Comparative Politics* and *World Development*.



[martha.wilfahrt@northwestern.edu](mailto:martha.wilfahrt@northwestern.edu)