

# CHINEMELU U.S. OKAFOR

---

Princeton University Politics Department  
B14 Fisher Hall  
Princeton, New Jersey 08544

Email: cokafor@princeton.edu  
LinkedIn: Chinemelu Okafor

**Research Interests** Comparative politics of Africa; Behavioral economics; grassroots solutions to corruption and inequality; government accountability; technology; culture, ethnicity, and inclusion

**Education** **Princeton University** Princeton, NJ  
Emerging Scholars in Political Science Program Expected: August 2021

**The George Washington University** Washington, DC  
M.A. Applied Economics May 2018

**The University of Michigan** Ann Arbor, MI  
B.A. Economics, B.A. International Studies May 2015  
*European Union Study Abroad*, Leuven Belgium May 2014

**Research Experience** **The Busara Center for Behavioral Economics** Lagos, NG  
Fellow (postponed due to COVID-19) June 2020  
Areas of focus: *Corruption; behavioral economics – will conduct field survey of original paper, “The Effect of Class Hierarchies on Peer Enforcement of Corruption: An Empirical Test in Nigeria”*

**Emerging Scholars in Political Science Program** Princeton, NJ  
Predoctoral Research Specialist August 2019 - Present  
Advisor: Prof. LaFleur Stephens-Dougan  
Areas of focus: *Public opinion and racial attitudes – ran OLS, ordered logistic and multivariate logistic regressions*

**Empirical Studies of Conflict Project** Princeton, NJ  
Research Specialist II September 2018 - August 2019  
Advisors: Prof. Tarek Ghani and Prof. Jake Shapiro  
Areas of focus: *Natural resource extraction in Sub-Saharan Africa – built R Shiny interactive map using three geocoded commercial datasets*

**The International Finance Corporation** Washington, DC  
Research Assistant February - October 2018  
Advisors: Dr. Tristan Reed and Dr. Alexandros Ragoussis  
Areas of focus: *Private sector firm development in Sub-Saharan Africa; Impact investing – ran synthetic panel fixed effect regressions*

**The George Washington University** Washington, DC  
Independent Study September 2017 - May 2018  
Advisor: Prof. Ronald Bird  
Areas of focus: *Demography – ran multivariate logistic regressions*

**The World Bank** Washington, DC  
Consultant June - August 2017  
Advisors: Kinley Salmon and Nabila Assaf  
Areas of focus: *Major challenges to firm operations in post-conflict settings – conducted statistical hypothesis testing*

	<b>The Conference Board</b> Research Assistant Advisor: Brian Schaitkin Areas of focus: <i>Technology and the gig-economy – conducted cross-state analyses</i>	Alexandria, VA January - May 2017
	<b>The United Nations Joint Inspections Unit</b> Research Intern Advisors: Jose Andres Herrera, Herve Baudat, and Maria Gomez Areas of focus: <i>System-wide monitoring and evaluation – drafted reports</i>	Geneva, CH August 2015 - January 2016
<b>Policy Publications</b>	Creating Impact: The Promise of Impact Investing, <i>International Finance Corporation</i> 2019 Beyond Capital: Monitoring Development Outcomes of Multinational Enterprises, <i>World Bank</i> 2018 Surviving Firms of the Syrian Arab Republic, <i>World Bank</i> 2018 A Revolution Confined to Uber?, <i>The Conference Board</i> 2017	
<b>Works in Progress</b>	“The Effect of Class Hierarchies on Peer Enforcement of Corruption: An Empirical Test in Nigeria” “Evaluating the Effects of Whatsapp on Corruption Reporting: A Comparative - Study of How Technology Motivates Important Normative Behaviors in Nigeria and Kenya” “Assessing the Causal Relationship between Corruption and Inequality: A Time Series Analysis”	
<b>Selected and Invited Talks</b>	Promoting Inclusion in Economic Research at Williams College (2020) <b>Okafor, Chinemelu.</b> “ <i>Demography and the Marginal Propensity to Unionize.</i> ” George Washington University Research Days, April 2019	
<b>Professional Distinctions</b>	Emerging Scholars in Political Science Program, Princeton J-PAL Executive Education: Evaluating Social Programs, MIT World Federation of United Nations Associations, Jaipur, India Barger Leadership Fellows Program, University of Michigan	August 2019 June 2018 April 2015 September 2014
<b>Selected Awards</b>	Princeton SIFP STEM Study Fellowship Best Overall Performance in the Applied Economics Master’s Program Second Prize for Graduate Presenters in the Area of Economics, Politics, and Society GW Merit Scholarship LSA Global Experience Scholarship	April 2019 May 2018 April 2018 August 2016 April 2014
<b>Professional Service</b>	<b>The Research In Color Foundation</b> Founder and President Created <u>Research In Color</u> an incorporated nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing the number of Ph.D. students of color in economics and economics-adjacent disciplines, and amplifying meaningful economic and policy research on communities of color; established an annual mentorship program that matches 15 minority students with 15 seasoned economists who, together, complete a 6-month long independent research project, of the mentee’s choosing; raised 20,000 dollars for the annual Research in Color Conference at Princeton University through brand partnerships and donations.	May 2019 - Present
<b>Technical Skills</b>	RStudio, R Shiny, STATA, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Tableau, Thomson Reuters Datastream, Thomson Reuters Eikon, Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Overleaf, GitHub	
<b>Languages</b>	English (Native), Igbo (Intermediate Proficiency), French (Basic Proficiency)	
<b>Citizenship</b>	American, Nigerian	