

APPOINTMENTS

London School of Economics and Political Science

Assistant Professor in Political Science and Public Policy

2025–

Princeton University, School of Public and International Affairs

Postdoctoral Associate at the Center for the Study of Democratic Politics (CSDP)

2024–2025

EDUCATION

New York University

Ph.D. in Politics

2019–2024

- Dissertation: “Essays on the Politics of Local Bureaucracies”
- Committee: Sanford Gordon, Julia Payson, Tara Slough, Arthur Spirling, Hye Young You (Chair)

London School of Economics and Political Science

MSc Political Science and Political Economy, with distinction

2016–2017

University of Mannheim

BA Political Science, Minor: Economics, with distinction

2013–2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: American Political Institutions, Bureaucratic Politics, Local Politics, Political Economy

Methodological: Natural Experiments, Spatial Data, Text Data

ACCEPTED & PUBLISHED WORK

Wirsching, Elisa, “Sorting for K-Street: Post-Employment Regulations and Strategic Wage Setting in Congress”, *Conditionally Accepted at Journal of Politics*

WORKING PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

“Political Power of Bureaucratic Agents: Evidence from Policing in New York City”

“Politicized Meritocracy: Determinants of Partisan and Racial Selection in US City Government”

“Multilanguage Word Embeddings for Social Scientists: Estimation, Inference and Validation Resources for 157 Languages” (*with Pedro L. Rodriguez, Arthur Spirling, and Brandon M. Stewart; R&R at Political Analysis*)

“Bureaucratic Sabotage and Policy Inefficiency” (*with Kun Heo*)

“Fiscal Crisis and Gender Pay Gap in the Bureaucracy” (*with Kyuwon Lee and Hye Young You*)

“The Revolving Door for Political Elites: Policymakers’ Professional Background and Financial Regulation” (*EBRD Working Paper 222, 2018*)

AWARDS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS

Urban Doctoral Fellowship (New York University)	2023
PolMeth Best Virtual Poster Award (Political Methodology Society)	2022
Virginia Gray Graduate Research Award (APSA POP section)	2022
PolMeth Travel and Participation Award (Political Methodology Society, declined)	2022
George Downs Grant (New York University)	2022, 2023
MacCracken Fellowship (New York University)	2019–2024
DAAD Carlo-Schmid Fellowship (German Academic Exchange Service)	2017–2018
Youth ResearchEdge Winner (OECD Anti-Corruption & Integrity Forum)	2017
MSc PSPE Prize for Best Dissertation (London School of Economics)	2017
DAAD Graduate Scholarship (German Academic Exchange Service)	2016–2017
Best Overall Performance, BA Political Science (ABSOLVENTUM Mannheim)	2016
Study Scholarship (German National Academic Foundation)	2013–2017

PRESENTATIONS

Talks

American University (Department of Government); University of Texas at Austin (LBJ School of Public Affairs); University of Virginia (Frank Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy); Indiana University Bloomington (Department of Political Science); University of California San Diego (Department of Political Science); London School of Economics and Political Science (Government Department); University of Rochester (Department of Political Science); MIT (Department of Political Science); European University Institute (Department of Political and Social Sciences); Aarhus University (Department of Political Science)	2023
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (Office of the Chief Economist, Speaker Series)	2022

Small Conferences & Workshops

Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS) 20; NYU-LSE Conference on Political Economy; APSA Bureaucracy Pre-Conference (cancelled)	2023
Local Political Economy APSA Pre-Conference; Copenhagen Money in Politics Conference; Monash-Warwick-Zurich Text-as-Data Workshop; Text-as-Data (TADA) Annual Conference	2022
2018 OECD Anti-Corruption and Integrity Forum; 7th Mannheim Energy Conference; 2018 Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) Workshop on Political Economy; 2018 NICEP Conference	2016–2019

Annual Meetings

American Political Science Association: 2021–2023
Midwest Political Science Association: 2023–2024
European Political Science Association: 2021
Society for Political Methodology: 2022

TEACHING

Text as Data (graduate) TA for Prof. Arthur Spirling	Spring 2023
Quantitative Methods III (graduate) TA for Prof. Tara Slough	Fall 2022, Spring 2024
Power and Politics in America (undergraduate) TA for Prof. Chris Dawes	Spring 2022
Introduction to Research Methods (undergraduate) TA for Prof. Hye Young You	Fall 2021

EXPERIENCE

NYU Public Safety Lab Graduate Research Affiliate	New York, NY 2021–present
NYU, Research Assistant Research Assistant for Prof. Arthur Spirling Research Assistant for Prof. Dimitri Landa Research Assistant for Prof. Hye Young You	New York, NY 2021–2022 2021 2020
University of Mannheim, Chair of Econometrics Research Associate for Prof. Markus Frölich	Lusaka, ZM 2018–2019
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) Analyst at the Office of the Chief Economist	London, UK 2017–2018
Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW) Intern at the Research Group “International Distribution and Redistribution”	Mannheim, DE 2016
EU Office of the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation (FES) Seminar Assistant	Brussels, BE 2015–2016
Collaborative Research Centre 884 Research Assistant for Prof. Thomas König & Prof. Nicole Rae Baerg	Mannheim, DE 2014–2016

RELEVANT SKILLS

Computing Skills: R, Stata, Stan, L^AT_EX, Python, SQL
Languages: German (native), English (near native), Spanish (advanced), French (basic)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Co-Organizer: NEWEPS-18 (2022), NYU Politics Department Women’s Informal Network (2022-2023)
Discussant: 2022 Copenhagen Money in Politics Conference
Reviewer: Journal of Politics