

Roberto Valli

Curriculum vitae

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RESEARCH STATEMENT

I am a passionate scholar of the political economy of nationalism and ethnicity. In my research, I try to understand the origins and consequences of identity politics based on shared and observable traits such as language and religion. I believe in harnessing new developments in statistical and computer science to learn about complex political phenomena with innovative observational data. My other interests include public opinion and politicians' behavior.

EDUCATION

- University of California Berkeley, ISEES** Berkeley (CA), USA
Visiting Scholar — Host: John Connelly, PhD February 2022–August 2022
- ETH Zurich** Zürich, CH
PhD in Political Science — Committee: Lars-Erik Cederman, PhD, Daniele Caramani, PhD 2020–ca. 2024
- ETH Zurich** Zürich, CH
M.A. in Comparative and International Studies 2018–2020
- University of St. Gallen** St. Gallen, CH
B.A. in International Affairs 2014–2018

PROJECTS

- War and the Nationalization of Culture in modern Europe (Dissertation):**
What is the role of war, conquest and border change in the emergence of cohesive nations in late modern Europe? My dissertation confronts this debated question using novel and spatially-disaggregated data on nationalist book publications and political claims. I demonstrate how state-building sets powerful incentives for elites to assimilate into the core national culture.
- Anti-Minority Popular Initiatives and Minority Assimilation — with Fanny Puljic and Massimo Troncone:**
How does the support for right-wing politics impact the assimilation of migrants? We study the reaction of immigrant populations in discriminatory right-wing popular initiatives using complete administrative linked data from Switzerland.

WORKING PAPERS

- Minority Status and Supranational Integration** (2023) — with Massimo Troncone
- The Train Wrecks of Modernization: Railways, Nationalism and Conflict in Long Nineteenth Century Europe** (2023) — with Yannick Pengl, Carl Müller-Crepon, Lars-Erik Cederman and Luc Girardin

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Back and Forth with the Tide? Border change and the Nationalization of Local Culture in Alsace-Lorraine**
- Peace Through Partition? A Spatial Analysis of State Splits and Conflict** — with Lars-Erik Cederman, Luc Girardin, Maria Muñoz, Yannick Pengl, Julian Wucherpfennig
- Shifting Partisan Attachments: The Impact of Electoral Defeat on Voter Preferences** — with Massimo Troncone
- Who Pays for the Church? Electoral Institutions and Religious Clientelism in Post-War Italy** — with Massimo Troncone

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2023:** SPSA, EPSA, NEPS
- 2022:** SPSA, MPSA, AsN, APSA
- 2021:** PoliTics Workshop

GRANTS

- CIS Collaborative Research Grant (CHF 5'000) — May 2022
- ETH Mobility Travel Grant (CHF 15'630) — August 2021

TEACHING

- Partition: A solution to civil war? (Guest lecture at *Konfliktforschung II*, ETH Zurich) — May 2023
- Recent Developments in Methods for Causal Inference with Cross-Sectional Time-Series data (workshop at CIS PhD retreat) — February 2023

SERVICE

- CIS PhDs working group** Zürich, CH
Reform of PhD student colloquium 2020–2021
- GessWho! student union** Zürich, CH
Elected representative, member of Teaching Commission and Department Conference 2018–2019
- SHSG student union** St. Gallen, CH
Elected representative, member of hiring committee for assistant professorship 2016–2017