

# AALA ABDELGADIR

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<b>ACADEMIC POSITIONS</b>	<i>University of Pittsburgh</i> Assistant Professor, Political Science	Fall 2023–Present
	<i>Princeton University</i> Presidential Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Politics Department	2021–2023
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<i>Stanford University</i> PhD, Political Science	2021
	<i>Yale University</i> BA, Political Science (with distinction)	2012
<b>PUBLISHED PAPERS</b>	“Secular Policies and Muslim Integration in the West: The Effects of the French Headscarf Ban” (with Vasiliki Fouka). August 2020. <i>American Political Science Review</i> 114: 707-723. Migration and Citizenship Best Article Award, APSA 2022	
<b>BOOK PROJECT</b>	“Foreign Seeds of Conservative Islam: How transnational networks remade religion in Africa.” <i>Manuscript under revision.</i> Book workshop, Yale University, June 2025	
<b>WORKING PAPERS</b>	“Training the Vanguard: How Arab-educated religious elites catalyzed the institutionalization of Salafism in Africa.” <i>Under review.</i> Honorable Mention, Comparative Politics Sage Best Paper, APSA 2025 “Hate crimes and Identity of Young Muslims in Europe” (with Vasiliki Fouka). <i>Revise and Resubmit, American Political Science Review.</i> “Economic Shocks and Religious Messaging: Evidence from Turkey’s Friday sermons” (with Ekin Dursun). “Islamic Law and Women’s Education: Evidence from Northern Nigeria.” “Salafism and Politics: Examining the influence of religious elites in Uganda.” “European Accession and Migrant Integration: The case of guestworkers in West Germany.”	

**WORK IN PROGRESS**

“Religious Symbols in a Laïc State: French attitudes toward headscarves, kippahs, and crosses” (with Erik Bleich and Vasiliki Fouka).

“Living Together or Living Apart? The effects of veiling bans on social integration” (with Netta Barak-Corren and Vasiliki Fouka).

“Migrant Regularization Archive and Data” (with Andrea Peña-Vasquez and Andres Besserer).

<b>FELLOWSHIPS</b>	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Stanford University	2016-2021
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Center for Comparative Studies in Race & Ethnicity Fellowship	2015-2018
Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education Fellowship	2015-2017

Yale University	
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship	2010-2012

<b>GRANTS &amp; AWARDS</b>	University of Pittsburgh Global Studies Center (\$40,000)	2024-2027
	Global Academic Partnership Grant (with Andrea Peña-Vasquez)	

Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (\$3,000)	2022
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Notre Dame Global Religion Research Initiative (\$22,000)	2019
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Stanford King Center on Global Development Fellowship (\$20,056)	2018
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Stanford Conflict and Polarization Initiative (\$10,000) (with Alexandra Blackman)	2018
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Stanford African Studies Graduate Summer Research Fellowship (\$5,000)	2017
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Stanford Center for International Development (\$6,300)	2016
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**SELECTED TALKS***Invited talks:*

University of California Berkeley, Comparative Politics Seminar	February 2026 (scheduled)
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University of Florida, Center for African Studies, Center for Global Islamic Studies	November 2025
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Humboldt University, Dynamics Seminar	July 2024
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Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Global Diversity Lab Seminar	April 2024
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ETH Zurich and University of Zurich, CIS Colloquium	November 2023
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London School of Economics and Political Science, African Political Economy Group Seminar	November 2023
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University of Pennsylvania, Comparative Politics Workshop	October 2023
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University of Virginia, Comparative Politics/International Relations Colloquium	April 2023
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*Paper presentations:*

Assoc. for Analytic Learning about Islam & Muslim Societies, April 2026
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Mid-Am. Conf. Race, Gender, Immigration & Ethnicity Pol., April 2026
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Michigan State University		
Comparative Politics Annual Conference,		April 2025
Washington University St Louis		
Politics of Social Stratification Workshop,		February 2025
Georgetown University		
Cont. African Political Economy Research Seminar		September 2023
New York University		
Association for Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture	2023, 2025	
Minority Politics Online Seminar Series		March 2022
APSA Annual Meeting	2019, 2021, 2024, 2024, 2025	
MPSA Annual Meeting		2019, 2026
Berkeley-Stanford Political Economy Workshop		2017

## TEACHING

- Graduate courses:*  
 Empirical Research Methods
- Undergraduate courses:*  
 Multiculturalism and Integration  
 Introduction to African Politics

## ADVISING

- Graduate advisees:*  
 Ian Delabie (committee member)  
 Muyao Hang (committee member)  
 Akira Pinto Medeiros (committee member)  
 Mauricio Zavaleta (committee member)

## SERVICE

- Reviewer:*  
 International Organization; Journal of Politics; 2020-2025  
 American Journal of Political Science; Politics and Religion;  
 Comparative Political Studies; Journal of Conflict Resolution;  
 Political Behavior; Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion;  
 Conflict Management and Peace Science;  
 Journal of the European Economic Association
- Conferences:*  
 Convener, MPSA Class and Inequality Section April 2026  
 Executive Committee, APSA Religion and Politics Section 2025–Present

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Languages:* Arabic (native), French (advanced), German (beginner)  
*Programs:* R, Stata, Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## FIELDWORK

- United Kingdom (2025)  
 Germany (2020)  
 France (2010, 2011, 2019)  
 Uganda (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2022)