

# Ala Alrababah

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CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Social and Political Sciences Bocconi University Via Roentgen 1 20136 Milan, Italy	email: ala.alrababah@unibocconi.it
EMPLOYMENT	<b>Bocconi University</b> Assistant Professor	September 2023 - present
	<b>Immigration Policy Lab, ETH Zürich</b> Postdoctoral Fellow	2021 - 2023
AFFILIATIONS	Fellow, Dondena Center for Research on Social Dynamics and Public Policy Research Fellow, BAFFI Center on Economics, Finance and Regulation Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Invited Researcher, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Faculty Affiliate, Immigration Policy Lab (IPL) Fellow, National Center of Competence in Research	2024 - present 2024 - present 2021 - present 2023 - present 2023 - present 2021 - 2023
EDUCATION	<b>Stanford University</b> M.A., Ph.D. in Political Science Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Quantitative Methods	2021
	<b>Dartmouth College</b> B.A., Government Magna Cum Laude and High Honors in Government	2014
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	11. Permission to Secede? The Impact of Foreign Endorsements on Attitudes Toward Separatist Movements (with Stephanie Wright and Rachel Myrick.). <i>Journal of Conflict Resolution</i> . 2025.  10. Reducing attrition in phone-based panel surveys: best practices and semi-automation for survey workflows (with Marine Casalis , Daniel Masterson , Dominik Hangartner , Stefan Wehrli and Jeremy Weinstein). <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> . 2025.  9. The Free Movement of People and the Success of Far-Right Parties: Evidence from Switzerland's Border Liberalization (with Andreas Beerli, Dominik Hangartner, and Dalston Ward). <i>American Political Science Review</i> . 2025.  8. Evidence-Based Transitional Justice: Incorporating Public Opinion into the Field, with New Data from Iraq and Ukraine (with Mara Revkin and Rachely Myrick). <i>Yale Law Journal</i> . 2024.  7. The Dynamics of Refugee Return: Syrian Refugees and Their Migration Intentions (with Marine Casalis, Daniel Masterson, Dominik Hangartner, and Jeremy Weinstein). <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> . 2023.  6. Learning from Null Effects: A Bottom-Up Approach (with Scott Williamson, Andrea Dillon, Jens Hainmueller, Dominik Hangartner, Michael Hotard, David Laitin, Duncan Lawrence, and Jeremy Weinstein). <i>Political Analysis</i> . 2022.	2021

5. Reporting All Results Efficiently: A RARE Proposal to Open Up The File Drawer (with David Laitin, Edward Miguel, Aleksandar Bogdanoski, Sean Grant, Katherine Hoeberling, Cecilia Hyunjung Mo, Don A Moore, Simine Vazire, Jeremy Weinstein, and Scott Williamson). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*. 2021.
4. Can Celebrities Reduce Prejudice? Estimating the Effect of Mohamed Salah on Islamophobic Attitudes and Behaviors (with Will Marble, Salma Mousa, and Alexandra Siegel). *American Political Science Review*. 2021.
3. Authoritarian Media and Diversionary Threats: Lessons from Thirty Years of Syrian State Discourse (with Lisa Blaydes). *Political Science Research and Methods*. 2021.
2. Attitudes Toward Migrants in a Highly-Impacted Economy: Evidence from the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Jordan (with Andrea Dillon, Scott Williamson, Jens Hainmueller, Dominik Hangartner, and Jeremy Weinstein). *Comparative Political Studies*. 2021.
1. Do Donor Motives Matter? Investigating Perceptions of Foreign Aid in the Conflict in Donbas (with Rachel Myrick and Isaac Webb). *International Studies Quarterly*. 2020.

#### OTHER WRITING

- “Understanding Refugee Return: Key Findings, Gaps, and Future Research.” *World Bank/UNHCR - Joint Data Centre*. November 2024.
- “Knowledge about COVID-19 among Syrian Refugees in Lebanon.” *Innovations for Poverty Action*. September 2021.
- “Syria and some host governments want refugees to go home. What do refugees think?” *The Monkey Cage, The Washington Post*. December 2020.
- “Returning Home? Conditions in Syria, Not Lebanon, Drive the Return Intentions of Syrian Refugees.” *Innovations for Poverty Action Policy Brief*. September 2020.
- “The Ministry of Made-Up Pages: Yemen-Based Actors Impersonate Government Agencies to Spread Anti-Houthi Content.” *Stanford Internet Observatory*. August 2020.
- “Quantitative Text Analysis of Arabic News Media” *MENA Politics Newsletter*. Volume 2, Issue 2. Fall 2019.
- “Jordan shut out out 60,000 Syrian refugees — and then saw a backlash. This is why.” *The Monkey Cage, The Washington Post*. July 2018.
- “Maintaining Sovereignty and Preserving the Regime: How Saudi Arabia Views Strategic Stability” in Lawrence Rubin and Adam N. Stulberg, eds., *The End of Strategic Stability*. Georgetown University Press. 2018.
- “Jordan’s Danger Zone: The Perils of Building a Safe Haven in Syria.” *Foreign Affairs*. 2015.
- “Taking on Operation Dawn: The Creeping Advance of the Islamic State in Western Libya.” *Diwan, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2015.
- “Splitting the Islamists: The Islamic State’s Creeping Advance in Libya.” *Diwan, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2015.
- “Rising Out of Chaos: The Islamic State in Libya.” *Diwan, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2015.

“Fighting Fire With Fire: Jordan’s Risky Strategy Against the Islamic State.” *Diwan, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2014.

“An Elusive Courtship: The Struggle for Iraq’s Sunni Arab Tribes.” *Diwan, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2014.

“Saudi Rattles Its Saber.” (with Jeffery Lewis) *Nuclear Threat Initiative*. 2014.

“Backdrop to an Intervention: Sources of Egyptian-Libyan Border Tension.” *Carnegie Endowment for International Peace*. 2014.

“Jordan’s Transition to Democracy” *Zibar.com*. 2011

GRANTS & AWARDS		
	<b>Displaced Livelihoods Initiative (IPA and J-PAL)</b> (\$291,109)	2025
	<b>Bocconi Junior Researchers’ Grant 2025</b> (€10,000)	2025-26
	<b>Social and Political Sciences Interdisciplinary Grant 2024</b> (€25,000)	2024
	<b>Stanford PACS PhD Fellowship</b> (≈\$35,000)	2020-21
	<b>Freeman Spogli Institute Large Research Grant</b> (\$8,760)	2020
	<b>Stanford PACS Small Grants</b> (\$2,250)	2019
	<b>Diversity Dissertation Research Opportunity</b> (\$2,250)	2019
	<b>Goldsmith Research Grant</b> (\$3,800) The Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation	2019
	<b>IPA’s Peace and Recovery Program (P&amp;R)</b> (\$149,578) Funding to conduct a study on the dynamics of refugee return (Co-PI)	2019
	<b>Kenneth E. Boulding Award, Runner up</b> Runner-up for the 2018 Kenneth Boulding Award from the ISA Peace Studies Section	2018
	<b>Graduate Student Grant</b> (\$4,000) Abbasi Program in Islamic Studies, Stanford University	2018; 2020
	<b>Small Grant for Survey Experiments</b> (\$1,000) Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, Stanford University (Co-PI)	2018
	<b>Graduate Student Grant</b> (\$2,890) The Europe Center, Stanford University (Co-PI)	2017
	<b>Collaborative Research Fellowship</b> (\$3,500) Immigration Policy Lab	2017; 2018

<b>Spectrum Grant</b> (\$20,000)	2016
Stanford Center for Clinical and Translational Education and Research (Co-PI)	
<b>George P. Schultz Grant</b> (\$15,300)	2016
The Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (Co-PI)	
<b>Comparative Politics Thesis Prize</b> (\$500)	2014
Dartmouth College	
<b>John Rosenwald Jr. Fund</b> (\$4,000)	2013
Dartmouth College	
<b>Shelby Davis Fellowship</b> (\$4,500)	2012
James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies	
 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	
Co-Chair, Migration Studies Section, European Political Science Society (EPSS) (2026)	
PhD Executive Committee, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Bocconi University (2025-)	
Associate Editor, Migration Studies Journal, (2025-)	
Co-Organizer, Bocconi-Columbia Conference on Political, Economic, and Social Inequalities (2025-)	
PhD Admissions, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Bocconi University (2023-)	
Committee Member, MSc in Politics and Policy Analysis Program, Bocconi University (2023-)	
Coordinator, Zurich Political Economy Seminar Series (2021-2023)	
Coordinator, Abbasi Student Network (2017-2018)	
Reviewer for Nature Human Behavior; American Political Science Review; American Journal of Political Science; Journal of Politics; Quarterly Journal of Political Science; Political Analysis; Political Science Research and Methods; Comparative Political Studies; British Journal of Political Science; International Organization; Journal of Conflict Resolution; European Journal of Political Economy; Comparative Politics; European Union Politics; Field Methods; International Studies Quarterly; Journal of Peace Research; Journal of Experimental Political Science; Political Research Quarterly; Social Science & Medicine; European Journal of Political Research; The International Journal of Press/Politics; Journal of Development Studies; Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies; Ethnicities; International Migration Review; Journal of Refugee Studies; Refugee Survey Quarterly; Terrorism and Political Violence; Political Behavior.	
 LANGUAGES & SKILLS	
Arabic (native), English (fluent)	
R, Stata, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, Qualtrics	

CONFERENCES &  
INVITED TALKS

2025

University of Zurich  
Hertie School  
University of Oxford  
London School of Economics (LSE)  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Heidelberg Academy Conference  
Amsterdam Conflict Research Network  
Bocconi-Unimi Joint Seminar Series  
2025 Migration Meeting in Klosters  
Discrimination, Social Inclusion and Development (University of Milan-Bicocca)  
NYU-Florence  
University of Oxford, Magdalen College  
European Political Science Association (EPSA)

2024

CIVICA Political Behavior Conference, European University Institute  
NYU Abu Dhabi  
Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin  
Berlin Meeting on the Political Economy of Development (MoPED), WZB  
European Political Science Association (EPSA)  
American Political Science Association (APSA)  
Mannheim Centre for European Social Research (MZES)  
Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) General Meeting in Paris

2023

NYU Florence Sports & Identity conference  
FCDO Seminar: Methods Innovations for Research with Highly Mobile Populations  
Meeting of the Young Political Economists in Europe Researchers Network  
Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) London Conference  
Oxford Middle East Politics Seminar  
Hertie School's International Security Research Colloquium (ISRC)  
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

2022

UCL SPP Migration Cluster - IPL Workshop, London  
LSE IDEAS The Responsible Deal Project Conference, London  
University College London Departmental Research Seminar, London  
European Political Science Association (EPSA) Annual Meeting, Prague  
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) Pre-Conference  
Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, Stanford University  
LSE/ECFR Conference on supporting the future of Syria and the region, Brussels  
WZB Social Science Center Colloquium, Berlin

- American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting  
European Political Science Association (EPSA) Annual Meeting  
International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Meeting  
Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University  
Program on Governance and Local Development (GLD) Workshop Series  
Department of Political Science, Vanderbilt University  
Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine, Stanford University  
Bocconi University, Introduction to Political Science for PhD students
- American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting  
Stanford Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC)  
California Workshop in Empirical Political Science (CaliWEPS) III