Elizabeth K. Parker-Magyar

CONTACT Information

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Last update: August 2025

Appointments Yale University, New Haven, CT

2025-

• Assistant Professor, Political Science

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

2024-2025

Moulay Hicham Alaoui Postdoctoral Fellow, Weatherhead Scholars Program, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

2018-2024

- Ph.D., Political Science (Comparative Politics and Quantitative Methods)
- \bullet Graduate Research Fellow at MIT GOV/LAB & MIT Global Diversity Lab, Junior Fellow at AALIMS
- Committee: Profs. Richard Nielsen (Chair), Fotini Christia, Mai Hassan, & Lily Tsai

Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, D.C.. 2014-2016

• M.A., Middle East Studies, Conflict Management, & International Economics

Hamilton College, Clinton, N.Y.

2008-2012

• B.A., World Politics, Magna Cum Laude

PUBLICATIONS

- 1. "Empowering Women Facing Gender-Based Violence amid COVID-19 Through Media Campaigns," with Fotini Christia, Horacio Larreguy & Manuel Quintero, *Nature Human Behaviour* Vol. 7, no. 10 (2023): 1740-1752. https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-023-01665-y.
 - Pre-registration, Replication Data and Code, and Ungated PDF.
 - Coverage at EGAP, J-Pal, and MIT News.
- "Social Media Narratives on Conflict from Northern Syria," with Erin Walk, Kiran Garimella, Ahmet Akbiyik & Fotini Christia, The Journal of Politics Vol. 87, no. 2 (2025): 449-463 https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/732997.
 - Replication Data and Code and Ungated PDF.

WORKING PAPERS

- 1. "Workplace Networks and Civil Society in Autocracies: Evidence from Jordan," Available Upon Request
 - APSA Middle East & North Africa Section Best Paper Award, 2024
 - APSA Education Politics & Policy Best Paper Award, 2024
 - APSA Labor Politics A. Philip Randolph Award for best graduate student paper, 2023
 - Audio discussion in POMEPS podcast, September 2023
- 2. "Paper-Pusher or President's Guard? State Work and Contentious Action in the Syrian Uprising," *Under Review*, Available here
- 3. "Measuring Jordan's Tribes as Nested Social Networks," with Mohamed Shedeed, Available Upon Request

IN PROGRESS

- 1. Book Project: "Striking from the Schoolyard: Workplace Networks and Civil Society in the Contemporary Middle East"
 - APSA Middle East & North Africa Section Best Dissertation Award, 2025
 - APSA Democracy & Autocracy Section Best Fieldwork Award, 2025
 - MIT Department of Political Science Lucien Pye Best Dissertation Award, 2024
 - Book Conference April 2025
- 2. "Should I get them for you?": Extra-Instrumental Considerations when Measuring Networks in the Field"
- 3. "Public Sector Protest in the Middle East and North Africa"

SELECTED EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 1. "The Quiet Demise of Jordan's Political Space," Journal of Democracy, August 2025, Link
- 2. "Hope and Fear in Syria," Journal of Democracy, December 2024, Link
- 3. "Refugee Commodification and Syrian Integration into Jordanian Education," *Project on Middle East Political Science*, March 2024, Link.
- 4. "Union Antecedents: Educators, Healthcare Workers, and Workplace Social Ties in Jordan," in *Institut français du Proche-Orient Jordan: Political Actors* (Textbook, English & French)
- 5. "Transparency and Repression in Jordan's Response to COVID-19," *Project on Middle East Political Science*, April 2020, Link.
- 6. "Jordanians see more to worry about in their economy than Syrian refugees," *Lawfare*, September 2019, Link.
- 7. "What a Syrian neighborhood can teach us about the talks to end the civil war," with Dan Wilkofsky, War on the Rocks, February 2017, Link.
- 8. "Syria's currency means big trouble for Bashar al-Assad's war efforts," Quartz, October 2016, Link.
- 9. "U.N. Mediation in the Syrian Crisis: From Kofi Annan to Lakhdar Brahimi," with Raymond Hinnebusch, I. William Zartman, and Omar Imady, *International Peace Institute*, March 2016, Link.

SKILLS

• Languages: Arabic (Modern Standard & Levantine, Proficient), French (Intermediate), English (Native)

TEACHING

- Politics and Regimes of the Middle East (Undergraduate), Yale University, Fall 2025
- Political Science Laboratory (Undergraduate), An introduction to Regression and Causal Inference for MIT's Political Science majors, Co-Instructor, Spring 2024, Evaluations: 7/7
- Political Science Math Camp (Graduate), Co-Instructor, MIT, August 2022 & August 2023
- Quantitative Social Science and Middle East Politics, Instructor, Independent study for Beloit College senior, Fall 2023
- Quantitative Research Methods II: Causal Inference (Graduate), Teaching Assistant, MIT, Spring 2021, Evaluations: 6.9/7
- Macroeconomics, Teaching Assistant, Johns Hopkins SAIS, Fall 2015
- Guest Lectures: Scope & Methods (Undergraduate, MIT), Civil Wars (Graduate, MIT), Second Year Paper (Graduate, MIT), Civil Society & Democracy (Graduate, Boston College), Education Politics & Policy (Graduate, Harvard Graduate School of Education)
- Additional Training: MIT's Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program, Fall 2023

WORKSHOPS AND SMALL CONFERENCES

- 2025 (Scheduled): AALIMS, Political Networks Online Colloquium, IQMR Emerging Methodologists Workshop, Education Politics & Policy Online Colloquium
- 2024: Authoritarian Political Systems Group (Virtual), POMEPS Virtual Research Workshop, WPSA Undemocratic Politics Mini-Conference, AALIMS, APSG New Faces & Methods in Authoritarian Politics
- 2023: POMEPS Politics of Migration and Refugee Rentierism in the Middle East, APSA Education Section Virtual Workshop, APSA Comparative Labor Politics Virtual Workshop, Harvard Kennedy Middle East Initiative, Harvard Kennedy Political Violence Workshop
- 2022: Harvard Kennedy Middle East Initiative
- 2021, *All remote*: Politics and Computational Social Science, AALIMS, Harvard Political Violence Workshop, Harvard Kennedy Middle East Initiative
- 2020, All remote: Household in Conflict Network, MIT-Harvard-Tufts-Yale Political Violence Conference

Large Conferences

- APSA: 2021 (Remote), 2022 (Remote), 2024, 2025 (Scheduled)
- MESA: 2021 (Remote), 2023, 2024
- MPSA: 2021 (Remote)

Grants and Awards

- Institute for Humane Studies, \$5,000, November 2024
- GOV/LAB Dissertation Grant, \$15,000, MIT, June 2022
- Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant, \$3,500, MIT, March 2022
- Peace & Recovery Exploratory Grant, \$10,000, Innovations for Poverty Action
- APSA Travel Grant, \$500, APSA Committee on the Status of LGBT Individuals, September 2021
- GOV/LAB Seed Grant, \$5,000, MIT, October 2021
- Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant, \$3,500, MIT, May 2020
- Christian A. Herter Award for Academic Excellence (Valedictorian), Johns Hopkins SAIS, May 2016
- Conrad Black Fellow, Johns Hopkins SAIS, AY 2015 2016
- Rosenthal Fellow, Johns Hopkins SAIS, Summer 2015
- Fulbright Fellowship & Critical Language Enhancement Award for Arabic, U.S. Department of State, AY 2012-2013

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE

- Reviewer: Journal of Politics, Middle East Law & Governance, Migration Studies
- Best Paper Award Committees, APSA Middle East Politics Section 2025, APSA Education Politics Section 2025, APSA Labor Politics Section 2025
- Co-Organizer, Comparative Labor Politics Workshop, APSA Labor Politics Section, March 2024
- Co-Organizer, Women's Coffee Hour, MIT Political Science, 2023-2024
- Mentor, Summer Research Program, MIT Global Diversity Lab, Summer 2023
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Co-Chair, MIT Political Science Graduate Student Council, 2020-2021
- Mentor, URM Research Mentor Program, MIT GOV/LAB, 2020-2021
- Graduate Resident Adivsor, Simmons Hall @ MIT, 2019-2021
- Co-President, MIT Political Science Graduate Student Council, 2019-2020
- Board Member, *The Amal Foundation*, a small NGO funding Syrian students to pursue university education in Jordan, now Jusoor-Amal Scholarship Fund, 2015-2019

SELECTED
PROFESSIONAL
& RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

• Synaps Network

Consultant, Syria's economy.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{Feb. - Oct. } 2021 \\ \text{Beirut, Lebanon } (Remote) \end{array}$

• International Organization for Migration

Consultant, Iraq - Economic Development Fund.

2019–2020 Erbil, Iraq & Cambridge, MA

• U.S. Department of the Treasury

2017 - 2018

Research analyst, Syria's economy.

Washington, DC

• Navanti Group

2015 - 2017

Research analyst and team lead, governance in northern Syria (USAID/OTI). Washington, DC

• Syria Direct
Reporter, editor, and translator covering the Syrian conflict.

2013–2014 Amman, Jordan

• U.S. Fulbright Program

2012-2013

U.S. Fulbright Fellow, teacher in a semi-public high school.

Amman, Jordan