

# Emilia Simison

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## Academic Positions

**Center for Inter-American Policy and Research**, Tulane University  
Postdoctoral Fellow  
2022-present

## Education

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**  
Ph.D. in Political Science, 2022  
Fields: Political Economy and Methods  
Dissertation Title: “Resetting public policy? Democracies, Dictatorships, and Policy Change”  
  
**Torcuato Di Tella University (UTDT)**  
M.A. in Political Science, 2015  
Thesis Title: “Transferencias discrecionales en contextos de centralización fiscal y desnacionalización del sistema de partidos: Argentina, 2002-2011”  
  
**University of Buenos Aires (UBA)**  
B.A. in Political Science, Honors Diploma, 2011

## Awards and Fellowships

**Smith Fellow**, Mercatus Center and Liberty Fund (2021-2022)  
**Summer Study Fellowship**, Center for International Studies, MIT, 2021  
**Graduate Woman of Excellence**, Office of the Dean for Graduate Education, MIT, 2019  
**Research Grant**, MIT Science and Technology Initiative, 2017  
**Luksic Fellowship**, Political Science, MIT, 2016-2017, 2020  
**Travel Grant**, Latin American Studies Association, 2014  
**Martín Lardone Award for Research on Federalism, Intergovernmental Relations and Public Policy**, Argentinean Society of Political Analysis, 2013  
**International Seminar for Young Leaders**, Fulbright Commission Argentina, 2012

## Invited Talks

“Authoritarianism in the 21st Century,” Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA, April 20, 2022.

## Publications **Peer-Reviewed Articles**

“When Mayors Deliver: Political Alignment and Wellbeing”

Studies in Comparative International Development, Published online: 24 May 2022.

DOI: 10.1007/s12116-022-09357-w

Co-authored with Candelaria Garay

“Supporters and Opposition in Authoritarian Legislatures”

Journal of Legislative Studies, Vol 28, N°1, January 2022, pp. 47-66.

“Lawmaking in Personal Dictatorships: Evidence from Spain”

Journal of Legislative Studies, Published online: 05 Jan 2022.

DOI: 10.1080/13572334.2021.2015885

Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi

“Divided cities, divided parties. Measuring the effect of intra-party conflict on electoral performance”

Revista SAAP, Vol 13, N° 1, May 2019, pp. 137-156.

Co-authored with Lukas Wolters

“Nation or My District? Evaluating the Territorial Scope of Bills through Experimental Designs”

Journal of Politics in Latin America, Vol 9, N°2, August 2017, pp. 93-120.

“Legislative Institutions and Performance in Authoritarian Regimes”

Comparative Politics, Vol 49, N° 4, July 2017, pp. 521-539.

Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi

“Una dictadura sin centro: historia y ciencia política en la interpretación del Proceso de Reorganización Nacional”

Revista SAAP, Vol 11, N° 1, June 2017, pp. 129-146.

Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi

“Descentralización y Partidos Políticos en América Latina: un estado de la cuestión”

Revista Ciencia Política, Vol 10, N° 20, December 2015, pp. 243-265

Political Science Department, Colombia National University

“Distribuyendo transferencias discrecionales: Argentina entre la centralización fiscal y la desnacionalización del sistema de partidos”

Revista SAAP, Vol 9, N°1, May 2015, pp. 93-118

“Estrategias distributivas presidenciales en contextos cambiantes de centralización fiscal y nacionalización partidaria: Transferencias discrecionales en Argentina durante presidencias peronistas”

Revista de Ciencia Política, Vol 34, N°3, November 2014, pp. 561-582.

## Publications

### Book Chapters

“Economic Crises, Military Rebellions, and Democratic Survival: Argentina, 1983-2020”  
in Mainwaring, Scott and Mosaoud, Tarek (eds.)

*Democracy in Hard Places*, Oxford University Press, 2022, pp. 188-227.

Co-authored with Scott Mainwaring

“Experimentos en las Ciencias Sociales”

in Caminotti, Mariana and Toppi, Hernán Pablo (eds.)

*Metodología de la investigación social: Caja de herramientas*,

Buenos Aires: EUDEBA, 2021, pp. 127-151

“Fiscal Federalism and Lawmaking under Authoritarianism: Institutional Design  
and Economic Policy in Argentina’s Last Dictatorship”

in Grigera, Juan and Zorzoli, Luciana (eds.)

*The Argentinian dictatorship in perspective. Rethinking the ‘proceso’*,

London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2020, pp. 93-121

Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi

“Legislatures and Representation in Latin American Politics”

in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Latin American Politics*,

Oxford University Press, Online Publication Date: Sep 2019, pp. 1-30

“The Power and Limits of Federalism”

in Ménard, Claude and Shirley, Mary M. (eds.)

*A Research Agenda for New Institutional Economics*,

Cheltenham: Edward Elgar Publishers, 2018, pp. 27-33

Co-authored with Daniel Ziblatt

“Distribución de transferencias con distintos nivel de discrecionalidad en un contexto  
de centralización fiscal y desnacionalización del sistema de partidos”

in Garriga, Marcelo and Rosales, Walter (eds.)

*La relación fiscal Nación-Provincias lo que se discute, lo que falta discutir*,

La Plata: Universidad Nacional de La Plata, 2017, pp. 75-111

## Research Experience

### Parliaments Under Fire Project

Team Member, 2020-present

**Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation,  
Harvard Kennedy School**, Cambridge, MA

Part-time fellowship, Initiative on Democracy in Hard Places, 2019

### Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET)

PhD Fellow, 2013-2017

Project: “Transferencias discrecionales en épocas de centralización fiscal:  
Argentina, 2002-2012”

Advisors: Vicente Palermo and Alejandro Bonvecchi.

**Instituto de Investigaciones Gino Germani**, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
Research Assistant, Programa de Historia Política, 2011-2013

### Facultad Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA)

Student research scholarship, 2010-2011

Advisor: Marcos Novaro

Teaching	<p><b>Teaching Assistant</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<i>Science, Technology, and Public Policy</i> (Kenneth A. Oye), Department of Political Science, MIT, Spring 2022</li> <li>-<i>Quantitative Research Methods I: Regression</i> (Teppei Yamamoto), Department of Political Science, MIT, Fall 2021</li> <li>-<i>Quantitative Research Methods II: Causal Inference</i> (Daniel Hidalgo), Department of Political Science, MIT, Spring 2019</li> <li>-<i>International Political Economy</i> (David Singer), Department of Political Science, MIT, Fall 2018</li> <li>-<i>Instituciones Políticas y Procesos Gubernamentales</i>, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, UBA, 2012-2016</li> <li>-<i>Lógica y Técnicas de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales</i>, Departamento de Ciencia Política y Estudios Internacionales, UTDT, 2013-2015</li> </ul> <p><b>Instructor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<i>Math Camp I for incoming students</i>, Department of Political Science, MIT, Fall 2019, 2020, and 2021</li> <li>-<i>Political Methodology Lab Workshop: Introduction to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X</i>, Department of Political Science, MIT, Fall 2019, 2020, and 2021</li> <li>-<i>Introducción a R para las Ciencias Sociales</i>, Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político, SAAP, June 2019</li> <li>-<i>Fundamentos de Ciencia Política</i>, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, UBA, 2016</li> </ul>
Academic Service	<p><b>Reviewer</b></p> <p>American Political Science Review, FONDECYT (National Fund for Scientific and Technological Development, Chile), Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Politics, Revista SAAP, Revista Ciencia Política (Chile), Revista Colombia Internacional, and British Journal of Politics and International Relations.</p> <p>External master thesis reviewer, Universidad de San Andrés</p> <p><b>Department Service, Political Science, MIT</b></p> <p>Co-organizer, Women in Poli Sci, monthly coffee hour for women students in the department, 2019-2021</p> <p>Co-organizer, Latin American Working Group, 2018-present</p> <p>Department Representative, Graduate Student Council, 2018-2019</p> <p>Member, Political Science Gender and Diversity Working Group, 2016-2017</p> <p><b>Conferences</b></p> <p>Discussant, Brown-MIT Development Workshop, February 28th, 2020</p> <p>Conference Chair, Artificial Intelligence Latin America SumMIT, 2019-2020</p> <p>Organizer, Jornadas de Jóvenes Investigadores, IIGG, 2011-2015</p> <p><b>Co-Advisor</b></p> <p>Gandulfo, Alejandro Eloy, Master Thesis, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, 2018</p>
Memberships	<p>American Political Science Association (APSA)</p> <p>Asociación Latinoamericana de Ciencia Política (ALACIP)</p> <p>Latin American Studies Association (LASA)</p> <p>Red de Politólogas #NoSinMujeres</p> <p>Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político (SAAP)</p> <p>Women Also Know Stuff</p> <p>Women in Legislative Studies</p>

Recent Conference Presentations	<p>“Democracies, Dictatorships, and Policy Change: Banking Policy Across Regime Types in Argentina and Brazil” Autocratic Politics Mini-conference, 2022 WPSA Annual Meeting Portland, OR, March 10-12, 2022</p> <p>“Social Mobilization and Social Policy in Latin America” 2021 REPAL Conference Virtual Meeting, July 15-17, 2021 Co-authored with Candelaria Garay</p> <p>“Resetting public policy? Regime Change and Housing Policy in Argentina and Brazil” 2021 LASA Conference Virtual Meeting, May 26-29, 2021</p> <p>“Social Policy Expansion, Continuity, and Change in Latin America” 2020 APSA Annual Meeting &amp; Exhibition Virtual Meeting, September 10-13, 2020 Co-authored with Candelaria Garay</p> <p>“Democratic Survival in Argentina” 2019 APSA Annual Meeting &amp; Exhibition Washington, DC, August 29-September 1, 2019 Co-authored with Scott Mainwaring</p> <p>“Lawmaking under Authoritarianism: Theory and Evidence from Argentina and Spain” XIV Congreso Nacional de Ciencia Política, SAAP-UNSAM San Martín, July 17-21, 2019 Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi</p> <p>“Economic Crisis, Military Rebellions, and Democratic Survival: Argentina, 1983-2003” Conference on Democracy in Hard Places, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA, May 1-2, 2019 Co-authored with Scott Mainwaring</p> <p>“Business Influence on Economic Policymaking: Lobbying the Executive and the Legislature for Economic Policy in Argentina’s Last Dictatorship” 77th Annual MPSA Conference, Chicago, IL, April 4-7, 2019 Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi</p>
Media Collaborations	<p><b>Columnist</b> Revista Quid, Cultural and literary magazine, 2013-2020 Blog Bastión Digital, 2014-2015</p> <p><b>Documentaries</b> Las Leyes de la Dictadura y cómo afectan la Democracia, 2017 CAL: El Congreso en Dictadura, 2015</p>
Pedagogical Training	<p>- <b>TA Days Training</b>, MIT Teaching + Learning Lab, Summer 2021 - <b>Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program (KTCP)</b>, MIT Teaching + Learning Lab, Spring 2019</p>
Languages	<p>Spanish (native), English (proficient), Italian (advanced), Portuguese (advanced), German (intermediate)</p>

References **Ben Ross Schneider**  
Ford International Professor of Political Science  
Director, MIT Brazil Program  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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**F. Daniel Hidalgo**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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**Chappell Lawson**  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
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