

## Gento Kato

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

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53 Kabanbay Batyr Ave.. Nur-Sultan, 010000, Republic of Kazakhstan

E-mail: [gento.kato@nu.edu.kz](mailto:gento.kato@nu.edu.kz); [gento.badger@gmail.com](mailto:gento.badger@gmail.com)

Website: <https://gentok.github.io/>

### Research Interests

**General interests.** Political behavior, Japanese politics, American politics, political methodology

**Substantive interests.** Low-information voting logic, political knowledge, cognitive heuristics, voter competence, motivated reasoning, social identity, media priming/framing, comparative behavior

**Methodological interests.** Formal modeling, EITM, machine learning, agent-based simulations, experiments, Bayesian statistics, measurements/scaling

### Positions

*Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan*

*Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations* Aug. 2020-

### Education

**Ph.D. in Political Science, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA** 2020

**Dissertation:** *The Logic and Social Consequences of Context-based Uninformed Voting*

**Advisers:** *Robert Huckfeldt, Ph.D., Cheryl Boudreau, Ph.D., Ryan Hübner, Ph.D.*

**M.A. in Political Science, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan** 2015

**Master's Thesis:** *Participate with Uncertainty? What "Don't Know" Responses and a Response Time Reveal About Political Awareness and Political Participation*

**Advisers:** *Aiji Tanaka, Ph.D., Airo Hino, Ph.D.*

**B.A. in Politics, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan** 2012

**Study abroad program, Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT** 2010-11

### Summer Program

**EITM Summer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, GA** Jul. 2019

**Institute for Political Methodology, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan** Jul. 2015

**ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Ann Arbor, MI** Jun.-Jul. 2014

**The Summer Institute in Political Psychology, Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA** Jul.-Aug. 2012

## Peer-reviewed Publications

- Kato, Gento and Susumu Annaka (2020) “Explaining 'Twisted' Preferences Toward Monetary Easing in Japan: Experimental Evidence on the Effect of Information Environment on the Relationship Between Ideology and Policy Preferences,” *Japanese Journal of Electoral Studies (Senkyo Kenkyu)* 36(2), 151-167. In Japanese.
- Kato, Gento (2020) “When Strategic Uninformed Abstention Improves Democratic Accountability,” *Journal of Theoretical Politics* 32(3), 366-388.
- Kohno, Masaru, Gabriella R. Montinola, Matthew S. Winters, and Gento Kato (2020) “Donor Competition and Public Support for Foreign Aid Sanctions,” *Political Research Quarterly*.
- Collet, Christian and Gento Kato (2014) “Does NHK Make You Smarter (and *Super News* Make You "Softer")? An Examination of Japanese Political Knowledge and the Potential Influence of TV News,” *Japanese Journal of Political Science* 15(1), 23-50.

## Selected Working Papers

### (Single Authored)

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|---|-----------|
| <i>Independents and Social Network Environments</i> (In Japanese)   | Apr. 2021 |
| <i>Local Bandwagoning and National Balancing:<br/>How Uninformed Voters Respond to the Partisan Environment</i> | Sep. 2019 |
| <i>Explaining Uninformed Participation in Referendum Voting</i>   | Apr. 2017 |
| <i>International News Coverage and Perception of Foreign States in Japan</i>                                    | Nov. 2017 |
| <i>Alternative Measurements of Political Knowledge and Uncertainty</i>  | Mar. 2015 |

### (Co-authored)

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|---|-----------|
| <i>Can a Constitutional Monarch Influence Democratic Preferences?</i>                                 |           |
| <i>The Regulation of Public Expression in Japan</i>   | Apr. 2021 |
| <i>Under review. With Susumu Annaka</i>   |           |
| <i>In Japan, University Education Does Not Increase Support for Immigrant Integration</i>             | Feb. 2021 |
| <i>Under review. With Fan Lu</i>  |           |
| <i>Towards a General Methodology of Bridging Ideological Spaces</i>                                   | Aug. 2020 |
| <i>Under review. With Tzu-Ping Liu and Samuel Fuller</i>  |           |
| <i>Socioeconomic Inequality and COVID-19 Prevalence<br/>Across Municipalities in Catalonia, Spain</i> | May 2020  |
| <i>With Ryohei Mogi and Susumu Annaka</i>   |           |
| <i>Territorial Threat, Motivated Reasoning, and Twitter Network</i>                                   | Aug. 2017 |
| <i>With Takanori Fujiwara, Christian Collet, Tetsuro Kobayashi, and Takafumi Suzuki</i>               |           |

## Honors & Awards

<i>Merk Prospectus Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$4,000)</i>	2019
<i>Provost's Dissertation Year Fellowship, Graduate Studies, UC Davis (\$43,200)</i>	2019-20
<i>Dissertation Improvement Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$2,500)</i>	2019
<i>Summer Collaborative Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$5,000)</i>	Summer 2018
<i>With Professor Adrienne Hosek</i>	
<i>Travel Award, Department of Political Science, UC Davis (\$500)</i>	Spring and Fall 2017, 2019
<i>Graduate Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students, Japan Student Services Organization</i>	2015-20
<i>Ijima Award, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>The Best Master Thesis Award, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>Azusa Ono Memorial Award, Waseda University</i>	2015
<i>Okuma Memorial Scholarship, Waseda University</i>	2014
<i>125th Anniversary Scholarship, Waseda University</i>	2013

## Conference and Workshop Presentations

<i>American Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2014, 2017, 2019-21*
<i>Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</i>	2014, 2017, 2019
<i>PolMeth (The Society for Political Methodology Annual Summer Meeting)</i>	2020
<i>Japanese Political Science Association Annual Meeting</i>	2019
<i>Japanese Association of Electoral Studies Annual Conference</i>	2015, 2021*
<i>Japan Association of Political Economy Annual Conference</i>	2014, 2015
<i>Asian Network for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference</i>	2013, 2014
<i>Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series</i>	Oct. 2020
<i>PSIR Faculty Lecture Series, Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan</i>	Sep. 2020
<i>Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop</i>	Nov. 2019
<i>Political Science Research Workshop, UC Davis, Davis, CA</i>	Oct. 2019
<i>Conference Public Opinion and Foreign Aid, Geneva, Switzerland</i>	Feb. 2019
<i>International Metropolis Conference, Sydney, Australia</i>	Oct. 2018
<i>Migration Research Cluster Workshop, UC Davis, Davis, CA</i>	Nov. 2017
<i>GSDS Symposium Konstanz: Exploring Ignorance -- The Acquisition, Selection and Processing of Information, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany</i>	May 2016
<i>International Workshop: New Developments in Political Communication Research, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan</i>	Jun. 2015

\*Proposal accepted.

## Research Assistance

<i>Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis</i>	2019
<i>Research assistant for Professors Lauren Peritz and Adrienne Hosek</i>	
<i>EGAP Metaketa Initiative</i>	2019-20
<i>Member of third-party experiment replication team</i>	
<i>Institute of Applied Social Psychology + connect, Osaka, Japan</i>	2012-13, 2016
<i>Assistant researcher</i>	
<i>Waseda Institute of Advanced Study, Tokyo, Japan</i>	2014-15
<i>Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno</i>	
<i>Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan</i>	2012
<i>Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet</i>	

## Teaching

### (Graduate Level, Instructor)

<i>PLS516: Experimental Political Science, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS515: Maximum Likelihood Models, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020

### (Undergraduate Level, Instructor)

<i>PLS416: Experimental Political Science, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS211: Quantitative Methods, Nazarbayev University</i>	Spring 2021
<i>PLS415: Maximum Likelihood Models, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020
<i>PLS312: Public Opinion and Elections, Nazarbayev University</i>	Fall 2020
<i>POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2018

### (Graduate Level, Teaching Assistant)

<i>POL213: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science II, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2019
<i>POL212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science, UC Davis</i>	Winter 2019
<i>POL211: Research Methods in Political Science, UC Davis</i>	Fall 2018
<i>Empirical Methodology Summer Seminar, Waseda University</i>	Summer 2014

### (Undergraduate Level, Teaching Assistant)

<i>POL051: Scientific Study of Politics, UC Davis</i>	, Winter 2017 Fall 2018
<i>POL155: Judicial Process and Behavior, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2017, Winter 2018
<i>POL100: Local Government and Politics, UC Davis</i>	Fall 2016
<i>POL148B: Government and Politics in East Asia: Japan, UC Davis</i>	Spring 2016

<b><i>POL142C: Comparative Political Development: Democracy, UC Davis</i></b>	Winter 2016
<b><i>Undergraduate Research Seminar, Waseda University</i></b>	2014-15
<b><i>POL101: Introduction to Political Methodology, International Christian University</i></b>	Spring 2012

**(Other)**

<b><i>Online (Japanese) Academic Writing Course, Waseda University</i></b>	2013-15
<i>Academic writing adviser</i>	

**Professional Activities**

<b><i>Member, American Political Science Association</i></b>	2014-
<b><i>Member, Midwest Political Science Association</i></b>	2014-
<b><i>Member, Japanese Political Science Association</i></b>	2019-
<b><i>Member, Japanese Association of Electoral Studies</i></b>	2014-

**Professional Services**

<b><i>Member, Master Program Admission Committee, Nazarbayev University</i></b>	2020-21
<b><i>Master Thesis Committee Member for:</i></b>	
<i>Ali Mukhambet (Nazarbayev University), Kamila Matzhanova (Nazarbayev University),</i>	
<i>and Aigerim Aibassova (Nazarbayev University)</i>	
<b><i>Served as a Reviewer for:</i></b>	
<i>Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, and Journal of Regional Studies</i>	

**Other Services**

<b><i>Assistant Coordinator, Political Science Research Workshop, UC Davis</i></b>	2019-20
<b><i>Discussant, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference</i></b>	2019
<b><i>Mentor, First Friends Program, UC Davis</i></b>	2016-17

**Skills**

***Computing.*** R, Stata, SPSS, Python (including oTree) and LaTeX  
***Languages.*** Japanese (native) and English (highly proficient)