**Gento Kato**

Assistant Professor

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Nazarbayev University

Last Updated: June 24, 2021

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**

***Yale University,*** *New Haven, CT* Aug. 2021-May 2022 (Expected)

*Post-doctoral Associate, The Council on East Asian Studies*

***Nazarbayev University****, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan* Aug. 2020-

*Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations*

**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 Hübert, 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****, Acadmia 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)**

***Independents and Social Network Environments*** (In Japanese) Apr. 2021  
*Forthcoming as a Chapter in Aiji Tanaka ed. Mutohaso no Kenkyu (Study of Independents in Japan).*

***Local Bandwagoning and National Balancing:***

***How Uninformed Voters Respond to the Partisan Environment***Sep. 2019

***Explaining Uninformed Participation in Referendum Voting*** Apr. 2017

***International News Coverage and Perception of Foreign States in Japan*** Nov. 2017

***Alternative Measurements of Political Knowledge and Uncertainty*** Mar. 2015

**(Co-authored)**

***Universalist Social Benefit and Reverse Taxation as Determinants of Welfare State Attitude*** Jun. 2021

***Assessment through Survey Experiment*** (In Japanese)

*Revise and Resubmit from The Annals of Japanese Political Science Association (Nenpo Seijigaku).   
With Susumu Annaka and Junpei Suzuki*

***Can a Constitutional Monarch Influence Democratic Preferences?***

***The Regulation of Public Expression in Japan*** Apr. 2021

*Under review. With Susumu Annaka*

***In Japan, University Education Does Not Increase Support for Immigrant Integration*** Feb. 2021

*Under review. With Fan Lu*

***Towards a General Methodology of Bridging Ideological Spaces***  Aug. 2020

*Under review. With Tzu-Ping Liu and Samuel Fuller*

***Socioeconomic Inequality and COVID-19 Prevalence***

***Across Municipalities in Catalonia, Spain*** May 2020

*With Ryohei Mogi and Susumu Annnaka*

***Territorial Threat, Motivated Reasoning, and Twitter Network*** Aug. 2017

*With Takanori Fujiwara, Christian Collet, Tetsuro Kobayashi, and Takafumi Suzuki*

**Honors & Awards**

***Merk Prospectus Award****, Department of Political Science, UC Davis ($4,000)* 2019

***Provost’s Dissertation Year Fellowship****, Graduate Studies, UC Davis ($43,200)* 2019-20

***Dissertation Improvement Award****, Department of Political Science, UC Davis ($2,500)* 2019

***Summer Collaborative Award****, Department of Political Science, UC Davis ($5,000)* Summer 2018

*With Professor Adrienne Hosek*

***Travel Award****, Department of Political Science, UC Davis ($500)* Spring and Fall 2017, 2019

***Graduate Scholarship for Degree Seeking Students****, Japan Student Services Organization* 2015-20

***Ijima Award****, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University* 2015

***The Best Master Thesis Award****, Graduate School of Political Science, Waseda University* 2015

***Azusa Ono Memorial Award****, Waseda University* 2015

***Okuma Memorial Scholarship****, Waseda University* 2014

***125th Anniversary Scholarship****, Waseda University* 2013

**Conference and Workshop Presentations**

***American Political Science Association Annual Meeting*** 2014, 2017, 2019-21\*

***Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference*** 2014, 2017, 2019

***PolMeth (The Society for Political Methodology Annual Summer Meeting)*** 2020

***Japanese Political Science Association Annual Meeting*** 2019

***Japanese Association of Electoral Studies Annual Conference***2015, 2021\*

***Japan Association of Political Economy Annual Conference***2014, 2015

***Asian Network for Public Opinion Research Annual Conference***2013, 2014

***Japanese Politics Online Seminar Series*** Oct. 2020

***PSIR Faculty Lecture Series****, Nazarbayev University, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan* Sep. 2020

***Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop*** Nov. 2019

***Political Science Research Workshop****, UC Davis, Davis, CA* Oct. 2019

***Conference Public Opinion and Foreign Aid****, Geneva, Switzerland* Feb. 2019

***International Metropolis Conference****, Sydney, Australia* Oct. 2018

***Migration Research Cluster Workshop****, UC Davis, Davis, CA* Nov. 2017

***GSDS Symposium Konstanz: Exploring Ignorance -- The Acquisition,***

***Selection and Processing of Information****, University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany* May 2016

***International Workshop: New Developments in Political Communication Research****,* Jun. 2015

*Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan*

\*Proposal accepted.

**Research Assistance**

***Department of Political Science, University of California, Davis*** 2019

*Research assistant for Professors Lauren Peritz and Adrienne Hosek*

***EGAP Metaketa Initiative*** 2019-20

*Member of third-party experiment replication team*

***Institute of Applied Social Psychology + connect****, Osaka, Japan* 2012-13, 2016

*Assistant researcher*

***Waseda Institute of Advanced Study****, Tokyo, Japan* 2014-15

*Research assistant for Professor Masaru Kohno*

***Social Science Research Institute, International Christian University****, Tokyo, Japan* 2012

*Research assistant for Professor Christian Collet*

**Teaching**

**(Graduate Level, Instructor)**

***PLS516: Experimental Political Science****, Nazarbayev University* Spring 2021

***PLS515: Maximum Likelihood Models****, Nazarbayev University* Fall 2020

**(Undergraduate Level, Instructor)**

***PLS416: Experimental Political Science****, Nazarbayev University* Spring 2021

***PLS211: Quantitative Methods****, Nazarbayev University* Spring 2021

***PLS415: Maximum Likelihood Models****, Nazarbayev University* Fall 2020

***PLS312: Public Opinion and Elections****, Nazarbayev University* Fall 2020

***POL051: Scientiﬁc Study of Politics****, UC Davis* Spring 2018

**(Graduate Level, Teaching Assistant)**

***POL213: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science II****, UC Davis* Spring 2019

***POL212: Quantitative Analysis in Political Science****, UC Davis* Winter 2019

***POL211: Research Methods in Political Science****, UC Davis* Fall 2018

***Empirical Methodology Summer Seminar****, Waseda University* Summer 2014

**(Undergraduate Level, Teaching Assistant)**

***POL051: Scientiﬁc Study of Politics****, UC Davis ,* Winter 2017 Fall 2018

***POL155: Judicial Process and Behavior****, UC Davis* Spring 2017, Winter 2018

***POL100: Local Government and Politics****, UC Davis* Fall 2016

***POL148B: Government and Politics in East Asia: Japan****, UC Davis* Spring 2016

***POL142C: Comparative Political Development: Democracy****, UC Davis* Winter 2016

***Undergraduate Research Seminar****, Waseda University* 2014-15

***POL101: Introduction to Political Methodology****, International Christian University* Spring 2012

**(Other)**

***Online (Japanese) Academic Writing Course****, Waseda University* 2013-15

*Academic writing adviser*

**Professional Activities**

***Member, American Political Science Association*** 2014-

***Member, Midwest Political Science Association*** 2014-

***Member, Japanese Political Science Association*** 2019-

***Member, Japanese Association of Electoral Studies*** 2014-

**Professional Services**

***Member, Master Program Admission Committee****, Nazarbayev University*2020-21

***Master Thesis Committee Member for:***

*Ali Mukhambet (Nazarbayev University), Kamila Matzhanova (Nazarbayev University),*

*Aigerim Aibassova (Nazarbayev University) and Aisulu Makhtayeva (Nazarbayev University)*

***Served as a Reviewer for****:*

*Journal of Politics, Political Analysis, and Journal of Regional Studies*

**Other Services**

***Assistant Coordinator****, Political Science Research Workshop, UC Davis*2019-20

***Discussant****, Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference*2019

***Mentor****, First Friends Program, UC Davis*2016-17

**Skills**

***Computing****. R, Stata, SPSS, Python (including oTree) and LaTex*

***Languages****. Japanese (native) and English (highly proficient)*