

# Jeremy Springman

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University of Pennsylvania  
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I am an applied researcher working to design, implement, and evaluate data-driven solutions to complex problems. I have deep experience managing highly interdisciplinary research teams, establishing long-term collaborations with public and private sector partners, and communicating technical material to policy audiences. I have six years of experience managing a team of 12 researchers and staff in a lab environment and 10 years of experience with causal inference and machine learning research tools. Since 2022, I have been awarded nearly \$3.5 million as a principal investigator on both federal and private research grants.

## Work Experience

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### University of Pennsylvania, PDRI-DevLab

Research Assistant Professor	July 2024 – Present
Senior Research Associate & Director of Research	July 2022 – June 2024

- Managed ML research team using LLMs, transformer models, time-series forecasting
- Deployed public-facing data dashboards and early warning system (150 hours of monthly usage by 800 policymakers)
- Designed and analyzed commissioned RCTs and survey experiments
- Developed course on applied causal inference and data science

### Duke University, DevLab@Duke

Senior Research Associate	July 2021 – June 2022
Post-Doctoral Research Associate	July 2019 – June 2021
Pre-Doctoral Research Associate	January 2019 – July 2019

- Led development of large-scale webscraping and highly multilingual ML text classification pipeline tracking and forecasting foreign influence operations and political instability

## Education

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### University of Pennsylvania

Ph.D. in Comparative Politics & International Relations	2019
M.A. in Political Science	2015

### University of Pittsburgh

B.A. in Politics & Philosophy (Honors College)	2012
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## Selected External Awards & Grants

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My research has been supported by the U.S. Department of Defense, Agency for International Development, and National Science Foundation and multiple private foundations. Since 2022, I have been a principal investigator on nearly \$3.5 million in awards, carrying projects from conceptualization and proposal through design, implementation, and the dissemination of results to the scientific and policy communities. My most recent awards include:

- \$1.6m Department of Defense Minerva Research Initiative grant to support interdisciplinary research with Environmental Sciences faculty to model the impact of climate change on adaptation, conflict, and migration.

- \$900,000 Agency for International Development grant to develop large-scale webscraping and machine learning text classification pipeline tracking and forecasting foreign influence operations and political instability in aid-receiving countries

## Refereed Academic Publications

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*The Political Economy of NGO Service Provision: Evidence from an Ancillary Field Experiment*  
World Politics, 2022 (DOI: S0043887122000107)

*The Effect of Government Repression on Civil Society: Evidence from Cambodia*  
International Studies Quarterly, 2022 (DOI: sqac028)

First author (with Edmund Malesky, Lucy Right, and Erik Wibbels)

*Oil Discoveries and Political Windfalls: Evidence on Presidential Support in Uganda*  
Political Science Research & Methods, 2023 (DOI: psrm.2023.14)

Second author (with Laura Paler, Guy Grossman, and Jan Pierskalla)

## Academic Manuscripts Under Review

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*Pushing Back or Backing Down? Examining Donor Response to Restrictive NGO Legislation*  
with Lucille Right and Erik Wibbels  
Revise & Resubmit, *International Organization*

*Foreign Influence by Authoritarian Governments: Introducing New Data and Evidence*  
with Fatih Serkant Adiguzel, Mateo Villamizar Chaparro, Zung-Ru Lin, Donald Moratz, Diego Romero, and Erik Wibbels

*Fostering Civic Engagement in Polarized, Autocratic Regimes: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Ethiopia*  
with Sewareg Adamu, David Dow, Fitsum Hailu, Mesele Mengsteab, and Juan Tellez

*The Effect of Government Intervention on the Operational Decisions of NGOs: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Three Electoral Autocracies*  
with Erik Wibbels, Maria Nagawa, Graeme Robertson, and Simon Hollerbauer

*Two dilemmas in the politics of ethnic federalism: Experimental evidence from Ethiopia*  
with Braeden Davis, David Dow, and Juan Tellez

*Aid Flows and Incumbency Advantage: Evidence from NGO Projects in Uganda*

## Selected Policy Reports (since 2024)

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*High Frequency Tracking of Civic Space Utilizing Domestic News Scraping and Large Language Model Classification*

Prepared for Swift Expertise and Grounded Analytics Task Order by USAID DRG Bureau  
November 2024

*Forecasting High-Level Travel Advisories with Machine Learning for Peace Data*

Prepared for Swift Expertise and Grounded Analytics Task Order by USAID DRG Bureau  
November 2024

*Zimbabwe Governance Indicators Analysis*

Prepared for USAID Zimbabwe  
March 2024

## Policy Writing

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*Charting a Course for Applied Research in Peacebuilding*

First author (with Heather Huntington and Erik Wibbels)

Published by United States Institute of Peace (2024)

*Report of the Advisory Panel for the Governance of Human Rights Organizations*

With Mohamed Arafa and David Siegel; SocArXiv DOI: 10.31235

Convened for Amnesty International by Dr. Hazar Yueksel (2024)

*Ethical AI Manifesto (interview)*

Published by Foris International (2024)

## Teaching & Advising

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**University of Pennsylvania:** Professor

Global Development: Intermediate Topics in Politics, Policy, and Data

Spring 2024, 2025

Fels Institute of Government Lab Capstone Partner

Spring 2024

**Local Evaluation and Evidence Support (LEES):** Academic Lead (ongoing)

Data science and causal inference training for USAID local partners in Zambia and Ghana

## Recent Invited Talks & Events

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U.S. Department of State (Washington, D.C.)	Nov, 2024
Perry World House Forum (Washington, D.C.)	Oct, 2024
Vienna University of Economics and Business (Vienna, Austria)	Sept, 2024
International Civil Society Centre (Remote)	June, 2024
Leibniz Center for Informatics AI for Social Good Seminar (Wadern, Germany)	Feb, 2024
Foris International Ethical AI Manifesto Launch Event (Remote)	Nov, 2023
World Bank EngageFest Webinar (Remote)	Nov, 2023
United States Department of State (Remote)	Jul, 2023
Community of Democracies Enabling and Protecting Civil Society (Remote)	Jun, 2023
United Nations Data Strategy Community Series (Remote)	Jun, 2023
US Agency for International Development Tech Tuesdays Series (Remote)	Jun, 2023
United States Army 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Fort Liberty, NC)	Jun, 2023
Social Impact Evidence for Impact Webinar Series (Remote)	May, 2023
Duke University US Army Governance Training (Durham, NC)	Feb, 2023
US Agency for International Development DRG Center (Washington, D.C.)	Feb, 2023
Vassar College Data Science & Society Colloquium (Poughkeepsie, NY)	Dec, 2022
Paris Peace Forum (Paris, France)	Nov, 2022
International Civic Forum (London, UK)	Nov, 2022
Big Data for Development & Governance Conference (Philadelphia, PA)	Oct, 2022
International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (Remote)	Jun, 2022

## References

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Erik Wibbels

Presidential Penn Compact Professor

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Guy Grossman

Knott Professor of Global Politics

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