Kevin Grieco

Contact Information

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Current Position

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Centre for Tax and Development, 2024-

Education

PhD, Political Science, UCLA, 2024

Committee: Daniel Posner (co-chair), Darin Christensen (co-chair), Kate Baldwin, Cesi Cruz

MS, International Development, Wageningen University, 2016

Specialization: Development Economics, Cum Laude

BA, Economics & Philosophy, University of New Hampshire, 2012

Working Papers

"Building Fiscal Capacity with Traditional Political Institutions: Experimental and Qualitative Evidence from Sierra Leone." *Job Market Paper*.

"Participation, Legitimacy and Fiscal Capacity in Weak States: Evidence from Participatory Budgeting," with Abou Bakarr Kamara, Niccolò Meriggi, Julian Michel, and Wilson Prichard.

"Increasing Local Disease Preparedness and Surveillance Capacity for Global Health Security: A Cluster-randomised Control Trial," with Maarten Voors, Macartan Humphreys, Salif Jaiteh, Mohamed Alpha Jalloh, Sellu Kallon, Niccolò Meriggi, and Peter Van der Windt. *Under review*.

Select Ongoing Projects

"Property Taxation and Political Accountability: Evidence from a Rule-based Expansion of Tax Demands in Sierra Leone," with Niccolò Meriggi, Julian Michel, and Wilson Prichard.

"Weber's Nudge: Does Signaling Procedural Fairness on Tax Bills Increase Compliance?" with Abou Bakarr Kamara, Niccolò Meriggi, Julian Michel, and Wilson Prichard.

External Grants / Fellowships

2024. J-Pal (K-CAI), **\$57,860**. For Preserving Mangroves and Livelihoods in Benin, with Darin Christensen and Ambaliou Olounlade

2024. International Centre for Tax and Development, **\$194,000**. For Traditional Leaders and Formal and Informal Taxation in Sierra Leone, with Vanessa van den Boogaard

2022. Mercatus Center Frédéric Bastiat Fellowship (declined), **\$5,000**. For Can Traditional Political Institutions Help the State Raise Property Taxes?

2021. International Centre for Tax and Development, **\$22,917**. For Can Traditional Political Institutions Help the State Raise Property Taxes?

2021. International Centre for Tax and Development, **\$5,884**. For Can Rural Property Taxation Generate Revenue?

2021. C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, \$10,000.

2019. International Centre for Tax and Development, \$257,802. For Compliance, Accountability and the Social Contract, with Niccolò Meriggi, Julian Michel, Wilson Prichard

2019. International Growth Centre, **\$25,929**. For Taxation and Political Participation, with Darin Christensen

2019. International Growth Centre, **\$25,652**. For Improving Tax Compliance in Freetown: Scoping Research, with Derek Holliday and Julian Michel

2018. International Growth Centre, **\$110,523**. For Electrifying Growth, with Niccolò Meriggi, Mushfiq Mobarak, and Maarten Voors

2018. UKaid/OPM Energy and Economic Growth, \$489,688. For Electrifying Growth, with Niccolò Meriggi, Mushfiq Mobarak, and Maarten Voors

2018. International Growth Centre, \$25,542. For Improving Tax Systems in Sierra Leone

2018. International Growth Centre, **\$10,994**. For Electoral Impacts of Development Aid, with Niccolò Meriggi and Maarten Voors

2018. International Growth Centre, **\$28,165**. For Mobilizing Voters with SMS, with Niccolò Meriggi and Maarten Voors

2018. International Growth Centre, **\$12,925**. For Brighter Communities Safer Cities, with Daniel N. Posner

2018. Sustainable Energy Transitions, \$4,975. For Brighter Communities Safer Cities.

Internal Grants / Fellowships

2024. UCLA Political Science Department's Swarr Prize (for best unpublished grad paper)

2023. UCLA/Keck Humanistic Inquiry Graduate Research Award, \$8,000.

2023. UCLA Fellowship in Political Psychology, \$1,995.

2022. UCLA Dissertation Year Fellowship, \$20,000.

2022. UCLA Fellowship in Political Psychology, \$2,000.

2021. UCLA Summer Mentored Research Fellowship, \$6,000.

2021. UCLA Fellowship in Political Psychology, \$2,000.

2019. UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award, \$6,000.

2018. UCLA Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award, \$6,000.

Talks

2024: GLD Workshop (online); WGAPE (Accra); World Bank Land Conference; IIPF; APCG Online Colloquium; Public Finance in Developing Countries; CGU Talk Series; UN-Habitat

2023: Governance and Local Development Institute Annual Conference

2022: CaliWEPS V; APSA; Global Development Conference; Sierra Leone Tax Conference

2019: Harvard Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference

Consulting

World Bank, Consultant, May 2024–December 2024

Project: Qualitative Assessment for Institutionalizing the Wan Fambul Framework in Sierra Leone

ICTD, *Consultant*, March 2021–November 2023 Project: Can Rural Property Taxation Generate Revenue?

Oxford Policy Management, Consultant, June 2020–July 2020

Project: The Role of Traditional Leaders in COVID-19

Oxford Policy Management, *Consultant*, March 2020–May 2020 Project: A Rapid Assessment of the Response to COVID-19 in Sierra Leone

Skills/ Experience

Languages: English (Native), Sierra Leone Krio (Intermediate), Spanish (Intermediate)

Fieldwork: Sierra Leone (4+ years)

References Daniel N. Posner

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