

MATTHEW K. RIBAR

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EDUCATION

Stanford University

expected 2025

Ph.D. in Political Science

- Fields: International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Political Methodology
- Committee: Jeremy Weinstein (chair), David Laitin, James Fearon, and Avidit Acharya.
- Dissertation project: Who wants property rights? The politics of land formalization in West Africa.

Stanford University

2022

M.A. in Political Science

College of William & Mary | University of St Andrews

2017

B.A. (International Honors) International Relations, minor in Economics

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

1. Keeping Up with the Times: How the Discipline of International Relations Responds to Benchmark Events. 2016. *International Studies Perspectives*, 18(3): 304-322 [[link to paper](#)] [[link to SAGE Research Methods Case Study](#)].

WORKS IN PROGRESS

2. Feeding conflict? New data on the impact of humanitarian food aid on civil conflict [[link to working paper](#)] **Under review**.
3. Pitfalls and tradeoffs in measuring support for violent extremism: Evidence from Niger and Burkina Faso (with Ryan Sheely and Adam Lichtenheld).
4. What works in countering violent extremism? Experimental Evidence from Niger (with Ryan Sheely and Kathryn Lance).
5. In Vi(vi)no Veritas? Expertise, review accuracy and reputation inflation (with Rebecca Janssen).
6. Traditional Chiefs and Democratic Backsliding.

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

7. The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Project in Cabo Verde: Interm Evaluation Report. 2020. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research (with Clair Null, Edith Felix, Audrey Moore, Abbie Turiansky, Jane Fortson, Evan Fantozzi, Dara Bernstein, Emma Pottinger, and Loay Hidmi) [[link to paper](#)].
8. Evaluation Design Report for the Liberia Energy Project: Activities 1 and 2. 2018. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research (with Candace Miller, Kristine Bos, Ali Protik, Randall Blair, and Paolo Abarcar) [[link to paper](#)].
9. Evaluation of the Irrigation and Water Resource Management Project in Senegal: Interim Report. 2018. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research (with Thomas Coen, Sarah Hughes, William Valetta, and Kristen Velyvis) [[link to paper](#)].
10. Implementing the Arms Trade Treaty and the UNPoA: A Guide to Coordinating an Effective Arms Control System. 2018. Sydney: Centre for Armed Violence Reduction (with Laura Spano, Philip Alpers, and Erly Munoz) [[link to paper](#)].
11. Where the World Comes Up Short: Gaps in Civil Society Efforts to Combat the Proliferation of Small Arms. 2016. Melbourne: Pacific Small Arms Action Group.

GRANTS

- 2023 Institute for Humane Studies Expense Support (\$ 750).
- 2023 Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) Schultz Research Fellowship (\$ 4,000).
- 2022 Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) Ph.D. Research Grant (£24,535).
- 2022 Stanford King Center for International Development Advanced Grant (\$ 10,000).
- 2021 Stanford King Center for International Development Exploratory Grant (\$5,000).
- 2021 National Science Foundation Graduate Student Research Fellowship
- 2014 International Studies Association Student Travel Grant

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2023 Junior Scholar, Carnegie International Policy Scholar Consortium and Network

2021 Stanford Center for African Studies Graduate Fellow
-2025
2021 Immigration Policy Lab Graduate Fellow
-2025
2021 Stanford Impact Labs / Immigration Policy Lab Summer Fellow
2019 Stanford University Graduate Fellowship
-2025
2017 Phi Beta Kappa

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2023 Peace Science Society; American Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association.
2022 Midwest Political Science Association; Working Group in African Political Economy Annual Conference.
2020 Midwest Political Science Association; Stanford Graduate Student Comparative Workshop.
2017 International Studies Association—South.

TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Teaching assistanceships:

- Introduction to International Relations, with Jim Fearon (2019)
- The Science of Politics, with Jeremy Weinstein and Jonathan Rodden (2021)
- Data Science for Politics, with Alain Schläpfer (2021)

Research assistanceships:

- Jeremy Weinstein (Stanford University)
- Kai Gehring (University of Bern and Stanford University)
- Kristen Harkness (University of St. Andrews)
- Marc DeVore (University of St. Andrews)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Mathematica Policy Research
Program Associate

Washington, DC
June 2017 - August 2019

Pacific Small Arms Action Group/Center for Armed Violence Reduction
Consultant
Policy and Outreach Associate

Melbourne, Australia
June 2017 - September 2017
May 2016 - September 2016

Teaching, Research, and International Policy Project
Research Assistant

Williamsburg, USA
November 2013 - June 2017

University of St Andrews School of International Relations
Research Assistant

St Andrews, UK
September 2015 - May 2016

DEPARTMENTAL AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

2022 APSA mentor program.
-2023
2022 Stanford 'Pathways to Ph.D.' mentor program.
-2023
2020 Departmental cohort representative.

FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE

2023 Côte d'Ivoire
2023 Senegal
2022 Côte d'Ivoire
2022 Senegal
2021 Niger

SKILLS

- Proficient in French and English (native).
- Computer skills: R, Stata, Python, ArcGIS, NVivo, L^AT_EX.