

Matthew K. Ribar

616 Jane Stanford Way
Encina Hall West, Room 100
Stanford, CA 94305

+1 540 699 4747
mkribar@stanford.edu

EDUCATION

Stanford University

expected May 2025

Ph.D. in Political Science

- Fields: International Relations, Comparative Politics, and Political Methodology
- Prospectus Reading 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

January 2022

M.A. in Political Science

College of William & Mary | University of St Andrews

May 2017

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

- The College of William & Mary - University of St Andrews Joint Degree Programme involves two years of integrated study at each university, after which a single degree is granted jointly by both universities.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- "Keeping Up with the Times: How the Discipline of International Relations Responds to Benchmark Events," *International Studies Perspectives*, 18(2016): 304-322.
 - Presented at the 2014 International Studies Association-South meetings.
 - A discussion of this paper was included as a SAGE Research Methods Case Study.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- "Traditional Chiefs and Democratic Backsliding"
- "In Vi(vi)no Veritas? Expertise, review accuracy and reputation inflation" [with Rebecca Janssen]
- "How to measure support for violent extremism?" [With Ryan Sheely and Adam Lichtenheld]
- "What works in countering violent extremism? Experimental Evidence from Niger" [with Ryan Sheely and Kathryn Lance]
 - This project evaluates the \$35 million USAID-funded 'Youth Connect' program in Niger and Burkina Faso, implemented by Mercy Corps. I am collaborating with Mercy Corps' internal research office to design and implement a randomized control trial which will test how youth training in negotiation skills affects participation in community-based development projects.
 - I presented baseline results at the 2022 Midwest Political Science Association conference.
- "Feeding Conflict? New data on Humanitarian Food Aid and Civil Conflict"
 - Presented at the 2020 Midwest Political Science Association conference.
 - Presented at the Stanford Comparative Politics Graduate Student Workshop.

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

- *The Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Project in Cabo Verde: Interm Evaluation Report*. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, 2020 [with Clair Null, Edith Felix, Audrey Moore, Abbie Turiansky, Jane Fortson, Evan Fantozzi, Dara Bernstein, Emma Pottinger, and Loay Hidmi].
- *Evaluation Design Report for the Liberia Energy Project: Activities 1 and 2*. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, 2018. [with Candace Miller, Kristine Bos, Ali Protik, Randall Blair, and Paolo Abarcar].
- *Evaluation of the Irrigation and Water Resource Management Project in Senegal: Interim Report*. Report submitted to the Millennium Challenge Corporation. Washington, DC: Mathematica Policy Research, 2018. [with Thomas Coen, Sarah Hughes, William Valetta, and Kristen Velyvis].
- *Implementing the Arms Trade Treaty and the UNPoA: A Guide to Coordinating an Effective Arms Control System* (Sydney: Centre for Armed Violence Reduction, 2018)[with Laura Spano, Philip Alpers, and Erly Munoz].
- *Things Fall Apart: The Role of Small Arms Proliferation in Insurgent Fragmentation*. Undergraduate Thesis. Williamsburg, VA: College of William & Mary 2017.
 - **Committee:** Jeffrey Kaplow (Chair), Philip Roessler, Harvey Langholtz.
 - Presented at the 2017 Midwest Political Science Association.
- *Where the World Comes Up Short: Gaps in Civil Society Efforts to Combat the Proliferation of Small Arms* (Melbourne: Pacific Small Arms Action Group, 2016).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Structural Transformation and Economic Growth (UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office) Ph.D. Research Grant (2022)
- Stanford King Center for International Development Advanced Grant (2022)
- Stanford King Center for International Development Exploratory Grant (2021)
- Stanford Center for African Studies Graduate Fellow (2021-present)
- Immigration Policy Lab Graduate Fellow (2021-present)
- Stanford Impact Labs / Immigration Policy Lab Summer Fellow (2021)
- National Science Foundation Graduate Student Research Fellowship (2021-2024)
- Stanford University Graduate Fellowship (2019-2024)
- Phi Beta Kappa (2017)
- William & Mary Government Department Sturm Student Conference Fund (2017)
- William & Mary - St. Andrews Joint Degree Programme Small Grant (2017)
- International Studies Association Student Travel Grant (2014)

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 Schl pfer (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)

- Analyzed French language qualitative data on land tenure security and irrigation improvement in the Senegal River Valley to produce a mixed-method impact evaluation for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC).
- Drafted baseline and interim reports for an evaluation of greenhouse gas inventories at the city-level to measure their impact on emissions reductions targets and actions.
- Coded and administered a survey instrument for a water access, sanitation, and hygiene survey of 1,500 households in Cabo Verde, while providing support to senior staff in analyzing the received data.
- Identified areas affected by electricity infrastructure improvements in Liberia and Benin using GIS software in order to target a household listing and to place grid monitors on infrastructure nodes.

Pacific Small Arms Action Group/Center for Armed Violence Reduction

Consultant

Melbourne, Australia
(June 2017 - September 2017)

- Provided research and writing support for project publications, including the flagship 2018 *Implementing the Arms Trade Treaty and the UNPoA* and unpublished workshop modules.
- Updated firearm statistics and policy data for the affiliated website gunpolicy.org.

Policy and Outreach Associate

(May 2016 - September 2016)

- Created background materials and analyzed feedback for capacity-building workshops in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea on the Arms Trade Treaty and the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms.
- Conducted interviews and administered a survey to over 300 experts and non-governmental organizations to identify geographical and thematic gaps in how global civil society addresses small arms issues.

Teaching, Research, and International Policy Project

Research Assistant

Williamsburg, USA
(November 2013 - June 2017)

- Authored a quantitative analysis of the project database which was presented at the 2014 International Studies Association-South conference and which has been published in *International Studies Perspectives*.
- Built a comprehensive survey sample of over 5,000 International Relations scholars working at universities in the United States, the United Kingdom, and over 30 other countries for the 2014 and 2017 surveys.
- Developed indicators for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the MacArthur Foundation to identify which International Relations professors were likely to produce policy-relevant research.

- Collaborated with a former national security advisor for the Central African Republic to write the national security strategy for Martin Ziguélé's presidential campaign in December 2015, focusing on innovative policy solutions to combat wildlife insecurity and small arms proliferation.
- Developed a coding schema for research assistants for an academic research project on historical military innovations.

FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE

- Cote d'Ivoire: 2022
- Senegal: 2022, 2023
- Niger: 2021

SKILLS

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