

Ruofan Ma

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| CONTACT | Department of Government, Harvard University K320, CGIS Knafel, 1737 Cambridge St. Cambridge MA | ✉: ruofan_ma@g.harvard.edu |
| EDUCATION | Harvard University, USA Ph.D., Government 2026 (<i>exp.</i>) Fields of interest: IR (major), CP (minor), Labor Politics (focus) A.M., Statistics 2024 A.M., East Asian Studies 2020 Thesis: <i>Bringing the States Back in Line –the ILO and domestic labor rights</i> (Adviser: Prof. Alastair Iain Johnston) University of Oxford, UK Visiting Ph.D. Student, DPIR 2024-2025 Visiting Junior Scholar, Nuffield College Peking University, China B.A., Politics and Public Administration (with Honors) 2018 Thesis: <i>The Logic of Sub-group Actions</i> (Adviser: Prof. Jian Zhang) Minors: Economics, Philology <i>Magna cum laude</i> | |
| GRANTS AND AWARDS | Raymond Vernon Fellowship, Harvard University 2020 - present Summer Research Fund, Asia Center 2023 Research Grant, IQSS 2021, 2022, 2023 Summer Language Fund, Weatherhead Center 2020, 2021 Summer Research Fund, Fairbank Center 2019 National Scholarship, Peking University 2016, 2017, 2018 | |
| WORKING PAPERS (DRAFT AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST) | 5. “Reporting Compliance: How ILO Reports Shape Domestic Labor Rights” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipient of the 2024 ISA IO Section Lawrence Finkelstein Prize for the Best Graduate Student Paper• Recipient of the 2024 ISA IPE Section Best Graduate Student Paper Award 4. “Assumption Smuggling in Intermediate Outcome Tests of Causal Mechanisms” (with Matthew Blackwell and Aleksei Opacic, https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.07072 , <i>under review at American Journal of Political Science</i>) 3. “BIT by BIT: Network Learning and Investment Treaty Proliferation” (with Licheng Liu, <i>under review at International Organization</i>) 2. “Sanction Spillovers and Trade Diversification” (with Christina L. Davis) 1. “Uncertain Signals: Partisan Cues and Voters’ Support for Trade Agreements” (with Ethan Miles) | |
| WORKS IN PROGRESS | 2. “Dynamic Bipartite Networks in IGO Formation” (with Kosuke Imai, Santiago Olivella, and Qi Liu) 1. When is Labor Rights Human Rights? Diplomatic Overlaps and Norm Diffusion in International Organizations (with Averell Schmidt) | |

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| CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. “BIT by BIT: Network Learning and Investment Treaty Proliferation” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Studies Association Annual Conference, Mar 2025 • American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Sept 2024 • IHS Trade Papers Workshop, Jul 2024 3. “Sanction Spillovers and Trade Diversification” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Political Economy Society, Nov 2024 • International Studies Association Annual Conference, Apr 2024 2. “Reporting Compliance: Do ILO Reports Increase Respects for Labor Rights” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Economy of International Organization, Jun 2024 • International Studies Association Annual Conference, Apr 2024 • APSA Comparative Labor Workshop, Mar 2024 • American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Sept 2023 1. “Uncertain Signals: How Partisan Cues Shape Voters’ Support for Trade Agreements” (co-author) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Sept 2023 • Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Mar 2023 |
| TEACHING | <p>Harvard University</p> <p>Gov2018: Machine Learning Spring 2024 Teaching Fellow with Prof. Naijia Liu and Connor Jerzak</p> <p>Gov2002: Quantitative Social Science Methods II Spring 2023 Teaching Fellow with Prof. Matthew Blackwell</p> <p>Gov1740: International Law and Institutions Fall 2022, Fall 2023 Teaching Fellow with Prof. Christoph Mikulaschek</p> |
| SERVICE | <p>Co-organizer, APSA Comparative Labor Conference 2025 2024 - 2025</p> <p>International Relations Workshop Coordinator, Harvard University 2022 - 2024</p> <p>Communication Officer, Harvard Government GSA 2021 - 2022</p> <p>Diversity Committee Member, Harvard University 2021 - 2022</p> |
| RESEARCH ASSISTANT | <p>Professor Christoph Mikulaschek 2023 - 2024</p> <p>Professor Christina Davis, Harvard University 2020 - 2024</p> <p>Professor Jian Zhang, Peking University 2018</p> <p>Professor Ling Li, Peking University 2017 - 2018</p> <p>Professor Yuhua Wang, Harvard University 2016</p> |
| SKILLS | <p>Technical: R, Stata, Python, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS</p> <p>Language: Mandarin (Native), English (C2), German (B1), Latin (Advanced)</p> |
| REFERENCES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Davis (Committee Chair): cldavis@harvard.edu Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics, Department of Government, Harvard University. • Kosuke Imai: imai@g.harvard.edu Professor, Department of Government and Department of Statistics, Harvard University. • Stephen Chaudoin: chaudoin@fas.harvard.edu Assistant Professor, Department of Government, Harvard University. |

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