

Timothy Liptrot

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Washington DC, 20010, USA

OBJECTIVE

I am a PhD candidate in Political Science at Georgetown University . I study comparative politics, specializing in political economy of authoritarian regimes. My work deals with how autocrats choose cabinet ministers, expropriation, and the origin of authoritarian institutions.

EDUCATION



- **Georgetown University** Sept 2020 - Present
Washington DC, USA
PhD Political Science
 - Specializations: Comparative POLitics, Authoritarian Politics, Political economy, Political Economy
 - Dissertation: Three Papers on the Political Economy of Power Sharing in Autocracies
- **Oberlin College** May 2017
Oberlin Ohio, USA
Bachelors
 - Political Science and Physics


PUBLICATIONS

C=CONFERENCE, J=JOURNAL, P=PATENT, S=IN SUBMISSION, T=THINK TANK REPORT

- [S.1] Timothy Liptrot (2025). **Putting Parties out to Pasture: Pastoralist Clans and the Development of Party Systems**. Manuscript submitted for publication in *American Political Science Review*.
- [S.2] Timothy Liptrot (2024). **Borrowed Credibility: Sovereign Default and Technocrat Finance Ministers in Autocracies**. Manuscript submitted for publication in *Review of International Organizations*.
- [S.3] Timothy Liptrot (2024). **Personalist Property: Autocratic Leader Turnover and Property Rights**. Manuscript submitted for publication in *Economics and Politics*.
- [J.1] Dolf te Lintelo, Timothy Liptrot, (2024). **Localising aid: Urban displacement, contested public authority and legitimacy in Jordan and Lebanon**. *Global Policy*, Vol. 15, Issue 4, pp. 36-47. DOI: 10.1111/1758-5899.13266
- [J.2] Dolf te Lintelo, Timothy Liptrot, (2024). **Contested public authority in marginal urban areas: challenges for humanitarians**. *Forced Migration Review*, Vol. 63, Issue 2, pp. 51-55.
- [J.3] Timothy Liptrot, Hussam Hussein, (2024). **Between Regulation and Targeted Expropriation: Rural-to-Urban Groundwater Reallocation in Jordan**. *Water Alternatives*, Vol. 13, Issue 3, pp. 864-885.
- [T.1] Timothy Liptrot (2024). **How to Sanction Sudan without Creating a Failed State**. In *War on the Rocks, Commentary*. War on the Rocks. 21 Oct. 2024, Austin Texas.
- [T.2] Timothy Liptrot (2024). **Keeping the Oil Flowing: Sudan's Oil Sector During the 2023–24 War**. In *Sudan Situation Update Series*. Small Arms Survey. May 2024, Switzerland.
- [T.3] Timothy Liptrot (2022). **Iraq must compromise between majoritarianism and consensus government formation**. In *Al Jazeera Center for Policy Studies*. Al Jazeera. 3 July 2022, Qatar.

EXPERIENCE AND TEACHING

- **Georgetown University**  Sept. 2021 - Present
Washington DC, USA
Research Assistant
 - Wrote and published studies in comparative politics using statistical techniques to identify causal effects, including autocorrelation correction, instrumental variables, and ridge regression. Wrote a paper on the effect of historical dependence on pastoral agriculture on party system development using instrumental variables, geographic autocorrelation adjustments, and imputed data using R and Python.
 - I reviewed code in Python, R, and Stata to find bugs and malpractice and ensure the security of the publication process as the replication administrator for Political Science Research and Methods. Reviewed 9 packages in Python, 14 in R, and 7 in Stata and identified 61 distinct bugs. Corresponded directly with clients (authors) to repair bugs in their code, reduced the average replication time for papers by 40%, and created visualizations in Tableau.
 - Created software to assist professors with their research projects. I created a web scraper in Python that crawled archives of Spanish newspapers and counted mentions of the party, then aggregated and plotted daily mentions and visualized using Power BI and R. I wrote a natural language system to classify 50,000 tweets by policy area.
- **Center for Advanced Defense Studies**  Nov. 2022 - Aug. 2023
Washington DC, USA
Sanctions Analyst

- Designed, researched and wrote dossiers on illicit networks in Sudanese politics for US diplomacy stakeholders. I presented 5 dossiers to US diplomacy stakeholders, including US Ambassador John Godfrey. Presented evidence on three previously unknown Wagner-affiliated companies incorporated in Sudan in gold, agriculture, and shipping.
 - Produced long-form reports on the financing of armed groups in Sudan. Wrote a 4,000-word report on revenue from gold mining activities and its distribution between the territory controlled by the RSF and SAF.
 - Managed databases in SQL, including bills of lading of Sudan's trade partners, overseas assets, and Sudanese identity. I designed a new algorithm for matching names between Arabic and English transliterations, reducing search times by 90%.
 - Build a new database of government workers' emails in Sudan for information-gathering campaigns. Aggregated over 6,000 emails from the Sudanese military, social security administration, and central bank. My work led to the identification of arms shipments worth millions of dollars in violation of the UN arms embargo on Sudan.
- **Small Arms Survey**  Aug. 2023 - May 2024
OSINT Analyst Washington DC, USA
- Led, researched, and wrote a study on transnational oil infrastructure and its role in funding armed groups in the 2023 Sudan Conflict. Interviewed local experts, gathered a database of social media posts from armed groups, and geotagged conflict events.
 - Performed a forensic accounting analysis to estimate the income available to the armed groups from the oil trade using historical data, shipping data, and international prices.
 - Produced an initial contextual report on the financing of the Sudanese state and armed groups in 2023 with African Arguments. I identified that due to rising global oil prices, the Petrodar and Greater Nile pipelines would be primary sites of contestation 6 months before their destruction.

RESEARCH INTERESTS AND SKILLS

Research Areas: Authoritarian Power Sharing, Authoritarian Institutions, Cabinet Selection, Political Economy, Expropriation and Investment, Technocrats, Sovereign Debt Policy, Sanctions and Economic Warfare, African Politics, Middle Eastern Politics

Technical Skills: Statistical Packabges (R, STATA, Python), Applications(LateX, common Windows Software) and mapping in R, and ArcGIS

Methods Training: Ordinary Least Squares Regression, Survey Analysis, Generalized Linear Models, TimeSeries Analysis and Multilevel Modeling, Game Theory, Text-as-Data, Event Studies Analysis

Languages: Arabic (MSA and Levantine), English