# **Rex Weiye Deng**

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#### Education

# Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri

Ph.D., Political Science, expected in 2026

- Dissertation: Turning Resistance into Compliance: The Art of Transforming Negative Public Opinion
- Committee: Margit Tavits (Chair), David Carter, Carly Wayne, Ted Enamorado, and Haifeng Huang (External)

M.A., Political Science, 2023

Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan

B.A., Economics, 2020

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong SAR, China

B.Sc. (First-Class Honors), Global China Studies, 2020

#### **Research Interests**

Comparative Politics: Authoritarian Politics, Political Communication, Political Psychology, China

*International Relations*: Public Diplomacy, International Cooperation, U.S-China relations *Methodology*: Computational Methods (Text-As-Data), Surveys, Experiments

#### **Working Papers**

"Screened Realities: How Entertainment Fosters Political Compliance in Autocracies." Under review. (Job Market Paper)

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

- Rebecca Morton Poster Award, 2025 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science
- Timothy E. Cook Best Graduate Student Paper Award, APSA 2024

"Weaponizing Democracy's Woes: Negative Propaganda and Regime Evaluations in Autocracies." Revise and Resubmit, *The Journal of Politics*.

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

"Exploiting Extremism: Strategic Responses of Radical Right Parties to Right-Wing Violence in Europe" (with Taishi Muraoka and Margit Tavits). Under review.

[Manuscript & Appendix]

"How Do State-Led Infrastructure Projects Affect Trust in Historically Hard-to-Reach Places?" (with David Carter). Under review.

[Manuscript] [Appendix]

"Softening the Crisis: How Cultural Diplomacy Fosters Interstate Reconciliation." [Available Upon Request]

"Can Leaders Shape Public Opinion During a Foreign Policy Crisis? Evidcence from U.S. Withdrawal from Afghanistan (with Amaan Charaniya, Dahjin Kim, Gechun Lin, William Nomikos, and İpek Ece Şener). Under review.

[Available Upon Request]

• Best Paper for the Foreign Policy Section, APSA 2022

### **Work in Progress**

"The Blessing and Curse of Cute Propaganda" (with Haifeng Huang).

"Turning Crisis into Opportunities: How Authoritarian Regime Appeal to Mass Emotions in Crisis Communication" (with Xiaoxiao Shen).

"Singing the Truth: Correcting Misperceptions Through Song Lyrics" (with Dahjin Kim).

"Imperial Echoes: How Historical Dramas Shape Contemporary Support for Strongman Rule."

#### **Honors & Grants**

**Awards** Timothy Cook Best Graduate Student Award 2025 • Awarded for the best graduate student paper presented at the Political Communication Section at APSA 2024 Rebecca Morton Poster Award 2025 • Awarded for the best poster at the Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU) Best Foreign Policy Paper Award 2023 Awarded at APSA 2022 School of Political Science and Economics Award 2019 • Awarded for the first Waseda Data Science Competition • Theme: Predict results of Japan's Upper House Election in 2019 • With Wenhao (Brian) Jiang, Yuji Mizushima, and Siyuan Shang Dean's List, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology 2016-2018 **Research Grants** Juniors Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$6,000)

2025

2024

2024

2024

2024

2020

# • Co-PI: Margit Tavits and Taishi Muraoka Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Govern-

ment, and Public Policy, WashU (\$15,000)

Dissertation Grant, WashU (\$1,000)

ment, and Public Policy, WashU (\$12,000) • Co-PI: Ted Enamorado

Legislative Studies Quarterly Research Award, Washington University (\$5,000)

Humane Studies Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (\$6,200)

Small Research Grant, Weidenbaum Center on the Economy, Govern-

	Travel Grants PolMeth Travel Award (\$1,000) ISA Travel Grant (\$600) APSA Political Psychology Section Distinguished Junior Scholar Award (\$600) APSA Travel Grant (\$200) APSA Travel Grant (\$200); APSA Foreign Policy Section Travel Grant (\$500)	2025 2025 2024 2023 2022
	Scholarships Asian Future Leadership Scholarship, Bai Xian Asia Institute (≈ \$28,680)	2018
	<ul> <li>Full tuition and living expenses for study at Waseda University Ho &amp; Ho Foundation Scholarship, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (≈ \$76,000)</li> <li>Full tuition and living expenses for study at HKUST</li> </ul>	2015
Additional Training	Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri Spatial Statistics (Scott Cook) Text-As-Data (Brandon Stewart) Time Series Analysis (Clayton Webb) Python camp (Benjamin Noble) Math camp (Jacob Montgomery)	Summer 2024 Summer 2023 Summer 2022 Summer 2021 Summer 2020
	East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai, China Training Camp of Political Methodology and Chinese Political Institution	Summer 2020
RA Experience	Washington University in St. Louis, Department of Political Science Research assistant (Carly Wayne) Research assistant (Margit Tavits, Jacob Montgomery, and Christopher Lucas) Research assistant (Michael Olson) Research assistant (Lucia Motolinia)	2021–2023 2023 2022 2022
	Columbia University, Department of Political Science Research assistant (Junyan Jiang)	2020
Fieldwork	China (Interviews with officials at local procuratorates)	2024
Presentations	Annual Meetings of Professional Associations American Political Science Association (APSA) International Studies Association (ISA) The Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth)	2022–2025 2025 2025

	Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)	2022–2023,	
		2025	
	Western Political Science Association (WPSA)	2023, 2025	
	Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)	2025	
	Peace Science Society (International)	2024	
	ISA-Midwest	2022	
	Workshops and Seminars		
	Southwest Workshop on Mixed Methods Research	2025	
	Authoritarian Political System Group Online Workshop	2025	
	Frontiers in Political Methodology (WashU)	2025	
	Virtual Workshops on Authoritarian Regimes	2025	
	Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (NYU)	2025	
	Comparative Politics Annual Confernce (WashU)	2023-2025	
	State Capacity Conference (Yale)	2022	
	The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity Workshop (Rutgers University)	2022	
Teaching	<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b> , Department of Political Science <i>Undergraduate Level</i>		
	Introduction to Comparative Politics (Guillermo Rosas)	Spring 2024	
	Psychology of War (Carly Wayne)	Fall 2023	
	Introduction to International Politics (David Carter)	Fall 2022, 2023	
	Quantitative Political Methodology (Ted Enamorado)	Spring 2022	
	Data Science for Politics (Jacob Montgomery)	Fall 2021	
Service	Journal Reviewer: Conflict Management of Peace Science, Journal of Chence	al of Chinese Political Sci-	
	Coordinator, Comparative Politics Annual Conference 2025		
	Manager, WashU Political Data Science Lab, Fall 2022 – Fall 2023		
Technical Skills	R, Python, Stata, ArcGIS, Qualtrics, Tableau, 上下X		
Languages	Mandarin Chinese (native), Cantonese (native) English (fluent), Japanese (basic)		

### References

# **Margit Tavits**

Dr. William Taussig Professor Washington University in St. Louis Email: tavits@wustl.edu

# **Carly Wayne**

Associate Professor Washington University in St. Louis Email: carlywayne@wustl.edu

# **Haifeng Huang**

Associate Professor The Ohio State University Email: huang.5457@osu.edu

### David B. Carter

Professor Washington University in St. Louis davidcarter@wustl.edu

#### **Ted Enamorado**

Associate Professor Washington University in St. Louis ted@wustl.edu