

Alexandra Scacco

CONTACT INFORMATION	Institutions and Political Inequality WZB Berlin Social Science Center Reichpietschufer 50 D-10785 Berlin Germany alex.scacco@wzb.edu https://www.wzb.eu/en/persons/alexandra-scacco
CURRENT ACADEMIC POSITION	Senior Research Fellow WZB Berlin Social Science Center September 2017–present
PREVIOUS POSITIONS	Assistant Professor Wilf Family Department of Politics New York University September 2010–August 2017 Prize Research Fellow Nuffield College, University of Oxford September 2009–August 2010
EDUCATION	Ph.D. (with distinction), Political Science, 2010 Columbia University, New York, NY Dissertation: “Who Riots? Explaining Individual Participation in Ethnic Violence in Nigeria” Winner of APSA 2009 Best Fieldwork Award M.Phil, Political Science, 2007 Columbia University Examination Fields: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods M.Sc., <i>summa cum laude</i> , International Relations, 2000 London School of Economics Awarded distinction for master’s thesis A.B., <i>magna cum laude</i> , Princeton University, 1999 Princeton School of Public and International Affairs
TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS	Political violence Ethnic politics Intergroup contact African political economy Migration Field research methods
BOOK PROJECT	<i>Anatomy of a Riot: Why Ordinary People Participate in Ethnic Violence</i>
PUBLICATIONS	2020. “The Aggregation Challenge” (with Macartan Humphreys), <i>World Development</i> 127: 104806–104808.

2018. “Can Social Contact Reduce Prejudice and Discrimination? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Nigeria” (with Shana Warren), *American Political Science Review* 112 (3): 654–677.

2014. “Intergroup Violence and Political Attitudes: Evidence from a Dividing Sudan” (with Bernd Beber and Philip Roessler), *Journal of Politics* 76(3): 649–665.

2012. “What the Numbers Say: A Digit-Based Test for Election Fraud” (with Bernd Beber), *Political Analysis* 20(2): 235–247.

2012. “The Curse of Oil? Natural Resources, Ethnic Diversity and Nigerian Political Development,” *Country Studies in Comparative Politics*, David Samuels, editor, Pearson & Longman Co.

WORKING PAPERS

“Political and Social Correlates of Covid-19 Mortality” (with Manuel Bosancianu, Kim Yi Dionne, Hanno Hilbig, Macartan Humphreys, Sampada KC and Nils Lieber), *under review*

“Christian-Muslim Relations in the Shadow of Conflict: Field-Based Evidence from Nigeria” (with Shana Warren), *under review*

“The Myth of the Misinformed Irregular Migrant? Observational and Experimental Insights from Nigeria” (with Bernd Beber)

“Coping with Partition: Wealth, Security, and Migration in Post-Separation Sudan” (with Bernd Beber and Philip Roessler)

“Vulnerability and Violence: Poverty and Participation in Nigeria’s Ethnic Riots”

“Asking Questions about Violence: Experimental Results from Nigeria”

“Identity in Partition: Evidence from a Panel Survey in Sudan” (with Bernd Beber and Philip Roessler)

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

IPA Peace and Recovery Full Study Grant, support for “The Beautiful Game? Intergroup Contact and Refugee-Native Integration in Lebanon,” €115,000 (with Salma Mousa), 2020

Society Needs Science Grant, support for “The Beautiful Game? Intergroup Contact, Soccer and Lebanese-Syrian Tolerance,” €15,000 (with Salma Mousa), 2019

WZB Internal Funding Competition, support for “Irregular Migration and Misinformation in Nigeria,” €80,000 (with Bernd Beber and Macartan Humphreys), 2019

IPA Peace and Recovery Full Study Grant, support for “Irregular Migration and Misinformation in Nigeria,” \$395,000 (with Bernd Beber, Florian Foos, Macartan Humphreys and Dean Yang), 2019

Seed Grant, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, support for “Workshop to Prepare Horizon 2020 Grant Proposal: Social Contact and Migrant Integration, a Metaketa Study,” \$16,365 (with Ruth Dittmann), 2018

United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Annual Grants Competition, support for “Youth Vocational Training and Conflict Mitigation: An Experimental Test of Social Contact Theory in Nigeria,” \$117,158 (with Shana Warren), 2013

University Research Challenge Fund (URCF), support for “Youth Vocational Training and Conflict Mitigation,” \$15,000 (with Shana Warren), 2013

UNHCR support for “Sudan in Transition: A Panel Survey on Individual Experiences of Partition” for research in Sudan and South Sudan, \$40,000 (with Bernd Beber and Philip Roessler), 2011

Prize Research Fellow, Nuffield College, University of Oxford
September 2009–August 2010

American Political Science Association, Comparative Democratization Section, Best Fieldwork Award for dissertation research, 2009

Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, Post-doctoral Fellowship in International Security, 2009–2010 (declined)

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University, Post-doctoral Fellowship in Intra-State Conflict, 2009–2010 (declined)

Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University,
Post-doctoral Fellowship, 2009–2010 (declined)

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, 2008–2009

Mellon Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University, 2008–2009

Qualitative Research Methods Fellowship, Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University, 2008

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Summer Fellowship, Columbia University, 2006–2008

Saltzman Institute Summer Travel Grant, Columbia University, 2006–2007

Leitner Family Summer Travel Grant, Institute of African Studies, Columbia University, 2006

Faculty Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University, 2003–2008

Derek Bok Distinction in Teaching Award, Harvard University, three-time recipient, 2002–2003

Research Fellow, Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, 2001–2003

INVITED TALKS University of Lund, Department of Political Science, scheduled, December 2020

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Political Economy Speaker Series, December 2019

European Univeresity Institute (EUI), Department of Economics, invited speaker, Interdisciplinary Experimental Working Group, September 2019

University of Zurich, Department of Poltiical Science, invited speaker, Working Group on Political Norms, August 2019

NYU Abu Dhabi, Political Science Seminar, April 2019

European University Institute (EUI), Department of Political and Social Sciences, Florence, March 2019

Oxford University, Department of Politics and International Relations, Politics Research Colloquium , February 2019

Intervention Science Preconference, invited speaker, Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), Portland, February 2019

Trinity College Dublin, Political Science Research Seminar, February 2019

Nova School of Business and Economics (SBE), NOVAFRICA Seminar Series, Lisbon, Portugal, November 2018

Development Economics Network Berlin (DENEb) Seminar Series, Berlin, Germany, May 2018

Humboldt University, Religious Communities and Sustainable Development Series, Berlin, Germany, May 2018

Institut Barcelona Estidis Internacionals (IBEI), Barcelona, Spain, May 2018

University of Essex, Department of Political Science, Colchester, UK, March 2018

Hertie School of Governance, Political Economy Seminar, Berlin, Germany, February 2018

Migration and Diversity (MaD) Colloquium, WZB, Berlin, Germany, February 2018

Harvard University, Comparative Politics Speaker Series, Cambridge, MA, March 2017

SUNY Stony Brook, Political Science and Africana Studies Departments, Stony Brook, NY, February 2017

Harvard University, Working Group in Political Psychology and Behavior, Cambridge, MA, September 2016

University of Washington International Security Colloquium (UWISC), Seattle, October 2015

Political Science Department, Symposium on Political Violence, University of Pittsburgh, March 2013

Political Science Department Distinguished Speaker Series, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, October 2012

Political Science Speaker Series, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, October 2012

Comparative Politics Colloquium, Princeton University, February 2012

Comparative Politics Workshop, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, October 2011

Sawyer Seminar, University of Wisconsin, Madison, May 2011

Colloquium on Comparative Research Seminar, Brown University, December 2010

Public Lecture, University of Khartoum, Sudan, November 2010

LSE Methodology Institute and National Centre for Social Research Joint Seminar Series, London, March 2010

Political Economy Seminar, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford, March 2010

Politics Seminar Series, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, February 2010

Comparative Politics Series, Duke University, January 2010

“Explaining Participation in Violence,” Guest Lecture, Barnard College, October 2008

International Politics Seminar (CUIPS), Columbia University, October 2008

Comparative Politics Workshop, Columbia University, March 2008

Comparative Politics Seminar, Columbia University, March 2007

CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

2020 (Online): Re-WGAPE Berlin (discussant and chair), EPSA (chair), Working Group on Intergroup Relations (IGR), Sessions 1 and 2 (discussant and chair, scheduled), EuroWEPS (discussant and chair, scheduled)

2019: Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP Geneva), Winter Experimental Social Sciences Institute (WESSI) NYU Florence, European Political Science Association (EPSA Belfast, presenter and discussant), European Working Group in Empirical Political Science (EuroWEPS, co-organizer), University College London (UCL) Qualitative Metaketa Workshop, Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE) Berlin (presenter and co-organizer)

2018: Workshop on “Migrant Integration in Africa, Europe and Beyond,” WZB Berlin Social Science Center (co-organizer and presenter), Barcelona-Gothenburg-Bergen (BGB) Workshop on Experimental Political Science; Center for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) Conference, Oxford University; Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE), London School of Economics; European Political Science Association (EPSA Vienna); Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP

Nairobi); MaD Conference, Religious Fundamentalism and Violence, WZB Berlin;
American Political Science Association (APSA, presenter and discussant)

2017: Barcelona-Gothenburg-Bergen Workshop in Experimental Political Science,
Bergen, Norway; Contemporary African Politics Research Seminar (CAPERS);
European Political Science Association; Columbia-IPI Conference, WZB Berlin Social
Science Center

2016: NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference; Midwest Political
Science Association; APSA; Symposium on Development, Extremism and Security in
Africa, Cornell University; EGAP; CAPERS (discussant)

2015: American Political Science Association; CAPERS

2013: NYU-CESS Experimental Political Science Conference (discussant); Midwest
Political Science Association; CAPERS; WGAPE-MIT

2012: African Studies Association; Workshop on “War and Political Change,” Yale
University; European Political Science Association (EPSA); CAPERS (discussant);
Midwest Political Science Association (presenter and discussant); WGAPE-Berkeley

2011: American Political Science Association; NYU-LSE Conference (discussant);
CAPERS (Spring); “Violent Cities” Conference, Brown University; CAPERS (Fall);
UNSCR 1325 Research Group, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

2010: American Political Science Association; Conference on Partition Violence,
University of Southampton, UK

2009: CAPERS (Spring); International Studies Association

2008: American Political Science Association; “Choosing Violence” Conference,
Stanford University; Midwest Political Science Association

2007: American Political Science Association; Midwest Political Science Association

2006: African Studies Association; “Designing Research on the Micro-Dynamics of
Civil Wars,” Yale University

2005: Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

OTHER WRITING “How Much Time Does an Academic Career Take?” *WZB Newsletter*, December 2019

“Fine-Tuning Minority Policy in Romania,” with Istvan Horvath, in *Diversity in
Action: Local Public Management of Multi-Ethnic Communities*. Budapest, LGI
Books, 2001

“The Governance of Globalism,” with Joseph S. Nye, *La Vanguardia Dossier*, 2002

“Combating Corruption Digitally,” *Transition: The World Bank Newsletter*, 14:1, 2003

ACADEMIC
EXPERIENCE Institute of Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Arizona State
University, 2008

TEACHING	New York University: Assistant Professor, Department of Politics, 2010–present <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative Politics (Undergraduate Lecture), Political Violence (Graduate Seminar), Comparative Politics of Developing Countries (Graduate Seminar), Contemporary African Politics (Undergraduate Lecture), Comparative Ethnic Politics (Undergraduate Seminar)
	Columbia University: Teaching Fellow, Department of Political Science, 2004–2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationalism and World Politics, Contemporary African Politics, Analysis of Political Data, Introduction to Human Rights
FIELD RESEARCH	Nigeria: Field Experimental and Survey Research for RCT on Irregular Migration, March 2020
	Nigeria: Survey and Qualitative Research on Irregular Migration, September–October 2018
	Nigeria: Survey and Experimental Research on Intergroup Contact, July–September 2014, January–February 2015, and January 2016
	South Sudan: Survey and Qualitative Research on Migration and the Effects of Partition, September–October 2011, and August 2012
	Sudan: Survey Research on the Micro-Dynamics of Partition, October–November 2010
	Nigeria: Survey and Ethnographic Research for Dissertation, October–December 2007, and July–August 2008
	Nigeria: Pre-Dissertation Archival Research and Elite Interviews, June–August 2006
SERVICE	Uganda: Survey and Experimental Research on Ethnic Politics, May–August 2005
	Co-founder and co-organizer, (Quarterly Online) Working Group on Intergroup Relations (IGR), 2020
	Institutions and Political Inequality Postdoctoral Fellowship Selection committee (WZB), 2019–2020
	Co-organizer, European Working Group in Empirical Political Science (EuroWEPS), 2019, 2020
	Editorial Board, <i>Political Behavior</i> , 2019–2023
	Co-organizer, Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE) Berlin, 2019, 2020
	Conflict Working Group Selection Committee, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP Wageningen), 2018
	Academic Council, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Institutions and Political Inequality (IPI) Representative, 2018–2019

Co-chair, Political Psychology Division, American Political Science Association (APSA Boston), 2017–2018

Co-organizer, IPI Brown Bag Seminar Series, WZB Berlin Social Science Center, 2017

Selection committee member, NYU Dean's Undergraduate Research Fund (DURF), 2016

Executive Committee member, National Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE), 2012–2015

Co-organizer and co-founding member, Contemporary African Political Economy Research Seminar (CAPERS), Columbia University and New York University, 2009–2017

NYU Committee on Comparative and International Studies (CCIS), December 2012–May 2013

Co-organizer, Political Violence Working Group, Politics Department, New York University, 2011–2012

Co-organizer, Politics Department Seminar Series, New York University, Spring 2011

Selection committee member, APSA Best Fieldwork Award, Comparative Democratization Section, 2010

Referee: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *African Studies Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Comparative Politics*, *International Migration Review*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *PLOS One*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*

ADVISING

Graduate students:

- Robin Harding (Nuffield College postdoc, University of Rochester faculty, Oxford DPIR faculty)
- Yael Zeira (Stanford postdoc, University of Mississippi faculty)
- Thomas Zeitzoff (Princeton postdoc, American University, School of Public Affairs, faculty)
- Omar Garcia-Ponce (Center for Global Development postdoc, University of California Davis faculty, George Washington University faculty)
- Shana Warren (Innovations for Poverty Action, Internal Principal Investigator)
- Ana Garcia Hernandez (Nova SBE, IPI-WZB Berlin Social Science Center Ph.D. student)

NYU Undergraduates:

- Lila Carpenter (2015)
- Shradha Shetty (2016)
- Aliz Toth (2016)
- Amanda Peterson (2017)
- Tollon Hines (2018)
- Maame Boatemaa (2019)
- Kiara Soobrayan (2019)

OPINION “The Devil Is in the Digits: Evidence that Iran’s Election was Rigged,” *Washington Post*, online edition, June 20, 2009 (with Bernd Beber)

PROFESSIONAL
MEMBERSHIPS American Political Science Association
Midwest Political Science Association
African Studies Association
Contemporary African Political Economy Research Seminar (CAPERS)
Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) Network
National Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAP)
European Working Group in Empirical Political Science (EuroWEPS)

LANGUAGES French (advanced), Japanese (proficient)

Last updated: May 2020