

ELIZABETH DEKEYSER

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
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EDUCATION

PhD Candidate **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**
PhD Candidate Comparative Politics and Methods

Bachelor of Arts **Stanford University**
BA International Relations with Honors
Firestone Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis

RESEARCH

Dissertation Project **Bridging the Divide: Religious Exclusivity and the Local State in France**
My dissertation examines why some religious communities embrace identities and ideologies that implicitly or explicitly discourage interaction outside religious circles, and argues that pro-immigrant stances by local governments can decrease local religious exclusivity. Grounded in an examination of Islam among densely immigrant communities in France, I base this theory on nearly two years of ethnographic fieldwork in Paris' immigrant-heavy banlieues, and test it with in-depth case studies as well as observational and causal analyses using innovative big data sources.

Working Paper **Unpacking Shia Sectarianism**
Using data from an original survey conducted among nearly 4,000 pilgrims during the world's largest annual pilgrimage in Karbala, Iraq, this paper examines the drivers and worldviews associated with Shia sectarianism in Iran and Iraq. We examine the role of economic hardship, political disillusionment, religiosity, and exposure to violence as drivers, as well as sect-based political loyalties, the role of religion in government, gender roles, Iranian foreign policy interventions, and support for foreign Shia groups as associated worldviews. The paper also integrates data from a mobile location dataset and the SIGACTS dataset.
Authors: FOTINI CHRISTIA, ELIZABETH DEKEYSER, DEAN KNOX

Working Paper **Toxic Elections: Elections and Attitudes toward Immigration in Europe**
This paper examines how variation in individual proximity to elections influences attitudes toward immigration and other politicized issues. We find that proximity to elections leads to more anti-immigrant attitudes overall, as well as more polarization. Using data from the Manifesto Project, the European Election Database, and Google Trends, we analyze the potential drivers of this variation and argue that party rhetoric plays an important role, outside the influence of issue salience or othering.
Authors: ELIZABETH DEKEYSER, MICHAEL FREEDMAN

Book Chapter **Communal and Individual Worship among Shia in Iran and Iraq**
This chapter, forthcoming the *Oxford Handbook of Politics in Muslim Societies*, examines how individual participation in communal versus individual worship is related to ideas about the role of religion in political life, and how this varies between Iran and Iraq.
Authors: FOTINI CHRISTIA, ELIZABETH DEKEYSER, DEAN KNOX

<i>Ongoing Project</i>	<p>From on High: Imams, Religious Networks, and Pro-Regime Mobilization in Turkey</p> <p>This project uses a regression discontinuity design to understand how religious and nationalist rhetoric projected by imams during the night of the 2015 Turkish coup influenced individual mobilization and rhetoric, as measured by twitter data.</p> <p>Authors: TUGBA BOZCAZA, ELIZABETH DEKEYSER, MICHAEL FREEDMAN, ZACHARY STEINERT-THRELKELD</p>
<i>Ongoing Project</i>	<p>Images of Activism: Utilizing Automated Image Analysis to Understand Salafi Online Activism</p> <p>Using images scraped in real time on Twitter from a snowball sample of Salafi and Salafi-jihadi accounts, I examine the path from religiosity to radicalization as seen in image postings. I compare the relative value from purely textual versus textual+image analyses.</p>
<i>Research Assistance</i>	<p>PROFESSOR RICHARD NIELSEN, MIT</p> <p>Supervised learning analysis of textual and non-textual drivers of clicks on Salafi websites.</p>
<i>Research Assistance</i>	<p>PROFESSOR KATHLEEN THELEN, MIT</p> <p>Data compilation and analysis for APSA Presidential Address on the American Precariat: US Capitalism in Comparative Perspective</p>
<i>Research Assistance</i>	<p>PROFESSOR FOTINI CHRISTIA, MIT</p> <p>Work on report <i>To Karbala: A Survey of the Arbæen Pilgrimage</i>.</p>

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

<i>Grant</i>	2017	Smith Richardson Foundation
		World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship
<i>Grant</i>	2016	United States Institute of Peace
		Jennings Randolph Peace Fellowship
<i>Grant</i>	2016	Harvard Center for European Studies
		Dissertation Research Fellowship
<i>Grant</i>	2015, 2016	Center for International Studies
		Summer Research Grant
<i>Award</i>	2015, 2016	National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship
		Honorable Mention
<i>Award</i>	2013	Stanford University Firestone Award
		For excellence in undergraduate research
<i>Award</i>	2010	Nominee: Avery Leserson Award
		Vanderbilt University - For best annual undergraduate or graduate research paper

TEACHING

<i>Teaching Assistant</i>	Spring 2016	Political Science Lab
		Helped teach and develop this course for undergraduate political science majors. The course taught the basics of statistics, causal analysis, webscraping, culminating in a student project at the end of the year. Student reviews were overwhelmingly positive, with students successfully presenting original, primarily causally-identified projects related to their research interests by the end of the course.
<i>Workshop Leader</i>	2015, 2016	LATEX workshop
		Helped develop and taught optional two session LATEX workshop for incoming political science graduate students.

REPORTS, ESSAYS, AND OPINION

<i>Report</i>	September 2016	<i>To Karbala: A Survey of the Arbæen Pilgrimage</i>
<i>Opinion</i>	September 2017	Washington Post
		"Germany's AfD wants to roll back birthright citizenship. The right-wing party has the wrong idea."

<i>Article</i>	September 2016	Foreign Affairs “Mapping Shiite Opinion”
<i>Opinion</i>	September 2016	Washington Post “Shiites are Participating in the World’s largest Pilgrimage Today”

PRESENTATIONS

<i>APSA</i>	2018	Unpacking Shia Sectarianism Presentation at the American Political Science Association in Boston
<i>APSA</i>	2017	From on High: Imams, Religious Networks, and Pro-Regime Mobilization in Turkey Poster at the American Political Science Association in San Francisco
<i>APSA</i>	2016	Understanding Shiite Public Opinion Presentation at the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia
<i>MPSA</i>	2016	Understanding Shiite Public Opinion Presentation at the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago
<i>USIP</i>	2015	Religion, Local Communities, and the State Presentation at the United States Institute of Peace
<i>MPSA</i>	2015	The Ties that Bind: Citizenship and Identity in Germany Presentation at the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

<i>International Labor Organization</i>	2012	Stanford in Government Fellow Worked to develop proposal for birth registration policies at the United Nations International Labor Organization. Work included translation of French and Spanish for official documents.
<i>Tutoring</i>	2007-2013	Tutoring in Houston, Nashville, and Palo Alto privately, through universities, and with government-subsidized programs. Students between ages 8 and 22.
<i>Project Evaluation</i>	2008-2010	Community Redevelopment, Ghana Developed multi-tiered approach for community redevelopment in Bisease, Ghana.
<i>Intern</i>	2012	World Relief Refugee Resettlement Agency Worked and lived with newly resettled refugees during the first months of the resettlement process.

OTHER SKILLS

<i>Computer Skills</i>	ADVANCED	R, Latex, Excel
	INTERMEDIATE	Python
	BASIC	C++, Stata, Unix
<i>Languages</i>	ENGLISH	Native
	FRENCH	Fluent
	SPANISH	Proficient
	ARABIC	Research Ability Modern Standard Arabic Basic Conversational Egyptian
	HEBREW	Research Ability
	CHINESE	Basic