

BENJAMIN YOEL

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Stanford University 2026 - 2027
Postdoctoral Fellow, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law

Johns Hopkins University 2025 - 2026
Predoctoral Fellow, SNF Agora Institute. Supervisor: Consuelo Amat

EDUCATION

Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI) May 2026
Ph.D., Political Science
Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations, Methods
Dissertation: “Standing for Democracy”: Essays on Resistance to Democratic Backsliding
Committee: Erica Frantz (**Chair**), Ana Bracic, Andy Halterman, Michael Wahman

M.A., Political Science 2023

Reichman University (Herzliya, Israel)

M.A., Government 2021
Specialization in Diplomacy and Conflict Studies (Summa Cum Laude)

B.A., Government 2020
Specializations in Middle Eastern Studies and Counterterrorism (Summa Cum Laude)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: Democratic Backsliding and Regime Change, International Pressure, Nonviolent Resistance, Authoritarian Politics, Public Opinion and Political Behavior, Ethnic Politics.

Methods: Time Series Analysis, Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Computational Text Analysis, Multilevel Modeling, and Survey Experiments (Conjoint, Vignette), Elite Interviews.

BOOKS

Yoel, Benjamin, and Hannah Ridge. “Who Counts? Ethnic Minorities and Public Support for Democratic Backsliding.” [PAP](#). *Under Advanced Contract in Cambridge Elements Series in Experimental Political Science*.

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Hannah Baron, Jessica Gottlieb, Rob Blair, Laura Paler, Julie Weaver, and **Benjamin Yoel**. Forthcoming. “The Democratic Erosion Event Dataset (DEED).” *Nature: Scientific Data*, 1-11.

Yoel, Benjamin, Caleb Lucas, and Matt Grossmann. 2026. “Drivers of Congressional Behavior: Analyzing Members, Constituents, and Committees With CongressData.” *American Politics Research*, 1-8.

Grossmann, Matt, Caleb Lucas, and **Benjamin Yoel**. 2025. "Introducing CongressData and Correlates of State Policy." *Nature: Scientific Data* 1-5.

Cavari, Amnon, Amichai Magen, and **Benjamin Yoel**. 2024. "U.S. Democratic Backsliding and the Decline of Democratic Support Abroad." *International Journal of Public Opinion Research* 36(2): 1-13.

- Coverage: ["Achsania", Liberty and Responsibility Institute, Reichman University, Israel \(Hebrew\)](#).

Cavari, Amnon, **Benjamin Yoel**, and Hannah Lowenkamp. 2021. "In the Name of the President." *American Politics Research* 49(6): 666-680.

- Coverage: [LSE US Politics and Policy Blog](#).

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Yoel, Benjamin, Iliya Liampert, and Matt Grossmann. "Determinants of Legislative Effectiveness: Exploring Senators, Their States, and Their Behavior with SenateData." *Revise and Resubmit at Research & Politics*.

Yoel, Benjamin. "We Only Have One Country: Multiethnic Coalitions and Public Support for Resistance to Democratic Backsliding." [PAP](#). *Under Review at Journal of Peace Research*.

Yoel, Benjamin. "International Pressure and Opposition to Democratic Backsliding." [PAP](#). *Under Review at International Studies Quarterly*.

Yoel, Benjamin. "Foreign Cues and Public Support for Opposition to Democratic Backsliding Around Elections." *Under Review at Perspectives on Politics*.

Yoel, Benjamin, and Hannah Ridge. "Democratic Backsliding and Attitudes Toward Ethnic Minorities." [PAP](#). *Under Review at Political Behavior*.

Ballesteros, Simon...**Benjamin Yoel**. "Forum: The International Dynamics of Democratic Backsliding." *Under Review at International Studies Review*.

López Villegas, Alejandra, and **Benjamin Yoel**. "Leader Tenure and Women's Representation in Cabinets in Backsliding Democracies and Dictatorships." *Under Review at World Politics*. *Winner of 2024 Best Graduate Student Paper Award, Political Science Department, MSU*.

SELECTED WORKS IN PROGRESS

Yoel, Benjamin. "International Rhetoric and the Politics of Democratic Backsliding."

Yoel, Benjamin and Jay Revolinsky. "Introducing the United States Secretary of State Remark Corpus, 1997-2026."

Yoel, Benjamin, Daniel Markovits, and Abhyudaya Tyagi. "Democratic Threat and Public Support for Pre-Electoral Coalitions: Evidence from a Multi-Country Experiment."

Yoel, Benjamin, and Ozlem Tuncel. "Outsiders in an Age of Democratic Backsliding: Explaining Democratic Backsliding and Resilience."

Yoel, Benjamin, and Benjamin Garcia Holgado. "Reconceptualizing Democratic Resistance."

Yoel, Benjamin, and Gabriela Greiling. "Democratic Backsliding and Support for Retaliation Against Former Backsliders."

Yoel, Benjamin, and Gabriela Greiling. "Opposition Victory and Attitudes Toward Democracy: Evidence from Hungary."

Yoel, Benjamin, and Oren Samet. “Domestic Demand and Public Perceptions of Foreign Pressure: Experimental Evidence from Hungary and Poland.”

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Yoel, Benjamin. 2025. “Review of Post-Soviet Graffiti: Free Speech in Authoritarian States. 2025. By Alexis Lerner. University of Toronto Press.” *International Affairs*, 101(5): 1938-1939.

Yoel, Benjamin. 2024. “Review of Resisting Backsliding: Opposition Strategies against the Erosion of Democracy. 2022. By Laura Gamboa. Cambridge University Press.” *Democratization*.

Yoel, Benjamin. 2018. “Oman’s Economic Diversification from Oil and ‘Omanization’ Policies.” *Iqtisadi* 8(11): 1-9.

Yoel, Benjamin. 2018. “The Ethiopia-Eritrea Peace Deal: Why Now?” *Ifriqiya* 4(5): 1-6.

DATASETS

Yoel, Benjamin, and Iliya Liampert. 2025. SenateData Project. **V.1.0**. IPPSR.

Yoel, Benjamin. 2026. US Secretary of State Remarks Dataset, 1997-2025.

Lucas, Caleb, and **Benjamin Yoel**. 2025. CongressData Project. **V.3.0**. IPPSR.

Yoel, Benjamin. 2023. Correlates of State Policy Project. **v.2.7**. IPPSR.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

External

APSA Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior (EPOVB) Fellow (\$500)	2026-2027
APSA Conflict Processes Section Conference Travel Grant (\$300)	Fall 2026
Institute for Humane Studies, Conference Support Grant (\$2,200)	Fall 2026
Polarization Research Lab, Dartmouth College, Survey Support (with Hannah Ridge)	Spring 2026
America in the World Consortium Postdoctoral Fellowship, Duke University (<i>declined</i>)	2026-2027
Institute for Humane Studies, Humane Studies Fellowships (\$6,500)	Spring-Fall 2025
Johns Hopkins University, Predoctoral Fellowship Stipend (\$50,000)	2025-2026
Polarization Research Lab, Dartmouth College, Survey Support (with Hannah Ridge)	Fall 2025
Institute for Humane Studies, Survey Support Grant (with Hannah Ridge) (\$5,000)	Fall 2025
American Political Science Association Travel Grant (\$200)	Fall 2025
APSA Political Communication Section Conference Travel Grant (\$600)	Fall 2025
Institute for Humane Studies, Conference Support Grant (\$2,000)	Fall 2025
Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) Scholarship	Summer 2025
Institute for Humane Studies, Residency Funding (\$6,000)	Spring 2025
Harrell Rodgers Travel Scholarship for the MPSA Conference (\$500)	Spring 2024
Institute for Liberty and Responsibility Research Grant, Israel (\$2,000)	Fall 2023

Internal

Michigan State University, Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$9,000)	Spring 2026
Michigan State University, College of Social Science Research Award (\$1,000)	Spring 2026
Michigan State University, Thompson Endowment Award (\$2,000)	Spring 2026
Michigan State University, Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative (\$1,500)	Summer 2025

Michigan State University, 2024 Best Graduate Student Paper Award (\$250)	Spring 2025
Michigan State University, Graduate Office Fellowship (\$500)	Fall 2024
Michigan State University, College of Social Science Research Award (\$4,500)	Spring 2024
Michigan State University, Recruitment Fellowship (\$2,000)	Fall 2021
Reichman University, M.A. Degree Merit Scholarship	2020-2021
Reichman University, Dean's List	2017-2020

INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS

Society for Political Methodology Conference	July 2026
University of Gothenburg, GLD Work in Progress Series	March 2026
University of Chicago, Comparative Politics Workshop (CPW)	Spring 2026
University of Haifa, Political Behavior Lab	Spring 2026
Tecnológico de Monterrey	Fall 2025
University of Chicago, Workshop on International Politics (WIP)	Spring 2025
University of Notre Dame, Comparative Politics Workshop (CPW)	Spring 2025
University of Montreal, Summer School on Democratic Backsliding and Resilience	Fall 2024
Michigan State University, Shiny Apps and Interactive Visualizations in R	Spring 2024
University of Michigan, Interdisciplinary Workshop in Comparative Politics	Spring 2024

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

European Political Science Society	2026
Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science	2026
American Political Science Association Annual Conference	2020, 2025-2026
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	2023-2026
International Studies Association Annual Conference	2025

TEACHING AND MENTORING

Instructor

Indiana University

Instructor of Record, War and Security	Spring 2026
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Michigan State University

Co-Instructor, Pandemics and Social Science, with Professor Erica Frantz	Summer 2024-2026
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Teaching Assistant

Michigan State University

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Professor Ani Sarkissian	Spring 2026
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Introduction to Comparative Politics, Professor Jeff Conroy-Krutz	2022-2023
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Reichman University

Perspectives on Law and Security, Professor Daphné Richemond-Barak	Fall 2020
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Guest Lecturer

Democratic Backsliding (graduate seminar), Illinois State University	Spring 2026
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Authoritarian Politics (undergraduate seminar), Lake Forest College	Spring 2026
Comparative Judicial Politics (undergraduate seminar), University of Delaware	Spring 2025
Democratic Backsliding (undergraduate seminar), Reichman University	Fall 2024

Mentorship

Graduate Student Mentor, MSU Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative	Summer 2025
Graduate Student Mentor, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research	2021-2026
Graduate Student Mentor, Democratic Erosion Consortium (DEC)	2024-2025
Managing Tutor, Reichman University English Writing Center	2018-2020

SERVICE

Early Career Fellow, APSA Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior Section	2026-2027
Peer Reviews: <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , <i>Foreign Policy Analysis</i> , <i>Frontiers in Political Science</i> , <i>International Journal of Public Opinion Research</i> , <i>Politics & Policy</i>	2024-Present
Editorial Board: <i>Journal of Politics</i> , Editorial Assistant	2022-2024
University: “Reflecting on the Holocaust: a Panel and Discussion”	2022

CONSULTANCY

Carnegie Endowment for International Peace - Country Expert	01/2026 - Present
Consulting on a large, ten-country project on lessons learned from opposition to democratic backsliding. Co-leading the research team on Israel, conducting interviews with opposition activists and politicians, and writing a memo on lessons learned from opposition to backsliding in Israel.	
Democratic Erosion Consortium - Data Consultant	2024-2025
Development of the Democratic Erosion Event Dataset. Conducted data analysis and visualization and training practitioners from the US Department of State, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, the US Agency for International Development, and Freedom House, and managed undergraduate students as part of a U.S. Department of State grant.	

LANGUAGES

English (native), Hebrew (native), Arabic (basic), Thai (basic)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office, R, Qualtrics, Stata, Shiny, GitHub, Python

REFERENCES

Consuelo Amat, Ph.D.
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 Johns Hopkins University
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 Associate Professor
 Michigan State University
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 Stanford University
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 Professor
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