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LAURA PALER

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2012- Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh (on leave 2012-2013, Sept 2016-Dec. 2017)
- 2016-17 Visiting Fellow, Niehaus Center, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University
- 2012-13 Post-doctoral Fellow, The Center for Global Development (Washington, D.C.)

EDUCATION

- 2012 Ph.D., Political Science, Columbia University
- 2005 M.Phil. Comparative Government, Oxford University (St. Antony's College)
- 2001 B.A., International Affairs and East Asian Studies, The George Washington University

PUBLICATIONS

- Paler, Laura, Leslie Marshall, and Sami Atallah. 2018. "The Social Costs of Public Political Participation: Evidence from a Petition Experiment in Lebanon." *Journal of Politics* 80(4).
- Samii, Cyrus, Laura Paler, and Sarah Zukerman Daly. 2016. "Retrospective Causal Inference with Machine Learning Ensembles: An Application to Anti-Recidivism Policies in Colombia." *Political Analysis* 24(4): 434-456.
- Grossman, Guy and Laura Paler. 2015. "Using Field Experiments to Study Political Institutions" *Routledge Handbook of Comparative Political Institutions*. Eds. Jennifer Gandhi and Ruben Ruiz-Rufino. New York: Routledge: pp. 84-97.
- Paler, Laura. 2013. "Keeping the Public Purse: An Experiment in Windfalls, Taxes, and the Incentives to Restrain Government" *American Political Science Review* 104(7): 706-725.
- Paler, Laura. 2005. "China's Legislation Law and the Making of a More Orderly and Representative Legislative System" *The China Quarterly* 182: 301-318. Reprinted in *The Citizen and the Chinese State*. Ed. Perry Keller. Ashgate: 2012.

WORKING PAPERS

Paler, Laura, Camille Strauss-Kahn, and Korhan Kocak, "Is Bigger Always Better? How Targeting Aid Windfalls Affects Capture and Social Cohesion." *Revise and resubmit at Comparative Political Studies*.

Daly, Sarah Zukerman, Laura Paler, and Cyrus Samii, "Wartime Ties and the Social Logic of Crime." *Under review*.

Paler, Laura, Leslie Marshall, and Sami Atallah, "Discussing Politics in Ethnically Divided Societies: An Experiment in Lebanon" *Under review*.

Paler, Laura, Jeremy Springman, Guy Grossman, and Jan Pierskalla, "Oil Discoveries and Political Windfalls: Evidence on Presidential Support in Uganda."

Henn, Soeren, Laura Paler, Wilson Prichard, Cyrus Samii, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, "On the Mechanics of Kleptocratic States: Administrators' Power, Protection, and False Confessions" *Pre-Analysis Plan*.

Paler, Laura and Sami Atallah, "How Cross-Cutting Ethnic and Class Cleavages Affect Support for Ethnic Politics: Evidence from a Discussion Experiment in Lebanon."

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

2017. "Survey on Total Tax Burden in the DRC" *submitted to DFID* (with Wilson Prichard, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, and Cyrus Samii).

2015. "Oil and Governance in Uganda" *submitted to the donor* (with Guy Grossman, Jan Pierskalla, and Leslie Marshall).

2015. "The Social and Environmental Impact of the Community Rangers Program in Aceh" *World Bank report* (with Cyrus Samii, Matthew Lisiecki, and Adrian Morel).

2014. "Return to Legality or Recidivism of Ex-Combatants in Colombia," *Submitted to Fundacion Ideas para la Paz* (with Sarah Daly and Cyrus Samii).

2014. "The Effects of Payments for Environmental Services and Decentralized Forest Management on Deforestation and Poverty in Low and Middle Income Countries: A Systematic Review" *International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie), Campbell Collaboration International Development, and Collaboration for Environmental Evidence Systematic Reviews* (with Cyrus Samii, Matt Lisiecki, Parhsar Kulkarni, and Larry Chavis).

2013. "Somalia Feasibility Assessment" *Prepared for DFID and the International Rescue Committee* (with Grant Gordon and Guy Grossman).

2011. "Empowering Citizens to Combat the Resource Curse." *Prepared for the Revenue Watch Institute and the Open Society Institute-LGI*.

2011. "The Subnational Resource Curse: Causes, Consequences and Prescriptions." *Prepared for the Revenue Watch Institute and Open Society Institute-LGI*.

2009. "Community-Based Reintegration in Aceh: Assessing the Impacts of BRA-KDP" *The World Bank Indonesian Social Development Paper #12* (with Patrick Barron, Macartan Humphreys, and Jeremy Weinstein).

FIELD RESEARCH IN PROGRESS OR RECENTLY COMPLETED

Taxation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Original surveys and experiments to study the determinants of predatory taxation in a weak state and how to increase the bargaining power of households and businesses confronting illegal taxation (with Wilson Prichard, Cyrus Samii, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra). *Funding:* DFID (\$750,000). *Status:* Implementation completed 2015, policy report completed 2017, academic article(s) in process.

Public support for sectarian politics in Lebanon. Complementary survey and dialogue experiments to study the obstacles to cross-sectarian political mobilization and support for programmatic politics (with the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies). *Status:* Implementation completed 2016, policy report(s) completed, academic article(s) published and in process.

Oil and political engagement in Uganda. Survey and survey experiments designed to study the effects of an oil discovery on political engagement in Uganda and how to mobilize individual-level political action on oil-related issues (with Guy Grossman and Jan Pierskalla). *Funding:* Anonymous Foundation (\$140,000). *Status:* Implementation completed 2014, policy report completed 2015, academic article(s) in process.

Recidivism in Colombia. Survey of demobilized combatants to study the determinants of criminal activity (with Sarah Daly and Cyrus Samii). *Funding:* Government of Sweden. *Status:* Implementation completed 2013, policy report completed 2014, academic article(s) published and in process.

Environmental protection and post-conflict reintegration. Field experiment in Aceh, Indonesia to study how community-based conservation affects both illegal logging and social integration. Funded by the World Bank (with Cyrus Samii). *Funding:* The World Bank (\$200,000). *Status:* Implementation completed 2013, policy report completed 2015.

Oil, taxes, and information in Indonesia. Survey and survey experiments to study the effects of natural resources, taxes, and information on government spending on political behavior. *Funding:* Various sources. *Status:* Implementation completed 2010, policy report completed 2011, academic articles published.

Community-driven development in Indonesia. Uses original survey data and a quasi-experimental identification strategy to identify the impact of a World Bank-supported community-driven development project on social cohesion in Aceh, Indonesia (with Patrick Barron, Macartan Humphreys and Jeremy Weinstein). *Status:* Implementation completed 2008, policy report completed 2009, academic article(s) in process.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2017 Funding for the Project on Resources, Development and Governance, with Graeme Blair, Darin Christensen, and Michael Ross (Hewlett Foundation: \$600,000).
- 2016 Niehaus Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University.
- 2015 Taxation and State-building in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, with Will Prichard, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, and Cyrus Samii (DFID: \$750,000).
- 2014 Grant from the Lebanese Center for Policy Studies to study oil and political attitudes (\$22,000)
- 2013 Grant, Anonymous Foundation, for research on oil in Uganda, with Guy Grossman (\$140,000).
- 2012 Notre Dame Kellogg Institute for International Affairs Post-Doctoral Fellowship (declined).
- 2012 Stanford University Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Post-Doctoral Fellowship (declined).
- 2012 Winner of the Westview Press Award for the best graduate student paper presented at the 2011 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting (*Paper:* "Keeping the Public Purse").
- 2011 Best paper award at the annual graduate student conference in political economy, organized by the Alexander Hamilton Center at NYU (*Paper:* "Keeping the Public Purse").

- 2011 Columbia University Weatherhead Institute's Sasakawa Young Leaders fellowship (tuition & stipend).
- 2010 Grant, the Revenue Watch Institute and OSI-LGI, for research on the resource curse (\$11,480).
- 2010 US-Indonesia Society Sumitro fellowship for political economy research (\$10,000).
- 2010 Fellow, ISERP Mellon Inter-disciplinary Graduate Fellows Program at Columbia.
- 2009 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, with supplementary funding from the OISE's East Asia and Pacific Program (SES-0921093) (\$17,060).
- 2009 Fellow, the Center for the Study of Development Strategies at Columbia.
- 2008 Finalist for the 2008 Presidential Teaching Award at Columbia.
- 2006 Fellow, IGERT Globalization and Development program at Columbia (two years tuition & stipend).
- 2005 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (three years tuition & stipend).
- 2005 Columbia University scholarship for Ph.D. program in political science (five years tuition & stipend).
- 2005 Distinction, M.Phil. thesis in Comparative Government, Oxford University.

SELECTED INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Harris School (University of Chicago) political economy workshop (upcoming 2019)
- Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) meeting (2018)
- Western Political Science Association political economy of development mini-conference (2017)
- Yale quantitative methods research workshop (2017)
- Empirical Studies of Conflict workshop at Princeton (2017)
- NYU-Abu Dhabi WESSI conference (2017)
- Princeton University IR colloquium (2016)
- UCLA comparative politics workshop (2016)
- American Political Science Association (APSA) annual conference (2015)
- Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) semi-annual meeting (2014, 2015)
- Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS) semi-annual meeting (2014, 2015)
- Duke University's political economy workshop (2015)
- The Center for Global Development (2015)
- Midwest Political Science Association annual conference (2013)
- Cornell University's Department of Government (2012)
- International Center for Tax and Development annual conference (2012)
- Conference on Public Goods Provision and Governance at Stanford (2012)
- NYU Center for Experimental Social Science (NYU-CESS) annual conference (2012)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate)
- Political Economy of Development (undergraduate)
- The Politics of Oil and Natural Resources (undergraduate)
- Political Economy of Development (graduate)
- Ethnic Politics in Comparative Perspective (graduate)

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

- Faculty search committees (2013, 2014, 2015)
- Graduate Admissions Committee (2015, 2016)
- Chair's Planning and Advisory Committees (elected) (2015-2018)
- Graduate Education Committee (2014-2016)
- Co-organizer of the Global Politics Seminar (2014-2016)
- Co-organizer of the Seminar in Representation and Identity Politics (2018-2019)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Reviewer, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Political Behavior*, *World Development*, *Politics and Society*, *Journal of Development Studies*, Cambridge University Press, the International Centre for Tax and Development (funding proposals), the National Science Foundation (funding proposals).

Steering Committee Member, Project on Resources and Governance (PRG)

Co-convener, Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS)

Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)

Non-resident fellow, The Center for Global Development (CGD)

Member, American Political Science Association

Organized Section Member, Experimental Research Section, APSA

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant, Development Impact Evaluation Initiative, World Bank Group (2010, 2015)

Consultant, International Rescue Committee (2012-2013)

Impact Evaluation Consultant, Research Triangle Institute and Social Impacts Inc. (2010)

Consultant, Conflict and Development Team, the World Bank (Indonesia, 2008-2009)

Election observer, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (Macedonia 2004, Belarus 2006)

Faculty Advisor, Congressional Youth Leadership Council (Central Europe 2005, China 2006)

Founder and Vice President for Development, Oxford Women in Politics (2003-2005)

Program Officer, The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (Asia and DC) (1999-2003)

PERSONAL

Field experience *Asia*: Indonesia, China, Cambodia; *Africa*: Uganda, DRC, Burundi; *Latin America*: Colombia; *Middle East*: Lebanon.

Languages English (native); Chinese, Spanish and Indonesian (working).