

# Laura Paler

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## Academic Appointments

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2020- Associate Professor (with tenure), Dept. of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University.  
2013-20 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh (tenured May 2020).  
2016-17 Visiting Fellow, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance, Princeton University  
2012-13 Post-doctoral fellow, Center for Global Development (Washington, D.C.).

## Education

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2012 Ph.D. in Political Science, Columbia University  
*Committee:* Macartan Humphreys, John Huber, and Tim Frye  
2005 M.Phil. in Comparative Government, Oxford University (St. Antony's College)  
2001 B.A. in International Affairs and East Asian Studies, The George Washington University

## Peer-Reviewed Publications

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Blair, Robert, Jessica Gottlieb, Brendan Nyhan, Laura Paler, Pablo Argote, and Charlene Stainfield.  
"Interventions to Counter Misinformation: Lessons from the Global North and Applications to the Global South" *Forthcoming at Current Opinion in Psychology*.

Baron, Hannah, Robert Blair, Jessica Gottlieb, and Laura Paler. "An Events-Based Approach to Understanding Democratic Erosion." *Forthcoming at PS: Political Science and Politics*.

Paler, Laura, Jeremy Springman, Guy Grossman, and Jan Pierskalla. 2023. "Oil Discoveries and Political Windfalls: Evidence on Presidential Support in Uganda." *Political Science Research and Methods* 11: 903-912.

Marshall, Leslie and Laura Paler. 2021. "Class, Ethnicity, and Cooperation Among Women: Evidence from a Public Goods Experiment in Lebanon." *Journal of Experimental Political Science* 8(1): 26-40.

Daly, Sarah Zukerman, Laura Paler, and Cyrus Samii. 2020. "Wartime Ties and the Social Logic of Crime." *Journal of Peace Research* 57(4): 536-550.

Paler, Laura, Leslie Marshall, and Sami Atallah. 2020. "How Cross-Cutting Discussion Shapes Support for Ethnic Politics: Evidence from an Experiment in Lebanon" *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 15(1): 33-71.

Paler, Laura, Camille Strauss-Kahn, and Korhan Kocak. 2020. "Is Bigger Always Better? How Targeting Aid Windfalls Affects Capture and Social Cohesion." *Comparative Political Studies* 53(3-4): 359-398.

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):1405-1410.

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.

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.

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## Under Review and Underway

Ahrenshop, Mats, Augustin Bergeron, Laura Paler, Gabriel Tourek, and Jonathan Weigel, "Delegating Tax Collection does not Adversely Affect Demand for Accountability: Evidence from an Experiment in the D.R. Congo." *Under review*.

Paler, Laura and Kyle Gray, "How Intergroup Contact via Television Impacts Prejudice and Support for Social Change: Evidence from a *Married at First Sight* Experiment."

Henn, Soeren, Laura Paler, Wilson Prichard, Cyrus Samii, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, "Engaging or Avoiding the State: How Empowerment Affects Citizen Payments for Public Services."

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## Chapters in Edited Volumes

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.

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## Select Policy Publications

Blair, Robert, Jessica Gottlieb, Brendan Nyhan, Laura Paler, Charlene Stainfield, Pablo Argote. 2023. "Interventions to Counter Misinformation: Lessons from the Global North and Applications to the Global South" *Prepared for the United States Agency for International Development*.

Atallah, Sami, Daniel Garotte Sanchez, Zeina Hawa, Leslie Marshall, and Laura Paler. 2019. "What Do Lebanese Citizens Want from Oil and Gas?" in *The Future of Petroleum in Lebanon*, eds. Sami Atallah and Bassam Fattouh, Bloomsbury Publishing.

Paler, Laura, Wilson Prichard, Cyrus Samii, and Raul Sanchez de la Sierra. 2017. "Survey on Total Tax Burden in the DRC" (*Prepared for DFID*).

Paler, Laura, Cyrus Samii, Matthew Lisiecki, and Adrian Morel. 2015. "The Social and Environmental Impacts of the Community Rangers Program in Aceh" *A World Bank policy report*.

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

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

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

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

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## Select Grants and Awards

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| 2022 | \$1.738 million, The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State (with Rob Blair and Jessica Gottlieb). |
| 2019 | \$120,000, The International Centre for Tax and Development (with Jonathan Weigel).  |
| 2017 | \$600,000, Hewlett Foundation (with Michael Ross, Graeme Blair, and Darin Christensen).  |
| 2015 | \$750,000, DFID (with Wilson Prichard, Raul Sanchez de la Sierra, and Cyrus Samii).  |
| 2014 | \$22,000, The Lebanese Center for Policy Studies.  |
| 2013 | \$140,000, Anonymous Foundation (with Guy Grossman).   |
| 2010 | \$11,480, The Revenue Watch Institute and OSI-LGI (\$11,480).  |
| 2010 | \$10,000 US-Indonesia Society Sumitro Fellowship.  |
| 2009 | \$17,060 National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant.  |

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## Selected Invited Talks and Conferences

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| 2019-22 | Boston University political science seminar; FHI 360 (Washington, DC); University of Chicago Harris School political economy workshop; APSA annual meetings (Washington, DC; Montreal, Canada)   |
| 2017-18 | Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) semi-annual meeting in Nairobi; APSA annual meeting; WPSA political economy of development mini-conference; Yale quantitative methods research workshop; Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) workshop (Princeton); NYU Abu-Dhabi WESSI conference.                                       |
| 2015-16 | Princeton University IR colloquium; UCLA comparative politics workshop. APSA annual meeting; Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) semi-annual meeting (Berlin); Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS) semi-annual meeting; Duke political economy workshop; Center for Global Development seminar series. |

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## Teaching

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| At AU:   | <b>Undergrad:</b> Introduction to Comparative Politics, Politics of Developing Countries<br><b>MA/PhD:</b> Ethnic Politics and Conflict, Political Economy of Development  |
| At Pitt: | <b>Undergrad:</b> Intro to Comparative Politics, Politics of Developing Countries, Politics of Natural Resources<br><b>PhD:</b> Political Economy of Development, Ethnic Politics and Conflict, Dissertation Seminar |

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## Affiliations and Service to the Profession

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| 2012- | Reviewer. <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>Journal of Politics</i> , <i>British Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>World Politics</i> , <i>Comparative Political Studies</i> , <i>Political Science Research and Methods</i> , <i>Political Behavior</i> , <i>World Development</i> , <i>Politics and Society</i> , <i>Journal of Development Studies</i> , <i>Cambridge</i> |
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*University Press, the International Centre for Tax and Development (funding proposals), the National Science Foundation (funding proposals).*

- 2022- Co-Director, The Democratic Erosion Consortium
- 2019- Senior Fellow, Lebanese Center for Policy Studies
- 2017- Advisory Board Member (formerly Steering Committee Member), The Project on Resources and Governance (PRG).
- 2017- Co-convener, The Northeast Workshop in Empirical Political Science (NEWEPS)
- 2013- Non-resident Fellow, The Center for Global Development
- 2012- Member, Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP)

## **Other Professional Experience**

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- 2023 Consultant, United States Agency for International Development
- 2010,15 Consultant, Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME), World Bank
- 2012-13 Consultant, International Rescue Committee
- 2010 Consultant, Research Triangle Institute and Social Impacts, Inc.
- 2008-09 Consultant, Conflict and Development Team, World Bank Indonesia
- 2004,06 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) election observer in Macedonia & Belarus
- 2005,06 Faculty Advisor, Congressional Youth Leadership Council (Central Europe and China visits)
- 2003-05 Founder and Vice President for Development of Oxford Women in Politics
- 1999-03 Program Officer, National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (Asia and DC)