

JIAN XU

Emory University
Department of Political Science
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Jian Xu's website 

Academic Positions

Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale-NUS College, 2021 - now

Other Professional Positions

Pre-doctoral Fellow, The Carter Center (Democracy Program), 2020 - 2021

Visiting Fellow, The University of Hong Kong (Center for Comparative and Public Law), 2018 summer

Visiting Fellow, City University of Hong Kong (Center for Chinese and Comparative Law), 2017 summer

Research Interests

International and comparative political economy, authoritarian judicial politics, the rule of law and corruption, government-business relations, quantitative methods

Education

Ph.D, Political Science, Emory University, 2021.

M.A., Political Science, Duke University, 2015.

Bachelor of Management (Chu Ko-chen Honors College), Accounting, Zhejiang University, 2013.

Publication

Jian Xu. 2020. "The Role of Corporate Political Connections in Commercial Lawsuits: Evidence from Chinese Courts" *Comparative Political Studies* 53(14): 2321-2358.

Working Papers

"Financial Dependence and Institutional Arbitrage: How Transnational Anti-corruption Regulation Affects High-Risk Jurisdictions" *under review*

• *Georgetown Best Paper in International Business and Policy Finalist*

“Settling Disputes in Authoritarian Courts: Multinational Corporations and State Capture” (with Frederick Chen) *under review*

- *Winner of the David A. Lake Award for the Best Paper Presented at the 2019 International Political Economy Society conference*

“Institutional Legacy, Public Opinion, and the Rule of Law in Hong Kong” (with Jing Xu)

Book Project

“The Institutional Dilemmas for Globalized Firms”

This project examines the risks and opportunities arising from the institutional environments that multinational enterprises (MNEs) are embedded in. It has two main components. In the first one, I examine how MNEs establish various forms of connections with state actors as a strategy to mitigate political risks and engage in rent-seeking activities. In the second part, I study the impact of the emerging legal regime of transnational anti-corruption enforcement. I show how transnational law enforcement affects the business performance of firms exposed to diverse and often contradictory institutional requirements. Globalized firms may face a “double jeopardy” problem when operating across jurisdictional boundaries. In countries where judicial constraints over government misconduct is weak, political arrangements between the state and the business provide the latter with cronyist rent-sharing opportunities and a necessary alternative rights protection mechanism. Meanwhile, globalized firms with exposure to developed jurisdictions governed by strong legal institutions, such as that of the U.S., face the risk of transnational enforcement of strong corporate integrity regulations, such as anti-bribery laws. In this project, I argue that transnational anti-corruption enforcement disrupts the informal arrangements made between globally-connected firms and local government officials, especially in markets with high regulatory barriers and expropriation risks. An implication of such institutional dilemma faced by MNEs is that they need to weigh the resources and constraints provided by one institutional environment against those provided under other institutional settings. Globalized firms may need to make trade-offs and adjust their exposures to and liabilities from divergent institutional requirements and expectations.

Works in Progress

“Multinational Enterprises’ Participation in Standards-setting in Host Countries” (with Haosen Ge)

“Long-Arm Deterrence: Judicial Spillover and MNC Litigation in Authoritarian Regimes (with Frederick Chen)

“Intellectual Property Rights Protection in Authoritarian Courts” (with Lizhi Liu)

“Multinational Corporations’ Contingent Preferences for Trade Openness” (with Wendy Leutert)

“Environmental Inspections and Political Protection for Firms”

“Foreign Direct Investment, Modes of Entry, and Anti-corruption Compliance”

“An IRT Model of Corruption Measurement Based on Law Enforcement Responses”

Invited Talks & Workshops

Department of International Economics, Government and Business, Copenhagen Business School, 2020

School of Management and Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong - Shenzhen, 2020

School of Public Economics and Administration, Shanghai University of Finance and Economic, 2020

STR Dissertation Consortium, Academy of Management, 2020

Division of Social Science, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2020

Gies College of Business, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2019

Chinese University of Hong Kong Department of Government and Public Administration, 2018

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

NEMO Fellowship, Democracy Program, The Carter Center, 2020-2021 (\$18000)

APSA Centennial Center Research Grant, 2020 (\$2500)

International Political Economy Society (IPES) David A. Lake Award for the Best Paper, 2020 (\$500)

International Studies Association Conference Travel Grant, 2020 (\$600)

Southern Political Science Association Prestage-Cook Travel Award, 2020 (\$300)

Emory University Laney Graduate School Conference Travel Grant, 2019 (\$250)

Global Strategy and Emerging Markets (GSEM) Conference Travel Grant, 2019 (\$375)

The Carter Center and the Institute for Developing Nations, Election Monitoring Fellow, 2018 (\$3000)

Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Fund and Fellowship, 2018, 2020, 2021 (\$8900)

Emory University Laney Graduate School Professional Development Support Fund, 2015-2019 (\$11,570)

Emory University Department of Political Science Summer Research Grant, 2015-2019 (\$4400)

Emory University Robert Woodruff Fellowship, 2015-2020 (\$417,000 in total)

Duke University Department of Political Science Master's Scholarship, 2013-2015 (\$3200)

Zhejiang University School of Management Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis Award, 2013

Teaching

Department of Political Science, Emory University

Co-Instructor, International Organizations (undergraduate), 2018 Spring (with Eric Reinhardt)

Teaching Assistant, Chinese Foreign Policy (undergraduate), 2020 Fall (Yawei Liu)

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate), 2017 Fall (Hubert Tworzecki)

Grader, Introduction to Comparative Politics (undergraduate), 2019 Spring (Holli Semetko)

Grader, Linear Models (graduate), 2017 Spring (Zachary Peskowitz)

Grader, Data Analysis (graduate), 2016 Fall (Miguel Rueda)

Grader, Design and Analysis of Experiments (undergraduate/graduate), 2016 Spring Adam Glynn)

Department of Quantitative Theory and Methods, Emory University

Teaching Assistant, Regression Analysis (undergraduate), 2018 Fall (Adam Glynn)

Teaching Assistant, Regression Analysis (undergraduate), 2019 Fall (Weihua An)

Services

Reviewer: *British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, International Studies Review, Journal of Law and Courts, Journal of Contemporary China, Strategic Management Journal*

Other Activities

American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, 2019

Collaborator for the Viewpoint reports

Provided statistical analysis of the investment patterns of U.S. companies in China across sectors and time periods.

J.P. Morgan Chase & Company Atlanta office, 2018

Guest Speaker

Gave presentations to J.P. Morgan Chase's commercial banking practice regarding insights on China's political and economic landscape. Audience included senior management, bankers, treasury advisors and international specialists with the commercial bank.

Department of Finance, Sichuan Provincial Government of China, 2013

Research Internship

Conducted statistical evaluations for several government budgetary reform proposals aimed at achieving more streamlined fiscal processes and transparent fiscal reporting.

Skills

Programming: R, L^AT_EX, Python, SPSS, Gephi, Qualtrics

Language: English (fluent), Chinese (native), French (reading proficiency)

References

Eric Reinhardt (Chair)

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