

Stephen Bagwell
University of Missouri—St Louis
Department of Political Science
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Academic Positions:

University of Missouri—St Louis Assistant Professor of Political Science	2020-Present
DePauw University Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science	2019- 2020
Oxford College of Emory University Adjunct Professor of Political Science and Methods	2017- 2019

Education:

University of Georgia, Political Science and International Affairs	Ph.D., 2019
University of Central Oklahoma, Political Science	M.A., 2012
Oklahoma Christian University, Political Science	B.S., 2010

Teaching and Research Interests:

Human Rights, Political Violence, International Law, Development, International Political Economy, Methodology and Measurement

Academic Publications

Peer Reviewed Articles

1. Bagwell, S. (2026) Challenges to Measuring Human Rights in the United States. *PS: Political Science and Politics*. Conditional acceptance.
2. Bagwell, S. Mark, S. and Rai, S. (2026). Compliance with International Monetary Fund Concessional Lending Policies and Economic and Social Rights Fulfillment. *Journal of Human Rights*, forthcoming.

3. Bagwell, S., Rains, M., & LaVelle, M. (2024). Of One's Own Making: Leadership Legitimation Strategy and Human Rights. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, 68(10) pp. 1994-2018. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00220027231220006>.
4. Bagwell, S., Mark, S., LaVelle, M. *et al.* Union Rights and Inequalities. *Human Rights Review* 24, 465–483 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12142-023-00706-3>
5. Bagwell, S. Repudiation and Repression: The Human Costs of Sovereign Default. *Social Sciences*. 2023, 12, 121. <https://doi.org/10.3390/socsci12030121>
6. K. Chad Clay, Mennah Abdelwahab, Stephen Bagwell, Morgan Barney, Eduardo Burkle, Tori Hawley, Thalia Kehoe Rowden, Meridith LaVelle, Asia Parker & Matthew Rains (2022) The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights practices: Findings from the Human Rights Measurement Initiative's 2021 Practitioner Survey, *Journal of Human Rights*, 21:3, 317-333, DOI: [10.1080/14754835.2022.2082244](https://doi.org/10.1080/14754835.2022.2082244)
Reprinted in: "The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights practices: Findings from the Human Rights Measurement Initiative's 2021 Practitioner Survey" in *Rights at Stake and the COVID-19 Pandemic Two Special Issues of the Journal of Human Rights*, Hertel, Shareen and Buerger, Catherine. (Routledge, 2023) <https://www.routledge.com/Rights-at-Stake-and-the-COVID-19-Pandemic-Two-Special-Issues-of-the-Journal/Hertel-Buerger/p/book/9781032218250>
7. Doctor, A. C. & Bagwell, S. (2020). Risky business: Foreign direct investment and the economic consequences of electoral violence. *Journal of Global Security Studies*, 5, 339-360. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jogss/ogz070>
8. Bagwell, S., & Hall, S. L. (2020). Publicity and perceptions of risk: The effects of HRO naming and shaming on sovereign credit rating. *Journal of Human Rights*, 19(3), 379-391. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14754835.2020.1758551>

Book Chapters

1. "Economic Incentives for Repression and Rights Abuses" in *What Do We Know about Human Rights?* Bloomsbury Publishing. Forthcoming. 2026.
2. *Food For All* survey analysis report; with Anita Manion, Food City St. Louis. Serving Our Communities Foundation. 78-92.
3. [Teaching Human Rights: Political Economy](#) (with Susan Kang) in [Teaching Human Rights in Political Science](#). Edward Elgar Publishing, March 2026.
4. Watson, K. A., Rains, M., Bagwell, S., & Clay, K. C. (2024). "Chapter 12: A comparative assessment of composite measures of human rights performance". 225-248. In *Research Methods in Human Rights*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781803922614.00024>

Submitted Manuscripts:

"Personalism and Out-Group Repression: "The Impacts on LGTBQ+ Rights" (with Milo Thompson, UMSL MA in Political Science)
Submitted for review

“Remittances and the Economic Causes of Election Violence” (with Bora Jeong)

Submitted for review

“Introducing the SCIP Dataset- IMF Programs, Policy Conditionality, and Compliance” (with Skip Mark)

Previously submitted for review

“IMF Programs, Remittances, and Protest” (with Skip Mark, Ashlea Rundlett, and Andrew Foote)

Previously submitted for review

“Politics After War: Rebel-to-Party Transformation and Electoral Violence” (with Austin Doctor)

Previously submitted for review

“Credit Where It’s Due: Women’s Rights and Sovereign Credit Rating” (with K. Anne Watson)

Previously submitted for review

“Rebel Victory and Post-Conflict Sexual Violence” (with DeAnne Roark)

Previously submitted for review

Works in Progress:

Working Papers:

“Money with a Mean(er) Streak?” (with Rachael Carpenter and Lexi Leera, UMSL MA students)

“Naming, Shaming, and African Growth and Opportunity Act Termination” (with Meridith LaVelle and Travis Curtice)

“Compliance with IMF Structural Adjustment Programs and Physical Integrity Rights” (with Shristi Rai, UMSL MPPA student)

“Inequality and Ill-Treatment” (with Danny Hill)

“What Can We Learn from the Chinese Reports on Human Rights Violations in the United States?” (with Ashley Alexander, UMSL BSPPA graduate and MA in Communications student)

“Environmental Naming and Shaming and Divestment: Do firms care about the environment or reputation costs?” (with Rachael Carpenter, UMSL MA in Political Science and Ashley Alexander)

Collective Labor Rights, the Reduction of Inequality, and Domestic Conflict

Collective Labor Rights, Compliance with IMF Conditionality, and Respecting, Protecting, and Fulfilling Human Rights

Book Project:

Human Rights in the United States (with Skip Mark)

Public Scholarship

Print:

1. *Food For All* survey analysis report; with Anita Manion, forthcoming for Food City St. Louis
2. “In Turkey, women are feeling the worst aftershocks of the earthquake disaster-this disparity may lead to dwindling trust in government” with Willow Kreutzer. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/in-turkey-women-are-feeling-the-worst-aftershocks-of-the-earthquake-disaster-this-disparity-may-lead-to-dwindling-trust-in-government-200801>.
3. “Reintegration into China would cost Taiwan its empowerment rights” with Meridith LaVelle. *The Loop*. Official Blog of the European Consortium for Political Research. <https://theloop.ecpr.eu/reintegration-into-china-would-cost-taiwan-its-empowerment-rights/>
4. “How far have human rights in Hong Kong eroded? We measured.” with Meridith LaVelle and K. Chad Clay. *The Monkey Cage* in *The Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/06/30/china-hongkong-election-law-legco-beijing-control/>
5. “Foreign Companies Exiting Russia Echo the Pressure Campaign Against South Africa’s Racist Apartheid System” with Meridith LaVelle. *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/foreign-companies-exiting-russia-echo-the-pressure-campaign-against-south-africas-racist-apartheid-system-182633>
-Translated into Portuguese for the Brazilian outlet *Interesse Nacional* here: <https://interessenacional.com.br/edicoes-posts/saida-de-empresas-estrangeiras-da-russia-eco-campanha-de-pressao-contra-o-sistema-racista-do-apartheid-na-africa-do-sul/>
6. “The Pandemic and Respect for Human Rights” *The Conversation*. <https://theconversation.com/human-rights-declined-during-the-covid-19-pandemic-in-countries-from-angola-to-the-us-to-new-zealand-179543>
7. Electoral Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa and Its Economic Consequences (with Austin Doctor), *Political Violence @ a Glance*, April 2020
<https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2020/04/22/electoral-violence-in-sub-saharan-africa-and-its-economic-consequences/>
8. The Rising Threat of Electoral Violence in the United States (with Austin Doctor), *Political Violence @ a Glance*, October 2020
<https://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2020/10/13/assessing-the-risk-of-electoral-violence-in-the-united-states/>

Media/Other Presentations:

1. “What does the Iran War mean for Iran and for Americans?”. KSDK News.
2. “The First 100 Days of the Trump Agenda”, panelist with Anita Manion, Richard Middleton, and David Kimball. UMSL.

3. “Foreign Policy Fallout of the 2024 US Presidential Election”. January 12th, 2025. Ladue Chapel
4. Osher Lifelong Learning Lecture, *Washington University St. Louis*. “US Foreign Aid and Political Violence”
5. [Israel, Palestine, and Campus Protests](#). The Record with Mark Maxwell, KSDK News.
6. Guest Lecture, “The InterAmerican Court of Human Rights, Judicial Opinion Clarity, and State Compliance”- Saint Louis University Law, March 6th, 2024
7. European Consortium for Political Research panelist “Measuring Human Rights: Challenges and Developments” December 12th, 2023
8. “Women, Peace, and Security” invited presentation for US Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, June 14th, 2023
9. “Development at Home and Abroad” Panel organizer and moderator, sponsored by UMSL Political Science and UMSL Global. October 12, 2022
10. “How Might a Data-Based Human Rights Measurement Tool Evaluate Nepal?”, *Nepal Now*. <https://nepalnow.buzzsprout.com/1839347/11484116-measuring-human-rights-in-nepal>
11. “Measuring Human Rights”, *Strive Podcast*, IPS News. <https://www.ipsnews.net/2022/09/measuring-human-rights-podcast/>
12. Springfield News Leader- Political ads and Political Violence? <https://www.news-leader.com/story/news/politics/elections/2022/06/21/eric-greitens-rino-hunting-ad-missouri-senate-criticized-experts-guns/7681951001/>
13. “Inequality and Human Rights” Roundtable at Chatham House, June 29, 2022.
14. “Great Decisions: Biden’s Agenda” Moderator. Sponsored by UMSL Global and the World Affairs Council of St. Louis. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPmxXHzFJak>
15. “Human Rights and Data: Presenting the Human Rights Measurement Initiative” invited presentation, Hertie School Centre for Fundamental Rights and Data Centre. April 28, 2022. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQ4dpf9OyX4&ab_channel=HertieSchoolDataScienceLab
16. “The Pandemic and Declines in Respect for Human Rights” on *The Academic Minute*, WAMC Northeast Public Radio, Albany, NY. <https://academicminute.org/2022/06/stephen-bagwell-university-of-missouri-st-louis-respect-for-human-rights-declined-during-the-pandemic/>
17. “Human Rights Setbacks as a Results of COVID-19” in *Metro World News*.
18. “Human Rights During the Pandemic” on “Let’s Go There on Channel Q Radio”.
19. “Great Decisions: Myanmar and ASEAN” April 21, 2022. Sponsored by UMSL Global and the World Affairs Council of St. Louis. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ewnh2YbxCr0&t=3s&ab_channel=UMSLGlobal
20. “The Ukraine Crisis and the Future of War” (panelist), sponsored by UMSL Global, the History Department, and the Political Science Department. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FSHaEc77_9c
21. “Update on Ukraine” February 25, 2022. On *St. Louis Talks* radio show, KMOX <https://www.audacy.com/kmox/podcasts/st-louis-talks-57648/update-on-ukraine-1270810491>
22. “Reactions from President Biden’s Statements after Russian attack in Ukraine” February 24, 2022. On *St. Louis Talks* radio show, KMOX.

<https://www.audacy.com/kmox/podcasts/st-louis-talks-57648/reactions-from-president-bidens-statements-after-russian-attack-in-ukraine-1268850219>

23. “Tracking Rights Fulfillment In The Human Rights Measurement Initiative” Presentation given to the Human Rights Institute at the University of Connecticut. February 24, 2022. <https://humanrights.uconn.edu/2022/02/03/hub-workshop-hrmi/>
24. “Development in Foreign Policy”. Wednesday, October 6, 2021. Sponsored by the Political Science Academy and the Political Science Graduate Students Association
25. What Just Happened? An Expert Panel on the Events at the Capital (panelist), sponsored by UMSL Student Government Association. January 21, 2021

Data Generation Projects:

Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI). Economic and Social Rights Metrics Team (with Susan Randolph). <https://humanrightsmmeasurement.org/>

Pedagogical Papers:

1. Engaging Undergraduates as Pedagogical Partners: A Collaborative Autoethnography (with Cornell Stokes)
2. Developing Data for Political Science and Public Policy: A Course Design for When Data Are Problematic
3. Guided Note-Taking, Informational Literacy, and Data Literacy: Measuring the Impact of a Semester Length Assignment

Teaching Experience:

University of Missouri—St Louis (Fall 2020-Present)

Political Violence (cross-listed with the Pierre Laclède Honors College, graduate/undergraduate)

Data Generation Skills for Political Science and Public Policy (graduate/undergraduate)

Political Analysis

Human Rights (cross-listed with the Pierre Laclède Honors College, graduate/undergraduate)

International Political Economy

Intro to International Politics

Geography of Governance (graduate/undergraduate)

Global Issues

Introduction to Policy Research (graduate)

Global Business and International Human Rights Law (Study Abroad, cross-listed with College of Business and graduate/undergraduate)

DePauw University (Fall 2019- Spring 2020)
International Politics
International Political Economy

Oxford College of Emory University (Spring 2017-Spring 2019)

Introduction to Statistics
Introduction to Statistics (R lab)
Introduction to IR
Research Design and Methods
Intermediate International Relations

University of Georgia (Fall 2014-Spring 2017)
Politics of International Trade and Finance
Human Rights
Introduction to Global Issues
Introduction to IR
Politics of Development
Introduction to Comparative Politics
International Political Economy

University of Central Oklahoma (Fall 2011-Spring 2012)

American Government

Pedagogical Training:

Association of College and University Educators, 2020-2021 Certificate in Effective Online Teaching
UMSL Center for Teaching and Learning, Summer 2020, Resilient Course Design

Mentoring and Advising:

DBA Dissertation Chair:

Josh Ayers (in progress), Mark Christian (in progress)

DBA Dissertation Committee:

Jason Ware (in progress), Chase Hudgens (in progress)

PhD Dissertation Chair

Johnathan Eftink (Defending Spring 2026), Patrick Foran (in progress), Nancy Aguilera (in progress)

PhD Dissertation Committee

Leesa Rasp (completed), Brianna Shawver (Defending Spring 2026), Kurt Keller (in progress), Jake Shaw (Defending Spring 2026) Mace Carpenter (Defending Spring 2026)

Grants and Awards:

UMSL Research Award (AY 2026, Applied \$20,000), with Amanda Heideman
Human Rights Measurement Initiative Special Projects Grant (Summer 2024, Awarded \$15,000)
UMSL Research Awards (AY 2023, Awarded, \$10,425)
UMSL Global International Fellowship (Summer 2023, Awarded \$2,000)
UMSL Gitner Award for Teaching Excellence (Awarded Fall 2022)
Taylor Geospatial Institute Seed Funding, (AY 2022, Awarded \$17,000)
Google Award for Inclusion Research Program (Summer 2022, Applied, \$60,000)
UMSL Global International Fellowship (Summer 2022, Awarded \$1600)
UMSL Research Awards (Applied 2022, \$8,566)
UMSL Global International Fellowship (Summer 2021, Awarded \$2,281)
UMSL Research Awards (Applied 2021, \$11,581)
DePauw Faculty Development Conference Grant (Fall 2019)
GLOBIS Travel Grant (2018)
APSA Annual Meeting Travel Grant (2017, 2018)
Christopher Allen Award for Excellence in Teaching (2017)
Thomas P. and M. Jean Lauth Outstanding Graduate Research Fellowship (2016)
Prestage-Cook Travel Grant (SPSA 2016)
SPIA Conference Travel Award (Spring 2016, Spring 2018)
UGA Graduate School Travel Award (Fall 2016, Spring 2018)

Service:

Internal/Departmental:

University of Missouri—St Louis

Supervised independent studies (1 in Spring 2022, 2 in Fall 2022, 4 in Spring 2023, 2 in Fall 2023)

Undergraduate committee member (2020-2023)

Graduate committee member (2023-present)

Developed four new courses: “Human Rights”, “Data Generation for Policy and Political Science”, “Political Violence”, “Geography of Governance”

Created study abroad program on Human Rights and Business (co-led with UMSL College of Business in January 2024)

Created monthly professionalization workshop for graduate students

United Nations Day essay contest judge (2021-2025)

Organizer, Reflective Practices for Statistics Teaching Working Group

External:

ISA-Midwest Executive Committee member at large (2023-2025)

ISA-Midwest Best Book Award Committee member (2023)

ISA-Midwest Best Undergraduate Paper Award Committee member (2024)

Editorial Board: *International Interactions* (2020-2023), *International Studies Quarterly* (2024-2026)

Organizer, cofounder, and co-program chair, Consortium for Rights Analysis and Measurement, University of Rhode Island Center for Non-Violence and Peace Studies (2023, 2024, 2025)

Organizer, EPSA Panel on Measuring Human Rights (2023)

Organizer, Peace Science Society International pre-conference workshop 2020: Elections and Violence (with Austin Doctor and Gudlaug Olafsdottir)

Organizer, APSA Panel on Electoral Violence (2021)

Program Chair Inaugural meeting of Georgia Area Human Rights Network Graduate Student Workshop (August 2018) Assisted in creation of graduate student network paper workshop, organizing presentations, securing funding and space for network of graduate students encompassing UGA, Georgia State University, University of Alabama, Emory University, and Florida State University.

Program Chair Georgia Area Human Rights Network Graduate Student Workshop (March 2019) Organizing presentations, securing funding and space for network of graduate students encompassing UGA, Georgia State University, University of Alabama, Emory University, and Florida State University.

Panel Chair: SPSA 2016; Peace Science 2019, 2022; ISA-Midwest 2019, 2021, 2022; MPSA 2020; APSA 2021, 2022; ISA 2022

Panel Discussant: SPSA 2016, SPSA 2019, ISA Midwest 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022; ISA 2020, 2022; MPSA 2020; APSA 2022

Association Award Committees: ISA-Midwest Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring Award

Referee: *Journal of Politics*, *International Interactions*, *Human Rights Review*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *European Journal of International Relations*, *Social Sciences*, *The Social Science Journal*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, *Journal of International Development*

Professional Memberships:

American Political Science Association
Peace Science Society International
International Studies Association
Society for Political Methodology
Scholars Strategy Network

Methodological Training:

Ordinary Least Squares Regression
Maximum Likelihood Estimation
Causal Inference (Matching, Instrumental Variables, Regression Discontinuity, Difference in Differences)
Bayesian Inference and Measurement

Software Proficiency:

Stata
R
WinBUGS/openBUGS
JAGS
ArcGIS