

# MARC S. JACOB

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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| <b>University of Notre Dame</b>   | Notre Dame, IN    |
| <i>Assistant Professor of Democracy and Global Affairs, Keough School of Global Affairs</i> | 2024-             |
| <i>Concurrent Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science</i>                      | 2025-             |
| <i>Faculty Fellow, Kellogg Institute for International Studies</i>                          | 2025-             |
| <i>Faculty Fellow, Lucy Family Institute for Data &amp; Society</i>                         | 2024-             |
| <i>Faculty Fellow, Nanovic Institute for European Studies</i>                               | 2025-             |
| <b>Stanford University</b>  | Stanford, CA      |
| <i>Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Political Science</i>                                | 2023-2024         |
| <i>Postdoctoral Fellow, Polarization Research Lab (PRL)</i>                                 | 2023-2024         |
| <i>Affiliated Researcher, King Center on Global Development</i>                             | 2024              |
| <b>UNSW Sydney</b>  | Sydney, Australia |
| <i>Affiliated Senior Research Fellow, Resilient Democracy Lab</i>                           | 2022-             |

## EDUCATION

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| <b>ETH Zurich</b>  | Zurich, Switzerland |
| <i>Ph.D., Political Science</i>  | 2023                |
| <b>Yale University</b>   | New Haven, CT       |
| <i>Visiting Assistant in Research, Department of Political Science</i> | 2021-2022           |
| <b>Freie Universität Berlin</b>  | Berlin, Germany     |
| <i>M.A., Political Science</i>   | 2020                |
| <b>University of Edinburgh</b>   | Edinburgh, UK       |
| <i>M.Sc. by Research, Politics</i>                                     | 2019                |
| <b>Leipzig University</b>  | Leipzig, Germany    |
| <i>B.A., Political Science</i>   | 2016                |
| <i>B.A., Study of Religion</i>   | 2016                |

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

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Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Behavior, Comparative Political Economy, Democratization & Autocratization

## BOOK PROJECT

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*Democratic Pivots: Electoral Coalitions and the Prospects of Democracy*  
★ Book workshop scheduled for September 2026

## PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

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12. Jacob, Marc, Barton E. Lee, and Gabriele Gratton. 2026. "From Gridlock to Polarization?" *The Economic Journal*.  
Featured in: [UChicago Podcast](#), [Promarket](#)
11. Jacob, Marc S., Yphtach Lelkes, and Sean J. Westwood. 2026. "Entrepreneurs of Conflict: A Descriptive Analysis of When and How Political Elites Use Divisive Rhetoric." *PNAS Nexus*.  
Featured in: [Science Blog](#), [ScienMag](#), [NW News Radio Podcast](#)
10. Cely, Tadeas, Marc S. Jacob, and Sean J. Westwood. 2026. "Office Levels and Voter Accountability for Democratic Norm Violations." *Public Opinion Quarterly*.
9. Jacob, Marc S. 2025. "Citizens as a democratic safeguard? The sequence of sanctioning elite attacks on democracy." *American Journal of Political Science* 69 (2): 455-470.
8. Jacob, Marc S. 2025. "Citizen support for democracy, anti-pluralist parties in power and democratic backsliding." *European Journal of Political Research* 64 (1): 348-373.
7. Windecker, Paula, Ioannis Vergioglou, and Marc S. Jacob. 2025. "Living in Different Worlds: Electoral Authoritarianism and Partisan Gaps in Perceptions of Electoral Integrity." *British Journal of Political Science* 55, e44: 1-22.
6. Wunsch, Natasha, Marc S. Jacob, and Laurenz Derksen. 2025. "The Demand Side of Democratic Backsliding: How Divergent Understandings of Democracy Shape Political Choice." *British Journal of Political Science* 55, e39: 1-22.
5. Lipps, Jana, and Marc S. Jacob. 2025. "Undermining Liberal International Organizations from Within: Evidence from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe." *Review of International Organizations* 20: 357-383.
4. Jacob, Marc S. 2023. "Financing Party Branches: Evidence from the German Federal System." *Regional & Federal Studies* 33 (2): 259-281.
3. Ozdemir, Ugur, and Marc S. Jacob. 2022. "Values, Taboos, and Votes: How Basic Human Values Affect Populist Electoral Support." *Swiss Political Science Review* 28 (3): 455-476.  
Featured in: [DeFacto Blog-Post](#)
2. Jacob, Marc S., and Jan Pollex. 2022. "Party Fragmentation and Campaign Spending: A Subnational Analysis of the German Party System." *Party Politics* 28 (4): 770-782.
1. Jacob, Marc S., and Greta Schenke. 2020. "Partisanship and institutional trust in Mongolia." *Democratization* 27 (4): 605-623.

## REVISE AND RESUBMIT

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2. Systemic, prohibited electioneering in the American pulpit: Evidence from a computational analysis of a national sermon audio dataset, with Yphtach Lelkes, Sean J. Westwood, and Samuel Wolken.  
*PNAS*
1. Implausible Profiles in Conjoint Experiments: Evidence from Eye-Tracking and Recommendations for Applied Research, with Franziska Quoß and Ivo Bantel.  
*Political Analysis*

## WORKING PAPERS

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3. [Voting for Pre-Electoral Coalitions](#), with Ugur Ozdemir.
2. [When Do Autocratizing Incumbents Lose Elections?](#), with Erin Hern.
1. Public Opinion and the Structure of Soft Power Multipolarity, with Sefa Secen.

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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- Democratic Commitment and the Partisan Cost of Accountability, with Bermond Scoggins
- The Curse of Democratic Resilience, with Barton E. Lee and Milan W. Svobik
- Conditional Political Mobilization and Evangelical Churches in Brazil, with Adriana Albanus and Hanna Folsz
- Polarization and Democracy, with Isaac Mehlhaff
- Support for Partisan Violence in Comparative Perspective, with Yphtach Lelkes and Sean J. Westwood

## DATA COLLECTIONS

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3. UK House of Lords Roll Call Data Base; in progress, with Ugur Ozdemir. [Data Report](#)
2. Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) Roll Call Dataset. [Harvard Dataverse, v1](#), with Jana Lipps.
1. German Party Finance Dataset (2009-2017). [Harvard Dataverse, v2](#).

## GRANTS

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- Notre Dame Democracy Catalyst Grant; with Tom Mustillo and Tiffany Tang [Head PI]
- Stanford Lemann Center/King Center on Global Development; with Hanna Folsz [Co-PI]
- Swiss National Science Foundation; postdoctoral scholarship, 2024-2026 (*declined*)
- Center for Comparative and International Studies (CIS), UZH/ETH Zurich: Funding of Collaborative Research Activities by Junior Members at CIS; research project with Franziska Quofß & Ivo Bantel [Co-PI]

## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AT NOTRE DAME

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- 2026** Panel Discussion on Defense Policy in Germany; Global Democracy Conference (planned)
- 2025** DGIR Workshop; Panel Discussion on Snap Elections in Germany
- 2024** Panel Discussion on State of Democracy Around the World: Reflections on 2024

## INVITED TALKS AND WORKSHOPS (EXTERNAL)

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- 2026** MPSA De-Polarization Conference (scheduled); Policies, Politics, and Democracy: Canada and Germany in Perspective, U Toronto (scheduled)
- 2025** MPSA De-Polarization Mini-Conference
- 2024** Freie Universität Berlin (graduate seminar)
- 2023** Leiden University; UC Davis

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS (EXTERNAL)

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- 2026** APSA (scheduled), MPSA (scheduled), EPSS (scheduled)
- 2025** APSA, MPSA
- 2024** APSA, MPSA, WPSA
- 2023** APSA, MPSA, WPSA, SwissPSA, Zurich Political Economy Seminar Series, East European Politics Graduate Workshop
- 2022** EITM Summer Institute, EUSA, MPSA, WPSA, Yale Comparative Politics Workshop
- 2021** APSA, CES, ECPR Joint Sessions, EPSA, MPSA, PolMeth Europe
- 2020** ECPR, ESA
- 2019** ECPR, EPSA, PSA

## AWARDS

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- Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Studentship, UC Berkeley
- German National Scholarship Foundation: Doctoral Scholarship (2021-2023)
- German National Scholarship Foundation: Study Scholarship (2017-2020)

## TEACHING

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### University of Notre Dame

*Instructor of Record (graduate), Political Campaigning* Spring 2026  
*Instructor of Record (undergraduate), Citizens and Democracy* Spring 2026  
*Instructor of Record (undergraduate), Research Design for Global Affairs* Fall 2024, 2025; Spring 2025

### ETH Zurich

*Co-instructor of Record (undergraduate/graduate), Contemporary European Politics* Spring 2022, 2023  
*Teaching Assistant (graduate), Research Design, Qualitative Methods, and Data Collection* Fall 2022  
*Teaching Assistant (undergraduate), Introduction to International Politics* Spring 2021

### University of Lucerne

*Co-instructor of Record (undergraduate), Introduction to International Relations* Fall 2020

### Leipzig University

*Teaching Assistant (undergraduate), Politics and Organization in Practice* Spring 2016, 2017  
*Teaching Assistant (undergraduate), Political Systems and Political Science* Fall 2015, 2016

## OTHER WRITING (NON-REFEREED)

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4. Hendrik Träger, and Marc S. Jacob. 2021. "Parallel Systems Don't Stand a Chance: A Response to Christian Naundorf." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 52 (1): 182-187 [in German].
3. Träger, Hendrik, Jan Pollex, and Marc S. Jacob. 2020. "Incumbency effects in 'contested' constituencies – an analysis of the state elections in Brandenburg, Saxony, and Thuringia (1990 to 2019)." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 51 (2): 349-366 [in German].
2. Jacob, Marc S. 2019. "From squaring the circle to electoral reform? Negotiations on the electoral law in the 19th German Bundestag." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 50 (3): 478-493 [in German].
1. Träger, Hendrik, and Marc S. Jacob. 2018. "(How) Can the German electoral system be reformed? Model calculations of the 2017 federal election and a plea for a 'de-personalized' representative electoral formula." *Zeitschrift für Parlamentsfragen* 49 (3): 531-551 [in German].

## SERVICE

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### University of Notre Dame

MGA Governance & Policy Concentration Admission Committee (2025); Kellogg/Kroc Undergraduate Research Grants Committee (2025); Global Democracy Conference Academic Committee (2025); Faculty Coordinator, Kellogg Comparative and International Politics Seminar (2025/26)

### Stanford University

Co-coordinator, Bay Area Polarization Workshop (2024)

### ETH Zurich

Co-coordinator, PhD Lunch Workshops at ETH Zurich/UZurich (2022, 2023); Co-coordinator, PhD retreats at ETH Zurich/UZurich (2021)

**Advising**

*Ph.D. committee member:* Adriana Albanus (Notre Dame). *Undergraduate research:* Samuel Robinson (International Scholar, Kellogg Institute)

**Reviewer**

*Acta Politica, American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, Cambridge Elements, Comparative Political Studies, De Gruyter, Democratization, East European Politics, Electoral Studies, European Journal of Political Research, German Politics, International Journal of Public Opinion Research, Journal of European Public Policy, Party Politics, Perspectives on Politics, Political Behavior, Political Research Exchange, Regional & Federal Studies, Scandinavian Political Studies, Swiss Political Science Review, World Politics*