



# JIAN XU

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[Jian Xu's website](#) 

## Research Interests

International Political Economy, International Institutions, Global Development, Government-Business Relations, Comparative and International Judicial Politics, Quantitative Methods

## Education

Ph.D, Political Science, Emory University, 2020 (expected).

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

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

## Dissertation

“Transnational Corruption, Legal Risks, and International Investments”

*Committee: Eric Reinhardt (Chair), Jeffrey Staton, Jennifer Gandhi, Miguel Rueda, Alvaro Cuervo-Cazurra*

The dissertation project examines the impact of the emerging legal norm of transnational anti-corruption enforcement on multinational corporations' (MNCs) investment activities and performance in developing countries. I argue that transnational legal interventions provide a form of institutional subsidy to countries with weak legal institutions. However, because of the global initiative's limited jurisdictional reach against government officials, transnational enforcement may create a double jeopardy for MNCs operating in high-risk markets characterized by a lack of judicial constraints against government misconduct. Cronyist rent-sharing schemes between MNCs and the host government often function as an alternative investor rights protection mechanism. But transnational anti-bribery enforcement disrupts the informal arrangements made between foreign firms and host officials, and discourages foreign investments in industries with high regulatory barriers and expropriation risks, which results in a reduction of investments from advanced economies. I show that, under certain conditions, good law does not lead to good economics.

## Publication

“The Role of Corporate Political Connections in Commercial Lawsuits: Evidence from Chinese Courts”  
(Forthcoming at *Comparative Political Studies*)

## Working Papers

“Unsolicited Justice: the Institutional Externality of FCPA Enforcement on Corruption and Investment” (*under review*)

“MNC Lawsuit Outcomes in Authoritarian Courts: Evidence from New Litigation Data” (with Frederick Chen)

- *Winner of the David A. Lake Award for the Best Paper Presented at the 2019 IPES Conference*

## Work in Progress

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

“Capital Investment, the Rule of Law, and Authoritarian Reversal: Evidence from Hong Kong”

“Bureaucratic Career and Political Connections: Do Government Officials Always Bring Value to Firms?” (with Haosen Ge)

“Powerful Firms as Protective Umbrellas for Government Officials” (with Caiwei Huang)

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

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

## Invited Talks

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

## Conferences

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Conference, 2020 (scheduled)

International Political Economy Society (IPES) Conference, 2019

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, 2019

American Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2019

Academy of Management (AOM) Annual Conference, 2019

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2017; 2019; 2020

Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, 2019

Global Strategy and Emerging Markets Conference at UT-Dallas Jindal School of Management, 2019

Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Asia Conference, 2018

Asian Law and Society Association (ALSA) Annual Conference, 2017

University of Pennsylvania China and International Relations Workshop, 2017

International Studies Association Asia-Pacific Conference, 2016

## Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

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 University of Hong Kong (Center for Comparative and Public Law), Visiting Fellow, 2018  
The Carter Center and the Institute for Developing Nations, Election Monitoring Fellow, 2018 (\$3000)  
Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Fund and Fellowship, 2018, 2020 (\$3900)  
City University of Hong Kong (Center for Chinese and Comparative Law), Visiting Fellow, 2017  
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

### **Institute for Quantitative Theory and Methods, Emory University**

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

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

### **Department of Political Science, Emory University**

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

*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)

## Services

Reviewer for *British Journal of Political Science*

## 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<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Python, SPSS, Gephi, Qualtrics

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

## References

[Eric Reinhardt \(Chair\)](#)

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