

# Cleo O'Brien-Udry

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University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Department of Political Science  
1407 W Gregory Dr.  
Urbana, IL 61801

coudry@illinois.edu

## Employment

### **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

Assistant professor, 2024-present

### **University of Pennsylvania**

Postdoctoral associate, Christopher H. Browne Center, 2023

## Education

### **Yale University**

Ph.D., Political Science, 2023

### **Stanford University**

B.A. with Honors 2014

M.A. 2015.

## Publications

“Innovation and interdependence: the case of gene-editing technology”

(with Tyler Pratt) *Accepted*,

**International Studies Quarterly, 2025**

“The possibilities and limits of international status: evidence from foreign aid and public opinion” (with Lauren Ferry)

**Review of International Organizations, 2024**

“Foreign Aid Withdrawals and Suspensions: Why, When and Are They Effective? Introduction to Special Issue on Foreign Aid Withdrawals and Suspensions”

(with Nic Cheesemand and Haley Swedlund) **World Development, 2024**

“Less stress, more confidence”: Supporting Junior Scholars Online at the Graduate Student International Political Economy Workshop (with Alexander Kirss and Paul Ko)

**PS: Political Science & Politics, 2021**

## Working Papers

Aiding the energy transition? How greening foreign aid affects domestic politics

Aid, blame, and backlash

A domestic political economy of targeted aid

The political geography of the energy transition in the Global South

The Politics of the Environmental Kuznet's Curve (with Ed Mansfield)

Small fish, big subsidy? Industrial policy in the Global South under climate change (with Kelly Matush)

The personal and the personnel: how relationships between domestic and international bureaucratic shape foreign aid (with Lindsay Dolan)

## Teaching

**Department of Political Science,  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign**

Politics of International Development (Fall 2024)

Politics of Climate and Development (Spring 2025)

**Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania**

Lecturer, Political Economy of Foreign Aid (Spring 2024)

**Department of Political Science, Wesleyan University**

Lecturer, Political Economy of Foreign Aid (Spring 2022)

**Peace Corps Kosovo**

English Language Teacher, 2015-2017

## Invited Talks

**2025** University of Wisconsin, Madison

**2024** University of California, Santa Barbara

**2023** Villanova University; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign;  
Macalaster University; Cornell University

## Conferences

**2025** PEIO; ISA; Individuals in International Policy Workshop; APSA

**2024** PEIO; APSA; Workshop on International Financial Institutions

**2023** PEIO; APSA; IPES; Climate Pipeline Project Workshop;

Resourcing international organizations (EFIO);

Political Economy of Climate and Environment (PECE) Conference;

Political Economy of Aid (PEA)

**2022** PEIO (declined); ISA; MPSA; EPSA; Yale IR Workshop; APSA;

IPES; German Development Economics Conference;

DVPW-ÖGPW-SVPW Joint International Political Economy Conference;

Regional Responses to Global Economic Pressure

**2021** PEIO; ISA; MPSA; NEWEPS; SOWEPS; HSE-ICSID;

BSIA-GPE Dissertation Workshop; InterGroup Relations Workshop;

German Development Economics Conference; APSA; Yale IR Workshop;

IPES; GSIPE; EPSA; VIPES

**2020** PEIO; APSA; EPSA (cancelled); GSIPE; Yale IR Workshop;

	<p>Technology and Global Governance Virtual Forum</p> <p><b>2019</b> Arizona State University, Internationalizing Kosovo 1989-2019; IPSA Sarajevo; CEE-ISA Belgrade; European Studies Council workshop (declined)</p> <p><b>2018</b> Yale CHESS-EHESS Graduate Student Conference</p>
Service	<p>Organizing committee, Political Economy of Aid (2025-)</p> <p>Selection committee, Political Economy of Climate and the Environment</p> <p>APSA pre-conference (2024)</p> <p>Organizer, Supporting Women in International Political Economy Conference (2024)</p> <p>Co-founder, Graduate Student International Political Economy workshop (2020-2021)</p> <p>Organizer, APSA TLC Workshop on Organizing Online Workshops (2021)</p> <p>Co-organizer, Virtual Aid Withdrawal and Suspensions Workshop (2021)</p> <p>Student Organizer, Comparative Politics Workshop (2019-2020)</p> <p>Student Organizer, Casual [sic] Inference Lab (2019-2020)</p> <p>Student Co-organizer, Boston-area Working Group on African Political Economy (2019)</p>
Research Grants	<p><b>European Studies Council</b>, 2022, \$500</p> <p><b>Georg Walter Leitner Grant</b>, 2022, \$5000</p> <p><b>MacMillan Center International Dissertation Research Fellowship</b>, 2022, \$9000</p> <p><b>MacMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Grant</b>, 2019, \$1560</p> <p><b>European Union Studies Grant</b>, 2019, \$2000</p> <p><b>Foreign Language Area Studies Summer Fellowship</b>, 2018, \$7500</p>
Reviewer	<p><i>American Political Science Review, International Studies Quarterly, World Development, Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Peace Research, Economics &amp; Politics, PS: Political Science &amp; Politics, Review of International Organizations, Journal of Experimental Political Science, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Politics, Foreign Policy Analysis, Journal of International Development, Studies in Comparative and International Development</i></p>
Advising	<p>Jaeyoung Li (graduate)</p> <p>Paul Un (graduate)</p> <p>Julianna Armetta (undergraduate)</p>
Languages and Skills	<p>English (native), Serbian (advanced), Albanian (intermediate)</p> <p>R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X</p>