

# JOAN E. CHO

## CONTACT INFORMATION

College of East Asian Studies  
343 Washington Terrace  
Middletown, CT 06459

☎860-685-3776  
✉jecho@wesleyan.edu  
<http://joancho.faculty.wesleyan.edu>

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

**Wesleyan University**  
Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, July 2016-  
Assistant Professor, Government, September 2016-

## EDUCATION

**Harvard University**, *Department of Government*  
Ph.D, Political Science, 2016.  
A.M., Political Science, 2011.

**University of Rochester**  
B.A., Political Science, 2008.  
*Cum laude* & Departmental Honors.

**PUBLICATIONS** Joan E. Cho, Jae Seung Lee, and B.K. Song. 2017. "Media Exposure and Regime Support Under Competitive Authoritarianism: Evidence from South Korea," *Journal of East Asian Studies* 17(2): 145-166.

Joan E. Cho and Paul Y. Chang. 2016. "Socioeconomic Foundations of South Korea's Democracy Movement" in Youna Kim (ed.), *Routledge Handbook of Korean Culture and Society: A Global Approach*. London: Routledge, pp. 63-75.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

*The Authoritarian Roots of Korean Democracy* (book manuscript in progress)

"Mind the Electoral Gap: The Effect of Investment in Public Infrastructure on Authoritarian Support in South Korea" (with Jae Seung Lee and B.K. Song)

"Escaping Collective Responsibility in Fluid Party System: Evidence from South Korea" (with Dominika Kruszezwska)

"Constructing Labor: Long-term Effect of Industrialization on Labor Mobilization in South Korea"

"Do Authoritarian Elections Mobilize or Demobilize Protest? Theory and Evidence from South Korea"

"The Authoritarian Roots of Korean Democracy: Generational Differences in Political Attitudes and Behavior in Post-Transition South Korea"

## GRANTS & AWARDS

2017 Creative Campus Initiative Grant, Wesleyan University (with Katja Kolcio)  
2016 Collaborative Project Grant, Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life, Wesleyan University (with Dominika Kruszezwska)  
2016-2019 Grants in Support of Scholarship, Wesleyan University  
2015, 2016 Travel Grant, Institute of Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University  
2015, 2016 Department Travel Grant, Department of Government, Harvard University

- 2014-2015 Sanhak Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University
- 2014 Graduate Research Grant, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University
- 2013 Dissertation Fellowship, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy
- 2012 ARI Fellowship Program for Northeast Asian Studies, Korea University
- 2012 Ezra F. Vogel Fund, Harvard University Asia Center
- 2011 Empirical Implication of Theoretical Model (EITM) Fellowship, National Science Foundation
- 2011 Graduate Dissertation Research Fellowship, The Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University
- 2008-2013 Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Fellowship

**INVITED  
TALKS &  
LECTURE**

- “Do Authoritarian Elections Mobilize or Demobilize Protest? Theory and Evidence from South Korea”  
Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation, Harvard University: Cambridge, MA. February 2016.  
College of East Asian Studies, Wesleyan University: Middletown, CT. February, 2016.
- “Authoritarianism”  
Introduction to Comparative Politics, Department of Politics and International Relations, Wheaton College: Wheaton, IL. January 2016.
- “The Nature and Strength of the Democratic Opposition: A Comparative Study of South Korea and Taiwan”  
Taiwan Foundation for Democracy Seminar, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy: Taipei, Republic of China. April 2013.

**CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS**

*Papers Presented:*

- “The Authoritarian Roots of Korean Democracy: Generational Differences in Political Attitudes and Behavior in Post-Transition South Korea”  
- Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 2018 (scheduled).
- “Escaping Collective Responsibility in Fluid Party System: Evidence from South Korea”  
- Catalyst Workshop on Policymaking in East Asia, College of East Asian Studies, Wesleyan University: Middletown, CT. May 2017.  
- NTU-Harvard Conference on Issue and Methodological Challenges in the Study of Contemporary Chinese Politics, Harvard University: Cambridge, MA. September 2017.
- “Constructing Labor: Long-term Effect of Industrialization on Labor Mobilization in South Korea”  
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2016.  
- The Second Annual Politics and History Conference, Harvard University: Cambridge, MA. May 2015.
- “Do Authoritarian Elections Mobilize or Demobilize Protest? Theory and Evidence from South Korea”

- APSA-USKI Graduate Publication Seminar, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University: Washington, DC. October 2015.
- Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 2017.

“Mind the Electoral Gap: How Investment in Public Infrastructure Helps Autocrats”  
 - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2015.

“Media Control and Support for Authoritarian Regimes: Evidence from South Korea”  
 - Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2015.

“Elections and Pro-Democracy Protests: Korea’s Democratic Transition”  
 - The 6th SNU-Harvard-UCLA Graduate Student Workshop, Seoul National University: Seoul, Korea. July 2014.  
 - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2014.

*Other Roles:*

Session organizer (with Celeste Arrington). “Empowering the People: Political Participation in Contemporary South Korea.” Panel at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 2018 (scheduled).

Session organizer (with Elvin Ong). “Challenging Authoritarianism in East and South-east Asia.” Panel at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting, March 2017.

Co-organizer (with Aram Hur). “Drivers of Democratic Change.” Panel at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2016.

Co-organizer (with Margaret Roberts and Jennifer Pan). “The Politics of Information in Non-democratic Regimes.” Panel at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, April 2015.

Co-organizer (with Margaret Roberts). “Protests in Authoritarian Politics.” Panel at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2014.

Invited Participant. Rising Stars of Korean Studies VI, Korean Studies Institute, University of Southern California: Los Angeles, CA. October 2014.

**TEACHING**

*Courses Taught:*

**Wesleyan University**

- Social and Political Changes in Korea
- Democracy and Social Movements in East Asia
- Korean Politics Through Film
- Legacies of Authoritarian Politics
- Senior Thesis Tutorial

**Harvard University**

- Introduction to Political Science Research Methods (Teaching Fellow)
- Foundations of Comparative Politics (Teaching Fellow)
- International Relations of East Asia (Teaching Fellow)
- Is Democracy Possible Everywhere? (Course Assistant)

*Senior Thesis Tutored:*

Won Joon Ki Choi, “The End of an Alliance: A Historical Analysis of ROK-ROC Diplomatic Relations, 1972-92” (CEAS Senior Thesis, 2016-2017)

**RESEARCH  
POSITIONS**

Associate-in-Research, Council of East Asian Studies, Yale University, February 2018-.

Graduate Student Affiliate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University, 2011-2016.

Visiting International Scholar, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, 2013.

ARI Fellow, Asiatic Research Institute, Korea University, 2012.

Visiting Fellow, Center for International Studies, Seoul National University, 2010.

Research Assistant, House of Commons (Brian Binley, M.P.), UK Parliament, 2006.

**SERVICE &  
PROFESSIONAL  
MEMBERSHIP**

Reviewer for *Comparative Political Studies*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*

American Political Science Association 2008 -

Midwest Political Science Association 2011 -

Association for Asian Studies 2013 -

**ADDITIONAL  
TRAINING**

Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Summer Institute, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago: Chicago, IL. Summer 2011.

**ADDITIONAL  
SKILLS**

**Languages:** English (native), Korean (native fluency), Chinese (basic conversational and reading knowledge), Japanese (basic conversational and reading knowledge)

**Computing Skills:** R, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, ArcGIS

**REFERENCES**

Daniel Ziblatt  
Department of Government  
Harvard University  
dziblatt@fas.harvard.edu

Steven Levitsky  
Department of Government  
Harvard University  
levitsky@gov.harvard.edu

Paul Y. Chang  
Department of Sociology  
Harvard University  
paulchang@fas.harvard.edu