

# JOAN E. CHO

## CONTACT INFORMATION

College of East Asian Studies  
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## EMPLOYMENT Wesleyan University

Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, July 2016-  
Assistant Professor, Government, September 2016-  
(Funded by the Korea Foundation, July 2016-December 2021.)

## 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.

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

## RESEARCH POSITIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Adjunct Fellow (Non-resident), Korea Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies, October 2021-.

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.

## PUBLICATIONS Book

*Seeds of Mobilization: The Authoritarian Roots of South Korea's Democracy*. Forthcoming at the University of Michigan Press, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Series.

## Articles and Book Chapter

Joan E. Cho, Jae Seung Lee, and B.K. Song. 2019. "Mind the Electoral Gap: The Effect of Investment in Public Infrastructure on Authoritarian Support in South Korea," *Studies in Comparative International Development* 54: 473-500.

Joan E. Cho and Dominika Kruszewska. 2018. "Escaping Collective Responsibility in Fluid Party System: Evidence from South Korea," *Electoral Studies* 56: 114-123.

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.

**OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS**

"How South Korea's Authoritarian Past Shapes Its democracy." *The Diplomat*, Issue 97, December 1, 2022. <https://thediplomat.com/2022/11/how-south-koreas-authoritarian-past-shapes-its-democracy/>

Review of "Top-Down Democracy in South Korea," by Erik Mobrand (2019) *Pacific Affairs* 93(1), 191-193 (March 2020).

"The Goal in Korea Should be Peace and Trade – Not Unification." *The Conversation*, April 30, 2018. <https://theconversation.com/the-goal-in-korea-should-be-peace-and-trade-not-unification-95701> (with Alexis Dudden and Mary Alice Haddad).

**CURRENT  
RESEARCH**

"Unlinking Linked Fate: Perceived Discrimination and Racial Identity Among Asian Americans" (with Jae Yeon Kim, D.G. Kim, and Taeku Lee)

"What is 'Liberal' in East Asia's Liberal Democracies?" (with Aram Hur)

**GRANTS &  
AWARDS**

- 2023 Data and Democracy Project Fund, Wesleyan University
- 2022-2023 Grants in Support of Scholarship Collaborative Project Grant, Wesleyan University (\$10,000 with Jae Yeon Kim, D.G. Kim, and Taeku Lee)
- 2021-2024 Washington Research Consortium on Korea, Korea Chair, Center for Strategic and International Studies
- 2021-2024 Laboratory Program for Korean Studies Grant, Academy of Korean Studies (300 million KRW; with Victor Cha and Ramon Panchecho Pardo)
- 2016-2023 Grants in Support of Scholarship, Wesleyan University
- 2017, 2020, 2022 Creative Campus Initiative Grant, Wesleyan University (with Katja Kolcio in 2017; with Ellen Gerdes in 2020 & 2022)
- 2018-2019 U.S.-Korea NextGen Scholars Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies & University of Southern California Korean Studies Institute
- 2016 Collaborative Project Grant, Allbritton Center for the Study of Public Life, Wesleyan University (with Dominika Kruszewska)
- 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
- 2012 2012 Young Scholars and Experts Visiting Group to Taiwan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China

- 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  
PANELS &  
WORKSHOPS**

- 2022-2023 Korean Political Studies Colloquium (Faculty Convener)
- 2022 University of British Columbia, Centre for Korean Research
- 2022 Council for a Livable World, Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation
- 2021-2022 Yale University, Autocracy and Asia Workshop
- 2021 University of Toronto, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, Dr. David Chu Program in Asia-Pacific Studies
- 2021 George Washington University, GWIKS Soh Jaipil Lecture Series
- 2020 Stanford University, The Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford Korea Program Democracy Conference
- 2020 Yale University, Yale Korea Colloquium
- 2020 University of Michigan, Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies Colloquium
- 2020 University of Michigan, Nam Center Colloquium Series
- 2019 University of Michigan, Korean Studies Pedagogy Workshop for Junior Faculty, Nam Center for Korean Studies
- 2019 University of Michigan, International Conference of NextGen Korean Studies Conference, Nam Center for Korean Studies
- 2016 Harvard University, Ash Center for Democratic Governance & Innovation
- 2016 Wesleyan University, College of East Asian Studies
- 2016 Wheaton College, Department of Politics and International Relations
- 2013 Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, Taiwan Foundation for Democracy Seminar

**CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS**

*Papers Presented:*

- “Unlinking Linked Fate: Perceived Discrimination and Racial Identity Among Asian Americans”
  - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2023.
  - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2022.
- “Mind the Electoral Gap: The Effect of Investment in Public Infrastructure on Authoritarian Support in South Korea”
  - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2018.
  - American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2015.
- “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.
- “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.

“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:*

Discussant. “Mini-conference on Asian Political History: Shaping Asian States and Nations: Revolutions and Political Development.” Panel at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September 2023.

Discussant. “South Korean Politics, Society, and Transition.” Panel at the International Studies Association Annual Meeting, March 2023.

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.

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

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

Session 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.

Session 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**

**Wesleyan University**

Social and Political Changes in Korea  
Democracy and Social Movements in East Asia  
Korean Politics Through Film

Legacies of Authoritarian Politics  
Challenges to Democracy in East Asia  
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 Theses & Essays Tutored:

Brian Kim (College of Social Studies Senior Thesis, 2021-2022), John S. Lee (College of Social Studies Senior Essay, 2020), Asa Mazor-Freedman (College of East Asian Studies & College of Social Studies Senior Thesis, 2018-2019), Rosanne Ng (College of Social Studies Senior Thesis, 2018-2019), Matthew Chun (College of Social Studies Senior Essay, 2018), Won Joon Ki Choi (College of East Asian Studies Senior Thesis, 2016-2017)

### **SERVICE**

Reviewer for *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Issues & Studies*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, *Korea Observer*, *The Journal of Politics*, *World Politics*

Vice President (2022 -), Executive Secretary (2019-2022), and Governing Board Member (2021-) of the Association of Korean Political Studies

New England Association of Asian Studies (NEAAS) Program Committee (social science sub-committee), Harvard University 2021

### Wesleyan Service:

Allbritton Faculty Advisory Board (2021-)  
University Major Committee (2021-)  
Faculty Advisor, Asia Rising Cooperative (2018-2019)  
Faculty Advisor, Veritas Forum (2018)  
Korean Language Search Committee (2018, 2019)  
Modern Korean Humanities Search Committee (2019)

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

American Political Science Association  
APSA Democracy and Autocracy section  
International Studies Association  
Association for Asian Studies  
Association of Korean Political Studies

### **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**

*Available upon request.*