

# ALBANA SHEHAJ

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

### Harvard University

Postdoctoral Research Scholar  
Center for European Studies (September 2019 – Present)

### University of Michigan

Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (January 2019 – August 2019)

## PUBLIC POLICY EXPERIENCE

### National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence, United States Government

Policy Analyst (October 2020 – Present)

## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science, University of Michigan, 2019

*Dissertation Title: "Essays on the Political Economy of Distributive Politics"*

*Committee: Allen Hicken (Co-Chair), Brian Min (Co-Chair), Anna Grzymala-Busse, and Scott E. Page (Complex Systems)*

M.A. Political Science, University of Michigan, 2012

*International Relations and Quantitative Methodology*

B.A. Political Science, University of Michigan

*Honors: High Distinction in Political Science*

## BOOK MANUSCRIPTS

1. *Purchasing Power: Distributive Politics and Corruption in New Democracies*

2. *Under Pressure: International Organizations in the Age of Migration* (with Merih Angin and Adrian J. Shin)

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Shehaj, Albana.** "The Perils of Succor: The European Union's Financial Role in the Western Balkans during COVID-19." *European Policy Analysis*, Online First.

Merih Angin, **Albana Shehaj**, and Adrian J. Shin. "Inside Job: Migration and Distributive Politics in the European Union." *Economics and Politics*. Forthcoming.

Merih Angin, **Albana Shehaj**, and Adrian J. Shin. "IMF: International Migration Fund." *Review of International Organizations*. Conditional Accept.

**Shehaj, Albana**, Adrian J. Shin, and Ronald Inglehart. In Press. "Immigration and Right-Wing Populism: An Origin Story." *Party Politics*, Online First.

## UNDER REVIEW

1. "Backsliding in a Landslide: How EU's Fiscal Distributions Empower Corrupt Governments."
2. "Prejudice and Price: Corruption and Distributive Politics."
3. "Into the Woods: Migration and the Bretton Woods Institutions." (with Merih Angin and Adrian J. Shin)

## WORKING PAPERS

- "Funding Authority: The Impact of EU's Fiscal Allocations on Democratic Developments."
- "Governing while Corrupt: A Theory of Corruption Compensation Policies as Deterrents of Electoral Accountability."
- "International Organizations and Democratic Backsliding in Transitioning States."
- "Elite Trade Preferences, Economic Growth, and Democratic Consolidation: Evidence from the Emerging Democracies of Eastern Europe."
- "Fight or Flight? Distributive Politics and Voter Behavior in the European Union." (with Monika Bauhr)

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- "Support for the Authorities, the Regime, and the Political Community in the 21st Century" (with Ronald F. Inglehart, Jon D. Miller, and Pablo Andres Cisneros Davila)
- "International Organizations and Migrant Health in Transit Countries" (with Merigh Angin and Adrian J. Shin)
- "Democracy in Trouble: Post-Communist States and the Global Economy" (with Adrian J. Shin)

## TEACHING

*University of Michigan\**

Political Economy of Long-Run Development, 2017

American Political Processes, 2016

Modeling Political Processes, 2015

Political Economy of Development, 2015

Introduction to Comparative Politics, 2014

Introduction to World Politics, 2013, 2014

\*Graduate Student Instructor

## AWARDS

### RESEARCH

*Best Paper Award - Honorable Mention - American Political Science Association - European Politics and Society Section, 2020*

*Best Doctoral Paper Award — Association for the Study of Nationalities, 2018*

### TEACHING

*Horace H. Rackham Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award  
University of Michigan, 2015*

*John Kingdon Award for Excellence as a Graduate Student Instructor  
Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, 2015*

## GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

### RESEARCH

Rockefeller Brothers Fund - Western Balkans, 2020  
Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Fund for Scholars, 2020 with [Adrian J. Shin](#)  
CARTSS Faculty Award, University of Colorado, Boulder, 2019 with [Adrian J. Shin](#)  
Rackham One Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2018  
Jean Monnet Graduate Fellowship, Center for European Studies, University of Michigan, 2015  
Summer Collaboration Award, University of Michigan, 2015 with [Ronald Inglehart](#)  
Ph.D. Fellowship, Political Science Department, University of Michigan, 2012-2018  
James B. Angell Scholar, University of Michigan, 2011

### TEACHING

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan, 2015  
John Kingdon Award for Excellence as a Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, 2015

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Rockefeller Brothers Fund - Western Balkans, 2020  
Institute for Humane Studies Hayek Fund for Scholars, 2020  
Rackham Graduate School Conference Travel Grant, University of Michigan, 2013; 2014; 2015; 2016; 2017; 2018

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### EXTERNAL

Peer Reviewer and Country Expert. *Nations in Transit*, Freedom House, 2020  
Peer Reviewer: *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties (JEPOP)*; *East European Politics and Societies (EEPS)*; *European Political Science Review (EPSR)*  
Editor-in-Chief: Review of European & Transatlantic Affairs Journal (RETA), Yale University, 2016-2017  
Head of Policy Portfolio, European Horizons, Yale University, 2016-2017

### INTERNAL - UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Advisory Committee, Member, Center for European Studies (CES), 2018-2019  
Graduate Student Associate, Center for European Studies (CES), 2018-2019  
Graduate Student Associate, Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies (CREES), 2018-2019  
Research Mentor, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP), 2016-2018  
Professional Development Committee, Member - Political Science Department, 20016-2017  
European Horizons Chapter at the University of Michigan, Founder and President, 2015-2017  
Graduate Admissions Committee, Member, Political Science Department, 2015  
Invited Guest Speaker, POLSCI 993, Teaching Political Science, 2014, 2015, 2016  
Member, Graduate Affairs Committee, Political Science, 2012-2013  
Undergraduate Honors Thesis Committee, 2016, 2017, 2018

## ACADEMIC TRAINING

Post-Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, University of Michigan, 2018  
Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan

Preparing Future Faculty, May 2017

Gayle Morris Sweetland Center for Writing, University of Michigan

WRITING 993: A workshop for Graduate Student Instructors teaching and grading  
Upper-Level Writing Requirement courses for undergraduate students, 2015

## INVITED TALKS and PRESENTATIONS

Department of Political Science and International Relations, Korea University, June 2020 (Virtual)

COVID-19 in Europe: Public Policy Responses and Consequences, Center for European Studies, Harvard University, May 2020

The Growth Lab Seminar at the Center for International Development, Harvard University, May 2020

The Future of EU Enlargement and the EU-Western Balkans Summit, Center for European Studies, Harvard University, Speaker, April 2020\*

Political Economy Research Workshop, Department of Government, Harvard University, March 2020\*

Workshop on Citizen Perspectives on Accountability in Developing Democracies, ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, Sciences Po, France, April 2020.

Workshop on "IO Conditionality: One Size Fits All?", Institut Barcelona d' Estudis Internacionals (IBEI), Barcelona, Spain, December 2019

Conversations on Eastern Europe, Harvard University, Speaker, November 2019

New Actors and Strategies for Fighting and Investigating Corruption in the Western Balkans, Columbia University, November 2019

Exercising Leadership in Europe: Ideas from the Adaptive Leadership Framework, Speaker, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, October 2019.

Immigration: Research Frontiers & Policy Challenges Conference, University of Pennsylvania, October 2019

New Research on Europe, Center for European Studies, Harvard University, September 2019

Center for European Studies, Harvard University, May 2019

\*Event postponed due to pandemic.

## OP-EDs, Blog Posts, and Outreach

"Investing in FDI: How and Why do the Western Balkans Differ?" Tirana Observatory. Foreign Policy and International Relations. 5 November 2020.

"After the Pandemic: Perils and Promise for Western Balkans." BalkanInsight. 20 April 2020.

"Strengthening electoral accountability is crucial in tackling corruption in the Western Balkans." Centre for the Study of Corruption, University of Sussex. 8 November 2019.

"How is a European identity significant to the future of the European Union?" openDemocracy. 31 May 2015.

## CONFERENCE and WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

APSA 2015 (P, P), 2016 (P, P), 2017 (P), 2018 (P, P), 2019 (P, P), 2020 (C, D, P)  
ASN 2016 (P), 2018 (P, C), 2019 (P), 2020 (P, C)  
CES 2017 (P, P), 2018 (P), 2019 (P)  
EPSA 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 (P,P), 2018 (P,P), 2019 (P,P), 2020 (P,P)  
MPSA 2014 (P, P), 2016 (P), 2017 (D,P,P), 2018 (P), 2019 (P)  
PEIO 2019 (P), 2020 (P)  
IPES 2016 (P), 2019 (P)  
IPSA 2018 (P), 2020 (P)  
ISA 2017 (P), 2019 (P), 2020 (P)  
European Conference 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, Harvard University  
European Student Conference 2015, 2016. Yale University  
\*Paper (P), Discussant (D), Chair (C)

## ORIGINAL DATA

Electoral and Fiscal Indicators, Albania 2005-2010  
Electoral, Fiscal, and Corruption Indicators in Transitioning, Post-Socialist Democracies, 2000-2018

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association (APSA), European Political Science Association, (EPSA),  
International Political Economy Society (IPES), Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA),  
Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN)

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### SOFTWARE PROFICIENCY

Statistical Packages: R, STATA, BUGS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, C Object Oriented Programming, Visual C++  
Programming, Assembly Language

### LANGUAGES

Albanian, English, Greek, French (reading knowledge), Italian (reading knowledge)

### MISCELLANEOUS

Nationality: USA, Albanian (dual citizen)

## REFERENCES

Allen Hicken (Dissertation Co-chair)  
Professor of Political Science  
Department of Political Science  
The University of Michigan

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Brian Min (Dissertation Co-chair)  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Department of Political Science  
The University of Michigan

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Scott Page  
Professor of Business Administration  
Professor of Political Science, Complex Systems, and Economics  
Ross Business School  
The University of Michigan

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