

# Ryan Weldzius, Ph.D.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**Villanova University**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science 2020–present

**Princeton University**  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance 2019–2020

**Washington University in St. Louis**  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science 2018–2019

## EDUCATION

**PhD, Political Science**, University of California, Los Angeles 2018  
Dissertation: *The Chains That Bind: Global Value Chain Integration and Currency Conflict*.  
Committee: Ronald Rogowski (chair), Arthur Stein, Chad Hazlett, Aaron Tornell

**MSc, Economics**, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin 2012

**MA, Politics**, New York University 2010

**BA, Political Science**, DePaul University 2007  
United States Military Academy, West Point, 2003-2005

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Peritz, Lauren, Ryan Weldzius, Ronald Rogowski, and Thomas Flaherty. 2022. “[Enduring the Great Recession: Economic Integration in the European Union](#).” *The Review of International Organizations* 17: 175–203.

Weldzius, Ryan. 2021. “[The End of Currency Manipulation? Global Production Networks and Exchange Rate Politics](#).” *Economics and Politics* 33(3): 514–32.

Ifft, Jennifer, Deepak Rajagopal, and Ryan Weldzius. 2019. “[Ethanol Plant Location and Land Use: A Case Study of the Conservation Reserve Program and Ethanol Mandate](#).” *Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy* 41(1): 37-55.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Weldzius, Ryan, James Raymond Vreeland, and James H. Bisbee. 2022. “[Political Cleavages and Exposure to the Global Financial Crisis](#),” in *The Backlash Against Globalization: What's Next?*, a Report from the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance: pp. 33-37.

Weldzius, Ryan. 2019. “[Currency Statecraft: Monetary Rivalry and Geopolitical Ambition](#). By Benjamin J. Cohen Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2019. 208p. \$75.00 cloth, \$25.00 paper.” *Perspectives on Politics* 17(3): 945-946.

World Trade Organization. 2014. *Trade and Development: Recent Trends and the Role of the WTO*. [Contributor]

WORKS IN  
PROGRESS

BOOK PROJECT

*Currency Wars in Retreat: Global Value Chains and Exchange Rate Politics.*

The book provides a novel explanation for why governments might end their strategy of currency manipulation and what factors might spark a reversal. I argue that the globalization of production over the last two decades, where firms increasingly rely on imported inputs to produce their final goods, has changed the conventional benefits of an undervalued exchange rate. When firms import more inputs, an undervalued exchange rate does not provide a competitive boost to exports and currency manipulation recedes; however, when a global shock disrupts production networks – e.g., during the COVID-19 lock downs – the benefits of an undervalued exchange rate can return, sparking a new, albeit smaller, bout of currency wars. I test the theoretical implications of my model of exchange rate politics using a mix of cross-country data, firm-level survey data, and carefully selected case studies in Japan and Taiwan.

ARTICLE-LENGTH PROJECTS

- Political Cleavages and Exposure to the Global Financial Crisis (with James H. Bisbee and James Raymond Vreeland).
- Breaking the Chains of Trust: The Politics of Reshoring Global Supply Chains (with Abigail Vaughn).
- Monopolies for Sale: The Anti-Competitive Effects of Trade Liberalization (with Nils Gudat).
- Economic Interdependence and Regional Monetary Convergence.
- Predicting Trade Preferences: A Factor Content Approach.
- The Greenback in a Green World: The Green Transition and Currency Internationalization (with Joshua Buckson, former undergraduate student)
- Land Reform and Divergence in Economic Growth: Evidence from India.
- Path-Dependent Explanations of Equality and Growth: A Comparative Historical Analysis of Land Reform in South Korea and the Philippines.

GRANTS

- [1] Villanova University, Grants for Research for Arts and Sciences Professors (GRASP), \$18,350, 2024-2025; Preparatory work for NSF CAREER application, Summer 2024; Research in Japan, Summer 2025.
- [2] Villanova University, Faculty Research and Development Grant, for book workshop in October 2024, \$3,500, 2023
- [3] Villanova University, Conference Travel Grant, \$2,400, 2024; Research/invited presentation in Taiwan, May/June 2024
- [4] APSA Summer Centennial Center Research Grant, \$1,800, 2023
- [5] Villanova University, Summer Research Grant, \$12,000, 2023
- [6] Villanova University, Institute for Teaching and Learning, Summer Course Improvement Grant, \$5,500, 2022; designed a ShinyApp [data viz portal](#) for students
- [7] Villanova University, Conference Travel Grant, \$3,450, 2022; Summer conference travel to Munich, Germany and Prague, Czech Republic
- [8] NSF, Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models Summer Institute, UC Berkeley, \$1,500, 2017
- [9] Center for European and Russian Studies Conference Travel Grant, UCLA, \$300, 2017

- [10] Conference Travel Grants, UCLA, \$300/year, 2015–2017
- [11] Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA, \$6,000, 2015
- [12] Graduate Summer Research Mentorship, UCLA, \$6,000, 2013
- [13] Center for European and Eurasian Studies Summer Language Study Grant (German), UCLA, \$1,750, 2013

FELLOWSHIPS &  
CERTIFICATES

- [1] University Graduate Fellowship, UCLA, 2012-2018
- [2] Master’s Certificate in Public Policy Analysis, Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy, NYU, 2010

INVITED TALKS

- [1] National Taiwan University, May 2024. Talk title: “Currency Wars in Retreat: Global Value Chains and Exchange Rate Politics.”
- [2] Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan, May 2024. Talk title: “Monopolies for Sale: The Anti-Competitive Effects of Trade Liberalization.”
- [3] Princeton University, Europe Center, April 17, 2024. Talk title: “[The Chains That Bind: How Global Value Chain Integration in the EMU Buffers Global Shocks.](#)”
- [4] University of Washington, Political Economy Speaker Series, March 2020 (cancelled). Talk title: “Central bank interdependence.”
- [5] Princeton University, Europe Center, April 2020 (cancelled). Talk title: “European integration in times of crisis.”
- [6] Princeton University, International Relations Colloquium, September 2019. Talk title: “The End of Currency Manipulation? Global Production Networks and Exchange Rate Outcomes.”

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

SUMMARY

- American Political Science Association: 2016, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023, 2024\*
- International Political Economy Society: 2016, 2017, 2019, 2020, 2022
- Drei-Länder International Political Economy Society: 2022
- European Political Science Association: 2022
- International Studies Association: 2022
- Temple University Workshop on International Institutions and Global Governance (TWIIGG): 2023
- Firms, States, and Global Production, National University of Singapore: 2019
- Midwest Political Science Association: 2015, 2016
- Council for European Studies: 2016
- Policy Making Under Hard Times: Southern European Countries in a Comparative Perspective, UC3JM, Madrid, Spain: 2014
- Alexander Hamilton Center Graduate Student Conference, NYU: 2010, 2011
- Berlin Colloquium for Economic History, Humboldt-Universität: 2011

PRESENTATION DETAILS

- [1] “The Greenback in a Green World: The Green Transition and Currency Internationalization,” paper to be presented at the **American Political Science Association**, Philadelphia, September 2024.
- [2] “Monopolies for Sale: The Anti-Competitive Effects of Preferential Trade Agreements,” paper presented at the **Temple University Workshop on International Institutions and Global Governance (TWIIGG)** in Philadelphia, October 13, 2023.

- [3] “Economic Interdependence and Regional Monetary Convergence,” paper presented at the **International Political Economy Society**, University of Pittsburgh, October 2022.
- [4] “Economic Interdependence and Regional Monetary Convergence,” paper presented at the **Drei-Länder International Political Economy Society**, Technische Universität München (Germany), June 2022.
- [5] “Economic Interdependence and Regional Monetary Convergence,” paper presented by panel chair Dennis Quinn (due to COVID-19 scare) at the **European Political Science Association**, Prague (Czech Republic), June 2022.
- [6] “Economic Interdependence and Regional Monetary Convergence,” paper presented at the **International Studies Association**, Nashville, April 2022.
- [7] “Reshoring Global Supply Chains Post,” (with Abigail Vaughn) paper presented at the **American Political Science Association**, Seattle (Virtual), September 2021.
- [8] “Political Cleavages and Exposure to the Global Financial Crisis,” (with James Raymond Vreeland and James H. Bisbee) paper presented at the **International Political Economy Society**, Ohio State University (Virtual), October 2020.
- [9] “The End of Currency Manipulation? Global Production Networks and Exchange Rate Outcomes,” paper presented at the **International Political Economy Society**, University California, San Diego, October 2019.
- [10] “The End of Currency Manipulation? Global Production Networks and Exchange Rate Outcomes,” paper presented at the **American Political Science Association**, Washington, D.C., September 2019.
- [11] “Central Banks in Chains? Interdependence and Monetary Outcomes,” paper presented at the Workshop for special issue of *Economics & Politics* “**Firms, States, and Global Production**,” at the National University of Singapore, March 2019.
- [12] “Globalizing the Value Chain: Firm-Level Preferences for Exchange Rate Policy,” paper presented at the **International Political Economy Society**, University of Texas, Austin, October 2017.
- [13] “Globalizing the Value Chain: Firm-Level Preferences for Exchange Rate Policy,” paper presented at the **American Political Science Association**, San Francisco, September 2017.
- [14] “European Integration in Crisis: Specialization and the Differential Impact of the Great Recession,” (with Lauren Peritz, Ronald Rogowski, and Thomas Flaherty) paper presented at the **International Political Economy Society**, Duke University, October 2016.
- [15] “The End of the Secret Tariff? Value Chain Integration and Exchange Rate Politics,” paper presented at the **American Political Science Association**, Philadelphia, September 2016.
- [16] “European Integration in Crisis: Specialization and the Differential Impact of the Great Recession,” (with Lauren Peritz, Ronald Rogowski, and Thomas Flaherty) paper presented at the **Council for European Studies**, Philadelphia, April 2016.
- [17] “The Political Economy of Market Size, Trade, and Productivity,” (with Nils Gudat) paper presented at the **Midwest Political Science Association**, Chicago, April 2016.
- [18] “Predicting Individual Trade-Policy Preferences: A Factor Content Approach,” paper presented at the **Midwest Political Science Association**, Chicago, April 2015.
- [19] “European Integration and Asymmetric Shocks,” (with Lauren Peritz, Ronald Rogowski, and Thomas Flaherty) paper presented at the Workshop *Policy Making Under Hard Times: Southern European Countries in a Comparative Perspective*, UC3JM, Madrid, Spain, November 2014.

- [20] “The Competitive Effects of Trade Liberalization in North America,” (with Nils Gudat, presenter) paper presented at the **Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics**, Milan, Italy, 2013.
- [21] “Land Reform and Divergence in Economic Growth: Evidence from India,” paper presented at the **Berlin Colloquium for Economic History**, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, June 2011.
- [22] “Land Reform and Divergence in Economic Growth: Evidence from India,” paper presented at the **Alexander Hamilton Center Graduate Student Conference** at New York University, May 2011.
- [23] “Property Rights, Inequality, and Economic Growth: Why South Korea Burgeoned and the Philippines Stagnated,” paper presented at the **Alexander Hamilton Center Graduate Student Conference** at New York University, May 2010.

CONFERENCE  
PARTICIPATION

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting** August 2023
- Co-Discussant with Timm Betz, “Global Value Chains (GVCs) and Global Economic Orders,” *International Political Economy*
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting** Sept 2022
- Discussant, “Trade, Automation, and Attitudes,” *International Political Economy*
- European Political Science Association Annual Meeting** June 2022
- Chair/Discuss., “Theoretical Implications of Empirical Models,” *Formal Models*
- International Studies Association Annual Meeting** Apr 2022
- Chair/Discuss., “Taxation,” *International Political Economy*
- Discussant, “Central Banks, Debt & Monetary Policy,” *International Political Economy*
- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting** Sept 2021
- Discussant, “Exchange Rates & Government Credibility,” *International Political Economy*
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting** April 2021
- Chair/Discuss., “Inequality, Money, and Power,” *Comparative Political Economy*

GUEST LECTURES

- [1] University of Florida, undergraduate course “Applied Political Behavior,” virtual lecture and discussion on the paper “Political Cleavages and Exposure to the Global Financial Crisis,” October 2022.
- [2] Denver University, undergraduate course “International Political Economy,” virtual lecture and discussion on the topic “Global supply chains and global politics,” January 2022.
- [3] University of Florida, undergraduate course “European Politics,” virtual lecture and discussion on the topic “Austerity and Populism in Europe,” November 2021.
- [4] Denver University, undergraduate course “International Political Economy,” virtual lecture and discussion on the topic “Pandemics, Global Supply Chains, and Debt,” May 2021.
- [5] University of California, Los Angeles, undergraduate course “International Political Economy,” virtual lecture and discussion on the topic “International Institutions and Trade,” April 2021.
- [6] University of Florida, undergraduate course “Applied Political Behavior,” virtual lecture and discussion on the paper “Predicting Revealed Trade Preferences: A Factor Content Approach,” March 2021.

- [7] University of Alabama, undergraduate course “Global Governance,” virtual lecture and discussion on the paper “Cooperation, Conflict, and Crisis in the Contemporary Global Economic System,” October 2020.
- [8] Columbia University, graduate course “International Political Economy,” virtual lecture and discussion on the topic “Currency Manipulation and International Trade,” August 2020.

WORKSHOPS  
ORGANIZED

- [1] Comparative Politics Graduate Student Conference (COMPASS), co-organizer, UCLA, 2016

TEACHING

**Villanova University**

PSC 2240 - International Political Economy	F20, F21
PSC 2380 - European Politics	S21, F21, S22
PSC 4175 - Intro to Data Science	F24
PSC 4275 - The Politics of Financial Crises	S21, S22, S23
PSC 6503 - Internship Advisor	AY21/22, AY22/23
PSC 6900 - Money, Power, and Politics (senior seminar)	S23
PSC 7000 - Research Concepts & Approaches (graduate)	F24
PSC 8270 - International Political Economy (graduate)	S21, Summer22
PSC 8275 - The Politics of Financial Crises (graduate)	S23
PSC 8380 - European Politics (graduate)	F20

**Washington University in St. Louis**

POLSCI 3171 - Political Economy of European Populism	S19
POLSCI 565 - Political Economy of Financial Crises (graduate)	S19

**University of California, Los Angeles**

**Instructor**

IASTD 160 - The ‘United States’ of Europe: Understanding the Political Economy of European Integration (International Area Studies; used in application for EU Excellence grant), Summer 2014

**Teaching Assistant**

POLSCI 120 - US Foreign Relations, Deborah Larson	F14, W15, F15, F16, F17
POLSCI 124 - Internat. Political Economy, Ron Rogowski	W14, S15, W16, S17, S18
POLSCI 125 - The Nuclear Age in World Politics, Joslyn Barnhart	W18
POLSCI 134 - U.S. Foreign Policy Decision Making, Arthur Stein	W17
POLSCI 168 - Comparative Political Analysis, Ron Rogowski	S14, S16
POLSCI 231 - International Political Economy (graduate), Ron Rogowski	S16

**Universidad de La Habana**

Development Economics (co-instructor, graduate), Havana, Cuba Summer 2011

UNIVERSITY AND  
DEPARTMENT  
SERVICE

- CLAS Core Diversity Committee**, Villanova University 2023-present
  - Faculty member, review syllabi in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) that have been submitted by faculty seeking one of the three core diversity attributes
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis**, Villanova University 2022-2023
  - Faculty co-chair/advisor, advised a student’s year-long research project for the Honors program at Villanova, Title: “War, What is it Good for? The Effect of Military Conflicts on Trust in the EU.”

- Fulbright Campus Committee**, Villanova University 2022  
 - Faculty committee member, assisted the Villanova Center for Research and Fellowships with Fulbright application assessments
- Political Risk Apprenticeship Program**, Villanova University S21, S22  
 - Faculty co-chair/advisor, advised 10-12 students in the Spring semester 2021 and 2022 (for internship credits) on how to conduct political risk analyses. Students worked with Villanova graduates in the field of risk analysis, producing reports on a topic related to the clients' needs.
- American Politics Search Committee**, Villanova University 2021  
 - Faculty committee member, search for new tenure-track faculty hire (successful)
- Summer Undergraduate Research Program**, Villanova University 2021  
 - Faculty co-chair/advisor, directed two undergraduate students to help with a summer research project for my book manuscript. Included training the students on how to conduct the research and guest lecturing in the larger summer research program ( 10 students) on how I conduct research for my projects.
- Undergraduate Studies Committee**, Villanova University 2020-present  
 - Faculty committee member, discuss/propose/approve departmental issues related to undergraduate studies
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis**, Villanova University 2020-2021  
 - Faculty chair/advisor, advised a student's year-long research project for the Honors program at Villanova, Title: "Disappearing Borders: Internaitonal Protections for Climate Refugees within the United Nations."
- Undergraduate Honors Thesis**, Villanova University 2020-2021  
 - Faculty chair/advisor, advised a student's year-long research project for the Honors program at Villanova, Title: "The (Exogenous) Responsibility Hypothesis: Economic Voting in a Post-Brexit Ireland."
- Political Science Student Advisory Council**, Villanova University 2020-2021  
 - Faculty committee member, student group to discuss issues amongst political science majors regarding COVID-19 online/hybrid teaching and race relations on campus following the murder of George Floyd

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE      **Reviewer** for *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal of Politial Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Digest of Middle East Studies*, *International Organization*, *Journal of Politics*, *Perspectives on Politics*

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP      American Political Science Association  
 European Political Science Association  
 International Political Economy Society  
 International Studies Association

RESEARCH POSITIONS      **Research Assistant** to Professor Deepak Rajagopal, UCLA 2015  
**Intern**, Economic Research and Statistics Division, World Trade Organization 2013  
**Research Assistant** to Professor Ronald Rogowski, UCLA 2013  
**Research Assistant** to Professor Dr. Nikolaus Wolf, HU-Berlin 2011-2012  
**Research Assistant** to Professor Dr. Bergnt-Arne Wickström, HU-Berlin 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE      **Consultant**, *5M RE, Inc.*, Chicago, IL 2016-2017  
**Social Coordinator**, *HU-Berlin, International Office*, Berlin, Germany 2011-2012  
**Portfolio Manager**, *Millennium Properties R/E, Inc.*, Chicago, IL 2006-2009

SPECIALIZED  
TRAINING

**Computing:** R, STATA, Python, ArcGIS, QGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

**Languages:** English (native), German (intermediate, B2), Italian (beginner).