

# CARLO PRATO

June 2024

IAB 718, 420 W 118, New York, NY 10027

[cp2928@columbia.edu](mailto:cp2928@columbia.edu)  $\diamond$  [carloprato.com](http://carloprato.com)

## FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

---

Formal Political Theory, Political Economy

## CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

---

**Columbia University**, New York, NY

Associate Professor (without tenure), Department of Political Science *2023-present*

Lavine Scholar *2019-present*

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science *2016-2023*

## EDUCATION

---

**Northwestern University**, Evanston, IL

Ph.D., Economics, *Dissertation: "Essays in Dynamic Political Economy"* *2012*

M.A., Economics *2008*

**Bocconi University**, Milan, Italy

M.S. *Summa Cum Laude*, Economics and Social Sciences *2006*

B.A., Economics and Social Sciences *2004*

## PUBLICATIONS

---

20. [Bending the Iron Law](#), with Giovanna Invernizzi.  
Forthcoming, *American Journal of Political Science*.

19. [Theories of Democratic Backsliding](#), with Edoardo Grillo, Zhaotian Luo, and Monika Nalepa.

*Annual Review of Political Science*, 2024, 27: 13-47.

18. [The Effect of Sustained Transparency on Electoral Accountability](#), with Guy Grossman and Kristin Michelitch.

Forthcoming, *American Journal of Political Science*.

17. [Reference Points and Democratic Backsliding](#), with Edoardo Grillo.

*American Journal of Political Science*, 2023, 67(1): 71-88.

Winner of the 2024 "Best Article Award," APSA Formal Theory Section.

16. [Wisdom of the Crowd? Information Aggregation in Representative Democracy](#), with Stéphane Wolton.

*Games and Economic Behavior*, 2022, 135: 86-95.

15. [Party Nomination Strategies in List Proportional Representation Systems](#), with Peter Buisseret, Olle Folke, and Johanna Rickne.  
*American Journal of Political Science*, 2022, 66(3): 714-729.  
An earlier version won the 2018 CQ Press Award, APSA Legislative Studies Section.
14. [Competing Principals? Legislative Representation in List PR Systems](#), with Peter Buisseret.  
*American Journal of Political Science*, 2022 66(1): 156-170.
13. [After \*Citizens United\*: How Outside Spending Shapes American Democracy](#), with Nour Abdul-Razzak and Stéphane Wolton.  
*Electoral Studies*, 2020, 67: 102190.
12. [Self-Enforcing Partisan Procedures](#), with Daniel Diermeier and Razvan Vlaicu.  
*Journal of Politics*, 2020, 82(3): 937-954.
11. [Voting Behavior under Proportional Representation](#), with Peter Buisseret.  
*Journal of Theoretical Politics*, 2020, 32(1), 96–111.  
Special Issue on “Personalism and the Personal Vote in PR Systems.”
10. [Campaign Cost and Electoral Accountability](#), with Stéphane Wolton.  
*Political Science Research and Methods*, 2019, 7(1): 1-21.
9. [Rational Ignorance, Populism, and Reform](#), with Stéphane Wolton.  
*European Journal of Political Economy*, 2018, 55: 119-135.
8. [Electoral Imbalance and their Consequences](#), with Stéphane Wolton.  
*Journal of Politics*, 2018, 80(4): 1168-1182.
7. [Electoral Competition and Policy Feedback Effects](#).  
*Journal of Politics*, 2018, 80(1): 195-210.
6. [The Hidden Cost of Direct Democracy: How Ballot Initiatives Affect Politicians’ Selection and Incentives](#), with Bruno Strulovici.  
*Journal of Theoretical Politics*, 2017, 29(3): 440-466.
5. [Citizens United: A Theoretical Evaluation](#), with Stéphane Wolton.  
*Political Science Research and Methods*, 2017, 5(3): 567-574.
4. [Electoral Control and the Human Capital of Politicians](#), with Peter Buisseret.  
*Games and Economic Behavior*, 2016, 98: 34–55.
3. [The Voters’ Curses: Why We Need Goldilocks Voters](#), with Stéphane Wolton.  
*American Journal of Political Science*, 2016, 60(3): 726-737.
2. [A Bargaining Model of Endogenous Procedures](#), with Daniel Diermeier and Raz Vlaicu.  
*Social Choice and Welfare*, 2016, 47(4): 985–1012.
1. [Procedural Choice in Majoritarian Organizations](#), with Daniel Diermeier and Raz Vlaicu.  
*American Journal of Political Science*, 2015, 59(4): 866-879.

## WORKING PAPERS

---

[The Institutional Foundations of the Power to Persuade](#), with Ian Turner.

Revise and Resubmit

[Politics Transformed? Electoral Competition under Ranked Choice Voting](#), with Peter Buisseret.

Revise and Resubmit

Winner of the 2023 “Best APSA Paper Award,” APSA Formal Theory Section

[Recruiting and Incentivizing Service Providers: Experimental Evidence from Sierra Leone](#), with Maarten Voors, Macartan Humphreys, Salif Jaiteh, Niccolo Meriggi, and Peter Van der Windt.

[Electoral Competition, Turnout, and Ranked Choice Voting](#), with Peter Buisseret.

[Executive Power and the Internal Organization of Legislatures](#), with Costel Andonie and Daniel Diermeier.

[Regulatory Cycles: A Political Economy Model](#), with Pooya Almasi and Jihad Dagher.

## CITATION METRICS (GOOGLE SCHOLAR)

---

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Citations: | 621 |
| H-index:   | 15  |
| i10-index: | 19  |

## HONORS AND AWARDS

---

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellowship | <i>2015-2016</i>     |
| Foscolo Europe Fellowship, Unicredit & Universities (declined)  | <i>2013</i>          |
| University Fellowship, Northwestern University                  | <i>2012 and 2007</i> |
| EITM Fellowship, National Science Foundation                    | <i>2011</i>          |
| Ettore Bocconi Fellowship, Bocconi University                   | <i>2006-2007</i>     |

## GRANTS

---

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Lenfest Junior Faculty Development Grant (USD 14,400)<br><i>The Political Economy of Democratic Backsliding</i> | <i>2022-2023</i> |
|---|------------------|

## PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

---

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>Stanford University</b> , Palo Alto, CA                         |                  |
| National Fellow, Hoover Institution                                | <i>2015-2016</i> |
| <b>Georgetown University</b> , Washington, DC                      |                  |
| Assistant Professor, E. Walsh School of Foreign Service            | <i>2012-2016</i> |
| Affiliated Faculty, Economics Department and Government Department | <i>2014-2016</i> |

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| <b>Princeton University</b> , Princeton, NJ<br>Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Politics | <i>2012-2013</i> |
| <b>Bocconi University</b> , Milan, Italy<br>Ettore Bocconi Fellow (Pre-Doc), Department of Economics   | <i>2006-2007</i> |
| <b>OECD, Statistic Directorate</b> , Paris, France<br>Intern   | <i>2004</i>      |

## TEACHING AND ADVISING

---

**Columbia University**, New York, NY  
Instructor, Department of Political Science *2016-present*  
*Research Topics in Game Theory* (PhD).  
*Political Economy of Institutions* (PhD).  
*Seminar in Political Economics* (Undergraduate).

**Georgetown University**, Washington, DC *2013-2015*  
Instructor, Edmund E. Walsh School of Foreign Service  
*Research Topics in Political Economy* (Undergraduate).  
*The Political Economy of Inequality and Redistribution* (Undergraduate).  
*Senior Capstone in Political Economy* (Undergraduate).  
*Conflict, Cooperation, and Institutions* (Undergraduate).

### PhD Advising (placement):

[Tinghua Yu](#), 2018. Thesis: *Essays on Information Revelation in Political Organizations*. (Postdoc at LSE, now Assistant Professor at Birkbeck, University of London).

[Giovanna Invernizzi](#), 2021. Thesis: *Inside Political Parties*. (Postdoc at Collegio Carlo Alberto, now Assistant Professor at Duke).

[Tine Paulsen](#), External committee member, NYU 2022. Thesis: *Building States and Parties*. (Assistant Professor at USC).

[Jenny Jun](#), 2024. Thesis: *Coercion in Cyberspace*. (Assistant Professor at Georgia Tech).

[Beatrice Montano](#) (in progress).

[Lauren Futter](#) (in progress).

Seungyup Shin (in progress).

### MA Advising (initial placement):

Alex Chen (J-PAL).

### Undergraduate Advising (initial placement):

Antonio Camara, 2022 (Phd, Harvard Government).

Didace Irafasha, 2022 (MPP, Yale University).

Kristha Jenvaiyavasjamai, 2022 (MSc in Economic Policy, LSE).

Jake Tuckerman, 2018 (JD-MBA Stanford GSB).

Mallika Paktar, 2017 (MBA/MA in International Studies, U Penn).

Aaron Tayler, 2015 (PhD, Princeton Politics).

Neil Christy, 2015 (MSc in Economics and Social Sciences, Bocconi University).  
Alyssa Huberts, 2014 (Phd, Harvard Government).  
Kate Anthony, 2014 (MSc in Economic and Social History, Oxford University).

## ACADEMIC TALKS

---

**2024:** BI Norwegian Business School, University of Gothenburg, Copenhagen Business School, University of Cologne (*scheduled*)

**2023:** University of Chicago, UQAM Montreal, Emory Theory and Model Workshop, Berkeley, New York University, London School of Economics, Essex, Warwick

**2022:** University of Houston, University of Padova, Collegio Carlo Alberto

**2021:** European University Institute, Online Political Economy Seminar

**2020:** New York University, University of New South Wales (OVERS)

**2018:** University of Rochester

**2017:** Harvard, Yale, New York University

**2016:** Stanford, Texas A & M, Columbia

**2015:** Caltech, University of Southern California, University of California Los Angeles, Stanford GSB, Stanford

**2014:** University of Warwick, London School of Economics, University of California Berkeley, Columbia, Collegio Carlo Alberto, University of Mannheim, Higher School of Economics, University of Oslo, Inter-American Development Bank, SITE - Stockholm School of Economics, CERGE-EI - University of Prague

**2013:** Princeton University, Princeton University (Political Economy), Washington University in St. Louis

**2012:** New York University, Caltech, IAE-CSIC - University Autònoma de Barcelona, University Pompeu Fabra, Max Planck Institute for Tax Law and Public Finance, University of Mannheim, Georgetown University, École Polytechnique, Institute for Advanced Studies (Princeton)

**2011:** European University Institute

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

**2024:** Rebecca B. Morton Conference at NYU, IE-Rochester workshop in Political Economy (*scheduled*), EPSA Annual Meeting (*scheduled*), APSA Annual Meeting (*scheduled*)

**2023:** IE-Rochester workshop in Political Economy, APSA Annual Meeting

**2022:** Madrid Workshop on the Political Economy of Party Organizations, Social Choice and Welfare Annual Meeting, Virtual Formal Theory Workshop, APSA Annual Meeting

**2021:** Madrid Workshop on the Political Economy of Party Organizations

**2020:** Virtual Formal Theory Workshop, EPSA Annual Meeting, APSA Annual Meeting

**2019:** APSA Annual Meeting, UC Berkeley Formal Theory and Comparative Politics Conference, UC San Diego Conference on Rational Inattention and Political Economy

**2018:** Washington Political Economy Conference, University of Southern California Political Institutions and Political Economy (PIPE) Conference, Petralia Workshop 2018

**2017:** University of Houston Political Economy Conference, MPSA Annual Meeting, Yale CSAP American Politics Conference, SIOE Annual Meeting, Stony Brook Summer Workshop in Political Economy, Petralia/Ortygia Workshop, APSA Annual Meeting

**2016:** MPSA Annual Meeting, APSA Annual Meeting

**2015:** MPSA Annual Meeting, EITM Final Conference 2015

**2014:** MPSA Annual Meeting, Priorat Workshop in Theoretical Political Science, APSA Annual Meeting

**2013:** MPSA Annual Meeting, APSA Annual Meeting, London School of Economics Formal Theory and Comparative Politics Conference

**2012-2011:** SPSA Annual Meeting, MPSA Annual Meeting, Association for Public Economic Theory, European Economic Association, Spanish Economic Association, Alexander Hamilton Center (New York University), EITM (University of Chicago)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

**Professional Associations:** Councilor, APSA Formal Theory Section (2023-24).

**Conference organization:** *The Political Economy of Democratic Backsliding*, 2023 (with Edoardo Grillo, Zhaotian Luo, and Monika Nalepa); *APSA 2022 Annual Meeting, Political Economy Section*, Program Chair (with Mai Hassan); *Sixth Political Economy Conference at Columbia*, 2018 (with Suresh Naidu); *Fourth Political Economy Conference at Columbia*; 2016 (with Navin Kartik); *Washington Political Economy Conference*; 2014 (with Laurent Bouton, Allan Drazen, and Roger Lagunoff), 2015, 2016, and 2017 (with Laurent Bouton, Allan Drazen, Roger Lagunoff, and Fabiana Machado).

**Seminar organization:** Political Economy Seminar, Columbia University: Spring 2017 (with Alessandra Casella), Fall 2017 (with John Huber), Fall 2020 (with Alessandra Casella), Spring 2021 (with John Marshall), Spring 2022 (with Mike Ting), Spring 2024 (with Ebonya Washington)

**Editorial Board Membership:** *Political Science Research and Methods*.

**Awards Committee:** *The Journal of Theoretical Politics Ostrom Award*, 2022, Chair.

**Referee:** *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of the Euro-*

*pean Economic Association, Review of Economic Dynamics, International Tax and Public Finance, Social Choice and Welfare, Political Science Research Methods, Economics and Politics, International Economic Review, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Public Economics, Games and Economic Behavior, Journal of Politics, American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, Public Choice, European Journal of Political Economy, European Economic Review, Journal of Law, Economics and Organizations, Comparative Political Studies, Management Science, PNAS, Marketing Science, Journal of Public Economic Theory.*

**Discussant:** APSA 2023 (Jenny Kim), PEEP Conference at USC (Howell, Klansja, Titiunik), Comparative Politics and Formal Theory (Beramendi and Kselman), IE and Rochester Workshop (Cakir, Matakos, and Tukainen), APSA 2022 (Devdariani, Foster); Formal Theory Virtual Junior Scholar Symposium 2021 (Goldstein, Tomasi); APSA 2020 (Hafer Tyson & Zhou, Chan & Foster); LSE-NYU Annual Conference, 2019 (Hafer Landa & Le Bihan); Great Lakes Political Economy Theory Conference, 2018 (Buisseret Bernhardt & Hidir); APSA 2017 (Matakos et al., Hübert, Brams et al.); MPSA 2017 (Nunnari and Zapal); APSA 2016 (Dewan & Squintani, Judd); LSE-NYU Annual Conference 2016 (Austen-Smith Dziuda Harstad & Loeper); Formal Theory and Comparative Politics III - U Chicago (Forand & Maheshri); MPSA 2015 (Callander & Martin, Judd, Patty); 2014 (Agranov & Palfrey, Ladha); Princeton-Warwick Political Economy Conference 2015 (Fey); MPSA 2013 (Gallego Jeon Schofield & McAllister, Le); AEA 2014 (Egorov & Sonin); LSE-NYU Annual Conference 2013 (Iaryczower & Oliveros).

**Department and University Service:** Junior Faculty Advisory Board (Columbia, 2018-19); Coordinator, PhD Admissions in Comparative Politics (Columbia, 2018-19); PhD Admissions in Comparative Politics (Columbia, 2016-present); Faculty Coordinator, Economics-Political Science major (Columbia, 2016-present); Political Economy Theory Minor, Faculty Coordination (Columbia 2020-present); Political Economy Theory Minor, Committee Member (Seungyup Shin, Beatrice Bonini, Giulia Travaglini, Lauren Futter, Samuel Houskeeper, Kylan Rutherford, Heewon Yoon, Arnaud Maurel, Elena Barham, Daniel Thomas); Dissertation Proposal, Committee Member (Beatrice Montano, Noah Zucker, Jenny Jun, Giovanna Invernizzi, Samuel Houskeeper, Daniel Markovits, Seungyup Shin, Ella Bayi, Garrett Hinck); Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Comparative Politics and International Relations (Georgetown, 2014).

## PERSONAL INFORMATION

---

**Citizenship:** Italy, United States

**Languages:** Italian (Native), English, French