

# SALAM ALSAADI

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## APPOINTMENTS

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- 2026-                      University of Georgia, Athens, USA.  
Assistant Professor, Department of International Affairs.
- 2025-2026                Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA.  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs.

## EDUCATION

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- 2025                      Ph.D. Political Science, University of Toronto, Canada.
- 2019                      M.A. Political Science. University of Toronto.
- 2018                      B.S. Political Science. York University, Canada.
- 2007                      B.S. Economics. Damascus University, Syria.

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

- 2026                      [Unconditional Loyalty: The Survival of Minority Regimes](#). *American Political Science Review* (2026), 120 (1):189-206.
- 2023                      [International Competitive Involvement during Democratic Transitions and State Repression](#). *Comparative Politics* 55, no. 4 (2023): 617-638.
- 2017                      Russia's Military Involvement in Syria: An Integrated Realist and Constructivist Approach. *The International Journal of Law, Humanities & Social Science*". Volume 1- Issue 5.

### Book Chapters

- 2026                      The regional politics of authoritarian resilience in the Arab world. In D. El Kurd (Ed.), *The I.B. Tauris Handbook of Authoritarianism in the Arab World*. Bloomsbury Academic

### Selected Non-Academic Publications

- 2025                      [In Syria, Moving Forward Means Looking Back](#). Foreign Affairs.
- 2016                      Changes in Syria's Armed Opposition, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
- 2015                      Russia's Long-Term Aims in Syria", Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
- 2015                      Iran's Stakes in Syria's Economy, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

## TEACHING

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### Course Instructor, University of Toronto.

2023, 2024, 2025 POLD92H3- The Survival and Demise of Authoritarian Regimes.

Summer 2023 POL426H1 - Democracy and Dictatorship.

## APPLIED RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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2019- 2024 Syria Country Expert with V-Dem Institute, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

2025 Reviewed and edited the Arabic translation of [\*Everyday choices: The role of competing authorities and social institutions in politics and development\*](#) by Lust, Ellen (Cambridge University Press, 2022).

2024 Research on the dynamics of post-conflict democratization for the National Democratic Institute (NDI). Washington, DC, United States.

2014-2017 Journalist. Al-Araby Al-Jadeed Newspaper, Lebanon.

2011-2014 Journalist. Al-modon Newspaper, Syria.

## FIELD WORK

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Sudan | Bahrain | Lebanon | London (UK).

## AWARDS, GRANTS & HONORS

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2026 Juan Linz Best Dissertation Award, Honorable Mention, APSA Democracy and Autocracy Section.

2024-2025 Faculty of Arts & Science Doctoral Excellence Scholarship | C\$5,000 |

2023-2024 Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS) | C\$15,000 |

2020-2023 Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Doctoral Scholarship | C\$105,000 |

2023 Doctoral Fellowship, Trudeau Centre for Peace, Conflict and Justice | C\$ 3000 |

2022 Political Science Department Research Travel Grant, University of Toronto | C\$11000 |

2022 SGS Research Travel Grant, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto | C\$6000 |

2020 CGS to Honour Nelson Mandela (The top ten candidates in the Canada Doctoral Scholarship were awarded this honorary title).

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCES/ PRESENTATIONS

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2024 The American Political Science Association's (APSA) Middle East & North Africa Political Science Conference, Kuwait. December 14-20.

2024 WPSA Annual Meeting, Western Political Science Association.

2022-25 APSA Annual Meeting, American Political Science Association.

2022, 23 MESA Annual Conference. Middle East Studies Association.

2023 Competing Authorities in the MENA Workshop (June 13-15). University of Gothenburg.

2022 ECPR General Conference, Innsbruck. European Consortium for Political Research.

2022 The American Political Science Association's (APSA) Middle East & North Africa Political Science Conference, Jordan.

2022 The Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) 13th Annual Conference (Online).  
 2022 POMEPS Virtual Research Workshop.

### Invited Talks

March 2025. Toronto Human Rights Network, University of Toronto Mississauga. “*Syria: What Happens Next?*”  
 Apr 2024 University of Montreal, The Montreal Centre for International Studies. “*The Survival of Minority Autocracies*”.  
 Sep 2023 Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto. “*Ethnic exclusion and Authoritarianism Rule.*”

### SERVICE AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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2026 Member-at-Large, APSA Middle East and North Africa Politics Section.  
 2024 Tutor in the Research Development Workshops for Graduate Students in Arab Countries, organized by the [Arab Political Science Network \(APSN\)](#).  
 2022-2024 Panel organizer and discussant at APSA Conferences (2022-2024), MESA (2022, 2023), and WPSA (Western Political Science Association 2024).  
 2020- 2022 Convenor of the Comparative Autocracy Research Group, University of Toronto.

### SELECTED TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS

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2024 *Teaching in Higher Education* ([THE500](#)): a full-semester course on teaching offered for senior PhD candidates and post-doctoral fellows, University of Toronto.  
 2022 The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR).  
 2022 Workshop on Web-Based Data Collection and Management.  
 2022. APSA short course on “Research Ethics in the Middle East and North Africa”, Montreal.  
 2022 Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (Course: TCPS 2, CORE).  
 2021 Workshop on Research Ethics in the Social Sciences & Humanities.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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Languages: Arabic (Native), English (Fluent), French (Basic).

Software: R, LaTeX, Qualtrics.

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