

# KATHLEEN F. KLAUS

Department of Peace and Conflict Research  
Uppsala University  
Box 514  
SE 751 20 Uppsala

kathleen.klaus@pcr.uu.se  
[www.kathleenklaus.com](http://www.kathleenklaus.com)  
+ 46 73 367 03 01  
ORCID: 0000-0001-7085-4835

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden (Jan 2022-present)  
Associate Senior Lecturer (*Docent*), Department of Peace and Conflict Research

UC Berkeley, Department of Political Science, Visiting Scholar (2024-2025)

University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA (2018 - 2021)  
Assistant Professor, Department of Politics and International Studies

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT (2017- 2018)  
Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Government

Northwestern University, Evanston IL (2015-2017)  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Buffett Institute for Global Studies

University of Texas-Austin, Austin, TX (2014-2015)  
Security Studies Pre-doctoral Fellow, Robert S. Strauss Center for International Law and Security

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Causes & consequences of political violence, elections and democratic erosion, land rights, African politics, peacebuilding and resilience, refugees, climate change, field research methods.

## EDUCATION

*Ph.D.*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Political Science, August 2015  
Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations  
Dissertation: Claiming Land: Institutions, Narratives, and Political Violence in Kenya

*M.A.*, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Political Science, May 2009

*B.A.*, Smith College, Northampton, MA, May 2007  
Major: Government (High Honors), Minor: African Studies  
Semester abroad: Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP), Puebla, Mexico, 2005

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

### ***Book***

2020 *Political Violence in Kenya: Land, Elections, and Claim-Making* (Cambridge University Press, May 2020)

- Reviewed in [Foreign Affairs](#), [Perspectives on Politics](#), [Journal of Development Studies](#), [African Studies Review](#), [Journal of Modern African Studies](#), [Democratization](#), [Politique étrangère](#), and [Washington Post's the Monkey Cage](#),

## ***Journal articles***

- 2025 “Land and Politics.” With Michael Albertus. Forthcoming at *Annual Review of Political Science* (Vol. 28)
- 2023 “Closing the Gap: The Politics of Land Formalization in Kenya.” With Mai Hassan. *World Politics*, 75(3): 233-279. | [Link](#). Summarized in [MIT News](#).
- 2023 “Demanding Recognition: Citizen Perspectives on Clientelism in Africa.” With Jeffrey Paller & Martha Wilfahrt. *African Affairs*, 122(487): 185-327.
- 2020 “Raising the Stakes: Land Titling and Electoral Stability in Kenya.” *Journal of Peace Research* (2020), 57(1): 30-45 | [Link](#).
- 2018 “Can Politicians Exploit Ethnic Grievances? An Experimental Study of Land Appeals in Kenya,” *Political Behavior* (2018), 42, 35–58, with Jeremy Horowitz | [Link](#).
- 2017 “Defending the City, Defending Votes: Campaign Strategies in Urban Ghana,” *Journal of Modern African Studies* (2017), 55(4): 681-708, with Jeffrey Paller | [Link](#).
- 2017 “Contentious Land Narratives and the Non-escalation of Election Violence: Evidence from Kenya’s Coast Region.” (2017) *African Studies Review*, 60(2) | [Link](#).
- Winner of the African Studies Association Graduate Student Paper Prize.
- 2015 “Land Grievances and the Mobilization of Electoral Violence: Evidence from Côte d’Ivoire and Kenya,” *Journal of Peace Research* (2015), 52(2): 622-635, with Matthew Mitchell | [Link](#).

## **WORKING PAPERS**

- Democracy Dismissed: When Leaders and Citizens Choose Violence. With Megan Turnbull. (*Re&R, Journal of Peace Research*)
- Can Peacebuilding Strengthen Social Resilience to Communal Violence? Survey Evidence from Kenya. With Jana Krause and Marika Miner (*Under review*) | [OSF pre-prints](#).
- Does Violence Beget Violence? The Enduring Effects of Election Violence on Peacebuilding.

## **IN PROGRESS**

- From Cooperation to Conflict: How Land Tenure Shapes Climate Resilience Strategies (with Emma Elfversson).
- Explaining the Gender Gap: Women & Land Titling in Kenya (with Mai Hassan & Fanisi Mbozi).
- Agency and Altruism: The Local Politics of Refugee inclusion.
- “Kenya.” In, *Escaping the Ethnic Trap: Inclusive Governance and Social Cohesion in Diverse Democracies*, edited by Fletcher D. Cox and Timothy D. Sisk (funded by United States Institute of Peace).

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

- 2024 Steven Rosenzweig’s *Voter Backlash and Elite Misperception: The Logic of Violence in Electoral Competition* (Cambridge University Press). Forthcoming, *Political Science Quarterly*.

- 2022 Ambreena Manji's *The Struggle for Land and Justice in Kenya* (James Currey Press), in *Canadian Journal of African Studies* ([online first](#))
- 2021 Michael Albertus' *Property without rights: Origins and consequences of the property rights gap* (Cambridge University Press), in *Governance* ([Online first](#)).
- 2020 Mimmi Soderberg Kovas and Jesper Bjarnesen's *Violence in African Elections: Between Democracy and Big Man Politics* (eds) in *Africa: The Journal of the International African Institute*, 90(2): 424-425 | [Link](#).
- 2007 Blessings Chinsinga's *Democracy, Decentralization and Poverty Reduction in Malawi* in *African Studies Review*. 52 (1): 201-202.

## MAJOR GRANTS

- 2024 *Principal Investigator*. Swedish Research Council. "Welcome reception? The local sources of refugee inclusion and cooperation." 2025-2027. SEK 5.090.000
- 2022 *Project leader*. Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA), Government of Sweden. "Land Tenure and Strategies of Climate Resilience." 2023-2024. *Co-leader*: Emma Elfversson. SEK 699.000.
- 2022 *Project member*. Swedish Research Council. "Strengthening social capital in conflict areas by improving mental health – Evaluating the effects of a randomized controlled trial in northeastern Nigeria." 2023-2026. SEK 4,754,000. *Project leader*: Jonathan Hall (DPCR).
- 2020 *Project participant*. European Research Council. 'ResilienceBuilding: Social Resilience, Gendered Dynamics, and Local Peace in Protracted Conflicts'. 2020-2026. PI: Jana Krause (University of Oslo).
- 2011 National Science Foundation (NSF) Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

## FELLOWSHIPS

- 2014-2015 Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
- 2014-2015 Security Studies Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Robert S. Strauss Center, UT-Austin
- 2015 American Political Science Association Africa Workshop Fellow, Nairobi (July 2015)
- 2014 Mellon-Wisconsin Summer Fellowship, Madison, WI
- 2013-2014 United States Institute of Peace, Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship
- 2012-2013 Social Science Research Council, International Dissertation Research Fellowship
- 2010-2011 Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) Academic Year Fellowship for Swahili
- 2009 Foreign Language and Areas Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship for Swahili
- 2007-2008 Fulbright Fellowship (Malawi), Institute for International Education
- 2006 Fox Boornstein International Internship Fellowship, Smith College, MA

## AWARDS

- 2016 Best Field Research Award, APSA Comparative Democratization Section
- 2016 APCG-Lynne Rienner Best Dissertation in African Politics in 2015 (*Honorable Mention*)
- 2015 African Studies Association, Graduate Student Paper Prize
- 2010 International Field Research Award, Division of International Studies, UW-Madison

## INTERNAL GRANTS

- 2018-2021 Faculty Development Grant, University of San Francisco
- 2017 Manuscript Revision Conference Award, Buffett Institute, Northwestern University
- 2011 Vilas Research Travel Grant, UW-Madison

## OTHER WRITING & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

*Blog posts & news commentary*

- “Kenya protests: Ruto pulling the finance bill is unlikely to satisfy angry young protesters – here’s why.” *The Conversation*, 7/26/2024. [Link](#).
- "Israel's actions in Gaza play into the hands of Hamas," *Dagens Nyheter*, 11/07/2023. [Link](#).
- “What William Ruto’s presidency would mean for Kenya’s economy.” *The Conversation*, 8/16/22. [Link](#).
- “Three things to know about Kenya’s election tomorrow,” *The Monkey Cage, Washington Post*, 8/8/22. [Link](#).
- “There’s a long, troubling history behind the Capitol attack,” *The Monkey Cage, Washington Post*. 1/24/21. [Link](#).
- "Will the US Experience Election Violence? Lessons from Kenya." *Political Violence at a Glance*, 10/29/2020. [Link](#).
- “Why do people participate in election violence? Insights from Kenya’s 2007 elections.” *The Conversation*, 8/18/2020 | [Link](#).
- What do shifting grass-roots dynamics tell us about the Zimbabwe election?” *The Monkey Cage, Washington Post*, 8/30/2018. [Link](#).
- “Côte d’Ivoire’s 2015 elections: Local Interests and Prospects for Peace,” *APSA Africa Workshop Newsletter*, November 2015.
- “Can an economic boom ensure peaceful elections in Côte d’Ivoire?” *The Monkey Cage, Washington Post*. 10/20/15 | [Link](#).

#### *Podcasts and virtual roundtables*

- “Kenya’s 2022 elections: Processes, outcomes, and implications for democracy and governance.” State and Institutions in Africa Working Group, University of Florida (Virtual). 9/19/22. [Link](#).
- “Kenya has a new president, but election might not be over yet,” Deep Dish on Global Affairs (podcast), 8/18/22. [Link](#).
- “The Road to the 2022 Kenyan Elections,” Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa, University of Cape Town & Democracy in Africa Webinar. 6/28/22 | [Link](#).
- New Books Network. Interview with Susan Thompson. 8/5/2020 | [Link](#).
- Ufahamu Africa. Interview with Rachel Riedl (Episode 78), 11/2/2019 | [Link](#).
- Ufahamu Africa. Interview with Kim Yi Dionne (Episode 28), 9/3/2017 | [Link](#).

#### *Other policy-oriented activities*

- *Consultant* – USAID: Kenya Voter Turnout Evidence Review (Oct 2024).
- *Contributor, Expert Working Group*: Democracy and Governance After COVID-19, University of Denver’s Korbel School Institute for Comparative and Regional Studies (June 2021-January 2022).

#### *Other media interviews*

- “Scaled-Back but Determined Protests in Kenya Call for President to Resign,” *New York Times*, 27 June 2024. [Link](#).

### **INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- 2024 [Political Violence in Democracies Workshop](#), University of Amsterdam (February)
- 2022 Rokkan Symposium, “Resisting Autocracy,” University of Bergen, Norway (October).
- 2021 UC Berkley, Center for African Studies, Africa Matters Seminar (April).
- 2019 Cornell University, Institute for African Development (October).
- 2019 UC Berkeley, ORIAS Summer Institute, Global Rise of National Populism (June).
- 2018 UC Berkeley, Africa Colloquium (March).
- 2017 University of Iowa, African Studies Program (March).
- 2017 University of Florida, Baraza Lecture Series, Center for African Studies (February).
- 2016 Northwestern University, Comparative Politics Workshop (December).
- 2016 University of Minnesota, “Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa,” (October).

- 2016 Northwestern University, Buffett Institute for Global Studies (January).
- 2015 UW-Madison, Land Tenure Center, Nelson Institute (December).
- 2015 IFPRI, “Strengthening Institutions and Governance” Workshop, Washington D.C
- 2013 SAIS-John Hopkins University, “Kenya at Fifty,” Washington D.C.
- 2013 University of Nairobi, Institute for Development Studies, Nairobi, Kenya.
- 2012 Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana), Accra, Ghana.

## CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- 7<sup>TH</sup> Nordic Development Research Conference, Uppsala, Sweden (Aug 2023)
- Political Violence and Electoral Politics, Online Research Workshop, University of Amsterdam (Oct 2022).
- Folke Bernadotte Academy Research Workshop: Pursuit of Peacefully Polling (Virtual, Dec 2020).
- Peace Science Society Workshop on Elections and Violence (Virtual, November 2020).
- Midwest Working Group in African Political Economy (MGAPE), Minneapolis, MN (Oct, 2016).
- Social Science Research Council Fellows Workshop, Philadelphia, PA (2013)

### *Annual Professional Conferences*

- APSA Annual Meeting (2024, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013)
- African Studies Association Annual Meeting (2023, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2009)
- International Studies Association Annual Convention (2019, 2018)
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (2017, 2016, 2010)

## FIELD RESEARCH

- *Kenya*: June 2022, Summer 2017, Summer 2015, May 2012-2013, Summer 2010
- *Uganda*: July-August 2019
- *Ghana*: September 2011-May 2012
- *Malawi*: September 2007-July 2008 (*pre-doctoral fieldwork as Fulbright Fellow studying HIV/AIDS & food security*)

## GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION

- Co-supervisor to PhD Candidate, Juan Diego Salazar (DPCR, Uppsala University).
- Co-supervisor to PhD candidate, Leonor Toscano (Dept of Political Science, University of Oslo)
- Master’s thesis supervision, DPCR (2022-24).
- Master’s thesis supervision, University of San Francisco (2020-21).

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Uppsala University

- Lecturer & course convenor, *War & Development* (Master’s level)
- Lecturer, *Causes of War* (Master’s level)
- Lecturer, *International Conflict Resolution* (Master’s level)
- Lecturer & seminar instructor, *Conflict Resolution* (Bachelor’s level).
- Lecturer & course convenor: *Theory & Research Methods* (Bachelor’s level).
- Lecturer & seminar instructor; *Methods and Thesis* (Bachelor’s level).

### University of San Francisco (2018-2021)

- Introduction to Politics: Conflict & Change
- Politics Lab: Researching Inequality & Displacement in the Bay Area
- Political Economy of Developing Countries
- Politics of War & Peace

- Security and Terrorism
- African Politics and Development
- Human Rights & Global Change
- Land & Human Rights
- Research Methods
- International Law & Organizations

Wesleyan University (2017-18)

- Democracy and Dictatorship: Politics in the Contemporary World
- Land Rights and Conflict in a Global Perspective
- African Politics

Northwestern University: (2016-17)

- Land Rights and Conflict in a Global Perspective

*Participation in book and dissertation manuscript conferences*

- Megan Turnbull, School of Public & International Affairs, University of Georgia, Book Manuscript Workshop, 21 April 2023.
- Gudlaug Olafsdottir, DPCR, Uppsala University, 31 May 2024.
- Kristina Petrova, DPCR, Uppsala University, 9 November 2022.
- Alexandre Raffoul, DPCR, Uppsala University, 19 September 2022 (Halfway seminar).

*Pedagogical training*

- *Teacher Training Course* (5 weeks), 2022, Division for Development of Teaching and Learning, Uppsala University

## **LEADERSHIP**

- Director, Speaker Series, Department of Peace & Conflict, Uppsala University (Fall 2023 - present).
- Program Director, [International Training on Dialogue and Mediation](#), Uppsala University & Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation (2022).
- Director, University of San Francisco, African Studies Program (2020-2021).

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- *Coordinator*: Research Development Group, Africa Politics Conference Group (APSA 2017; 2020).
- Selection Committee, African Politics Conference Group (APCG) Best Book Award (2024).
- Selection Committee, African Politics Conference Group (APCG) Best Dissertation Award (2021).
- Selection Committee, APSA QMMR Alexander George best article award (2023)
- Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *African Affairs*, *African Studies Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Political Geography*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *World Politics*

## **AFFILIATIONS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

- Research Associate, University of Nairobi, Institute for Development Studies (2012-2013).
- Member: American Political Science Association, African Studies Association, African Politics Conference Group, International Studies Association.

## **LANGUAGES & OTHER SKILLS**

- English (native) Spanish (proficient), Swahili (proficient)
- Stata, R, ArcGIS, Tableau

**PARENTAL LEAVE** (13 months)

- August 2020-January 2021 (100%)
- January-July 2023 (100%)