

Leonardo CARELLA

Postdoctoral Researcher — University of Vienna, Department of Government

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

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- Aug 2025— **Postdoctoral Researcher – Department of Government, University of Vienna.**
➤ Associate Member – Nuffield College, University of Oxford (Oct 2025–)
- Oct 2022—2025 **Postdoctoral Prize Research Fellow – University of Oxford, Nuffield College.**
➤ Ox|Ber Visiting Scholar – DYNAMICS, Humboldt University of Berlin (Sep–Oct 2024).
➤ External Postdoctoral Researcher – UChicago Political Science Department (Mar–Jul 2024).

EDUCATION

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- 2019—2022 **DPhil (PhD) in Politics – University of Oxford, Mansfield College**
➤ Thesis : *Essays on Electoral Institutions*. Supervisor : Benjamin W. Ansell. 
➤ Pass without corrections in November 2022. Examiners : Simon Hix, Tarik Abou-Chadi.
- 2017—2019 **MPhil in Politics (European Politics and Society) – University of Oxford, St. Antony's College**
➤ Thesis : *Do Campaign Rallies Matter? Evidence from the Five Star Movement's 'Tsunami Tour' in the 2013 Italian Parliamentary Election*. Supervisor : Andrew C. Eggers.
➤ Graduated with *distinction* (first class honours), obtaining firsts in all components.
- 2014—2017 **BSocSc (Bachelor's Degree) in Politics and International Relations – University of Manchester**
➤ Thesis : *Who Are the Left Behind? The Status Stratification of UKIP Support*. Supervisor : Colin Talbot.
➤ Graduated with *first class honours*, top of cohort (grade average of 82).

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- 2025 **IPZ Departmental Funding** – awarded by the University of Zurich Department of Political Science for the project 'Immigration and Social Identities' (main applicant : F. Raffaelli). (9,250CHF)
- 2025 **John Fell Fund Small Research Grant** – awarded by the University of Oxford for the project 'Immigration and Social Identities' (co-investigator : F. Raffaelli). (£7,200)
- 2024 **DPIR DPhil Thesis Prize in Government** – awarded for best thesis in the academic year 2022–2023.
- 2024 **Ox|Ber Research Mobility Fund** – awarded by the University of Oxford and Berlin University Alliance for a visiting research stint at Humboldt University in Autumn 2024.
- 2024 **Warden's Special Research Grant** – awarded by Nuffield College to carry out digitisation of archival data on historical election returns in Italy. (£900)
- 2023 **BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grant** – competitive grant awarded for the project 'Intra-Party Sources of Electoral Reform in the PR Wave', principal investigator (with K. Wegschaider). (£10,000)
- 2017—2022 **'Grand Union' DTP Studentship** – post-graduate scholarship (MPhil + DPhil) awarded by the UK's Economic and Social Research Council (approx. £140,000, plus COVID-19 extension).
- 2020—2021 **'Admeto Pettinari e Paolo Andreini' Bursary** – awarded by the Bank of Italy, ranked first. (£8,000)
- 2019 **Oxford Spring School in Advanced Research Methods Bursary** – awarded by the University of Oxford's DPIR and the Grand Union DTP scheme.
- 2017 **Outstanding Academic Achievement Award** – awarded by the University of Manchester to the top final-year undergraduates (~ 0.5%) across all Faculties. (£1,000)
- 2017 **University of Manchester Q-Step Dissertation prize** – awarded for best quantitative undergraduate dissertation in the school of social sciences.
- 2017 **Simon Prize** – awarded for highest grade average across politics modules.
- 2017 **Ralph Young Prize** – awarded for top final-year performance in BSocSc (Hons) Politics and IR.
- 2012 **Premio Maturità 'Programma Annuale per la Valorizzazione delle Eccellenze'** – awarded by the Italian Ministry of Education for obtaining 100 *e lode* in secondary school final examinations.

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| Journal Articles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Carella, L. and Raffaelli, F. (forthcoming) 'From Context to Congruence : Immigration Salience and Voter Socialisation'. Conditionally accepted at the <i>European Journal of Political Research</i>.  > Carella, L. (2024) 'Who Runs for Higher Office? Electoral Institutions and Level-Hopping Attempts in Germany's State Legislatures'. <i>Legislative Studies Quarterly</i>, 49(1):481-549.  > Carella, L. and Eggers, A. C. (2024) 'Electoral Systems and Geographic Representation', <i>British Journal of Political Science</i>, 54(1):40-68.  > Carella, L. and Ford, R. (2020) 'The Status Stratification of Radical Right Support : Reconsidering the Occupational Profile of UKIP Voters', <i>Electoral Studies</i>, 67(2020).  |
| Working Papers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Do Open Lists Increase Turnout? Probably Not : New Evidence from Spain. <i>R&R at Electoral Studies [submitted for second review]</i>.  > Predicting Candidate Preference Shares in Preferential-List PR Systems. <i>Conference Paper</i>.  > Electoral Systems' Effects on Participation beyond Turnout : Evidence from Heterogeneity-in-Discontinuity Analysis from Italy and Poland. <i>Conference Paper</i>.  > The 'Anti-Cooptational' Coalition : Explaining the Adoption of Proportional Representation in Early 20th-Century France and Italy (with K. Wegschaider). <i>Conference Paper</i>. > Intra-Party Sources of Electoral Reform in the 'PR wave' (with K. Wegschaider). <i>Conference Paper</i>. > Immigration and Social Identities (with F. Raffaelli). |
| Work in Progress | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Young Voters and the Radical Right (with T. Abou-Chadi and IPPR). > Economic Effects of Immigration Restrictions : The 1921 Quota Act and Italian Rural Development. > Political Consequences of Educational Expansion (with Ari Ray). > Baby Boomers at the Ballot Box : Cohort Size and Representation across Electoral Systems. |
| Other Publications | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Carella, L. and Kelly, E. 'Social Values' (2024) in <i>The State of Public Opinion 2023</i>, UK in a Changing Europe <i>[think tank research report]</i>.  > Carella, L. (2022) 'The British Elections of 2019', <i>Political Quarterly</i>. <i>[book review]</i>  > Raikes, L., Cox, E. and Carella, L. (2016) 'State of the North 2016 : Building Northern Resilience in an Era of Global Uncertainty', <i>IPPR North</i>. <i>[think tank research report]</i>  |
| Media | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Six Points pour Comprendre l'Élection Présidentielle Italienne, <i>Le Grand Continent</i>.  > The Pro-Independence Majority in the Scottish Parliament, <i>Aspenia Online</i>.  > Britain's New Relationship with the EU : Politics of Resentment, <i>Aspenia Online</i>.  > Status, not Class, Linked to Support for Right-Wing Populism, <i>US Blog</i> (with R. Ford).  > El Asalto al Capitolio También Podría Ocurred en Europa, <i>El Confidencial</i>.  <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Also published in French for <i>Le Grand Continent</i>.  > Britain Negotiates a Precarious New Normal amid Daunting Policy Challenges, <i>Aspenia Online</i>.  > Veepstakes 2020 : chi è in corsa per il posto di vice di Biden, <i>YouTrend</i>.  <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Also published in French for <i>Le Grand Continent</i>.  > Italy's 'Election Day' : A Preview, <i>LSE Blog</i>.  <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Also published in French for <i>Le Grand Continent</i>.  > Covid-19 : What went Wrong in Britain, <i>Aspenia Online</i>.  > Italy's Regional Elections : The End of the Road for the Five-Star Movement? , <i>PSA Blog</i>.  <li style="padding-left: 20px;">Also published in French for <i>Le Grand Continent</i>.  > What Impact Would Election Alliances Have on the Election Results? , <i>UK in a Changing Europe</i>  > Comment le Racisme Favorise les Fusillades de Masse aux États-Unis, <i>Le Grand Continent</i>  > My research, commentary and tweets have also been featured in ITV's <i>Peston</i>, TGCom24's <i>Dentro i fatti</i>, LBC's <i>Shelagh Fogarty</i>, <i>The Guardian</i>, <i>The New York Times</i>, <i>The Washington Post</i>, <i>Financial Times</i>, <i>El Confidencial</i>, <i>Business Insider</i>, <i>Open Democracy</i>, <i>Huffington Post (DE)</i>, <i>Edinburgh News</i>, <i>Observador</i>, <i>Atlantic Sentinel</i>, <i>Compass</i>, <i>Left Foot Forward</i>. |

- Graduate**
- Lecturer, INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS**, Michaelmas Term 2023 and 2024.
DPIR, University of Oxford — co-taught with Rachel Bernhard.
[Syllabus](#) [Slides](#) [Lab Material](#)
- Lecturer, POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT OF THE UK**, Hilary Term 2023 and 2024.
DPIR, University of Oxford — co-taught with Nicholas Dickinson.
[Syllabus](#)
- Teaching Assistant, INTRODUCTORY STATISTICS**, Michaelmas Term 2021.
DPIR, University of Oxford — Instructors : Tarik Abou-Chadi and Vicente Valentim.
[Lab Material](#)
- Undergraduate**
- Lecturer, INTRODUCTION TO QUANTITATIVE METHODS**, Winter Term 2025.
University of Vienna, BA programme in Political Science.
[Syllabus](#)
- Lecturer, COMPARATIVE DEMOCRATIC POLITICS**, Winter Term 2025.
University of Vienna, BA programme in Political Science.
[Syllabus](#)
- Lecturer, COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT**, Hilary Term 2023, 2024 and 2025.
DPIR, University of Oxford — course taught collectively by Oxford faculty.
[Syllabus](#) [Slides](#)
- Teaching Assistant, INTRODUCTORY QUANTITATIVE METHODS**, Hilary Term 2022.
DPIR, University of Oxford — Instructor : Spyros Kosmidis.
[Lab Material](#)
- Tutor, PRACTICE OF POLITICS**, Hilary Term 2022.
Lincoln College, University of Oxford.
[Syllabus](#)
- Tutor, POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY**, Michaelmas Term 2021 and Hilary Term 2022.
St. Hugh's College and Queen's College, University of Oxford.
[Syllabus](#)
- Tutor, COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT**, Trinity Term 2021.
Various colleges, University of Oxford.
- Other**
- Instructor, INTRODUCTION TO R**, Hilary Term 2022.
Spring School in Advanced Research Methods, University of Oxford.
[Lab Material](#)
- Thesis Supervisor, MPhil EUROPEAN POLITICS AND SOCIETY**, 2022–2024.
DPIR, University of Oxford (graduate student : B. Matthews).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019—2022 **Research Assistant, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD**, DPIR and Nuffield College
- For Spyros Kosmidis, on a review of teaching material for Introductory Quantitative Methods.
 - For Ezequiel Gonzalez-Ocantos, on a research project about political polarisation in Latin America.
 - For David Rueda and Philipp Rehm, on a research project about social/occupational status.
 - For Jane Gingrich, as part of the SCHOOLPOL project on the comparative politics of education.
- June—Aug 2016 **Data Analyst, IPPR NORTH**, Q-Step Internship Programme
- Contributed to the think tank's flagship *State of the North* report.
- Jun—Aug 2015 **Intern, SCIENCE OFFICE**, Italian Embassy in the UK, London
- Created a database of Italian scientists working in the UK.
 - Contributed to the drafting of diplomatic messages on UK science and innovation policy.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2025 Grant Reviewer for the National Science Center (Narodowe Centrum Nauki) of Poland.
- 2024 Organiser and Moderator, 'British Politics Election Year Seminar', Nuffield Politics Research Centre.
- 2022— Graduate admissions (MSc, DPhil), thesis examination (MSc, MPhil, PPE, History and Politics), research project assessment (MSc, MPhil), final exam marking (PPE, H&P) – DPIR, University of Oxford.
- 2022— Country expert coder for party positions in Italy (×2) and UK (×1).
- 2020— Reviewer : *Comparative Political Studies* (×4), *British Journal of Political Science*, *Political Science Research and Methods*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly* (×2), *Government & Opposition*, *European Journal of Political Research* (×4), *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Journal of European Public Policy*, *Electoral Studies* (×4).

CONFERENCES AND TALKS

- Jan 2026 *Europaeum Winter School (invited speaker)*, Central European University, Vienna. [scheduled]
- Jan 2026 *Swiss Political Science Association Congress (presenter)*, Zurich. [scheduled]
- Nov 2025 *Departmental Research Seminar (co-presenter)*, University of Vienna. [scheduled]
- Oct 2025 *Departmental Research Seminar (presenter)*, University of Vienna. [scheduled]
- Jul 2025 Representation in Divided Democracies workshop (presenter, discussant), ETH and UZH, Zurich.
- Jun 2025 EPSA 2025 Conference (presenter, chair), Madrid.
- Jun 2025 European Political Institutions Conference (presenter), Madrid.
- May 2025 Work-in-Progress Workshop : Ballots and Borders (discussant), Yale University.
- Apr 2025 Comparative Political Economy Workshop (co-presenter), Nuffield College, University of Oxford.
- Jan 2025 Politics and IR Seminar (invited speaker), Royal Holloway University, London.
- Jan 2025 Network for the Historical Study of States and Regimes Research Lab (co-presenter), online.
- Jul 2024 EPSA 2024 Conference (presenter, chair), Cologne.
- Apr 2024 MPSA 2024 Conference (presenter, chair, discussant), Chicago.
- Jan 2024 Departmental Research Seminar (invited speaker), UCL Department of Politics, London.
- Nov 2023 Comparative Political Economy Workshop (presenter), Nuffield College, University of Oxford.
- Sep 2023 Race and Electoral Systems Reform Conference (invited speaker), Harvard University, Cambridge (MA).
- Sep 2023 EPOP Conference (presenter, chair), University of Southampton.
- Jun 2023 EPSA Conference (presenter, discussant), University of Strathclyde, Glasgow.
- Dec 2022 DPIR Research in Progress (discussant), University of Oxford.
- Apr 2022 DPIR Politics Colloquium (discussant), University of Oxford.
- Sep 2021 Democracy, Elections and Comparative Politics PGR Conference (presenter), University of Manchester.
- Feb 2020 European Wednesdays | Italy and Its Discontents (invited speaker), St John's College, University of Oxford.
- Nov 2019 Comparative Research on Political Elites Conference (presenter), Hertie School of Government, Berlin.

TRAINING AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 2025— German language course (A1) — University of Vienna *Sprachenzentrum*.
- 2023 IPCSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods – University of Michigan.
- 2020—2021 Private tutor in 'Politics of Central and Eastern Europe'.
- 2020—2021 Freelance tutor for current and prospective postgraduate students.
- 2020—2021 Tutor for Prospective University Applicants – Mentoring for Success outreach scheme.
- 2019 Oxford Spring School of Advanced Research Methods.
- 2016—2018 Polish language study – Private Tuition (B2), Instytut Kształcenia Obcokrajowców, Warsaw (A2 and B1), University of Manchester LEAP Centre (A1).
- 2016—2017 President – University of Manchester Italian Society.
- 2016 DataFest Summer School – Sheffield Methods Institute, University of Sheffield.
- 2015—2016 Peer Mentor – University of Manchester, Politics and International Relations.
- 2014—2015 Student Representative – Politics and International Relations (First Year).
- 2014 English tutor and activities organizer – Up! Summer Camp, Ningxia (China).
- 2013 Summer School – London School of Journalism, London.
- 2010 Summer School – Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa.

LANGUAGES

Italian	●	●	●	●	●
English	●	●	●	●	●
Spanish	●	●	●	○	○
French	●	●	●	○	○
Polish	●	●	○	○	○

SOFTWARE

- Proficient : R (RMarkdown, tidyverse, RStan, quanteda, sf), Qualtrics, MS Office, SPSS, $\text{\LaTeX}$.
- Knowledgeable : Git, Stata, Python, Tableau, QGIS, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign, Zotero, SQL.

REFERENCES

Andrew C. Eggers

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