

CURRICULUM VITAE, Merete Bech Seeberg (updated May 2026)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Merete Bech Seeberg
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2023- Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
2015-2023 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University

EDUCATION

2015 PhD, Political Science, Aarhus University. The Power to Control: How State Capacity and Economic Control Condition the Effect of Authoritarian Elections
2012 MSc Political Science, Aarhus University
2008 MSc Comparative Politics, London School of Economics, graduated with distinction, awarded the Bill Letwin Prize for best performance
2007 BSc Political Science, Aarhus University

PhD-age (leave and part-time work deducted): 5 years

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- Oforu, George, Merete Bech Seeberg, and Michael Wahman. 2026. "Messages Matter. How Voter Education Campaigns Affect Citizens Willingness to Vote for Women Candidates". *Journal of Politics* 88(1): 145-161.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech and Michael Wahman. 2024. "How Does Primary Election Manipulation Affect the Selection of Women Candidates? Evidence from Malawi." *Comparative Politics* 56(3): 345-366.
- Wahman, Michael and Merete Bech Seeberg. 2022. "Paying to Play. How Parliamentary Candidates Fund Ruling Party Campaigns in Malawi." *Comparative Politics* 55(1): 95-118.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2021. "How State Capacity Helps Autocrats Win Elections." *British Journal of Political Science* 51(2): 541-558.
- Reeder, Bryce and Merete Bech Seeberg. 2018. "Fighting Your Friends? A Study of Intra-Party Violence in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Democratization* 25(6): 1033-1051.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech, Michael Wahman, and Svend-Erik Skaaning. 2018. "Candidate Nomination, Intra-Party Democracy, and Election Violence in Africa." *Democratization* 25 (6): 959-77.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2018. "Electoral Authoritarianism and Economic Control." *International Political Science Review* 39 (1): 33-48.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2014. "State Capacity and the Paradox of Authoritarian Elections", *Democratization*, 21(7): 1265-1285.
- Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2013. "Authoritarianism and Elections during the Third Wave", *Statsvetenskaplig Tidsskrift*, 115(4): 313-344.

Books

- Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2018. *State Capacity, Economic Control, and Authoritarian Elections*. New York: Routledge.

Seeberg, Merete Bech, Michael Wahman, and Svend-Erik Skaaning (eds.). 2018. *Violence and candidate nomination in Africa*. New York: Routledge.

Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2015. *The Power to Control. How State Capacity and Economic Control Condition the Effect of Authoritarian Elections*. PhD Dissertation. Aarhus University, Politica.

Working papers

Ofosu, George, Merete Bech Seeberg and Michael Wahman. 2025. "From Ambition to Action: Political Networking as a Pathway for Women Candidates".

Aarslew, Laurits and Merete Bech Seeberg. 2025. "How Do African Voters' Respond to Campaign Strategies?" *Under review*.

Aarslew, Laurits and Merete Bech Seeberg. 2025. "The Adverse Effect of Electoral Campaigning for Women Candidates: Evidence from Malawi." *Ready for submission*.

Clara Neupert-Wentz, Julian Schuessler, and Merete Bech Seeberg. 2025. "Matrilineage and Women in Politics." *Draft paper*.

Textbook chapters

Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2017. "Stabilitet og forandring i autoritære regimer", s. 151-172 in *Introduktion til komparativ politik*, Hassing Nielsen, J., Agaard Seeberg, M., Tolstrup, J. (red), København: Hans Reitzel.

Book reviews

Seeberg, Merete Bech. 2018. "Book Review: Why Elections Fail." *Party Politics* 24 (2): 222–23.

RESEARCH LEADERSHIP AND GRANTS

2022-2026 Principal investigator, Women in Politics in Africa (WIP), Independent Research Fund Denmark (3 mil DKK).

2015-2020 Co-workpackage leader, Conflict and Democratization (CODE), Innovationsfonden (16 mil DKK).

RESEARCH STAYS

2025 Visiting senior fellow, Government Department, London School of Economics, UK

2016 Visiting Fellow, The Electoral Integrity Project, University of Sydney (host: Professor Pippa Norris), Australia

2013 Visiting Fellow, Stanford University (host: Professor Larry Diamond), US

INVITED TALKS (RECENT)

2026 Rutgers' University, US

2025 London School of Economics, UK

2023 NDI, Lusaka, Zambia

2023 University of Lund, Sweden

DISSEMINATION (SELECTED)

2025 Seeberg, Merete Bech, George Ofosu and Michael Wahman. "How campaigns can boost women's representation", *The Malawi Times*, Feb 26.

2025 Seeberg, Merete Bech, George Ofosu, and Michael Wahman. "Civic Education Lessons from Malawi", *Democracy in Africa Blog*

2022- Lecturer, Folkeuniversitetet: Democracy in Africa

- 2019 Seeberg, Merete Bech and Michael Wahman. “Why Does Malawi have 1,331 candidates running for 193 seats in parliament?”. *The Washington Post*, March 11.
- 2014-2016 Course on research on election observation for EU and OSCE election observers, The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- 2015-2016 Four features in *Weekendavisen* on elections and democracy
- 2015-2025 Appearances on Danish radio on topics such as elections and democracy

TEACHING, SUPERVISION AND ASSESSMENTS

- 2016- Supervision of master theses, Aarhus University
- 2025 Head of PhD assessment committee (Ane Jacobsen, Aarhus University)
- 2024 PhD Assessment committee (Jonas Schmid, University of Oslo)
- 2023 PhD Assessment committee (Pauline Lemaire, University of Bergen)
- 2023- PhD Supervisor (Julia Harune Nennstiel, Aarhus University)
- 2018 Discussant, PhD work in progress seminar (Louise Thom Bøttkjær, CBS)
- 2013 Authoritarian Regimes, MA seminar, Aarhus University
- 2010 Comparative Politics, TA, BA, Aarhus University

FIELD WORK AND DEPLOYMENTS (SELECTED)

- 2026 Fieldwork, elite interviews, Nairobi, Kenya
- 2023-2025 Research Cooperation, National Democratic Institute, Lusaka, Zambia
- 2023 Fieldwork, Lusaka, Zambia
- 2022 Online field work, elite interviews, Malawi
- 2021-2023 Research cooperation with 50:50 campaign, Center for Civil Society Strengthening, Lilongwe, Malawi
- 2014 OSCE election observer, Moldova.
- 2014 Field work, elite interviews, Harare and Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.