

Lasse Egendal Leipziger

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
Bartholins Allé 7
8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

Phone: +45 40338617
Email: lel@ps.au.dk
[Website link](#)

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor 2023-
Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
Parental leave: March–June 2025 (4 months)

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science 2020-2023
Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
Dissertation: Democracy and Ethnic Inequality: Examining a Two-Way Relationship

Fulbright Visiting Ph.D. Scholar 9-12/2022
University of California, San Diego

Crown Prince Frederik Scholar 2017-2018
John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University

M.Sc., Political Science 2015-2017
Department of Political Science, Aarhus University

Exchange Student 8-12/2015
Paris School of International Affairs, Sciences Po, Paris

B.Sc., Political Science 2012-2015
Department of Political Science, Aarhus University
Graduated top of class (1/197)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Inequality – especially between ethnic groups – democracy and autocracy, mobilization, civil conflict, and revolutions

PUBLICATIONS

Journal articles

Leipziger, L. E., L. F. Aarslew, and M. E. Christensen (2026). “Do Group-Based Inequalities Feel More Unjust? Experimental Evidence from Economically Disadvantaged Groups in India, South Africa, and the United States” *Public Opinion Quarterly*. *Conditionally accepted*.

Leipziger, L. E., L. L. Rørbæk, and S-E. Skaaning (2025). “Does Ethno-Political Exclusion Cause Civil War Onset via Grievances? Evidence from 15 Case Studies”, *Perspectives on Politics, FirstView*

Leipziger, L. E. (2025). “Democracy and Ethnic Inequality: A Comparative Case Study”, *Democratization*, 32(2), 373–396

Leipziger, L. E. (2024). "Ethnic Inequality, Democratic Transitions, and Democratic Breakdowns: Investigating an Asymmetrical Relationship", *Journal of Politics*, 86(1), 291-304. [Blog link](#)

Leipziger, L. E. (2024). "Does Democracy Reduce Ethnic Inequality?", *American Journal of Political Science*, 68(4), 1335-1352. [Blog link](#)

Leipziger, L. E. (2023). "Measuring Ethnic Inequality: An Assessment of Extant Cross-National Indices" *British Journal of Political Science*, 53(2), 652-673.

Book chapters

Leipziger, L. E., Thorsen M. T., and Skaaning, S-E. (2023). "Does Economic Inequality Harm Democratic Quality? No, but Yes" in C. Green-Pedersen, C. Jensen & B. Vis (eds), *No Normal Science: Festschrift for Kees van Kersbergen*. *Politica*, pp. 187-201.

Journal articles in Danish

Leipziger, L. E. (2026). "Diversitet, Ulighed og Demokratisk Tilbagegang", *accepted at Politica*.

Other

Leipziger, L. E. (2023). "*Democracy and Ethnic Inequality: Examining a Two-Way Relationship*", Ph.D. Dissertation. [Politica](#)

Leipziger, L. E. (2018). "Thukydids fælde: Derfor er krig mellem Kina og USA mere sandsynlig, end du tror" in *Berlingske Tidende*

Leipziger, L. E. (2016). "Democracy and State Capacity Revisited", published at [y-dem.net](#)

Leipziger, L. E. (2015). "Does Oil Sustain Authoritarianism in the Middle East?", published at [sciencespo.fr](#)

ONGOING RESEARCH

Working papers

Leipziger, L. E., D. Andersen, and S-E. Skaaning. "Dynamics of Regime Change: A New Dataset on Actors, Actions, and Ambitions"

Leipziger, L. E. and C. Jensen. "Democracy on the Horizon: Strategic Welfare Expansions Before Transition"

Doucette, J. and L. E. Leipziger. "Does Sequence Matter? Pathway Arguments and Democratic Stability"

Leipziger, L. E. "Keeping What They Promise? Examining the Consequences of Revolutions for Inequality"

GRANTS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Research grants

AUFF NOVA grant for project "Designing Resilient Egalitarian Democracies (DRED)" with Carsten Jensen. DKK 560,000 (2024)

Political Science Department Small Grants and *AUFF NOVA* grant for project "Democratization, Autocratization, and Public Goods Provision" with Svend-Erik Skaaning and David Andersen. DKK 90,000 + 564,000 (2023-25)

Awards and scholarships

Fulbright Scholarship for Ph.D. research stay at University of California, San Diego. DKK 50,000 (2022)

Crown Prince Frederik Scholarship, Harvard Kennedy School. Full one-year scholarship by the Crown Prince Frederik Fund (2017)

Varieties of Democracy Best Student Paper Award. Awarded by intl. research network for the paper “Democracy and State Capacity revisited”. Prize of USD 500 (2017)

BCG Best Political Science Student. Awarded for academic performance, work experience and extracurricular activities. Prize of DKK 10,000 (2017)

The Kuwait Program at Sciences Po Student Paper Award for paper titled "Does Oil Sustain Authoritarianism in the Middle East?". Selected from pool of ~ 180 papers. Prize of EUR 750 (2015)

H.M. Queen Margrethe II Travel Grant to students at Aarhus University. Awarded to one political science student each year, DKK 25,000 (2015)

TEACHING

Comparative Politics, Lecturer, Fall 2023; Lecturer & Coordinator, Fall 2024, 2025

Regime Types: Causes and Consequences, Seminar Lecturer and Supervisor for B.Sc. theses, Spring 2023, 2024, 2026

Democracy and Inequality, Seminar Lecturer, Fall 2021, 2023, 2024

Comparative Politics, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2020 and 2016 (during M.Sc.)

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talks & seminars

CIS Colloquium, ETH Zurich / University of Zurich	2026
Comparative Institutions and Regimes (CIR) Seminar, University of Oslo	2021

Conferences

Politics of Inequality Fall Academy, Konstanz	2023
EPSA	2023
APSA Annual Meeting	2021, 2022
DPSA	2021, 2023, 2024, 2025
AK Demokratieforschung (DVPW)	2021
Annual V-Dem Conference	2017

Workshops

Crisis of Democracy in Comparative Perspective, Aarhus University	2026
Political Regimes and Inequality, Aarhus University, <i>co-organizer</i>	2025
Danish Historical Political Economy, University of Southern Denmark	2025
Democracy/Autocracy: Macro- and micro-level perspectives, Aarhus University	2024
Political Regimes: Causes and Consequences, Bergen (NOPSA), <i>co-organizer</i>	2024
<i>Additional Aarhus University workshop participation (2020-2023)</i>	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Socio-Economic Review*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Comparative Politics*, *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, *Political Studies*, *Sage books*

Member of Academic Selection Committee, Crown Prince Frederik Fund (2019, 2020, 2021)

Expert coder for Varieties of Democracy (2020-)

WORK EXPERIENCE

Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (Diplomatic career track)	2018-2020
Intern, Royal Danish Embassy in Berlin, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark	2-7/2016
Student Research Assistant, Department of Political Science, Aarhus University	2014-2015
Voluntary organizer, Aarhus Symposium	2013-2014

LANGUAGES

Danish	Fluent (native)
German	Fluent (native)
English	Fluent
Spanish	Fluent
French	Intermediate (B2)