Gal Bitton

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APPOINTMENT

Harvard University 2025-2026

Postdoctoral Fellow, Weatherhead Scholars Program.

Tel Aviv University 2025-2026

Non-resident Postdoctoral Fellow, POLPOP III.

EDUCATION

Tel-Aviv University 2024

Ph.D. Candidate (fast-track), Political Science.

Dissertation: "From Barriers to Bridges: The Cultural Roots of International Financial Engagement."

Committee: Tal Sadeh (Chair), Lawrence Broz, Mark Copelovitch.

Tel-Aviv University 2021

M.A., Magna cum Laude, Political Science.

Tel-Aviv University 2018

B.A., Political Science.

FELLOWSHIP

The Azrieli Graduate Studies Fellowship 2022-2025

Pre-doctoral Fellow

The Center for the Study of the United States (CSUS) in Partnership with 2022-2023 the Fulbright Program, Tel-Aviv University

Pre-doctoral Fellow

The Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Tel-Aviv University 2021-2022

Pre-doctoral Fellow

Tel-Aviv University 2019-2024

Doctoral Fellow

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International political economy, currency internationalization, foreign policy, behavioral economics, political attitudes & behavior, survey design, and experimental methods.

Under Review

- "How Does Cultural Identity Shape Global Financial Engagements?" (Socio-Economic Review).
- * "The Welfare Consequences of Political Rivalry in a Polarized Era" (with Clareta Treger) (British Journal of Political Science).

Pre-registration

Pre-print

- * "Are International Monetary Fund (IMF) programs effective? Introducing a new tool to measure 'effective samples' and assess external validity of regression analysis." (with Tal Sadeh and Bernhard Reinsberg) (Review of International Organizations).
- "Assessing Politicians' Online Communication Across Five Democracies: Projecting Competence and Warmth." (with Tobias Heide-Jørgensen, Gregory Eady, Eran Amsalem, Anne Rasmussen, Peter Loewen, Lior Sheffer, Pirmin Bundi, Lee Slinger, Marc van de Wardt, Steven Eichenberger, and Frédéric Varone) (British Journal of Political Science).

Working Papers

- "The Premium of Familiarity: Experimental Evidence on Financial Interactions Between Foreigners." Pre-registration
 - "Shifting Sands: The Impact of Conflict Displacement on Voting Patterns." Pre-registration
- * "Bank-Supervision in the EU and Blame Attribution in Germany" (with Tal Sadeh, Yuval Hirshorn, and Benjamin Daßler).

Pre-registration

- "Do Voters Reward Eurosceptic Governments?" (with Tal Sadeh). Pre-registration
- * "Unraveling Trust in Times of Crisis: The Impact of Threat Perceptions on Political Trust." (with Keren LG Snider and Benjamin Amram).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman | Research Assistant

2022-2024

Head: Dr. Amnon Cavari.

"How Politicians Evaluate Public Opinion" | Research Assistant

2022-2023

A European Research Council (ERC) funded research team.

PIs: Lior Sheffer (TAU) and Eran Amsalem (HUJI).

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Fellowships & Grants		
2024-2026	The Tel Aviv University Presidential Scholarship for Post Doctoratal Studies for Women ($\$50,000$).	
2024	Research grant from the Institute for Freedom and Responsibility at Reichman University (NIS $8,000$).	
2022-2026	The Azrieli Graduate Studies Fellowship (NIS 366,000).	
2022-2023	The Center for the Study of the United States (CSUS) in Partnership with the Fulbright Program (NIS 3,000).	
2022	Research grant from the Institute for Freedom and Responsibility at Reichman University	

(NIS 10,000) - Collaborated with Clareta Treger.

2022	Research Grant for outstanding graduate students, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tel-Aviv University (NIS $10,000$)			
2021-2022	Doctoral Fellowship Program at The Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics, Tel Aviv University $(\$20,\!500)$			
2021	The Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fellowship Fund Scholarship for the Enhancement of the Quality of Governance, Tel Aviv University (\$5,000).			
Awards & Honorable Mentions				
2025	Harrell Rodgers Travel Scholarship, Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) (\$500). Awarded to only 4% of applicants.			
2024	Travel Grant, The Society for Political Methodology (\$1,000).			
2022	Best Presentation Award, The $4^{\rm th}$ Haifa International Social Sciences Workshop for Graduate Students (\$700).			
2022	Best Submission from Pre-tenure Scholars by the Joint IPE Conference of the DVPW, ÖGPW and SVPW.			
2022	Tel Aviv University Graduate Students Excellence Award & Scholarship (NIS 7,000)			
2021	Reichman University Teaching Assistant Excellence Award & Scholarship (NIS 2,000)			
2017-2018	Dean's Honor List, B.A. (NIS 2,000)			
Conference Talks				
2025	The 17 th Conference on the Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO); The 2024 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science (March 2025); Western Political Science Association (WPSA) Annual Meeting (participation declined);			

The 82st Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference (April 2025).

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The 2024 Rebecca B. Morton Conference on Experimental Political Science; (De)polarisation in values, attitudes and beliefs: comparative perspectives, The Policy Institute at King's College London; The IASEI–NYU Workshop; The 81st Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (MPSA); International Studies Association (ISA); The 2024 Virtual ESPAnet workshop; The 16th Conference on the Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO); The 2024 Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA) Annual Conference (participation declined); Political Studies Association (PSA) Early Career Network 2024 online conference 'Politics Today'; 41st Annual Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth); American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting & Exhibition (participation declined); The 2024 Virtual ISPP Academy (participation declined).

2023

Annual Meeting of the Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS); International Studies Association (ISA); The 80th Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (MPSA); The European Union Studies Association (EUSA) (Accepted; cancelled participation); The 15th Conference on the Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO); The 29th International Conference of Europeanists (Participation declined); Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE) (Participation declined); Foreign Aid and Political Gains Workshop at Haifa University; American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting & Exhibition.

2022

Jerusalem-Tel Aviv Forum for Empirical Studies in Politics; The 79th Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (MPSA); Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS)'s First Research Colloquium for Ph.D. Students in International Studies; Annual Meeting of the Israeli Association for International Studies (IAIS); Annual conference of the Israel Political Science Association (ISPSA); The 4th Haifa International Social Sciences Workshop for Graduate Students (HSSC); PolMeth Europe; DVPW-ÖGPW-SVPW Joint International Political Economy Conference; Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE); the 39th Political Methodology (PolMeth); European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR).

2021

International Political Economy Society (IPES); The Graduate Student International Political Economy (GSIPE) Workshop; GSIPE Mini-Conference: Qualitative and Mixed Methods Research in IPE.)

INVITED TALKS

2023

The Policy, Elections, and Representation Lab (PEARL) Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto. "How Does Cultural Identity Shape Financial Policies?" (March 13)

2023

Panelist; "Europe: a crisis in light of energy", Model UN, TAU (January 9)

2022

Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Konstanz. Lecture: "The Premium of Familiarity" (October 28)

2022

Department of Economics Seminar, University of Konstanz. Lecture: "How Does Cultural Identity Shape Financial Policies?" (November 3)

2022

Visiting doctoral student for one month (October) at the University of Konstanz. Host: Prof. Gerald Schneider.

TEACHING POSITIONS

2023-2024	Project mentor of "Why do I need democracy now?" (for undergraduate students), The Unit for Social Involvement at Tel Aviv University.
2020-2024	Teaching assistant, Advanced Research Methods (for graduate students), Lauder School of Government, Reichman University.
2019-2024	Grading assistant, Europe in a crisis (for graduate students), School of Political Science, Tel-Aviv University.
2020-2023	Teaching assistant, Intermediate Research Methods (for graduate students), Lauder School of Government, Reichman University.
2020-2023	Teaching assistant, Empirical Research (for undergraduate students), Lauder School of Government, Reichman University.
2019-2022	Grading assistant, Political Economy in the Global Age (for graduate students), Security and Diplomacy, Tel-Aviv University.
2019-2022	Grading assistant, International Political Economy (for graduate students), School of Political Science, Tel-Aviv University.
2019-2021	Teaching assistant, Introduction to Writing and Research in Political Science (for undergraduate students), School of Political Science, Tel-Aviv University.
2019-2021	Teaching assistant, Introduction to International Relations and Strategy (for undergraduate students), School of Political Science, Tel-Aviv University.

Additional Academic Training

- The Third IO Editorial Café workshop during the 2023 annual meeting of the International Studies Association in Montreal.
- Online o'Tree course at the Nuffield Centre for Experimental Social Sciences, at the University of Oxford (Instructor: Tommaso Batistoni).
- Data Science Bootcamp: a computational tools and programming for text analysis workshop, at Tel Aviv University (Instructor: Koby Mike).

SERVICE AND OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Reviewer: Journal of Regulation & Governance; International Studies Quarterly.

Discussant: GSIPE Mini-Conference; Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO); The IASEI-NYU Workshop.

Statistical Consultant: Provides statistical and analytical assistance for students.

Workshops: Programming and data analysis workshop using STATA: Beginner to Advanced.

Technical Reports

- Bitton, G. "A Reflection of Society: Israeli Public Attitudes Toward Political Violence" The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman, 2024. Available online.
- Bitton, G. "Does the Israeli Public Want an Anti-Democratic Leader?" The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman, 2023. Available online.
- Bitton, G. "Does the Israeli Public Support the Override Clause?" The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman, 2023. Available online.
- Bitton, G. "Jewish Identity or Democratic Values What Do Israelis Prefer?" The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman, 2023. Available online.
- Bitton, G. "Trust Crisis in the Israeli Public?" The Institute for Liberty & Responsibility at Reichman, 2022. Available online.

Interviews & Publications in Popular Media

- DemocratTV: "Do Israelis Prefer Less Democratic Leadership Since October 7?" Host journalist: Attila Shumpelvi. Interview available Online.
- Bitton, G. "Believe in Choice What do Israelis think about abortion?" The Liberal, 22.9.2022. Available online.

SKILLS

Languages: R, Python, STATA, LATEX, Markdown.

Software: RStudio, oTree, Git/GitHub, STATA, JMP, SPSS, and Qualtrics.

LANGUAGES

Hebrew (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2021-2024 Mentor in the "Sawa" program at Tel Aviv University, providing academic, personal, and emotional assistance to Israeli-Arab students.

2017-2019 Research assistant in The Social Guard, a non-governmental organization monitoring Knesset activities to promote social justice and increase civic engagement.

Non-Academic Certificates

First Aid, 28-hour training

Awarded by Malar, Israel

200-hour training for yoga teachers

registered with the Yoga Alliance