

# Michael Kumove

Researcher / Lecturer

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## Employment history

2024–present **Research Fellow**, School of Politics and International Relations, Australian National University

As a research fellow at ANU, I am working on a project about refugees and international human rights law. My role combines social science and data science and draws on disciplines including political science, sociology, psychology and communication.

2022–2024 **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Department of Sociology and Political Science, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

I was a member of the DIVIDENDS project run by the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO). The project examines how demographic bulges affect social and political outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa, including conflict, trust and political participation.

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## Education

2018–2021 **Doctor of Philosophy**, School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR), Australian National University

Thesis title: “You talkin’ to me? The effect of communication barriers on trust in diverse societies.” Supervisor: Prof Benjamin Goldsmith.

2017 **Bachelor of Arts (Honours)**, University of Auckland  
Politics and International Relations

2010–2014 **Bachelor of Arts**, Victoria University of Wellington  
Majors: Economics, Political Science

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## Publications and work in progress

1. Kumove, Michael. “Political crisis and social trust: The case of Australia”, forthcoming in *Australian Journal of Political Science*.
2. Kumove, Michael. “Take five? Testing the cultural and experiential theories of generalised trust against five criteria”, *Political Studies*, OnlineFirst (2024).
3. Kumove, Michael. “Rent-free in your head? How generalised trust is affected by the trust and salience of outgroups”, *Social Indicators Research* 166, 575-600 (2023).
4. Kumove, Michael. “Does language foster reconciliation? Evidence from the former Yugoslavia”, *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 66, no. 4-5 (2022).
5. Kumove, Michael. “Diversity, semi-communication and cross-country trust: A quantitative analysis”, *Social Science Research* 86 (2020), 102392.

6. Kumove, Michael and Intifar Chowdhury. "What's my age again? An age-period-cohort analysis of generalised trust in Africa", under review at *World Development*.
7. Kumove, Michael and Bintu Zahara Sakor. "Does language policy pay 'Dividends'? Evidence from Ethiopia", under review at *World Politics*.
8. Kumove, Michael. "Do youth bulges affect voting and protesting? An age-period-cohort analysis", under review at *Political Studies*.
9. Goldsmith, Benjamin and Michael Kumove. "A Nationalist Personality? A Multi-country Study of Direct and Indirect Associations Between the Big Five and Nation-related Attitudes", in development.
10. Kumove, Michael. "Does embracing minority languages worsen ethnic tensions? Evidence from Ethiopia", in development.

## Conferences, media and invited talks

1. AusPSA Political Organisations and Participation (POP) Workshop (February 2024). Paper: "Political crisis and social trust: The case of Australia"
2. Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science (December 2023). Paper: "Youth bulges and political participation: an age-period-cohort analysis"
3. Australian Political Studies Association (November 2023). Paper: "Who trusts who in Australia? A quantitative analysis using HILDA, WVS and AES data"
4. Peace Research Institute Oslo (September 2023). Presentation title: "Youth bulges and political participation: an age-period-cohort analysis"
5. Benin Dividends Workshop at the African School of Economics (June 2023). Papers: What's my age again? An age-period-cohort analysis of generalised trust in Africa *and* Talkin' about my generation: The implications of language policy for Africa's 'youth bulge'.
6. Norwegian University of Science And Technology seminar series (May 2023). Paper: What's my age again? An age-period-cohort analysis of generalised trust in Africa.
7. Contributor to *Political Violence at a Glance*. Title: "When the war ends, will Ukrainians and Russians eventually reconcile?", (June 2022).
8. Australian Political Studies Association (Macquarie University, 2021). Paper: Imagining the 'Other': How does cross-group trust affect generalised trust? **Awarded 'Best Postgraduate Paper'**.
9. ANU International Relations PhD Student Seminar Series (AIRPS), October 2020. Paper: Do Language Divides Inhibit Trust Formation in Diverse Societies?
10. Guest presenter for "Research Design in Political Science" at the Australian National University (September 2020). Paper: Causal Inference in the Study of Language and Trust.
11. Australian Association for Quantitative Political Science (University of Melbourne, December 2019). Paper: Language, contact and cross-group trust in the former Yugoslavia. **Awarded 'Best Student Paper'** (honourable mention).

12. Australian Political Studies Association (Flinders University, September 2019).  
Paper: Language, contact and cross-group trust in the former Yugoslavia.

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## Teaching

- 2021–2022 **Associate Lecturer**, Australian National University  
Course convenor and lecturer for the following politics and international relations courses:
- POLS2132 (Current Issues in International Security)
  - POLS2135 (Race, Ethnicity and Representation)
- 2018–2021 **Tutor / Teaching assistant**, Australian National University  
Tutor (teaching assistant) for the following politics and international relations courses:
- POLS1002 (Introduction to Politics)
  - POLS1006 (Introduction to International Relations: Contemporary Global Issues)
  - POLS1009 (Research and Writing in Political Science, head tutor)
  - POLS2044 (Contemporary Political Analysis).
  - POLS2127 (U.S. Politics).
- 2018–2023 **Guest lecturer**  
Gave the following guest lectures:
- POLS1006, Introduction to International Relations: Contemporary Global Issues (ANU, lecture title: “International Political Economy”)
  - POLS3502, Causes of War (NTNU, lecture title: “Ethnicity and conflict”)
  - PLS455-545, Political Violence (Nazarbayev University, lecture title: “Does Language Foster Reconciliation?”)

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## Additional academic training

- 2024 Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research (ACSPRI)  
Course: *Social Media Network and Text Analysis*.
- 2020 Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis  
Course: *Advanced Machine Learning for Social Scientists* (3N).

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## Languages

- English Native  
Spanish Proficient (reading), conversational (speaking)  
Chinese Conversational

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## Professional service and memberships

Reviewer, *American Political Science Review*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, *Social Sciences*

Member, Australian Political Studies Association, Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science

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## Software proficiency

R, Stata, Python, LaTeX

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## Awards and achievements

2021 **Best Postgraduate Paper**

Awarded for the best paper by a postgraduate student at the 2021 conference of the Australian Political Studies Association

2020 **Best Student Paper (honourable mention)**

Awarded for presentation at the 2019 conference of the Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science

2018 **Research Training Program Fee-Offset and Stipend Scholarships**

Two grants which cover full tuition and living costs for PhD students in Australia for up to four years

2017 **Postgraduate Honours Scholarship**

Covers tuition and living costs for selected students undertaking an honours degree at the University of Auckland

2016 **Huayu Enrichment Scholarship**

Awarded by the Government of Taiwan to pay for six months of living costs for selected students undertaking an eligible course in Mandarin Chinese

2010 **Victoria Excellence Scholarship**

Awarded by Victoria University of Wellington to pay for one year of tuition on the basis of academic achievement

2010 **New Zealand Scholarship in Classical Studies**

One-off cash prize awarded to the highest-achieving students in the country in Classical Studies

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## Other work experience

2014-2016 **Policy Analyst**, Ministry of Health, New Zealand

Wrote reports, speeches and briefings for ministers and internal customers and carried out policy analysis on drug and alcohol issues and non-communicable diseases. Involved in the preparation of the National Drug Policy (2015-2020) and in developing cross-government drug policy advice in the lead-up to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS) in 2016.

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## References

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Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
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Prof Benjamin Goldsmith  
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