

Inbok Rhee

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

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Academic Appointments

Yonsei University

Department of Political Science and International Studies (PS/IS)
Underwood International College (UIC, Joint Appointment)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Seoul, Republic of Korea

2024 - Present

KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDIS)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Sejong, Republic of Korea

2023 - 2024

KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDIS)

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Sejong, Republic of Korea

2019 - 2022

University of Nairobi

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Nairobi, Kenya

2016 - 2017

Education

University of California, San Diego

PH.D., POLITICAL SCIENCE

Committee: Karen E. Ferree (Co-chair), Clark C. Gibson (Co-chair), Scott W. Desposato, Stephan Haggard, and Margaret E. Roberts

La Jolla, CA, United States

2019

University of California, San Diego

M.A., POLITICAL SCIENCE

La Jolla, CA, United States

2019

School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University

M.A., INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

New York, NY, United States

2012

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

B.A., DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND POLITICS

London, United Kingdom

2006

Research

Peer-reviewed articles

Kim, Sung Eun, Jong Hee Park, **Inbok Rhee**, and Joonseok Yang. "Racial Hate Crimes and US Reputation in Asia." *British Journal of Political Science*. (Forthcoming.)

2025+

Rhee, Inbok, Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang. "Citizen Responses to Donor-Centeredness in the US-China Public Diplomacy Competition," *International Interactions*. 186. (Online First): 106815. doi: 10.1080/03050629.2025.2456738

2025+

Kim, Sung Eun, Jong Hee Park, **Inbok Rhee**, and Joonseok Yang. "What Do Aid Recipients Want? Public Attitudes Toward Foreign Aid in Developing Countries," *World Development*. 186. (2025): 106815. doi: 10.1016/j.worlddev.2024.106815

2025

Lee, Don S., Kee Hoon Chung, and **Inbok Rhee**. "Who Becomes a Civil Servant?: An Analysis of Youth Panel Data From Korea," *Public Management Review*. (Online First) doi: 10.1080/14719037.2024.2327616

2024+

Adida, Claire L., Adeline Y. Lo, **Inbok Rhee**, and Sam Williams. "Do Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (EDI) Requirements Change Student Political Attitudes?" *Politics, Groups & Identities*. 12, no. 4 (2024): 958-967. doi: 10.1080/21565503.2023.2227437

2024

- Chung, Kee Hoon, **Inbok Rhee** and Cheol Liu. "A Systematic Review of Experimental Approaches on Public Service Motivation," *Public Performance & Management Review*. 47, no. 3 (2024): 627-653. doi: 10.1080/15309576.2023.2269386 2024
- Kuk, John S. , Don S. Lee, and **Inbok Rhee**, "Exposure to Election Fraud Research Undermines Confidence in Democracy," *PUBLIC OPINION QUARTERLY*. 88, SI (2024): 656-680. doi: 10.1093/poq/nfae028 2024
- Kim, Sung Eun , Jong Hee Park, **Inbok Rhee**, and Joonseok Yang. "Target, Information, and Trade Preferences: Evidence from Survey Experiment in East Asia," *American Journal of Political Science*. 67, no. 4 (2023): 898-914. doi: 10.1111/ajps.12783 2023
- Cho, Man, Seongwuk Moon, **Inbok Rhee**, and Sungyoon Choi. "Data Economy in Korea: Cases of Finance, Real Estate, and Medical Care Sectors (in Korean)," *Journal of Technology Innovation* 31, no. 1 (2023): 65-103. doi: 10.14386/SIME.2023.31.1.65 2023
- Porten, John, **Inbok Rhee**, and Clark Gibson. "Ethnicity Is Not Public Service Destiny: The Political Logic of Service Distribution in South Africa," *World Development* 159 (2022): 105962. doi: 10.1016/j.worlddev.2022.105962 2022
- Chung, Eunbin, and **Inbok Rhee**. "Disasters and Intergroup Peace in Sub-Saharan Africa," *Journal of Peace Research* 59, no. 1 (2022): 58-72. doi.org: 10.1177/0022343321106524 2022
- Inbok Rhee**. "Economic Perception to Political Performance Evaluation: Establishing Precursors to Economic Voting in Africa," *Political Research Quarterly* 74, no. 1 (2021): 131-147. doi: 10.1177/1065912919888017 2021

Under Review

- Baran Han, Benjamin Ho, **Inbok Rhee**, and Chrysostomos Tabakis. "Fear and Favoritism in the Time of COVID-19." (Revise and Resubmit)
- Kee Hoon Chung, Chung-An Chen, Don-yun Chen, Pan Suk Kim, Geunjoon Lee, Cheol Liu, and James Perry, and **Inbok Rhee**. "Does a High Barrier to Entry Stifle Interest in a Public Service Career? A Cross-Country Experiment." (Revise and Resubmit)
- Rhee, Inbok**. "Voter Demand for Legislator Attention: Mixed-Methods Evidence from Kenya."
- Rhee, Inbok**, and Joonseok Yang. "How Language Shapes Public Opinion in Sub-Saharan Africa."

Selected Working Papers

- "Electoral Security and Legislator Attention: Evidence from the Kenyan National Assembly Debates, 2008-2017."
- "Primary Bumps? Intra-Party Politics and Nominations in Kenya."
- "To Stay or To Go? : The Sources of Domestic Support for Foreign Direct Investment in Africa."
- With Joonseok Yang.
- "Global Climate Action and Local Rights: Survey Experimental Evidence on Public Support for Carbon Offsetting in Liberia."
- With Dongil Lee and David Sungho Park.
- "Misperception or Political Identity? Testing Motivated Numeracy in a Hard Case for Immigration."
- With Eunbin Chung.
- "What Determines Citizens' Attitude toward Newcomers in South Korea? Conjoint Experiment of Threat Perception and Rational Choice-Based Individual Preference."
- With Sang Eun Lee and Geiguen Shin.

“Understanding the Effectiveness of Public Diplomacy Efforts: Survey Data from the Case of Korean Higher Education Programs in Germany.”

With Hyeyoung Chang, Chungshik Moon, and Joonseok Yang

“North Korean Elites and Regime Policy Preference: Analyzing Newspaper and Elite Career Path Data.”

With John Seungmin Kuk.

“Rally Around Which Flag?: Investigation of the Impact of Sanctions on the Rally Around the Flag Effects Using Focus Group Discussions with North Korean Defectors.”

With Baran Han and Chrysostomos Tabakis.

Book

INFORMING KOREA’S SOFT POWER STRATEGY: EVIDENCE FROM SURVEY EXPERIMENTS ON PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND FOREIGN AID. (IN KOREAN) Cooperative Research Series 21-09-01, National Research Council for Economics, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Korea

2021

With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang

Book Chapters

“Informing Korea’s Soft Power Strategy: Evidence from Survey Experiments on Public Perceptions of Public Diplomacy and Foreign Aid.” (in Korean) in DESIGNING THE FUTURE OF KOREA IN THE ERA OF GREAT TRANSFORMATION. Cooperative Research Series 21-38-01, National Research Council for Economics, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Korea.

2022

With Hae-Gu Jung et al.

“International Cooperation” (in Korean) in 2021 NATIONAL AGENDAS AND FUTURE STRATEGIES. Cooperative Research Series 21-38-01, National Research Council for Economics, Humanities, and Social Sciences, Korea.

2021

With Sungbae An et al.

“Backsliding: Democratic Regress in the Contemporary World Appendix.” in Stephan Haggard and Robert Kaufman. BACKSLIDING. Cambridge University Press.

2021

With Stephan Haggard, Robert R. Kaufman, Terence K. Teo, and Giovanni Angioni.

Other Writings

“Park Geun-hye Unraveling.” (A series of policy writings on South Korean politics) NORTH KOREA: WITNESS TO TRANSFORMATION BLOG

Nov 2016 - Mar 2017

With Stephan Haggard

“The Role of Peacekeeping Operations in Electoral Processes.” POLICY REPORT FOR POLICY AND BEST PRACTICES SERVICE Department of Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations.

May 2012

With Marie Doucey, Sara Jacobs, and Aaron Pangburn

Grants, Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

Outcomes and Implications of the Korea-Africa Summit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (KRW 25,000,000)

2024

With Samuel Y. Pang, Samyoul Lee and Heonjoo Jung

Global Agenda Research, Social Sciences Korea (SSK), National Research Foundation, Republic of Korea (KRW 750,000,000)

2024

With Woo Chang Kang, Donghyun Danny Choi, Jae Yeon Kim, John S. Kuk, Byoungha Lee, and Sunkyung Park

Humanities and Social Sciences Research Grant, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea (KRW 10,000,000)

2024

Future-Leading Research Initiative, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea (KRW 12,500,000)

2024

Yonsei - Tel Aviv Joint Research Cooperation Program (USD 20,000)

2024

With Yotam Margalit

<i>Korea's New Africa Strategy through the Geopolitical Importance of the African Continent, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (KRW 27,500,000)</i>	2024
With Joonhwa Cho and Hye-Lim Yoo	
<i>Empirical Research on Public Diplomacy, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 150,000,000)</i>	2022
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang	
<i>Research on the Role of Supporting Institutions in the Budgetary and Legal Review Process of the U.S. Congress, National Assembly Budget Office, Republic of Korea (KRW 32,000,000)</i>	2022
With Cheol Liu and Keehoon Chung	
<i>Best Teaching Award, KDI School, Republic of Korea</i>	2021
<i>KDI 50th Anniversary Excellence in Service Award, KDI School, Republic of Korea</i>	2021
<i>Empirical Research on Public Diplomacy, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 50,000,000)</i>	2021
With Hye Young Chang, Chung Shik Moon, Wook Sohn, and Joonseok Yang	
<i>South Korea's Public Diplomacy Strategy for Battery, Bio, and Semi-conductor Sectors, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (KRW 25,000,000)</i>	2021
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang	
<i>Cooperative Research Grant, National Research Council, Republic of Korea (KRW 210,000,000)</i>	2020
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang	
<i>Empirical Research in Development Studies Grant, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 42,600,000)</i>	2020
<i>Empirical Research in Development Studies Grant, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 36,250,000)</i>	2019
With Joonseok Yang	
<i>Sanford Lakoff Fellowship, UC San Diego (\$1,729)</i>	2018
<i>University of California Presidents Dissertation Year Fellowship (\$22,000)</i>	2018
<i>UC San Diego Graduate Student Co-Author Grant (\$2,414)</i>	2017
With Claire L. Adida	
<i>TA Excellence Award, Department of Political Science, UC San Diego (\$300)</i>	2017
<i>Summer Graduate Teaching Scholars Program, Center for Engaged Teaching (CET), UC San Diego (\$1,200, declined)</i>	2018
<i>Policy Design and Evaluation Lab (PDEL) Graduate Student Research Funding, UC San Diego (\$7,500)</i>	2017
<i>National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (NSF DDRIG), (\$16,934)</i>	2017
<i>Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Aboard Fellowship (DDRA), (\$51,338)</i>	2016
<i>Korean-American Scholarship Foundation (KASF) Designated Scholarship, (\$2,000)</i>	2016
<i>Policy Design and Evaluation Lab (PDEL) Graduate Student Research Funding, UC San Diego (\$5,000)</i>	2016
<i>Teclé Kidane-Mariam Award, Friends of the International Center (FOIC), UC San Diego (\$2,000)</i>	2016

Teaching

Courses Offered

Contemporary African Politics (Undergraduate)	2024, 2025
Yonsei University	
Special Topics in Political Methodology (Graduate)	2024, 2025
Yonsei University	

Research Design (Undergraduate) Yonsei University	2024
Politics of Developing Countries (Graduate) Yonsei University	2024
Introduction To Political Science (Undergraduate) Yonsei University	2024
Comparative Politics (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
SDGs and International Development (in Korean) (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2022, 2023
Topics in Political Economy of Development (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
Quantitative Methods (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
Introduction to Data Science for Policymaking Using R (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2020, 2021, 2023
Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems (in Korean) (Masters) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2022, 2023
Ph.D. Colloquium (Doctoral) KDI School of Public Policy and Management	2022, 2023
Introduction to Social Data Analytics (Undergraduate) UC San Diego	2018
Mathematical & Statistical Foundations for Social Sciences (Doctoral) UC San Diego	2016, 2017, 2018

Professional Activities

Editorial Service

<i>Editorial Board.</i> Korean Party Studies Review	2022 - Present
<i>Editorial Board.</i> Korea Political Science Review	2020 - 2021

Academic Service

Planning Committee, Korean Association of Party Studies	2021 - 2022, 2024-Present
Middle East and Africa Research Sub-committee, Korean Association of International Studies	2024-Present
Research Methodology in International Relations Sub-committee, Korean Association of International Studies	2021 - 2022, 2024-Present
Expert Group on African Studies, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy	2022 - Present
International Cooperation Committee, Korean Association for Public Administration	2022 - 2023
<i>Research Associate.</i> Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi (UoN), Kenya Supervisors Professors Karuti Kanyinga and Joshua Kivuva	2016 - 2017
<i>Research Fellow.</i> Center for the Study of African Political Economy, UC San Diego	2012 - 2019
<i>Organizer.</i> Africanist Working Group, UC San Diego	2015 - 2019

Member. Women in Political Science, UC San Diego 2012 - 2019

Member. Africanist Working Group, UC San Diego 2012 - 2019

Reviewer. *American Journal of Political Science*, *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, *Democratization*, *East Asian Economic Review*, *International Area Studies Review*, *International Development and Cooperation Review*, *International Review of Public Administration*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Japanese Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Contemporary Politics*, *Journal of East Asian Studies*, *Journal of Regional Studies and Development*, *KDI Journal of Economic Policy*, *Korea Journal*, *Korean Journal of International Studies*, *Korean Party Studies Review*, *Korean Political Science Review*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Public Administration Review*.

Presentations

American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Conference 2021, 2024

Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS) Annual Conference 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Korea Political Science Association (KPSA) Annual Conference 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Korean Association of Party Studies Annual Conference 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

Special Seminar on the Impeachment Outlook and Normalization of Politics, National Assembly of Korea 2024

Graduate School of Governance (GSG), Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU), Korea 2024

International Political Science Association (IPSA) Annual Conference 2023

KDI School - World Bank DIME Annual Conference 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Annual Conference 2016, 2021, 2022

Expert Forum on Public Diplomacy and Foreign Aid, Policy Communication Division I, Public Diplomacy and Cultural Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2022

Social Science Methodology Forum, Institute of Social Sciences, Seoul National University 2022

Korean Academy of Development Policy 2022

Political Studies Association 2022

Global Area Studies Expert Panel, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy 2022

Expert Forum on COVID-19 and Public Health Cooperation, Africa Division I, African and Middle Eastern Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2021

Expert Forum on Korea-Africa Cooperation, Africa Division I, African and Middle Eastern Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2021

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Annual Conference 2021

Institute for Research in Finance and Economics, Seoul National University 2021

Asian Society for Political Methodology (Asian PolMeth) Annual Conference 2021

Korea Association for Public Administration (KAPA) Annual Conference 2021

Public Management Research Conference (PMRC) Annual Conference 2021

International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Annual Conference 2021

Center for Good Democracy, Sungkyunkwan University (SKKU), Korea 2021

International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Conference 2016, 2020, 2021

Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) Annual Conference 2021

Institute of African Studies, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS), Korea 2020

Political Methodology Lecture, Yonsei University, Korea 2020

KF Public Diplomacy Program, Chung-Ang University, Korea 2020

Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS) Annual Conference 2020

African Studies Association (ASA) Annual Conference	2015, 2019
International Political Economy Society (IPES) Annual Conference	2019
POLTEXT Annual Conference	2019
Western Political Science Association (WPSA) Annual Conference	2016, 2019
UC San Diego North Korea Conference	2017
Southern California Comparative Political Science (SCPI) Annual Conference	2016
Working Group on African Political Economy (WGAPE) Annual Conference	2012, 2015
Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) Annual Conference	2014

Media Appearances

<i>"Africa Is Not a Country."</i> PO.INT (Korea Political Science Association's YouTube Channel)	2024
<i>The Roundtable</i> , Arirang TV	2024
<i>"Evaluating Korean Soft Power."</i> Nara Kyongje	2022
<i>"Building Soft Power."</i> Lab Interview, National Research Council, Republic of Korea	2021
<i>"Presidential Palaces: Brazil, India, Indonesia, and South Africa."</i> Korea Election Television	2021
<i>"Teaching College Under COVID-19."</i> SBS 8 News and SBS Morning Wide	2020
<i>"Shaping Political Leaders: The Case of the United Kingdom."</i> Korea Election Television	2020