Inbok Rhee

Assistant Professor of Political Science

50 Yonsei-ro, Seodaemun-gu, Seoul, Republic of Korea

+82-2123-2953 | inbok.rhee@yonsei.ac.kr | inbokrhee.com | inbokrhee | @inbok_rhee | Google Scholar | ORCID

Academic Appointments

Yonsei University — *Seoul, Republic of Korea*
Assistant Professor — *2024 - Present*
Department of Political Science and International Studies (PS/IS)
Underwood International College (UIC, Joint Appointment)

KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDIS) — *Sejong, Republic of Korea*
Associate Professor — *2023 - 2024*

KDI School of Public Policy and Management (KDIS) — *Sejong, Republic of Korea*
Assistant Professor — *2019 - 2022*

University of Nairobi, Institute of Development Studies (IDS) — *Nairobi, Kenya*
Research Associate — *2016 - 2017*

Education

University of California, San Diego — *La Jolla, CA, United States*
Ph.D., Political Science — *2019*
Committee: Karen E. Ferree (Co-chair), Clark C. Gibson (Co-chair), Scott W. Desposato, Stephan Haggard, and Margaret E. Roberts

University of California, San Diego — *La Jolla, CA, United States*
M.A., Political Science — *2019*

School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University — *New York, NY, United States*
M.A., International Affairs — *2012*

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London — *London, United Kingdom*
B.A., Development Studies and Politics — *2006*

Research

Peer-reviewed articles

Han, Baran, Benjamin Ho, **Inbok Rhee**, and Chrysostomos Tabakis. "Fear and Favoritism in the Time of COVID-19." *Political Behavior* (2026). doi: 10.1007/s11109-025-10114-7 — *2026*

Inbok Rhee. "Large Language Models (LLMs) in Political Science Research: Analysis of Topical Trends and Usage Patterns." *Korean Journal of International Relations* 65(3), 257-328. doi: 10.14731/kjir.2025.09.65.3.257 — *2025*

Chen, Chung-An, Don-Yun Chen, Yang-Chung Chen, Kee Hoon Chung, Pan Suk Kim, Geunjoo Lee, Cheol Liu, James L. Perry, and **Inbok Rhee**. "Are Competitive Public Service Exams Counter-Productive? A Survey Experiment From Two East Asian States." *Public Administration* (Online First) doi: 10.1111/padm.70009 — *2025*

Yang, Joonseok, Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and **Inbok Rhee**. "Racial Hate Crimes and US Reputation in Asia." *British Journal of Political Science* 55. (2025): 1-13. doi: 10.1017/S0007123424001030 — *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* (Online First). 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? Evidence from a Decade of Youth Panel Analysis," *Public Management Review* 26, no. 8 (2024): 2148-2171. 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: 10.1177/0022343321106524 *2022*

Rhee, Inbok. "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*

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, Awards, and Fellowships

Future-Leading Research Initiative, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea (KRW 12,500,000) — *2025*

Best Teaching Award, Yonsei University, Republic of Korea — *2024*

The 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

Korea's New Africa Strategy through the Geopolitical Importance of the African Continent, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (KRW 27,500,000) — *2024*
With Joonhwa Cho and Hye-Lim Yoo

Empirical Research on Public Diplomacy, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 150,000,000) — *2022*
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang

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) — *2022*
With Cheol Liu and Keehoon Chung

Best Teaching Award, KDI School, Republic of Korea — *2021*

KDI 50th Anniversary Excellence in Service Award, KDI School, Republic of Korea — *2021*

Empirical Research on Public Diplomacy, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 50,000,000) — *2021*
With Hye Young Chang, Chung Shik Moon, Wook Sohn, and Joonseok Yang

South Korea's Public Diplomacy Strategy for Battery, Bio, and Semi-conductor Sectors, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (KRW 25,000,000) — *2021*
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang

Cooperative Research Grant, National Research Council, Republic of Korea (KRW 210,000,000) — *2020*
With Sung Eun Kim, Jong Hee Park, and Joonseok Yang

Empirical Research in Development Studies Grant, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 42,600,000) — *2020*

Empirical Research in Development Studies Grant, KDI School, Republic of Korea (KRW 36,250,000) — *2019*
With Joonseok Yang

Sanford Lakoff Fellowship, UC San Diego ($1,729) — *2018*

University of California Presidents Dissertation Year Fellowship ($22,000) — *2018*

Summer Graduate Teaching Scholars Program, Center for Engaged Teaching (CET), UC San Diego ($1,200, declined) *2018*

UC San Diego Graduate Student Co-Author Grant ($2,414) *2017*
With Claire L. Adida

TA Excellence Award, Department of Political Science, UC San Diego ($300) *2017*

Policy Design and Evaluation Lab (PDEL) Graduate Student Research Funding, UC San Diego ($7,500) *2017*

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant (NSF DDRIG), ($16,934) *2017*

Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (DDRA), ($51,338) *2016*

Korean-American Scholarship Foundation (KASF) Designated Scholarship, ($2,000) *2016*

Policy Design and Evaluation Lab (PDEL) Graduate Student Research Funding, UC San Diego ($5,000) *2016*

Tecle Kidane-Mariam Award, Friends of the International Center (FOIC), UC San Diego ($2,000) *2016*

Teaching

Courses Offered

Contemporary African Politics (Undergraduate, Graduate) *2024-2026*
Yonsei University

Special Topics in Political Methodology (Graduate) *2024, 2025*
Yonsei University

Research Design (Undergraduate) *2024, 2025*
Yonsei University

Politics of Developing Countries (Graduate) *2024, 2025*
Yonsei University

Introduction to Political Science (Undergraduate) *2024, 2025*
Yonsei University

Comparative Politics (Masters) *2019-2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

SDGs and International Development (in Korean) (Masters) *2022, 2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Topics in Political Economy of Development (Masters) *2019-2022*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Quantitative Methods (Masters) *2020-2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Introduction to Data Science for Policymaking Using R (Masters) *2020, 2021, 2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Using Big Data to Solve Economic and Social Problems (in Korean) (Masters) *2022, 2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Ph.D. Colloquium (Doctoral) *2022, 2023*
KDI School of Public Policy and Management

Introduction to Social Data Analytics (Undergraduate) *2018*
UC San Diego

Mathematical & Statistical Foundations for Social Sciences (Doctoral) *2016-2018*
UC San Diego

Professional Activities

Editorial Service

Editorial Board. Korean Party Studies Review *2022 - Present*

Editorial Board. Korea Political Science Review *2020 - 2021*

Academic Service

Associate Dean, Graduate School of Public Administration, Yonsei University *2026 - Present*

Steering Committee, Institute of African Studies, Yonsei University *2025 - Present*

Associate Director, Social Science Research Institute, College of Social Sciences, Yonsei University *2025 - Present*

Research Associate, Institute of Population and Human Capital, Yonsei University *2025 - Present*

Academic Committee, Korean Association of Party Studies *2025 - 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*

Planning Committee, Korean Association of Party Studies *2022*

Reviewer. American Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, Cambridge Review of International Affairs, Democratization, East Asian Economic Review, European Journal of Political Research, 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 Development Studies, 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, Review of Development Economics

Presentations: International

American Political Science Association (APSA) *2021, 2024, 2025*

Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) *2016, 2021, 2022*

International Studies Association (ISA) *2016, 2020, 2021*

International Political Science Association (IPSA) *2023*

Western Political Science Association (WPSA) *2016, 2019*

African Studies Association (ASA) *2015, 2019*

International Political Economy Society (IPES) *2019*

Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) *2021*

Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) *2021*

Society for Political Methodology (PolMeth) *2014*

Asian Political Methodology (Asian PolMeth) *2021*

KDI School - World Bank DIME Conference *2019-2022*

Presentations: Korea

Korean Association of International Studies (KAIS) *2020-2025*

Korea Political Science Association (KPSA) *2021-2025*

Korean Association of Party Studies *2021-2025*

Korea Association for Public Administration (KAPA) *2021*

Invited Talks

National Assembly of Korea, Special Seminar on Impeachment *2024*

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea (multiple forums) *2021, 2022, 2024*

Seoul National University (Institute of Social Sciences; Institute for Research in Finance and Economics) *2021-2022*

Sungkyunkwan University (Graduate School of Governance; Center for Good Democracy) *2021, 2024*

Yonsei University *2020*

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

Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Institute of African Studies *2020*

Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) *2022*

Media Appearances

"Africa Is Not a Country." PO.INT (Korea Political Science Association's YouTube Channel) *2024*

The Roundtable, Arirang TV *2024*

"Evaluating Korean Soft Power." Nara Kyongje *2022*

"Building Soft Power." Lab Interview, National Research Council, Republic of Korea *2021*

"Presidential Palaces: Brazil, India, Indonesia, and South Africa." Korea Election Television *2021*

"Teaching College Under COVID-19." SBS 8 News and SBS Morning Wide *2020*

"Shaping Political Leaders: The Case of the United Kingdom." Korea Election Television *2020*

Military Service

1st/2nd Lieutenant, Republic of Korea Air Force *2007 - 2010*

Recipient of the United States Military Meritorious Service Medal for Distinguished Service

Additional Information

Language

Korean (Native); English (Fluent); Kiswahili (Beginner)

Field Experience

Kenya (12 months)