

PAUL D. KENNY
Institute for Humanities & Social Sciences,
Australian Catholic University,
115 Victoria Parade East Melbourne, VIC 3065,
AUSTRALIA.
paul.kenny@acu.edu.au
<http://www.pauldkenny.com>

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Australian Catholic University: **Professor**, Institute for Humanities & Social Sciences (Jul 2020 – present)
Australian National University: **Associate Professor** (Aug 2019 – Jun 2020); **Fellow** (Senior Lecturer) (Jan 2018 – Jul 2019); **Research Fellow** (Lecturer) (Jul 2013 – Dec 2017), Department of Political & Social Change, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs

VISITING APPOINTMENTS & FELLOWSHIPS

Australian National University: **Visiting Fellow**, Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific Affairs (2020-24)
Dublin City University: **Visiting Academic**, Department of Law & Government (Jan/Feb 2020)
Trinity College Dublin: **Assistant Professor (Visiting)**, Department of Political Science (Sept 2012 – Jun 2013)
University of Oxford: **Visiting Academic**, Nuffield College (2011-12)
University College Dublin: **Visiting Fellow**, Geary Institute (2011-12)

EDUCATION

Yale University: Ph.D. Political Science (2013)
M.Phil. Political Science (2009)
M.A. Political Science (2007)
London School of Economics: M.Sc. International Political Economy (2006)
Trinity College Dublin: B.A. Economics and Social Science (2004)

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA) (2016–present)

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- Winner of the *Brian Farrell Book Prize* best book award of the *Political Studies Association of Ireland* for *Why Populism? Political Strategy from Ancient Greece to the Present* (2024)
- Winner of the *American Political Science Association's Robert A. Dahl Award* for scholarship of the highest quality on the subject of democracy for *Populism and Patronage: Why Populists Win Elections in India, Asia, and Beyond* (2018)

BOOKS

- *Populism: What Everyone Needs to Know*, (New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2025).
- *Why Populism? Political Strategy from Ancient Greece to the Present* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2023)
Winner of the *Brian Farrell Book Prize* (2024)
- *Populism in Southeast Asia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019)
- *Populism and Patronage: Why Populists Win Elections in India, Asia, and Beyond*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017)
Winner of the *American Political Science Association's Robert A. Dahl Award* (2018)

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- “Commodity booms, conflict, and organized crime: Logics of Violence in Indonesia’s Oil Palm Plantation Economy” (with Rashesh Shrestha and Edward Aspinall), *The Journal of Politics* 88(4) (2026) (forthcoming), <https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.18287.66729>
- “Leaders’ Experience and the Transition from Populism to Dictatorship” (with Alexander Baturo and Evren Balta), *Democratization* (2024), <https://doi.org/10.1080/13510347.2024.2391482>
- “Is there a populist personality? Populist attitudes, personality, and voter preference in Australian public opinion,” (with Boris Bizumic), *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties* (2023), <https://doi.org/10.1080/17457289.2023.2243587>
- “Does asylum seeker immigration increase support for the far right? Evidence from the United Kingdom, 2000-2015”, (with Charles Miller), *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies* 48(7) (2022): 1629-46, <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2020.1776596>
- “A new penal populism? Rodrigo Duterte, the war on drugs, and public opinion in the Philippines.” (with Ronald Holmes), *Journal of East Asian Studies* 20(2) (2020): 187-205, <https://doi.org/10.1017/jea.2020.8>
- ““The enemy of the people”: Populists and press freedom,” *Political Research Quarterly* 73(2) (2020): 261-275, <https://doi.org/10.1177/1065912918824038>
- “The structure of ethnic inequality and ethnic voting” (with Christian Houle and Chunho Park), *The Journal of Politics* 81(1) (2019): 187-200, <https://doi.org/10.1086/700200>
- “The political and economic consequences of populist rule,” (with Christian Houle) *Government and Opposition*, 53(2) (2018): 256-287, <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1017/gov.2016.25>

- “The origins of patronage politics: State building, centrifugalism, and decolonization” *British Journal of Political Science*, 45(1), (2015): 141-171, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43821689>
- “Colonial Rule, Decolonization, and Corruption in India,” *Commonwealth & Comparative Politics*, 53(4), (2015): 401-27, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14662043.2015.1089002>
- “A mixed blessing: Karen resettlement to the United States” (with Kate Lockwood-Kenny), *Journal of Refugee Studies*, 24(2) (2011): 217-38, <https://doi.org/10.1093/jrs/fer009>
- “Structural integrity and cohesion in insurgent organizations: Evidence from protracted conflicts in Ireland and Burma,” *International Studies Review*, 12 (2010): 533-555, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1468-2486.2010.00959.x>
- “The meaning of torture.” *Polity*, 42(2) (2009): 131-155, <https://doi.org/10.1057/pol.2009.21>

BOOK CHAPTERS AND ENCYLOPAEDIA/HANDBOOK ENTRIES

- “The Strategic Approach to Populism,” in *Routledge Handbook of Populism in the Asia Pacific*, in D. B. Subedi et al. (eds.), (London: Routledge, 2023), <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003160014-5>
- “‘Inclusionary’ Populism and Democracy in India,” in *Routledge Handbook of Populism in the Asia Pacific*, D. B. Subedi et al. (eds.), (London: Routledge, 2023)
- “The Philippines: Penal Populism and Pandemic Response” in *Populism and Democracy in the Times of the Pandemic*, Nils Ringe and Lucio Rennó (eds.), (New York: Routledge, 2023)
- “Populism in Southeast Asia” in *The Palgrave Handbook of Populism*, Michael T. Oswald (ed.), (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022)
- “Why is there no political polarization in the Philippines?” in *Political Polarization in South and Southeast Asia: Old Divisions, New Dangers*, Thomas Carothers and Andrew O’Sullivan (eds.), (Washington, DC: Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 2020)
- “Civil Wars,” (with Stathis N. Kalyvas), in *Oxford Research Encyclopaedia of International Studies*, edited by Robert Denemark and Renée Marlin-Bennett, Oxford: Oxford University Press, (2017 [2010])

WORKS UNDER REVIEW AND IN PROGRESS

- “Populism and Democracy,” under review, *World Politics*
- “The origins of ethnic inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa” (with Christian Houle, Nicolas Bichay, and Jeffrey Conroy-Krutz) under review, *Comparative Political Studies*
- “Hidden profits: Why corruption varies across industries” (with Eve Warburton), *APSA Pre-Prints*, latest version: Sept. 2020, <https://doi.org/10.33774/apsa-2020-nssz5>; under review, *World Development*
- “The economics of presidential approval: Evidence from the Philippines” (with Enrico Antonio La Vina), paper to be presented at the *Annual Meeting of ASQPS*, December 2025.
- “How Populism Ends,” (with Andreas Kyriacou and Pedro Trivin), *in progress*

- “Democracy and the plantation economy: Evidence from Indonesia” (with Edward Aspinall, Colum Graham, and Rashesh Shrestha), *in progress*.
- *The Tyranny of Rules: Institutions and Dictatorship in Russia from Stalin to Putin*, (with Alexander Baturu), *book manuscript in progress*.
- *Killing Democracy? Rodrigo Duterte, Penal Populism, and the War on Drugs in the Philippines* (with Ronald Holmes and Enrico Antonia La Vina), *book manuscript in progress*.
- *Belief and Belonging: A Political History of Religion*, *book manuscript in progress*.
- *Economic Tribes: How Inequality Shapes Ethnic Voting and Violence* (with Kyle Peyton and Christian Houle), *book manuscript in progress*.

EXTERNAL GRANTS

- *Supporting the Rules-Based Order in Southeast Asia (SEARBO)*, Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Co-Investigator, 2018—2022 (AU\$ 2,102,244)

INTERNAL GRANTS

- Ben and Melinda Tria Kerkvliet Southeast Asia Research Fund, ANU 2019 (AU\$ 5,500)
- Asia Pacific Innovations Project Research Excellence Award, ANU, 2019 (AU\$ 9,980)
- Asia Pacific Innovations Project, ANU, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 (AU\$ 3,000 x5)
- Vice Chancellor’s Early Career Researcher Travel Grant, ANU, 2016, 2019 (AU\$ 3,000 x2)
- School of International, Political, and Strategic Studies, ANU, Travel Grant, 2014 (AU\$ 12,000)
- Ethel Boies Morgan Fellowship, Yale University, 2011-12 (\$US 27,000)
- Yale University Dissertation Fellowship, Yale University, 2011-2012 (US\$ 27,000)
- John F. Enders Fellowship, Yale University, Summer 2011 (US\$ 2,000)
- Fox Fellowship, Yale University: taken up at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, 2010-2011 (\$US 30,000)
- The Council on Southeast Asian Studies Fellowship, Yale University, 2008 (\$US 3,000)
- McMillan Center Pre-Dissertation Grant, Yale University, 2008 (\$US 4,000)
- Program on Agrarian Studies Fellowship, Yale University, 2008 (declined)
- John M. Olin Foundation, Yale University, 2007 (\$US 2,000)
- The Georg Walter Leitner Program in International and Comparative Political Economy, Yale University, 2007 (\$US 3,500)

PRESENTATIONS AT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES

- American Political Science Association (2011, 2012[†], 2013^{*}, 2016^{*}, 2019, 2020[†], 2021[†], 2022, 2023)
- American Sociological Association (2012)
- Asian Studies Association of Australia (2016, 2022)
- Association for Asian Studies (2019^{*})
- Australian Conference on Personality and Individual Differences (2019^{*})
- Australian Political Studies Association (2013, 2017)

- Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science (2014, 2015, 2017, 2022, 2025 scheduled)
- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Joint Sessions of Workshops (2016)
- European Political Science Association (2013, 2014*, 2019*)
- International Political Science Association (2018)
- Midwest Political Science Association (2009, 2010, 2014*, 2016*, 2019*)
- Political Studies Association (2017*)
- Women's Forum of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (2019)

* Presented by co-author

† Cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina

‡ Online delivery due to COVID-19

INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS, AND KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- 2025 School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University (Bologna, Italy)
Department of Politics and International Relations, Monash University (Melbourne)[‡]
IDEoPOP Doctoral Network lecture series, Freiburg University[‡]
- 2023 Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore (NUS), (Singapore)
- 2022 Australian National University, *Reconceiving Engagement with International Law in a Populist Era* workshop (Canberra)
University of Wisconsin-Madison, *Populism and Democracy in the Times of the Pandemic* workshop, (Madison, WI)
- 2021 Korea University, Department of Political Science & International Relations Seminar[‡]
Australian National University, Arndt Cordon Department of Economics (ACDE) Seminar[‡]
- 2020 Pacific International Politics Conference, Online Speaker Series (PIPCOSS)[‡]
Dublin City University, School of Law and Government (Dublin)
- 2019 Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization, conference keynote speaker, *After Liberalism? Populism and the Future of Democracy* (Melbourne)
Academia Sinica, Institute of Sociology, *Conference on Populism*, keynote speaker (Taipei, Taiwan)
University of Essex, Department of Government (Colchester, UK)
Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science (Baltimore, MD)
UN Women, *Expert Group Meeting on Populism, Nationalism and Gender Equality in South and Southeast Asia* (Bangkok, Thailand)
- 2018 Griffith University, School of Government and International Relations (Brisbane)
- 2013 Columbia University, *Harriman Institute Conference on Power Brokers and Armed Groups* (New York, NY)
- 2012 Trinity College Dublin, Department of Political Science (Dublin)
Dublin City University, School of Law and Government (Dublin)
University College Cork, Department of Philosophy (Cork)
University College Dublin, School of Economics (Dublin)
- 2010 Kerala Council for Historical Research, (Thiruvananthapuram, India)
Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH) (New Delhi, India)

[‡] Online delivery

TEACHING

Note: Employed in a research-only role at ACU (Jul 2020-Jul 2024)

- Undergraduate
Authoritarianism in the 21st century, ACU, 2025
Religion and World Politics, 2026 scheduled
Populism in the 21st century: From Brexit to Trump and Beyond, ACU, 2024,
Security, Terrorism, and Human Rights, ACU, 2024, 2025
Comparative Politics (Asia-Pacific), ANU, 2015, 2016, 2017
State-Society Relations in Asia and the Pacific, ANU, 2013
Violence, Poverty, and Politics in India, ANU 2018
Politics of South Asia, ANU, 2014
Comparative Politics, Trinity College Dublin, 2012-13
Dynamics of Civil War, Yale University, 2009
- Graduate
Violence and Political Order, Trinity College Dublin, 2013; ANU 2018, 2019
Comparative Politics of Asia and the Pacific, ANU, 2017
Government Institutions, Trinity College Dublin, 2012
Government and Politics of the European Union, Trinity College Dublin, 2013

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Referee for:
Journals: *American Political Science Review*; *American Journal of Political Science*; *Archives of Criminology*; *Asian Journal of Communication*; *Asian Studies Review*; *Asian Survey*; *British Journal of Political Science*; *Comparative Political Studies*; *Comparative Politics*; *Contemporary Politics*; *Democratization*; *European Journal of Political Research*; *European Political Science Review*; *Government & Opposition*; *International Feminist Journal of Politics*; *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*; *International Journal of Drug Policy*; *International Migration*; *International Political Science Review*; *International Sociology*; *International Theory*; *Journal for the Study of Radicalism*; *Journal of Contemporary Asia*; *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*; *Journal of East Asian Studies*; *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties*; *Journal of Ethnic & Migration Studies*; *Journal of Experimental Political Science*; *Journal of Illicit Economies and Development*; *Journal of Peace Research*; *Journal of Politics in Latin America*; *Legislative Studies Quarterly*; *Perspectives on Politics*; *Philippine Political Science Journal*; *Philippine Sociological Review*; *Philippine Studies: Historical and Ethnographic Viewpoints*; *Political Behavior*; *Political Research Quarterly*; *Political Studies*; *Regulation & Governance*; *Sage OPEN*; *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*; *Security Dialogue*; *Studies in Comparative International Development*; *The Journal of Politics*; *West European Politics*.

Presses: Brill; Bloomsbury; Bristol University Press; Cambridge University Press; Columbia University Press; Oxford University Press; Palgrave MacMillan; Routledge

Institutions: National Science Foundation (USA); Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation); Dutch Research Council (NWO); Israel Science Foundation

- External Examiner (PhD theses): Monash University (2022)
- Conference Organizer: Annual Meeting of the Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science, Melbourne (2022)
- Prize Committee Chair: *Robert A. Dahl Award* [Best book on subject of democracy], American Political Science Association (2021); *Oceania Book Prize for International Studies*, Oceanic Conference on International Studies (OCIS) (2020)

DEPARTMENTAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

- Director, Political Science Program, ACU (2022–present)
- Chair, HDR Committee IHSS, ACU (2021–2022)
- Head of Department of Political and Social Change, ANU (2018–2020)
- Board Member, South Asia Research Institute (SARI), ANU (2015–2020)
- Director of Studies, Department of Political and Social Change, ANU (2016–2018)
- Convener of Master of Political Science, Coral Bell School of Asia-Pacific Affairs and School of Politics and International Relations, ANU (Jan–Jul 2018)
- Education Committee, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, ANU (2016–2018)
- Research Committee, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, ANU (2015–2018)
- India Regional Reference Group, ANU (2014–2015)
- Bachelor of Asian Studies degree redesign Committee, College of Asia and the Pacific, ANU (2013)

MEDIA

- Contributor: *Australian Outlook*, *The Conversation*, *The Guardian*, *The Loop* (ECPR's *Political Science Blog*), *The Washington Post – Monkey Cage*, *East Asia Forum*, *New Mandala*
- Interviews: *AFP*, *Australian Financial Review*, *BBC*, *Bloomberg*, *Reuters*, *SBS News*, *South China Morning Post*
- Appearances (radio, television, and podcast): *ABC Radio*, *Sky News*, *Triple J*, *New Books Network*

CURRENT PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- American Political Science Association (member)
- Australian Political Studies Association (member)
- Australian Society for Quantitative Political Science (member)
- Households in Conflict Network (HiCN) (affiliate)
- Political Studies Association of Ireland (member)