

# apolitical foundation

## 50+1 Influential Researchers Whose Work Could Help Shape 21st Century Politicians

[\(Jump to Professor Nayef Al-Rodhan's card\)](#)



At Apolitical Foundation, we explore the research on how to best cultivate reflective, representative and informed politicians. Below are some of the researchers we've found from around the world. This list originally included 50 researchers but we extended it to spotlight Dr. Andrea Römmele. We're delighted to have her on the list because she, like us, is based in Berlin and is doing great work.

We received great suggestions while compiling this list and had to leave deserving researchers out. We will continue to watch their work and keep them in mind for future lists. We want to thank all suggested researchers for their hard work and dedication.

This list is by no means exhaustive and we can see some representation gaps. We welcome your continued feedback and suggestions. We want to hear about researchers with all kinds of lived experiences and expertise. Contact us via [email](#) or on social media.

# Representative Politicians



**Dr. Stefanie Reher**

Senior Lecturer in Politics at University of Strathclyde Glasgow

Stefanie Reher studies how well public policy reflects the preferences and views of citizens, what explains differences in representation between different social groups and countries, and how it affects individuals' attitudes towards their political system. Her current work focuses in particular on access to politics for disabled people.

Follow Dr. Reher on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: University of Strathclyde



**Dr. Yolande Bouka**

Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Studies, Queen's University

**See:** [Implementing Inclusion: Gender Quotas, Inequality, and Backlash in Kenya](#)

Yolande Bouka's research and teaching focus on gender, African politics and security, political violence, and field research ethics in conflict-affected societies. She is currently researching a new project on political protests in Africa and concluding a project on women's agency in non-state armed groups.

Follow Dr. Bouka on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Kelly Dittmar**

Associate Professor of Political Science, Rutgers-Camden; Director of Research and CAWP Scholar

**See:** [A Seat at the Table: Congresswomen's Perspectives on Why Their Presence Matters](#)

Kelly Dittmar is the co-author of *A Seat at the Table: Congresswomen's Perspectives on Why Their Representation Matters* and author of *Navigating Gendered Terrain: Stereotypes and Strategy in Political Campaigns*. Dittmar's research focuses on gender and American political institutions. She was an American Political Science Association (APSA) Congressional Fellow from 2011 to 2012.

Follow Dr. Dittmar on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#). Image: Rutgers University



**Dr. Seiki Tanaka**

Assistant Professor of International Relations at the University of Groningen

**See:** [What Explains Low Female Political Representation? Evidence from Survey Experiments in Japan](#)

Seiki Tanaka studies the microfoundations of social diversity and conflicts and how different groups of people—different gender, ethnic, income, and national groups—can co-exist in an era of globalization and technological advancement.

Follow Dr. Tanaka on [LinkedIn](#).

Image: Yale MacMillan Center



**Dr. Sithembile Mbete**

Senior Lecturer at University of Pretoria, Visiting Research Fellow at African Leadership Center, King’s College London, and Director of Programmes at Futurelect, an Apolitical Academy in Southern Africa

**See:** [Out With the Old, In With the New? The ANC and EFF’s Battle to Represent the South African “People”](#)

Sithembile Mbete teaches international relations and South African politics at the University of Pretoria. Sithembile completed her PhD in International Relations in 2018 with a thesis titled “The Middle Power Debate Revisited: South Africa in the UNSC, 2007-2008 and 2011-2012”.

Follow Dr. Mbete on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Pretoria University



**Dr. Nanyung Choi**

Visiting Faculty Fulbright University Vietnam

**See:** [Women’s Political Pathways in Southeast Asia](#)

Nanyung Choi has published in journals such as the Journal of Contemporary Asia, South East Asia Research and International Feminist Journal of Politics. She published Local Politics in Indonesia: Pathways to Power in 2011. Her courses include Women and Politics in Asia and Youth and Society in Asia. Image: City University of Hong Kong



**Dr. Manon Tremblay**

Professor of Political Studies at University of Ottawa

**See:** [LGBQ Legislators in Canadian Politics](#)

Manon Tremblay's research interests include LGBTQ politics, and gender/women in politics. Her most recent publications include *Queer Mobilizations: Social Movement Activism and Canadian Public Policy* and *The Lesbian and Gay Movement and the State*. Image: University of Ottawa



**Dr. Shireen Morris**

Senior Lecturer, Macquarie Law School

**#See:** [Mechanisms for indigenous representation, participation and consultation in constitutional systems: international examples to inspire Chile.](#)

Shireen Morris is a constitutional lawyer and Director of the [Radical Centre Reform Lab](#) at Macquarie University Law School in Sydney, Australia. She specializes in constitutional reform, Indigenous constitutional recognition, free speech, Australian republicanism and democratic decline. She has been invited to visit Chile to provide international insights to help inform the Chilean constitutional reform process.

Follow Dr. Morris on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Shan-Jan Sarah Liu**

Assistant Professor in Politics and International Relations at the University of Edinburgh See: [Gender Gaps in Political Participation in Asia](#)

Shan-Jan Sarah Liu's research examines the influence of [female political leaders](#) on women's political participation. It particularly investigates the role model effect of cabinet ministers in democracies, a previously ignored political arena, and the role model effect of legislators in Asia.

Follow Dr. Liu on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Melissa Deckman**

CEO of the Public Religion Research Institute

See: [Gender Differences in the Decision to Run for School Board](#)

Melissa Deckman has written a number of books, including *Women and Politics* and *Tea Party Women: Mama Grizzlies, Grassroots Leaders, and the Changing Face of the American Right*. She is currently researching how gender impacts the political engagement of Generation Z, the impact of masculinity on American political attitudes, and Americans' views about civility in politics.

Follow Dr. Deckman on [Twitter](#). Image: Public Religion Research Institute



**Dr. Wendy Smooth**

Professor at the Department of Political Science at Ohio State University

**See:** [Women of Color Mobilizing: Sistahs are Doing It for Themselves from GOTV to Running Candidates for Political Office](#)

Wendy Smooth’s research and teaching focus on women’s experiences in political institutions and the impact of public policies on women’s lives. She is currently working on a book titled, Perceptions of Power and Influence: The Impact of Race and Gender in American State Legislatures. Based on this research, she was awarded the Best Dissertation in Women and Politics by the Women and Politics Section of the American Political Science Association.

Follow Dr. Smooth on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Ohio State University



**Dr. Milan Vaishnav**

Director and Senior Fellow of the South Asia Program at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

**See:** [India’s Emerging Crisis of Representation](#)

Milan Vaishnav’s primary research focus is the political economy of India, and he examines issues such as corruption and governance, state capacity, distributive politics, and electoral behavior. He is author of When Crime Pays: Money and Muscle in Indian Politics and host of the Carnegie Endowment’s weekly podcast on Indian politics and policy, Grand Tamasha.

Follow Milan Vaishnav on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Shauna Shames**

Associate Professor of Political Science and director of the Gender Studies program at Rutgers-Camden.

**See:** [Out of the Running: Why Millennials Reject Political Careers and Why It Matters](#)

Shauna Shames' primary area of academic interest is American politics, with a focus on gender, race, LGBTQ+ politics, social movements, and political ambition. She is the author of *Out of the Running: Why Millennials Reject Political Careers and Why it Matters* and co-author of *Survive & Resist: The Definitive Guide to Dystopian Politics*. Image: Rutgers University



**Dr. Victoria Hasson**

Founder of Silent MP

**See:** [Leadership for Inclusion](#)

Victoria Hasson is the former Senior Parliamentary Advisor at the Westminster Foundation for Democracy and holds a doctorate that looked at the deliberative performance of parliamentarians in South Africa at the start of the new democracy. She is passionate about understanding and sharing the political experience through The Silent MP, a platform that draws on various aspects of this experience, in order to promote a more humanized and authentic political society.

Follow Dr. Hasson on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).





**Debbie Walsh**

Director at the Center for American Women in Politics (CAWP) at the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University

**See:** [Representation Matters: Women in the U.S Congress](#)

Debbie Walsh joined the Center staff in 1981 and became the director in 2001. She is a member of the Circle of Advisors to Rachel's Network and was named one of the 21 Leaders for the 21st Century by Women's eNews. CAWP is nationally recognized as the leading source of scholarly research and current data about American women's political participation.

Follow Debbie Walsh on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Rutgers University



**Dr. Muhammad Yasir Khan**

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Pittsburgh

**See:** Barriers to Political Entry: Experimental Evidence from Pakistan (Work in progress)

Muhammad Yasir Khan's research lies at the intersection of development economics, behavioral economics, and political economy. He looks at issues of public service delivery in developing countries and uses experiments to identify ways for improvement.

Follow Dr. Muhammad Yasir Khan on [LinkedIn](#). Image: University of Pittsburgh

# Effective Politicians



**Dr. Saad Gulzar**

Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University (from September 2022) See: [“Good Politicians”: Experimental Evidence on Motivations for Political Candidacy and Government Performance](#) Saad Gulzar aims to demonstrate that incorporating non-elite voices in government robustly improves policy. His work brings evidence from Pakistan, India, and Nepal to show that those not considered traditionally elite are in fact equally, if not more, capable of competent governance. Follow Dr. Gulzar on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#)



**Marcos Peña**

Americas Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies

See: [A New Proposal for Effective Political Leadership in the Americas](#)

Marcos Peña is an Argentinian politician, author and political scientist who served as Chief of the Cabinet of Ministers from 2015 to 2019. He is a founding member of the Propuesta Republicana (PRO) political party and has held positions in various NGOs, including the Center for the Implementation of Public Policies Promoting Equity and Growth and Poder Ciudadano. Follow Mr. Peña on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)



**Dr. James Weinberg**

Lecturer in Political Behavior and Leverhulme early career fellow at the University of Sheffield

**See:** [Who Enters Politics and Why?: Basic Human Values in the UK Parliament](#)

James Weinberg has published research on topics as wide-ranging as the personalities and mental health of politicians, trust in politics, and the practice and politics of democratic education. His current fellowship, based on three years of research with politicians in multiple democracies, focuses on how politicians navigate their occupational lives and govern effectively in an age of distrust.

Follow Dr. Weinberg on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Dan Honig**

Associate Professor of Public Policy, University College London

**See:** [Mission Driven Bureaucrats](#)

Dan Honig's research focuses on the relationship between organizational structure, management practice, and performance in developing country governments and organizations that provide foreign aid. Honig is currently completing a book manuscript entitled Mission Driven Bureaucrats, focused on how best to attract, retain, and cultivate mission-oriented motivation in public servants worldwide.

Follow Dr. Honig on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Nayef Al-Rodhan**

Honorary Fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford University, Senior Fellow and Head of the Geopolitics and Global Futures Program, Geneva Center for Security, Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Studies, University of London, UK, and a member of the Council on Frontier Risks at the World Economic Forum (WEF)

**See:** [Emotional Amoral Egoism](#)

Professor Nayef R. F. Al-Rodhan is a Neuroscientist, Philosopher and Geostrategist. He was educated at the Mayo Clinic, Yale University and Harvard University, USA. He is a Prize winning scholar and was voted amongst the top 30 most influential neuroscientists in the world. He has written 25 books and more than 250 articles. His research focuses on the interplay between: analytic neurophilosophy, geopolitics, global security, global futures, outer space security, transcultural synergies, disruptive technologies, AI and machine learning, transhumanism, international relations and global order.



**Sharath Jeevan OBE**

Founder & Executive Chairman, Intrinsic Labs

**See:** [Intrinsic: A manifesto to reignite our inner drive](#)

Sharath Jeevan is one of the world's leading experts on intrinsic motivation, direction and potential. Sharath is the Executive Chairman of Intrinsic Labs, which supports organizations and leaders all around the world to solve deep motivational challenges, from governments to leading universities and high-profile corporations, from L'Oreal to the London School of Economics. He is the author of Intrinsic: a manifesto to reignite our inner drive.

Follow Sharath Jeevan on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Peter John Loewen**

Professor at Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, University of Toronto

**See:** [Personality and Ideology among politicians: Data on political elites from Canada and Belgium](#)

Peter John Loewen is interested in human behavior, especially in the political sphere. He is the Director of the Policy, Election and Representation Lab (PEARL), Associate Director of the Schwartz Reisman Institute, a Senior Fellow at Massey College, and a Fellow with the Public Policy Forum. For 2020-2022, he is a Distinguished Visitor at the Institute for Advanced Study at Tel Aviv University.

Image: University of Toronto

## 21st Century Democracy



**Dr. Sergei Guriev**

Provost, Sciences Po, Paris

**See:** [Spin Dictators: The Changing Face of Tyranny in the 21st Century](#)

Sergei Guriev's research interests include contract theory, corporate governance, political economics and labor mobility. He is Research Fellow at the Center for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) and member of the Executive Committee of the International Economic Association. In 2016-19, he served as the Chief Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Follow Dr. Guriev on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Athaulla Rasheed**

PhD Candidate at the Australian National University

**See:** [Climate Ideas as Drivers of Pacific Islands' Regional Politics and Cooperation](#)

Athaulla is a PhD candidate at the Department of Pacific Affairs. His focus is on international relations, particularly on small island developing states (SIDS), climate change and international politics and security. Athaulla's current research at DPA looks at international politics and construction of climate security in SIDS.

Follow Dr. Rasheed on [LinkedIn](#). Image: Australian National University



**Dr. Mathew Y.H Wong**

Assistant Professor in the [Department of Social Sciences](#), the Education University of Hong Kong.

**See:** [Income Inequality and Political Participation: A District-level Analysis of Hong Kong Elections](#)

Mathew Y.H Wong's research interests include comparative politics and comparative political economy, income inequality and redistribution, democracy and democratization and Asian politics (Hong Kong/Macao, China's rising influence).

Image: Education University of Hong Kong



**Dr. Margaret Levi**

Department of Political Science, Stanford University

**See:** [Cooperation without Trust?](#)

Margaret Levi is an American political scientist and author, noted for her work in comparative political economy, labor politics, and democratic theory, notably on the origins and effects of trustworthy government. She is also a professor of political science and the director of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) at Stanford University. She also co-authored *In the Interest of Others: Organizations and Social Activism*.

Follow Dr. Levi on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Mario Scharfbillig**

Policy Analyst, Science for Policy at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre

**See:** [Values and Identities - a policymaker's guide](#)

Mario Scharfbillig is a behavioral economist who studies values, social identities and polarization and their influence on political behavior and the uptake of scientific evidence. Since 2019, he works as behavioral researcher at the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission with a focus on improving evidence-informed policymaking in the EU.

Follow Dr. Scharfbillig on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Alexander Dzionara



**Dani Rodrik**

Ford Foundation Professor of International Political Economy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government

**See:** [The Globalization Paradox](#)

Dani Rodrik is an economist whose research revolves around globalization, economic growth and development, and political economy. His current work focuses on how to create more inclusive economies, in developed and developing societies. He is currently President of the International Economic Association, and co-director of Economics for Inclusive Prosperity. His newest books are *Combating Inequality: Rethinking Government's Role* and *Straight Talk on Trade: Ideas for a Sane World Economy*.

Follow Dani Rodrik on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Thamy Pogrebinschi**

Senior Researcher at the WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Coordinator of LATINNO (Innovations for Democracy in Latin America), and Faculty Member at the Berlin Graduate School of Social Sciences at the Humboldt University in Berlin

**See:** [The Impact of Participatory Democracy: Evidence from Brazil's National Public Policy Conferences](#)

Thamy Pogrebinschi focuses on democratic innovations, new forms of citizen participation, and their impact on policy and democracy at the macro level in Latin America. She is also interested in the role digital technology plays on representation and participation and collective intelligence.

Follow Innovations for Democracy in Latin America on [Twitter](#).





**Nanjira Sambuli**

Fellow in Technology and International Affairs at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

**See:** [When Bulls Fight: Of Social Media Platforms' Power and the Future of Digital Democracy](#)

Nanjira Sambuli is a researcher, policy analyst and strategist interested in and working on understanding the unfolding, gendered impacts of ICT adoption on governance, diplomacy, media, entrepreneurship and culture.

Follow Nanjira Sambuli on [LinkedIn](#).

Image: Lancet/FT Commission on Governing Health Futures 2030



**Dr. Helen Thompson**

Professor of Political Economy at Oxford University

**See:** [Disorder: Hard Times in the 21st Century](#)

Helen Thompson has been at Cambridge since 1994. Her current research concentrates on the political economy of energy and the long history of the democratic, economic, and geopolitical disruptions of the twenty-first century.

Follow Dr. Thompson on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Joseph Asunka**

CEO at Afrobarometer

**See:** <https://www.afrobarometer.org/about/what-we-do/>

Joseph Asunka has served as CEO of Afrobarometer since April 2021. He was previously program officer in the Global Development and Population program at the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Joseph's research interests include distributive politics, elections and electoral processes, and migration.

Follow Joseph Asunka on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Andrea Römmele**

Dean of Executive Education and Professor of Communication in Politics and Civil Society at the Hertie School.

**See:** [Scientific and subversive: The two faces of the fourth era of political campaigning \(with Rachel Gibson\)](#).

Andrea Römmele's research interests are comparative political communications, political parties and public affairs. She was Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Modern German Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara in 2012/13 and has been a visiting fellow at the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC, and the Australian National University in Canberra. She is co-founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal for Political Consulting and Policy Advice.

Follow Andrea Römmele on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

# Interacting with Parties and Candidate Selection



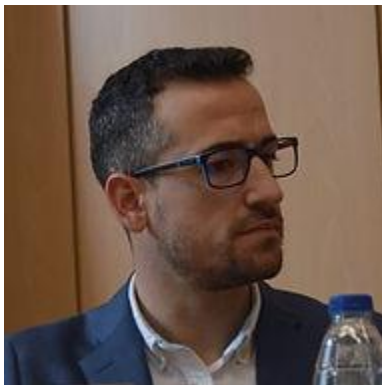
## **Dr. Xavier Coller**

Professor of Sociology, Universidad Pablo de Olavide, Seville, Spain

See: [Democratizing Candidate Selection](#)

Xavier Coller has authored over one hundred works on social theories, research methods, collective identities, political elites and complex organizations. His areas of expertise are organizations (parties, multinationals) and political sociology (political elites, nationalism).

Follow Dr. Coller on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Universidad Pablo de Olavide



## **Dr. Guillermo Cordero**

Political Science Professor, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

See: [Democratizing Candidate Selection: New Methods, Old Receipts?](#)

Guillermo Cordero is Coordinator of the Research Group “Actores y Élités Políticas”, and Co-chair of the Research Network “Political Parties, Party Systems and Elections” at the Council for European Studies (CES). His research interests include electoral behavior, political representation and the study of political elites.

Follow Dr. Cordero on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Catherine E. De Vries**

Dean of Diversity and Inclusion and Professor of Political Science at Bocconi University

**See:** [Political Entrepreneurs: The Rise of Challenger Parties in Europe](#)

Catherine E. De Vries's work covers political behavior, political economy and EU politics. She has appeared in leading political science journals, such as the American Political Science Review, Annual Review of Political Science, and the Journal of Politics. Her first book Euroscepticism and the Future of European Integration received the European Union Studies Association Best Book in EU Studies Award in 2019 and was listed in the top-5 books on Europe's future by the Financial Times.



**Dr. Peter M. Siavelis**

Professor, Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University

**See:** [Pathways to Power: Political Recruitment and Candidate Selection in Latin America](#)

Peter Siavelis currently works at the Department of Politics and International Affairs, Wake Forest University. Peter does research in Comparative Democratization, Comparative Politics and Representation and Electoral Systems. His current project is "Candidate selection processes in new and established democracies".

Follow Dr. Siavelis on [LinkedIn](#).

Image: Wake Forest University



**Dr. Jo Silvester**

Professor of Work Psychology, Loughborough University

**See:** [Recruiting politicians: Designing competency-based selection for UK parliamentary candidates](#)

Jo Silvester is a Professor of Work Psychology. Her research has been foundational in understanding the nature of political work within legislatures and political parties, as well as its importance in business and the public sector.



**Dr. Giulia Sandri**

Associate Professor in Political Science, ESPOL - Université Catholique de Lille

**See:** [New Paths for Selecting Political Elites](#)

Giulia Sandri's primary areas of academic interest are studies on digital politics, political parties, the quality of democracy and political behavior. She has recently co-edited a book with Antonella Seddone entitled *New Paths for Selecting Political Elites*. Giulia Sandri participates in "RECONNECT", a multidisciplinary research project funded by the Horizon 2020 political party over four years, with the aim of "Reconciling Europe with its citizens through democracy and the Rule of Law".

Follow Dr. Sandri on [LinkedIn](#).



**Dr. Yael Shomer**

Senior Lecturer in the School of Political Science, Government and International Affairs, Tel-Aviv University

See: [Electoral Systems and Intra-party Candidate Selection Processes](#)

Dr. Yael Shomer's broad research interests are in comparative politics and democratic institutions, and she specializes in legislative politics, electoral systems, candidate selection processes, parties and party systems and quantitative methodology. Prior to her academic career, Shomer was the secretary of the Governor of the Bank of Israel, and a project coordinator in the Israel National Council for the Child.

Follow Dr. Shomer on [Twitter](#). Image: Tel-Aviv University



**Dr. Flavia Freidenberg**

Professor of the Graduate Program in Political and Social Sciences at UNAM. Founder and Coordinator of the Network of Women Political Scientists - [#NoSinMujeres](#).

See: [Territorio y poder : nuevos actores y competencia política en los sistemas de partidos multinivel en América Latina \(Territory and Power: New Actors and Political Competition in Multilevel Party Systems in Latin America\)](#)

Flavia Freidenberg's work includes projects on elections, representation, candidate selection and political reforms. She has been a graduate and postgraduate professor at universities in Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Spain, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay.

Follow Flavia Freidenberg on [LinkedIn](#). Image: UNAM



**Dr. Gideon Rahat**

Professor, Chair of Department of Political Science, Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**See:** [Candidate Selection: The Choice Before the Choice](#)

Gideon Rahat holds the Gersten Family Chair in Political Science at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He has been studying comparative politics and Israeli politics, focusing on the politics of reform, democratic institutions, political parties, candidate and leadership selection and political personalization. He has been the co-editor of the book series The Elections in Israel since 2015.

Image: Hebrew University of Jerusalem



**Thibault Muzergues**

Program Director, Europe & Euro-Med, International Republican Institute

**See:** [Standing Out from the Crowd: Political Parties' Candidate \(S\)election in the Transatlantic World](#)

Thibault Muzergues has been working at the International Republican Institute since 2017. Prior to this, he was a fundraiser and direct marketing consultant to France's leading party UMP and Nicolas Sarkozy, and for the Conservative party at local and regional level in the United Kingdom. Specialized in geopolitics, political parties and election campaigns, he is the author of The Great Class Shift: How New Social Structures Are Redefining Western Politics and War in Europe? From Impossible War to Improbable Peace.

Follow Thibault Muzergues on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

# Good Political Leadership Programs



## **Dr. Michael Beer**

Cahners-Rabb Professor of Business Administration, Emeritus at the Harvard Business School

**See:** ["Why Leadership Training Fails—and What to Do about It."](#)

Michael Beer has researched and written widely about organization effectiveness, organizational change, high commitment, high performance organizations, leadership and human resource management. He is author or co-author of twelve books, in addition to numerous book chapters and articles in academic and business journals.

Image: Harvard Business School



## **Dr. Robert M. Yawson**

Associate Professor of Management at the Quinnipiac School of Business.

**See:** [Leadership Development in South Africa](#)

Robert has over 110 publications including peer review papers in several leading academic journals. His current research is on using the "wicked problem construct" for leading organizational development and change and using a systems approach to human resource development for emerging technologies.

Follow Dr. Yawson on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Image: Quinnipiac School of Business





**Nicolai Chen Nielsen**

Partner at the Supertrends Institute

See: [What's Missing in Leadership Development](#)

Nicolai Chen Nielsen spent ten years focusing on leadership development, organizational transformations and innovation at the McKinsey & Company. He is now at Supertrends, where he focuses on the intersection of the latest trends and their implications on leaders and organizations.

Follow Nicolai Chen Nielsen on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).

## What Politicians Need to Thrive in Office



**Dame Jane Roberts**

Research Fellow at the Public Leadership at The Open University Business School

See: [The Current Politicians: Views of Political Careers and Motivations](#) and [Losing Political Office](#)

A medical doctor since 1980, Dame Jane Roberts practiced as an NHS Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist until the end of 2016 and she has experience of healthcare management. She was Leader of the London Borough of Camden from 2000 to 2005. She chaired the Councillors Commission for the Department of Communities and Local Government and, amongst other roles, she chairs the think tank New Local Government Network.

Image: Wales Centre for Public Policy



**Dr. Richard Kwiatkowski**

Professor of Organizational Psychology and Head of the Applied Psychology and Organizational Behavior Group, Cranfield University

**See:** [Governing under Pressure? The Mental Wellbeing of Politicians](#)

Richard Kwiatkowski is an established psychologist who has been actively developing people and organizations for over 35 years. His scholarly interests center around the application of psychology to organizations and individuals; this includes work on culture change and resistance, on assessment, on emotional aspects of learning and change, on applied ethics and in political psychology.

Follow Dr. Kwiatkowski on [LinkedIn](#).

Image: Cranfield University



**Dr. Pär Zetterberg**

Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor at the Department of Government at Uppsala University.

**See:** [Gender and Violence against Political Candidates: Lessons from Sri Lanka](#)

Pär Zetterberg's research lies within the area of comparative politics and focuses on issues such as political recruitment and political representation in a comparative perspective, electoral quotas, and violence against politicians. Particular attention is paid to the examination of how gender inequalities in politics are produced, reproduced, and overcome. He is also interested in how young people develop their political attitudes and behavior.

Follow Dr. Zetterberg on [Twitter](#).



**Dr. Jenny Madestam**

Senior Lecturer at Södertörns University Stockholm

**See:** [The Social Media Balancing Act: Testing the Use of a Balanced Self-Presentation Strategy for Politicians Using Twitter](#)

Jenny Madestam studies collectivistic forms of leadership among principals in schools and leaders in Swedish parties, as well as social media in political leadership. As a postdoc, she ran a project about leader recruitment processes in three Swedish parties.

Follow Dr. Madestam on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#).



**Dr. Mona Lena Krook**

Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Women & Politics Ph.D. Program, Rutgers University

**See:** [Violence Against Women in Politics](#)

Mona Lena Krook has written widely on the adoption and impact of electoral gender quotas, as well as the rising global phenomenon of violence against women in politics. Her first book, *Quotas for Women in Politics: Gender and Candidate Selection Reform Worldwide*, has informed quota reforms around the world and received two major awards from the American Political Science Association (APSA). Her newest book, *Violence against Women in Politics*, won the 2022 Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order. In 2021, she was honored with the APSA Distinguished Award for Civic and Community Engagement for her related work with the National Democratic Institute on the [#NotTheCost](#) campaign to stop violence against politically active women around the world.

Follow Dr. Mona Lena Krook on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).