

Benjamin J. Toettoe

+1 438 884 0407 • benjamin.toettoe@umontreal.ca

EDUCATION

University of Montreal, Montreal, QC

Sep 2021 – Oct 2024 (Expected)

Ph.D. Political Science

Thesis title: “Does Money Buy Favor? Assessing China's Influence on Global Public Opinion”

Advisor: Dr. Mamoudou Gazibo

University College of London, London, UK

Sep 2020 - Sep 2021

M.A. Comparative Economics and Policy

New York University, New York, NY

Sep 2015 - Dec 2018

B.A. Economics and Politics

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Benjamin Toettoe & Richard Turcsanyi. (2024). National Dependence and Public Perceptions: Understanding the Economic Determinants of Foreign Policy Preferences Toward China. *International Interactions*. Published Online: 1-34.
- Diya Jiang, Benjamin Toettoe, & Richard Turcsanyi. (2024). Allies at Heart? A Study of Ideational Continentalism in Canadians' Foreign Policy Attitudes. *Canadian Journal of Political Science*. Published Online: 1-27.
- Benjamin Toettoe, Florent Guntz, & Richard Turcsanyi. (2024). Identarian Atlanticism and Foreign Policy Implications: A Study of European Public Attitudes. *European Politics and Society*. Forthcoming.
- Benjamin Toettoe. (2023). Chinese Development Aid and Finance: Effective Soft Power Tool or Public Diplomacy Liability? A Spatial Study of Project Influence. *International Journal of China Studies* 14(1): 49-77.
- Benjamin Toettoe & Diya Jiang (2022). Foreign contributors to democratic backsliding: the effects of linkages with China on media self-censorship in transitional regimes. *Canadian Foreign Policy Journal* 29(1):18-35.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Richard Turcsányi, Benjamin Toettoe, James Iocovozzi, & Kristina Kironska. *China's challenge to the Western-led international order: Insights from public opinion surveys in 56 countries worldwide*. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and CEIAS. 2024.
- Richard Turcsányi, Benjamin Toettoe, James Iocovozzi, & Kristina Kironska. *Public Attitudes in Taiwan-V4 Relations: Solid Basis, Space for Improvement*. CEIAS. 2024.
- Richard Turcsányi, Alfred Gerstl, Kristína Kironská, Klára Dubravčíková, James Iocovozzi, Peter Gries, Matej Šimalčík, Konstantinos Tsimonis, José Magano, Erhan Doğan, Jony Essa, Benjamin Toettoe, Tim Ruehlig, Una Aleksandra Bērziņa-Čerenkova, Diya Jiang, Hermann Aubie. *Trans-Atlantic public opinion on China: Great power competition amidst Russian invasion of Ukraine*. CEIAS. 2022.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Building Canada's Resilience Against China's State-Sponsored Disinformation: Insights from Australia. In *Disinformation and Democracy in a Digital Age*. Eds. Bessma Momani & Shelley Ghai Bajaj. Stage: Under advance contract at *University of Toronto Press*.

- Do Affected Populations React to Economic Statecraft in Line with Their Economic Interests? Experimental evidence from Australia. Stage: Preparing for Submission.
- Network effects in international influence: An analysis of China's multilateralism. Stage: Data analysis.
- Humphrey Goes to China: Counterfactual Analysis and the Normalization of U.S.-China Relations. With Dani Nedal & Michael Brenes. Stage: Writing.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Montreal, Montreal, QC

Jan 2024 – May 2024

Lecturer

- Instructor of Record for POL1600: Introduction to International Relations.
- Developed curriculum, conducted lectures, and supervised teaching assistants for first-year undergraduate course with over 470 students.
- Approximately 42 chair hours.

University of Montreal, Montreal, QC

Sep 2021 – Dec 2023

Teaching Assistant

- Teaching Assistant for POL1100: Research Methods in Political Science, POL1000: Foundations of Political Science, POL2215: Survey Methods in Political Science, and POL1803: Introduction to Quantitative Analysis.
- Helped mentor students in the comprehension and application of quantitative research methods.

CONFERENCE APPEARANCES

- Public Responses to Coercion: Evidence from the Sino-Australian Trade War. Presented at the annual conference of the **American Political Science Association**. September 2024. Philadelphia, PA.
- Regional and national effects of economic statecraft: a study of public opinion during the Sino-Australian trade war. Presented at the annual conference of the **Canadian Political Science Association**. June 2024. Montreal, QC.
- European identity and its geopolitical implications: An analysis of alignment between public attitudes and contested visions of strategic autonomy. Presented at the annual conference of the **Canadian Political Science Association**. June 2024. Montreal, QC.
- Do Affected Populations React to Economic Statecraft in Line with Their Economic Interests? Evidence from Australia. Presented at the annual conference of the **International Studies Association**. April 2024. San Francisco, CA.
- Canada's Liberal Internationalism in the 21st Century: The Impact of China's Rise on the Strategy's Continued Political Viability. Presented at the annual conference of the **Canadian Political Science Association**. May 2023. York, ON.
- Building Canada's Resilience Against China's State-Sponsored Disinformation: Insights from Taiwan. Presented at the University of Waterloo's conference on **The Weaponization of Digital Disinformation in Canada**. April 2023. Waterloo, ON.
- An Identarian Divide Between Allies? An Investigation of National Identity as a Determinant of Canadians' Foreign Policy Preferences on Alignment with the United States. With Diya Jiang. Presented at the annual conference of the **International Studies Association**. March 2023. Montreal, QC.

- China's Economic Might: Hard Fact or Illusory Perception? A statistical analysis on the determinants of perceived economic importance. Presented at the **Sinophone Borderlands Survey Conference 2022**. September 2022. Olomouc, Czech Republic.
- Taiwan – China Relations: Changing Competition in the Global Arena. Presented at the annual conference of the **Francophone Association for Science**. April 2022. Montreal, QC.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Asia-Pacific Foundation of Canada
Young Professional Fellow

Aug 2024 – Present

- Focused on promoting communication between academic and policymaking worlds.
- Promotion of policy-relevant research on China's foreign relations and Canada's role in the Asia-Pacific.

Central European Institute for Asian Studies
Research Fellow

Jan 2023 – Present

- Research on international public opinion toward China's international presence and the US-China rivalry.

New York University, Department of Economics, New York, NY
Research Assistant

May 2018 – Aug 2018

- Assisted in quantitative research dealing with historical trends in federal and state fiscal policy.
- Developed advanced fluency in methods and practices in social science research.

New York University, Department of Politics, New York, NY
Research Assistant

May 2018 – Sep 2018

- Assisted in large-scale research projects on environmental policy and its economic repercussions.
- Developed knowledge of statistical coding using STATA.
- Gained practice in presenting complex conclusions gained from data in a succinct and audience-friendly manner.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Moffatt & Nichol, New York, NY
Analyst

Jan 2019 – Aug 2020

- Responsible for conducting market research and economic analyses using SQL, Excel, and R.
- Became familiar with economic benefit-cost analysis methodology.
- Worked with clients to identify economic and market trends relevant to their businesses.

CompStak, New York, NY
Data Analyst Intern

Aug 2018 – Dec 2018

- Assisted in data analysis tasks and identified relevant industry trends.
- Helped analyze local markets and identify erroneous data.
- Developed advanced Excel skills and acquired familiarity with SQL.

SERVICE TO FIELD

- Pannel Chair and Discussant. "Follow the Money: Development and Funding in a Post-Covid World". Annual conference of the Canadian Political Science Association. May 2023. York, ON.

- Peer reviewer for *International Journal of China Studies*.

AWARDS & GRANTS

- Czech Science Foundation. How authoritarian countries win 'hearts and minds': China's attraction in the EU. Grant. Named Investigator. 2024. \$60,000.
- Global Affairs Canada International Policy Ideas Challenge. Award. 2024. \$4,000.
- University of Montreal Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Award. 2024. \$10,000.
- University of Montreal Department of Political Science. Award. 2021. \$50,000.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- International Studies Association.
- American Political Science Association.
- Canadian Political Science Association.

SKILLS

Languages

- Fluent in English, French, Danish, and Hungarian.
- Limited proficiency in German.
- Beginner Japanese.

Other

- Advanced knowledge of regression and experimental methods, as well as statistical coding using R, STATA, and Python.