

Emilia Simison

Sociology, Politics and International Relations
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Academic Positions

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Latin American Politics

Department of Sociology, Politics and International Relations
Queen Mary University of London (since 2024)

Inaugural Ivorra Visiting Scholar

David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies
Harvard University (Spring Semester, 2027)

Postdoctoral Fellow

Center for Inter-American Policy and Research
Tulane University (2022-2023)

Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Ph.D. in Political Science, 2022

Torcuato Di Tella University (UTDT)

M.A. in Political Science, 2015

University of Buenos Aires (UBA)

B.A. in Political Science, Honors Diploma, 2011

Publications **Books**

- **Simison, Emilia.** Forthcoming. *Policy in Transition. How regime change affects policymaking*, Cambridge University Press.
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison.** 2026. *Lawmaking under Authoritarianism. Factions, Institutions, and Outcomes Across Dictatorships*, Cambridge University Press.
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison.** 2026. *Cómo gobernó la dictadura. Facciones, instituciones y políticas en el Proceso de Reorganización Nacional (1976-1983)*. Edhasa.

Publications **Peer-Reviewed Articles in English**

- **Simison, Emilia.** 2026. “Varieties of authoritarian policymaking. Housing policy across dictatorships.” *Governance*: e70131
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison.** 2023. “Lawmaking in Personal Dictatorships: Evidence from Spain.” *Journal of Legislative Studies* 29(4): 538-59
- Garay, Candelaria, and **Emilia Simison.** 2022. “When Mayors Deliver: Political Alignment and Wellbeing.” *Studies in Comparative International Development* 57(3): 303–36.
- **Simison, Emilia.** 2022. “Supporters and Opposition in Authoritarian Legislatures.” *Journal of Legislative Studies* 28(1): 47-66.
- **Simison, Emilia** and Lukas Wolters. 2019. “Divided cities, divided parties. Measuring the effect of intra-party conflict on electoral performance.” *Revista SAAP* 13(1): 137-56.
- **Simison, Emilia.** 2017. “Nation or My District? Evaluating the Territorial Scope of Bills through Experimental Designs.” *Journal of Politics in Latin America* 9(2): 93-120.
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison.** 2017. “Legislative Institutions and Performance in Authoritarian Regimes.” *Comparative Politics* 49(4): 521-39.

Book Chapters in English

- Mainwaring, Scott, and **Emilia Simison.** 2022. “Economic Crises, Military Rebellions, and Democratic Survival: Argentina, 1983-2020” in *Democracy in Hard Places*, edited by Scott Mainwaring and Tarek Masoud, 188-227. Oxford University Press
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison.** 2020. “Fiscal Federalism and Lawmaking under Authoritarianism: Institutional Design and Economic Policy in Argentina’s Last Dictatorship” in *The Argentinian dictatorship in perspective. Rethinking the ‘proceso’*, edited by Juan Grigera and Luciana Zorzoli, 93-121. Palgrave Macmillan.
- **Simison, Emilia.** 2019. “Legislatures and Representation in Latin American Politics” in *Oxford Encyclopedia of Latin American Politics* (online). Oxford University Press.
- **Simison, Emilia** and Daniel Ziblatt. 2018. “The Power and Limits of Federalism” in *A Research Agenda for New Institutional Economics*, edited by Claude Ménard and Mary M. Shirley, 27–33. Edward Elgar Publishers.

Publications **Selected publications in Spanish**

- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison**. 2025. “El aprendizaje de los dictadores. Coaliciones y capacidades de los ejecutivos militares (1930-1983)” in *Los tres poderes. La construcción histórica del sistema político argentino, siglos XIX y XX*, edited by Laura Cucchi and Eduardo Zimmerman. Prohistoria
- **Simison, Emilia**. 2023. “Legislaturas y disputa por las políticas públicas en dictadura y democracia.” *Revista SAAP* 17(2): 193-221.
- Garay, Candelaria, and **Emilia Simison**. 2023. “Argentina 2022: Desafíos profundos y continuidad política.” *Revista de Ciencia Política* (Chile), 43(2): 143-66.
- **Simison, Emilia**. 2021. “Experimentos en las Ciencias Sociales” in *Metodología de la investigación social: Caja de herramientas*, edited by Mariana Caminotti and Hernán Pablo Toppi (eds.), 127-151. EUDEBA
- Bonvecchi, Alejandro, and **Emilia Simison**. 2017. “Una dictadura sin centro: historia y ciencia política en la interpretación del Proceso de Reorganización Nacional.” *Revista SAAP* 11(1): 129-46.
- **Simison, Emilia**. 2015. “Descentralización y Partidos Políticos en América Latina: un estado de la cuestión.” *Revista Ciencia Política* (Colombia) 10 (20): 243-65
- **Simison, Emilia**. 2015. “Distribuyendo transferencias discrecionales: Argentina entre la centralización fiscal y la desnacionalización del sistema de partidos.” *Revista SAAP* 9(1): 93-118
- **Simison, Emilia**. 2014. “Estrategias distributivas presidenciales en contextos cambiantes de centralización fiscal y nacionalización partidaria.” *Revista de Ciencia Política* (Chile) 34(3): 561-82.

Grants and Awards

- **James Buchanan Fellowship**, Mercatus Center, 2025-2026
- **BA/Leverhulme Small Research Grant**, The British Academy, 2025
- **Juan Linz Prize for Best Fieldwork in the Comparative Study of Democracy and Autocracy**, Democracy & Autocracy Section, APSA, 2023
- **Adam Smith Fellowship**, Mercatus Center, 2021-2022
- **Summer Study Fellowship**, Center for International Studies, MIT, 2021
- **Graduate Woman of Excellence**, Office of Graduate Education, MIT, 2019
- **Research Grant**, MIT Science and Technology Initiative, 2017
- **Luksic Fellowship**, Political Science, MIT, 2016-2017, 2020
- **Travel Grant**, Latin American Studies Association, 2014
- **Martín Lardone Award for Research on Federalism, Intergovernmental Relations and Public Policy**, Argentinean Society of Political Analysis, 2013
- **International Seminar for Young Leaders**, Fulbright Commission Argentina, 2012

Research Experience	<p>Parliaments Under Fire Project Team Member, 2020-present</p> <p>Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Harvard Kennedy School Initiative on Democracy in Hard Places, Part-time fellowship, 2019</p> <p>Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET) PhD Fellow, 2013-2017</p> <p>Instituto de Investigaciones Gino Germani, Programa de Historia Política Research Assistant, 2011-2013</p> <p>Facultad Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA) Student research scholarship, 2010-2011</p>
Teaching	<p><u>Instructor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-<i>Latin America in the Modern World</i>, 2025 (QMUL)-<i>PGT Dissertation</i>, since 2025 (QMUL)-<i>Latin American Politics</i>, since 2024 (QMUL)-<i>Math Camp I for incoming students</i>, 2019-2021 (MIT)-<i>Political Methodology Lab Workshop: Introduction to L^AT_EX</i>, 2019-2021 (MIT)-<i>Introducción a R para las Ciencias Sociales</i>, 2019 (SAAP)-<i>Fundamentos de Ciencia Política</i>, 2016 (UBA) <p><u>Teaching Assistant</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-<i>Science, Technology, and Public Policy</i> (Kenneth A. Oye), 2022 (MIT)-<i>Quantitative Research Methods I: Regression</i> (Teppei Yamamoto), 2021 (MIT)-<i>Quantitative Research Methods II: Causal Inference</i> (Daniel Hidalgo), 2019 (MIT)-<i>International Political Economy</i> (David Singer), 2018 (MIT)-<i>Instituciones Políticas y Procesos Gubernamentales</i>, 2012-2016 (UBA)-<i>Lógica y Técnicas de Investigación en Ciencias Sociales</i>, 2013-2015 (UTDT)
Pedagogical Training	<p>ADP7219: Action (Practitioner) Research, Queen Mary Academy, 2025</p> <p>ADP7118: Curriculum Design, Queen Mary Academy, 2025</p> <p>ADP7117: Learning and Teaching in the Disciplines, Queen Mary Academy, 2024</p> <p>ADP7116: Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, Queen Mary Academy, 2024</p> <p>Kaufman Teaching Certificate Program, MIT Teaching+Learning Lab, 2019</p>

Academic Department Service

Department of Sociology, Politics and International Relations, QMUL

- Deputy Director of Postgraduate Education (since 2024)
- Co-Director MSc in International Business and Politics (since 2024)

Department of Political Science, MIT

- Co-organizer: Women in Poli Sci (2019-21), Latin American Working Group (2018-22)
- Department Representative: Graduate Student Council, 2018-19
- Member: Political Science Gender and Diversity Working Group, 2016-17

Conferences and workshops

Co-organizer: *Authoritarian Political Systems Group* (since 2022), *Women in Legislative Studies Research Workshop* (2023-24), *Spring Virtual Workshop on Legislative Studies* (2025)

Organizing Team: *LASA Congress 2023*

Conference Chair: *ECPR Extremism and Democracy Conference (Challenges to Democracy)*, *LASA 2025 (Public and Social Policies)*, *MPSA Conference 2024 (Subfield: Comparative Politics)*, *Artificial Intelligence Latin America SumMIT 2020*

Award Committees

- *Best PhD Paper Award*, PSA Autocracy and Regime Change Specialist Group, 2025
- *Juan Linz Prize for Best Fieldwork in the Comparative Study of Democracy and Autocracy*, APSA, 2024

Reviewer

American Political Science Review, British Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Politics and International Relations, FONDECYT, Governance, Government and Opposition, Hong Kong Research Grants Council, International Association of Constitutional Law, International Political Science Review, International Security, Journal of Applied Economics, Journal of Politics, Journal of Politics in Latin America, Legislative Studies Quarterly, Political Studies, Revista Argentina de Ciencia Política, Revista Ciencia Política, Revista Colombia Internacional, SAAP, Revista Uruguay de Ciencia Política and Universidad de San Andrés.

Invited Talks

2026: University College London, Harvard University.

2025: University of Oxford.

2024: University of Gothenburg, London School of Economics and Political Science

2023: Quaid-i-Azam University.

2022: Bridgewater State University, Stone Center for Latin American Studies, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, University of Maryland, World Affairs Council of New Orleans.

2020: MIT Club de Argentina, Universidad de Buenos Aires.

Recent Presentations	<p>“Legislative Behavior across Multiple Regime Transitions: The Case of Brazil (1954-2024)”, 9th Conference of the ECPR Standing Group on Parliaments. July 2-4, 2025, Barcelona. (Co-authored with Adrián Lucardi and Juan Pablo Micozzi.)</p> <p>“Varieties of authoritarian policymaking. Housing policy across dictatorships,” Engaging Democratic and Authoritarian Politics Scholarship in Conversation, Oxford, April 24, 2025.</p> <p>“Party Members or Congress Members? Legislators in Authoritarian Brazil,” 2024 APSA Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Philadelphia, PA, September 5-8, 2024</p> <p>“Fiscal Policymaking in Autocracies,” 10th REPAL Annual Meeting, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, July 12-13, 2024 (Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi)</p> <p>“A brand-new world? Regime transitions and policy change,” Cuatro décadas de la tercera ola de democratización en América Latina, Buenos Aires, Argentina, and online, November 27-28, 2023</p> <p>“Yes (but) Party: Legal Opposition in Congress during the Brazilian Military Regime,” 2023 APSA Annual Meeting & Exhibition, Los Angeles, CA, August 31-September 3, 2023</p> <p>“Economic crises, visibility, and policy change during regime transitions,” 27th IPSA World Congress of Political Science, Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 15-19, 2023</p> <p>“Yes, and yes, sir, parties? Amending Executive bills in Authoritarian Brazil,” Women in Legislative Studies Conference, Houston, TX, October 21-22, 2022 (Co-authored with Alejandro Bonvecchi)</p> <p>“Democracies, Dictatorships, and Policy Change: Banking Policy Across Regime Types in Argentina and Brazil,” Autocratic Politics Mini-conference, 2022 WPSA Annual Meeting, Portland, OR, March 10-12, 2022</p> <p>“Social Mobilization and Social Policy in Latin America,” 2021 REPAL Conference, Virtual Meeting, July 15-17, 2021 (Co-authored with Candelaria Garay)</p> <p>“Resetting public policy? Regime Change and Housing Policy in Argentina and Brazil,” 2021 LASA Conference, Virtual Meeting, May 26-29, 2021</p>
Media	<p>Appearances</p> <p>Negocios TV, online (2025); Voice of Islam Radio, London, UK (2024)</p> <p>Columnist</p> <p><i>Cenital</i> (since 2026), <i>Revista Quid</i> (2013-2020), Blog <i>Bastión Digital</i> (2014-2015)</p> <p>Documentaries</p> <p>Las Leyes de la Dictadura y cómo afectan la Democracia, 2017</p> <p>CAL: El Congreso en Dictadura, 2015</p>
Memberships	<p>American Political Science Association (APSA), Asociación Latinoamericana de Ciencia Política (ALACIP), Latin American Studies Association (LASA), European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Red de Politólogas #NoSinMujeres, Sociedad Argentina de Análisis Político (SAAP), Women Also Know Stuff, Women in Legislative Studies (WiLS)</p>
Languages	<p>Spanish (native), English (proficient), Portuguese (advanced), Italian (advanced), German (intermediate)</p>