

# YOON JIN LEE

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## EDUCATION

### Harvard University

Ph.D. in Government, expected in May 2020

### Harvard University

Joint A.B./A.M.

A.M. in Regional Studies—East Asia, 2011

A.B. in Economics, *magna cum laude*, 2011

## RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations/Comparative Politics, Security Studies, Comparative Foreign Policy, Regime Dynamics, Cognitive Neuroscience, Mixed Methods, Asia-Pacific, Korea

## DISSERTATION BOOK PROJECT

**Title:** *Thinking Fast and Slow in Alliance Politics*

**Committee:** Iain Johnston (co-chair), Joshua Kertzer (co-chair), and Stephen Rosen

**Abstract:** Why do some US allies join US-led military operations that lack any international institutional authorization to use armed force? I build on the existing ideational explanations, by examining strategic beliefs at two levels of analysis: a) the individual leader level, and b) the policy reference group level. I focus on three strategic beliefs: the effectiveness of 1) bilateralism with the United States, 2) multilateralism through international organizations, and 3) the use of force, in achieving national security objectives. I argue that US allies' participation decisions are a function of pre-existing beliefs held jointly at the individual and institutional levels. Drawing on works from the cognitive and neuro sciences, I typologize and operationalize four ideal-typical cognitive processes in security policy decision making contexts. I take a cross-national mixed-methods research design, and compare the participation decisions of two US allies: the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom. I also examine the participation decisions in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Philippines. Combining quantitative analyses of survey experimental data and qualitative analyses of archival, observational, and interview data, I find consistent and robust support for my multi-level ideational argument against the existing material and single-level alternative arguments.

## **WORKING PAPERS**

(Below are complementary articles based on my dissertation book project)

1. Lee, Yoon Jin. “What exactly is the logic of habit in IR theory, how would one know it, and why does it matter?”
2. Lee, Yoon Jin. “Who takes strategic cooperation with the United States for granted and why? Survey experimental evidence from the ROK.”
3. Lee, Yoon Jin. “Who supports US military actions to maintain the global order and why? Survey experimental evidence from the UK.”
4. Lee, Yoon Jin. “One system, Varying control: Explaining the variation in support for the US-led operations in Iraq (2003-2008) in the Asia-Pacific.”

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

1. Regime dynamics: Changes in taken-for-granted “regime understandings.”
2. Global norms, strategic identity understandings, and trade policy choices.
3. Case study: Denuclearization efforts on the Korean Peninsula.

## **TEACHING & ADVISING**

### **Award**

2019 Nominee, Star Family Prize for Excellence in Advising, Harvard College Advising Programs Office

### **Classes**

American Foreign Policy, Teaching Fellow, led by Professor Joshua Kertzer (Fall 2017)

Comparative Politics of Latin America, Head Teaching Fellow, led by Professor Steven Levitsky (Spring 2014)

Foundations of Comparative Politics, Teaching Fellow, led by Professor Steven Levitsky (Fall 2013)

Introduction to Econometrics, Teaching Fellow, led by Economics Professor Eli Tamer (Fall 2017)

Folklore & Mythology 98b: Tutorial—Junior Year, Tutor (Spring 2018)

### **Advising**

Honors Senior Thesis, Adviser for Alyn Wallace '19 (Double Major in Folklore & Mythology and Government), Spring 2018-Spring 2019

Harvard College Research Program, Adviser for Miranda Richman '19 (Double Major in Government and East Asian Studies), Summer 2018

## **GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

Experimental Research Funding from the Dissertation Committee (Spring 2018)  
Graduate Student Research Grant, Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Harvard University (Spring 2018)  
Experimental Research Grant, Harvard Experiments Working Group (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)  
Peace Science Society's Graduate Student Travel Grant (2018)  
International Studies Association Travel Grant (2017)  
Graduate Student Dissertation Writing Grant, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA), Harvard University (Spring 2015)  
Graduate Student Fellow, Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Harvard University (2018- )  
Graduate Student Fellow, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (WCFIA), Harvard University (2015- )  
Rupert Emerson Fellow, Department of Government, Harvard University (2011-2012)  
Summer Research Grant, Asia Center & Korea Institute, Harvard University (Summer 2010)  
2009 Korean Honor Scholarship, The Korean Honor Scholarship (KHS) Committee, Washington DC (2009)  
Henry Rosovsky Summer Research Grant, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Harvard University (Summer 2009)  
Summer Research Grant, Fairbank Center, Asia Center & Korea Institute (Summer 2009)  
Undergraduate Research Grant, Harvard College Research Program (Fall 2007, Fall 2008, Summer 2008)

## **CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES**

International Security Pilot Workshop, Weatherhead Research Cluster on International Security, Harvard University, Observer (November 2018)  
Harvard International Security Conference (HISC), Observer (October 2017)  
The Working Group on Political Psychology and Behavior (WoGPoP), Graduate Student Session, Harvard University, Presenter (Spring 2014, Fall 2018)  
Meaning & Modality Linguistics Lab, Harvard University, Lab Meeting Member (2019- )  
Harvard Experiments Working Group, Presenter (Fall 2017, Spring 2018)  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Presenter (2018, 2019)  
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Convention, Presenter & Chair (2017, 2018)  
International Studies Association Annual Convention, Presenter (2017)  
International Studies Association, Asia-Pacific Conference, Hong Kong, Presenter (2016, 2017)  
IR Women's Writing Group, Department of Government, Harvard University, Classroom to Table Program Coordinator (2018- )  
Grad PE Workshop, Harvard University, Presenter (Fall 2017)  
East Asia Institute, EPIK Young Leaders Conference, Co-Founder, Presenter & Discussant (2010-2014)  
Harvard East Asia Society Conference (HEAS), Co-President (2011)

## **OTHER EXPERIENCES & SKILLS**

Co-Founder, East Asia Institute (EAI) EPIK Young Leaders Conference, Seoul (Summer 2010)

With the cohort of the Summer 2009 EAI Internship Program, I co-founded an annual EPIK Young Leaders Conference, as an interdisciplinary and networking forum for the presentation and discussion of international studies research of undergraduate students. Professors Ezra Vogel and Stephan Haggard have attended these events.

Intern, East Asia Institute (EAI), Seoul (Summer 2009)

Supported EAI's MacArthur Foundation Security Initiative experts and affiliates in various research areas and coordinated professional workshops.

Intern, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations, Geneva & New York (Summer 2008)

Major duties: Attended UN meetings and Permanent Mission functions at formal and informal levels to write briefs and summary reports, in support of the officials to the Permanent Mission of the ROK to the United Nations.

Research Assistant, Professor James Robinson, Department of Government, Harvard University (Fall 2009)

Coded and compiled various historical administrative data from the Blue Books for more than 12 British colonies in the Caribbean region.

Research Assistant, Visiting Associate Dr. Mark Byington, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University (Fall 2007)

Supported the Early Korea Project on the history and archaeology of the Koguryo kingdom (first century BC to 668) at the Korea Institute, Harvard University.

Languages: Korean (native), Chinese (4 years of language training)