

# Seung Deok Seo

✉ [sdseo2@illinois.edu](mailto:sdseo2@illinois.edu)  [seungdeokseo.github.io](https://github.com/seungdeokseo)

Updated May 20, 2026

Education	<b>University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign</b> Ph.D. in Political Science Fields: Comparative Politics (major), International Relations (minor)	United States 2022 – Present
	<b>London School of Economics and Political Science</b> M.Sc. in Development Studies	United Kingdom
	<b>Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS)</b> B.A. in Arabic Interpretation and Translation; Minor in Political Science and Diplomacy <i>Study abroad: Cairo University (Egypt); University of Jordan (Jordan)</i>	Republic of Korea
Working Papers	[1] Cooperation and Competition among NGOs in Aid-Dependent Environments: Evidence from Jordan ( <i>Dissertation Project</i> ) [2] Do Donor Interests Travel Below the State? Saudi Aid Allocation in Indonesia ( <i>with Paul Un</i> ) [3] Donor Identity and Recipient Perceptions: A Conjoint Experiment on Foreign Aid in Indonesia ( <i>with Paul Un</i> ) [4] Staying Registered, Going Quiet: How Restrictive NGO Laws Suppress Civil Society Activity ( <i>with Tae Il Kim</i> )	
Fellowships	<b>Internal — University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign</b>	
Grants & Awards	Graduate College Dissertation Travel Grant, \$5,000	2026
	Graduate Research and Professionalization Fund, \$2,000 ( <i>with Paul Un</i> )	2026
	Graduate Research and Professionalization Fund, \$1,200 ( <i>dissertation fieldwork</i> )	2026
	Evelyne Accad and Paul Vieille Research Award, \$1,000 ( <i>dissertation fieldwork</i> )	2026
	Departmental Travel and Training Support, \$800 total	2024–2026
	Illinois Global Institute Language Fellowship (Arabic), \$20,000	2024–2025
	Kneier Fellowship, \$3,927	2023
	<b>External</b>	
	IQMR Open Pool Fellowship, \$3,085	2026
	Humane Studies Fellowship (Institute for Humane Studies), \$3,000	2026
	SICSS: Fully Funded (tuition and lodging)	2025
	ISA–Midwest: Conference Travel Grant, \$250	2024
	HUFS: Study Abroad Scholarship ( <i>University of Jordan</i> ), \$3,700	

Teaching Experience	<b>Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign</b>	
	PS 282: Governing Globalization — Discussion Leader	Spring 2026
	PS 241: Comparative Politics in the Global South — Discussion Leader — <i>FLEX Award for teaching, Illinois Student Government</i>	Fall 2025
	PS 322: Law and Public Policy PS 250: Rise Up: Organizing Resistance	Spring 2024 Fall 2023
Conference Presentations	American Political Science Association Annual Meeting	2026
	International Studies Association Annual Convention	2025
	International Studies Association–Midwest Annual Convention	2024, 2025
	Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference	2024
Training & Workshops	<b>Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR)</b>	United States
	Qualitative Causal Inference; Process Tracing and Typological Theories	2026
	<b>Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (SICSS)</b>	Republic of Korea
	Text as Data; Machine Learning	2025
	<b>Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Rothberg International School)</b>	Israel
	Summer Course: The History of the Arab–Israeli Conflict	2019
	<b>Bourguiba Institute of Modern Languages</b>	Tunisia
	Arabic Language Training (Modern Standard Arabic)	
Professional Experience	<b>Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Iraq Office</b>	Iraq, Remote
	Development Cooperation Junior Consultant — Middle East / North Africa	2021
	<b>UN Women, Palestine Country Office</b>	Palestinian Territories
	Social Media and Youth Engagement Officer	2018–2020
Languages	Korean (native); English (professional); Arabic (advanced — Modern Standard and Levantine)	
Skills	R, Python, $\LaTeX$ , Qualtrics	
References	Available upon request.	