

# Roberto Stefan Foa

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## Education and Career

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2021-	Director, Cambridge Centre for the Future of Democracy.
2020-	Assistant Professor in Politics and Public Policy, University of Cambridge.
2019-20	University Lecturer, University of Cambridge.
2016-9	Lecturer in Political Science, University of Melbourne.
2016	Ph.D. in Government, Harvard University.
2006-9	Extended Term Consultant, World Bank, Washington DC.
2003	BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, University of Oxford. Degree class: First.

## Publications

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2022	Roberto Stefan Foa, Sam Gilbert and Mark Fabian. "Subjective Well-Being During the 2020–21 Global Coronavirus Pandemic: Evidence from High Frequency Time Series Data" <b>PLoS One</b> , 17(2): e0263570.
2022	Roberto Stefan Foa. "Decentralization, Historical State Capacity and Public Goods Provision in Post-Soviet Russia," <b>World Development</b> , 152 (105807), ISSN 0305-750X.
2022	Roberto Stefan Foa, Margot Mollat, Han Isha, Xavier Romero-Vidal and David Evans. "A World Divided: Russia, China and the West." <b>Cambridge Centre for the Future of Democracy</b> .
2022	Roberto Stefan Foa, Yascha Mounk and Andrew J. Klassen. "Why the Future Cannot be Predicted," <b>Journal of Democracy</b> , 33(1): 147–55.
2022	Roberto Stefan Foa, Xavier Romero-Vidal, Andrew J. Klassen, Joaquin Fuenzalida Concha, Marian Quednau, and Lisa Sophie Fenner. "The Great Reset: Public Opinion, Populism and the Pandemic." <b>Cambridge Centre for the Future of Democracy</b> .
2021	Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk. "America After Trump: From 'Clean' to 'Dirty' Democracy?" <b>Policy Studies</b> , 42(5-6): 455–472.
2021	Roberto Stefan Foa. "Why Strongmen Win in Weak States," <b>Journal of Democracy</b> , 32 (1).
2020	Roberto Stefan Foa, Andrew Klassen, Daniella Wenger, Alex Rand and Micheal Slade. "Youth and Satisfaction with Democracy – Reversing the Democratic Disconnect?" <b>Cambridge Centre for the Future of Democracy</b> .
2020	Roberto Stefan Foa, Sam Gilbert and Mark Fabian. "COVID-19 and Subjective Wellbeing – Separating the Effect of Lockdowns from the Pandemic," <b>Bennett Institute for Public Policy</b> .
2020	Roberto Stefan Foa, Andrew Klassen, Micheal Slade, Alex Rand and Rosie Williams. "The Global Satisfaction with Democracy Report 2020," <b>Cambridge Centre for the Future of Democracy</b> .
2019	Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk. "Youth and the Populist Wave," <b>Philosophy and Social Criticism</b> , 45 (9-10).

- 2019 Roberto Stefan Foa and Anna Nemirovskaya. "Frontier Settlement and the Spatial Variation of Civic Institutions," **Political Geography**, Vol. 73.
- 2018 Roberto Stefan Foa. "Modernization and Authoritarianism," **Journal of Democracy**, Vol. 29(3).
- 2018 Yascha Mounk and Roberto Stefan Foa. "The End of the Democratic Age," **Foreign Affairs**, May/June.
- 2017 Roberto Stefan Foa and Grzegorz Ekiert. "The Weakness of Postcommunist Civil Society Reassessed", **European Journal of Political Research**, Vol. 56(1).
- 2017 Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk. "The End of the Consolidation Paradigm: A Response to Our Critics," **Journal of Democracy**, "Web Exchange on Democratic Deconsolidation," 26 June.
- 2017 Roberto Stefan Foa. "Persistence or Reversal of Fortune? Early State Inheritance and the Legacies of Colonial Rule", **Politics and Society**, Vol. 45(2).
- 2017 Roberto Stefan Foa, Ronald F. Inglehart, Tatiana Karabchuk and Eduard Ponarin. "Set-Point Theory and Societal Collapse: The Case of Russia", **Journal of Happiness Studies**, Vol. 18(3).
- 2017 Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk. "The Signs of Deconsolidation", **Journal of Democracy**, Vol. 28(1).
- 2016 Roberto Stefan Foa and Yascha Mounk. "The Danger of Deconsolidation: Democratic Disconnect", **Journal of Democracy**, Vol. 27(3). Winner of the Magna Carta Prize, World Association of Public Opinion Research.
- 2016 Roberto Stefan Foa and Anna Nemirovskaya. "How State Capacity Varies Within Frontier States: A Multi-Country Subnational Analysis," **Governance**, Vol. 29 (1).
- 2014 Irene van Staveren, Ellen Webbink, Roberto Stefan Foa, and Arjan de Haan. "The Last Mile in Analysing Well-Being and Poverty: Indices of Social Development." **Forum for Social Economics**. Winner of the **Patrick J. Welch Award**.
- 2011 Stephen Knowles, Hari Dulal, and Roberto Stefan Foa. "Social Capital and Cross-Country Environmental Performance." **Journal of Environment and Development**, Vol. 20 (2).
- 2008 Ronald Inglehart, Roberto Stefan Foa, Christian Welzel and Chris Peterson. "Development, Freedom, and Rising Happiness: A Global Perspective, 1981-2007." **Perspectives on Psychological Science**, Vol. 3 (4).

## Background Papers

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- 2022 "Public Opinion in a Time of War: Validating Russian Surveys With Online Search Data", *Centre for Science and Policy*. University of Cambridge.
- 2015 "Creating an Inclusive Society: Evidence from Social Indicators and Trends", *Expert Group on Social Development and Agenda 2030*. New York, NY: United Nations.
- 2014 "Indices of Social Development and their Application to Africa" (with Arjan de Haan). *United Nations University/World Institute for Development Economics Research*, WP/2014/132.
- 2013 "Household Risk Preparation Indices: Construction and Diagnostics." *World Development Report 2014 Background Papers*. Washington, DC: World Bank.
- 2012 "Methodology of the Social Development Indices" (with Jeffery Tanner). *International Institute for Social Studies Working Paper # 2012-04*. The Hague: International Institute of Social Studies.
- 2012 "The Role of Social Institutions in Determining Aid Effectiveness." *International Institute for Social Studies Working Paper # 2012-02*. The Hague: International Institute of Social Studies.
- 2011 "The Economic Rationale for Social Cohesion." *Perspectives on Global Development*, OECD Development Centre. Paris: OECD.
- 2011 "Social Institutions as a Form of Intangible Capital." *International Institute for Social Studies Working Paper 2011-01*. The Hague: International Institute of Social Studies.

- 2009 “Social and Governance Dimensions of Climate Change: Implications for Policy.” *World Development Report 2010 Background Papers*. Washington, DC: World Bank.

## Grants and Awards

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- 2021–22 “Global Democracy Insights for Cabinet Office”, United Kingdom Cabinet Office (£245,000 annually renewable).
- 2022 “Analysing Russian Public Opinion via Online Data Methodologies” (GBP £40,000).
- 2021 Luminate, “Global Democracy Report 2022” (GBP £52,810).
- 2020 Cambridge Humanities Research Grant, Centre for the Future of Democracy (£19,515).
- 2018–21 Lewis, J., Turpin, A., Baekkeskov, E., Carson, A., Foa, R.S. “Understanding political debate and policy decisions using big data” Discovery Grant, funded by the Australian Research Council (AU \$352,514).
- 2018 Foa, R.S., Gravelle, T., and Baekkeskov, E. “Establishing a Southeast Asia Survey Research Node at Melbourne: Implementing the World Values Survey in Indonesia.” Vice-Chancellor’s Grant, University of Melbourne (AU \$258,000).
- 2017 Foa, R. S., “Mapping Changing Attitudes in Bangladesh: A Nationwide Country Study.” Early Career Researcher Grant (AU \$24,787).

## Memberships

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- Elected Executive Committee Member, World Values Survey (2022-)
- Principal Investigator, World Values Survey Association (2012-)
- Invited Member, the Oxford Altius Society (2013-)
- Member, International Political Science Association (2009-)
- Member, American Political Science Association (2008-)
- Founding President, the Washington European Society (2007-)

## Journal Reviews

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Reviewer for: American Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Political Economy, Perspectives on Politics, International Studies Quarterly, European Journal of Political Research, Journal of Happiness Studies, Political Research Quarterly, Journal of Democracy, Comparative Sociology, Social Indicators Research, Acta Politica, Journal of Human Development and Capabilities, The Journal of Politics, Democratization, Political Geography, Government and Opposition, PS: Political Science and Politics.

## Media

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Article contributor to a wide range of leading media outlets including the *Financial Times*, *The Guardian*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy*, and *Vox*, and interview participant in a wide range of podcasts and radio shows including *BBC News*, *The Guardian Podcast*, *Talking Politics*, *TalkRadio*, *Parlia*, *ABC News* and *ABC Radio*.

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