ALIA A. BRALEY

+1 (774) 454-7234 | alia_braley@berkeley.edu | Palo Alto, CA

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Ph.D., Political Science (candidate)   2018-Present
M.A., Political Science with departmental distinction
Fields: International Relations, Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methods
M.A. Thesis: *The Subversion Dilemma: Why Voters Who Cherish Democracy Participate in Democratic Backsliding*
Awarded Regent's Fellowship for top doctoral students across UC Berkeley ($100K)
GPA: 3.98/4.00, GRE Verbal = 170/170, GRE Quantitative = 163/170, GRE Writing = 6.0/6.0

Harvard Kennedy School of Government   2017-2018

Graduate Econometrics Course Series
GPA: 4.00/4.00

Harvard University   2012-2015

M.Div., Religion and Political Conflict
Thesis: *The Islamic State: How to Confront Violent Non-State Actors with Nonviolent Methods*
Awarded travel grant to study civil resistance in the Middle East and Balkans
GPA: 3.90/4.00

Eastern Oregon University   2006-2010

B.S., Liberal Arts: Anthropology, Sociology, and Religion
Thesis: *Comparative Approaches to Religious Pluralism*
Summa Cum Laude, Highest Honors
GPA: 3.86/4.00

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

Jan G. Volkel, Michael N. Stagnaro, James Chu, [and 81 others including Alia Braley], "Megastudy Identifying Effective Interventions to Strengthen Americans' Democratic Attitudes," *Working Paper* (2023).

Alia Braley, Gabriel Lenz, Dhaval Adjodah, Hossein Rahnama, and Alex Pentland, "The Subversion Dilemma: Why Voters Who Cherish Democracy Participate in Democratic Backsliding," *Under Review.*

Consuelo Amat and Alia Braley, "Organizing vs. Mobilizing: A Study of Repression before Mass Action," *Working Paper.*

Calacci, Dan, Alia Braley, Dhaval Adjodah and Alex Pentland. "Far-Right Forum Network and Topic Analysis." *Working Paper.*

Alia Braley, Samuel Fraiberger, and Emcet Tas, "Using Twitter to Evaluate the Perception of Service Delivery in Data Poor Environments," *Policy Research Paper, World Bank* (2021).

Alia Braley and Srdja Popovic, "The Islamic State: How to Confront Violent Non-State Actors with Nonviolent Methods," *Fletcher Security Review* (2015).
Cited in Peter Pomerantsev, "Brave New War," *The Atlantic (2015).*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Fellow – **Stanford University**, **Polarization and Social Change Lab**   Sept 2023- Present
- Research on the psychology of democracy, polarization, and collective action under Professor Robb Willer.

Project Scientist – **Stanford University**, **Digital Economy Lab**   June 2023- Present
- Research on democracy, social media, and AI under Professors Alex Pentland and Erik Brynjolfsson.

Visiting Scholar –**Johns Hopkins University, SNF Agora Institute**   Aug 2022- July 2023
- Research and analysis on civil resistance movements under Professor Consuelo Amat.

Director of Research and Education - **Albert Einstein Institution**   Mar 2022- Sept 2022
- Developing novel workshop module on mental health in civil resistance strategy.
- Developing online platform for civil resistance activists worldwide.
- Co-leading 3-year fellowship for climate activists with the Right Livelihood Foundation.

Research Assistant - **UC Berkeley, Violence and Intervention Lab**   June 2021- Dec 2021
- Identified and coded 111 confirmed cases of state-building activities during military and peacekeeping interventions in Africa under Professor Aila Matanock.

Graduate Student Instructor - **UC Berkeley, Political Science Department**   Dec 2020 - June 2021
- Led discussion sections and grading for upper-division undergraduate courses: *Conflict, Security, and Political Psychology* (50 students) and *Civil Conflict and International Intervention* (49 students).
- Teaching evaluations 9.5% higher than departmental average.

Consultant - **The World Bank, Development Data Group**   Apr 2020 - Sept 2020
- Led machine learning project using social media data to understand levels of trust in government in rural areas of Pakistan under Dr. Samuel Fraiberger.
- Analyzed terabytes of data (200 million Tweets) in multiple languages using natural language models deployed on PySpark clusters.
- Project increased the use of machine learning tools in at least 4 other World Bank departments including the Internal Evaluation Group.

Visiting Researcher - **MIT Media Lab, Human Dynamics Group**   June 2019 - Sept 2020
- Led machine learning project to understand polarization and anti-democratic attitudes in the United States under Professor Alex Pentland.

Research Assistant - **United States Institute of Peace (USIP)**   Dec 2018 - June 2019
- Generated research and USIP presentation on psycho-social factors associated with violent extremism versus nonviolent activism under Dr. Maria Stephan.

Program Assistant - **Harvard University, Evidence for Policy Design**   Aug 2016 - Aug 2018
- Managed deliverables for 14 research grants and 9 subawards funding 6 RCTs involving thousands of participants and a multi-million dollar budget in Pakistan under Professor Asim Khwaja.
- Co-led a new research initiative in Saudi Arabia, designing RCTs in the areas of education, employment, and inter-tribal tolerance.

Director of Programs - **The Albert Einstein Institution** Aug 2014 - Aug 2016
- Worked directly under Gene Sharp and Jamila Raqib to manage all aspects of the organization including fundraising, public relations, and workshops in civil resistance strategy for activists.
- Tripled funding from thousands of small to medium donors and increased social media following by 76%.

Intern - **Center for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies, Belgrade.** May 2014 - Aug 2014
- Co-created the Harvard Executive Education course: *Leading Nonviolent Movements for Social Progress.*
- Produced a major report and popular article on trends in civil resistance and assisted in leading a week-long workshop for a prominent civil resistance movement.

Administrator – **Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University** Aug 2012 - May 2014
- Coordinated pipeline of trainings and events for graduate students and professors to improve the quality of undergraduate teaching at Harvard.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

2023	The Subversion Dilemma, **American Political Science Association**
2023	The Subversion Dilemma, **Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention**
2023	The Subversion Dilemma, **Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference**
2022	The Subversion Dilemma, **MIT Media Lab**
2022	Strategic Nonviolent Action: Advanced Fundamentals, **Global Campus of Human Rights**, **Venice**
2022	Mental Health and Civil Resistance Strategy, **UC Santa Cruz**
2022	Civil Resistance and Community Engaged Research, **UC Santa Cruz**
2021	Using Social Media to Assess Public Sentiment in Data-Poor Environments, **The World Bank**
2020	How Repression Conditions the Onset of Mass Movements, **American Political Science Association**
2020	Inaccurate Meta-Perceptions and the Erosion of Democratic Norms**, International Conference on Computational Social Science**
2020	Using Twitter to Assess Development Needs in Rural Pakistan, **The World Bank**
2017	How to Defeat ISIS Using an Unexpected Resource, **TEDx Salem**
2016	An Introduction to Strategic Nonviolent Action, **The Boston Athenaeum**
2016	Skill-Building at Universities for Conflict Transformation, **Harvard University**
2015	An Introduction to Strategic Nonviolent Action, **Harvard Law School**
2014	The Enduring Political Impact of Early American Purity Narratives, **Harvard Divinity School**

PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, UC Berkeley Department of Political Science	2021-2022
Women in Political Science (WIPs) Co-Coordinator, UC Berkeley	2021-2022
Social Movements Today, Working Group Member, Harvard Kennedy School	2017-2018
Religion, Conflict, and Peace Initiative, Founding Member, Harvard University	2014-2017
Center for the Study of World Religions, Resident, Harvard University	2012-2015
MCI-Norfolk Prison, volunteer teaching assistant in political theory, Petey Greene Program	2017

LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (proficient), French (beginner)
R (expert), Python (expert), Stata (proficient)