

# MASOUD MOVAHED

Penn Center for Social Norms & Behavioral Dynamics | 3718 Locust Walk, Philadelphia, PA 19104  
[movahed@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:movahed@sas.upenn.edu) | <https://masoud-movahed.com>

## ACADEMIC POSITIONS

---

2023- **University of Pennsylvania**  
Center for Social Norms & Behavioral Dynamics  
[Penn Population Studies Center](#)  
  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow

## EDUCATION

---

2023 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**  
Ph.D., Sociology; Minor: Public Affairs  

- *Doctoral Advisors:* Erik Olin Wright, Ivan Ermakoff, Jane Collins
- *Dissertation Title:* [Varieties of Capitalism, Income Inequality, and Mobility](#)
- *Dissertation Committee:* Ivan Ermakoff (Chair), Jane Collins, Joel Rogers, Christine Schwartz, Tim Smeeding, Gøsta Esping-Andersen

2019 M.S., Sociology, Minor: Public Affairs

2018 **University of British Columbia**  
Visiting Doctoral Student

2014 **New York University**  
M.A., Economics & Sociology

2012 **Qatar University**  
B.A., International Affairs & Economics Concentration, *Summa Cum Laude*

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

---

Quantitative & Computational Methods, Spatial Methods, Machine Learning, Social Stratification, Economic & Political Sociology, Racial Disparities in Intergenerational Income Mobility, Panel Data Analysis, Comparative Studies of Wealth Inequality, Comparative & Historical Methods, Cross-National Sociology.

## BOOK (IN PROGRESS)

---

“Varieties of Capitalism and Social Inequalities.” Book proposal under submission.

## PEER REVIEWED PAPERS

---

†Graduate Student Colleague; ‡Faculty

- 2025 **Movahed, Masoud.** “Working-Class Structural Power, Associational Power, and Income Inequality,” [Journal of Industrial Relations](#).
- 2024 **Movahed, Masoud** and Tiffany Neman†. “Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account.” [Social Science Research](#) 5123(2).
- 2023 **Masoud, Movahed.** “Varieties of Capitalism and Income Inequality.” [International Journal of Comparative Sociology](#) 64(6):621-657.
- **Terence K. Hopkins Article Award**, American Sociological Association’s Political Economy of the World System Section.

- **Honorable Mention Outstanding Article**, American Sociological Association's Sociology of Development Award for Best Article.

- 2023 Goldberg, Chad Alan† and **Masoud Movahed**. “The New Class and Right-Wing Populism: The Case of Wisconsin.” *The Sociological Quarterly* 65(1), 105–125.
- 2023 **Movahed, Masoud.**, and Hirsh, Elizabeth†. “Mobilizing Equal Employment Rights: The Social and Political Determinants of Discrimination Complaints,” *The Sociological Quarterly*, 64(2), 296–319.
- 2022 **Movahed, Masoud.**, and Hirsh, Elizabeth†. The regional determinants of collective action in the era of American Resistance. *Interface: a journal for and about social movements* 14(1):81 – 100.
- 2020 **Movahed, Masoud.** “Industrializing an Oil-Based Economy: Evidence from Iran’s Automobile Industry,” *Journal of International Development*, 32:1148–1170.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

---

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Revise & Resubmit | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> , & Emilio Parrado. “Comparative Capitalist Models & Total Fertility Rate,” <i>Demography</i> .  |
| Revise & Resubmit | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> “Comparative Historical Accounts of Economic Inequalities,” <i>Socio-Economic Review</i> .   |
| Revise & Resubmit | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> , & Chad Goldberg. “The Rise of Right-Wing Populism in the United States” <i>Politics &amp; Society</i> .                                    |
| Revise & Resubmit | Karl Vachuska, and <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> “The Causal Effect of Violence on Neighborhood Visibility: Interrupted Time Series Analysis,” <i>Spatial Demography</i> . |
| Under Review      | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> “Varieties of Capitalism & Wealth Inequality,” <i>American Journal of Sociology</i> .  |
| Under Review      | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> , & Jason Schnittker. “The Institutional Dimensions of Wellbeing. A Cross-National Analysis.”  |
| Under Review      | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> “Understanding Institutional Change Across National Economies: A Machine Learning Approach,” <i>Political Studies</i> .                      |
| Draft Available   | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> , Cristina Bicchieri, Daniel Putman, Shaon Lahiri. “Perceptions of Intergenerational Income Mobility: A Machine Learning Approach.”          |
| Draft Available   | Cristina Bicchieri, Kevin Vallier, <b>Movahed, Masoud</b> , Daniel Putman, Shaon Lahiri. “Social Trust and Poverty in America.”                                      |
| Draft Available   | <b>Movahed, Masoud.</b> , Jeff Goodwin., and Elizabeth Hirsh. “Collective Action in the Era of Right- Wing Populism: A Political-Economic Analysis.”                 |

## PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY WRITINGS/BOOK CHAPTERS

---

- 2022 “The Optimism of the Intellect: Erik Olin Wright’s Real Utopias Project,” *The Palgrave Encyclopedia of the Possible*.

- 2020 “Erik Olin Wright (1947-2019),” [\*The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology, 2nd Edition.\*](#)
- 2019 “A Great Heart Stopped: Erik Olin Wright (1947-2019),” [\*The Progressive.\*](#) Re-Printed in Common Dreams.
- 2019 “Does capitalism have to be bad for the environment?” [\*World Economic Forum.\*](#)
- 2019 “The Sanctions Game: Why Trump’s Maximum Pressure Strategy is Doomed to Failure,” [\*Boston Review.\*](#)
- 2018 “Rebooting Iran’s Economy: What Tehran Needs to Do to Fix its Finances,” [\*Foreign Affairs.\*](#)
- 2018 “A Wake-up Call to Rouhani” Harvard Kennedy School’s [\*Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs.\*](#)
- 2018 “Swimming Against the Tide: State Interventions and Technical Change in the Era of Knowledge-Based Economy,” [\*Harvard Economics Review.\*](#)
- 2017 “The Uneven Growth of Capitalism in India,” [\*Harvard Economics Review.\*](#)
- 2016 “The Persistence of Manufacturing in Deindustrialized America,” [\*Harvard Economics Review.\*](#)
- 2016 “Is Democracy Intrinsic to Economic Development?” [\*Harvard Economics Review.\*](#)
- 2016 “Nuclear Deal Could Unleash Iran’s Economy,” [\*Aljazeera America.\*](#)
- 2015 “What is Good for Banks is not Good for the Economy,” [\*Harvard Economics Review.\*](#)
- 2014 “The East Asian Miracle: Where did Adam Smith go wrong?” [\*Harvard International Review.\*](#)
- 2014 “Everyone’s Talking About Iran’s Nuclear Program. What About Its Auto Industry?” [\*Yale Journal of International Affairs.\*](#)
- 2014 “Beyond sectarian politics: Saudi-Iranian Relations in Prospect,” [\*Yale Journal of International Affairs.\*](#)
- 2013 “Why should resource-based economies diversify?” [\*Aljazeera English.\*](#)
- 2011 “Soviet Union’s invasion of Afghanistan and its consequences,” *Journal of Asian Development Matters* 50: 311-315.

## **AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS**

---

- 2025 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science, University of Pennsylvania (SICSS-Penn directed by Xi Song).
- 2023 Sociology & Political Economy Summer Institute, University of California-Berkeley, (\$4,000).
- 2020 Gerald Marwell Award, Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (\$2,000).
- 2019 Graduate Student Fellowship, University of British Columbia, Canada, (Fall & Spring 2019).
- 2018 Chancellor Fellowship for doctoral studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (2017-2018) (\$30,000).

2017	Chancellor Fellowship for doctoral studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison, (2016-2017) (\$30,000).
2008	Full Merit Scholarship from Qatar University, (2008-2012).

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

---

**Journal Reviewer:** *American Sociological Review, American Journal of Sociology, Industrial Relations, Sociology of Development, The Sociological Quarterly, International Journal of Social Welfare.*

## TEACHING

---

Fall 2024	Data Analysis Research Seminar I (Machine Learning), †Lecturer University of Pennsylvania, Philosophy, Politics, Economics (PPE)
Spring 2024	Data Analysis Research Seminar I (Machine Learning), †Lecturer University of Pennsylvania, Philosophy, Politics, Economics (PPE)
Fall 2023	Data Analysis Research Seminar I, †Lecturer University of Pennsylvania, Philosophy, Politics, Economics (PPE)
Spring 2021	Statistics for Sociologists I (Soc360), †Lecturer Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Fall 2020	Applied Statistics for the Life Sciences (Stat 371), †Teaching Assistant Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Spring 2019	Statistics for Sociologists II (Soc 361), †Teaching Assistant Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Fall 2019	Statistics for Sociologists I (Soc 361) †Teaching Assistant Department of Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Summer 2019	Law and Society, †Teaching Assistant Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia
Spring 2018	Methods of Social Research, †Teaching Assistant Department of Sociology, University of British Columbia
Spring 2016	Contemporary American Society, †Teaching Assistant Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Fall 2016	Contemporary American Society, †Teaching Assistant Department of Afro-American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

## IVITED TALKS

---

2025	Population Association of America, Contextual, Institutional, and Policy Determinants of Intergenerational Mobility, Discussant invited by Siwei Cheng.
------	--

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

- 2024 “Social Dimensions of Poverty,” University of Pennsylvania’s Center for Social Norms & Behavioral Dynamics, Moderator.
- 2024 “The Determinants of the Perceptions of Intergenerational Upward and Downward Mobility in America: A Machine-Learning Approach,” The PPE Society: Eighth Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- 2024 “The Determinants of the Perceptions of Intergenerational Upward and Downward Mobility in America: A Machine-Learning Approach,” Research in Social Stratification and Mobility, Montreal.
- 2024 “The Institutional Determinants of Wealth Inequality,” Perspectives on Wealth and Inequality, Regular Section, Montreal.
- 2024 “The Determinants of the Perceptions of Intergenerational Upward and Downward Mobility in America: A Machine-Learning Approach,” Research Committee 28 (RC28) on Social Stratification and Mobility, Brown University.
- 2024 “Right-Wing Populism in the US, Contemporary Right-Wing Politics in Comparative Perspective,” Regular Section, Montreal.
- 2023 “Roots of Poverty in America”, The Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE) Society’s Seventh Annual Meeting, New Orleans.
- 2023 “Ethnic Fractionalization & Income Inequality,” Research Committee 28 (RC28) on Social Stratification and Mobility, University of Michigan Ann-Arbor.
- 2023 “Ethnic Fractionalization & Income Inequality,” Santa Fe Institute, August 3, 2023. 2023 “Varieties of Capitalism and Income Inequality,” Sociology and Political Economy Summer Institute, University of California-Berkeley.
- 2023 “Varieties of Capitalism and Income Inequality,” Cross-National and Comparative Studies of Inequality Section, Population Association of America.
- 2022 “Ethnic Heterogeneity and Income Inequality,” Section Session Presentation on Cross- National Sociology Panel, American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, California.
- 2022 “Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account,” Session Presentation Poverty, Inequality and Mobility, American Sociological Association, Los Angeles, California.
- 2022 “Intergenerational Income Mobility in the United States: A Racial-Spatial Account,” Family, Neighborhood, and Intergenerational Mobility Session, Population Association of America, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2021 “Varieties of Capitalism and Income Inequality,” Session Comparative analysis of political institutions, Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois.
- 2021 “Mobilizing Equal Employment Rights: The Social and Political Determinants of Discrimination Complaints (2009-2018),” Session on Affirmative Action and Anti-Discrimination Policy, American Sociological Association.

2021	“Mobilizing Equal Employment Rights: The Social and Political Determinants of Discrimination Complaints (2009-2018),” Law and Injustice: Can Law Repair the Harms of Systemic Racism? Society for the Study of Social Problems Session.
2021	“Varieties of Capitalism and Income Inequality,” Poverty and Inequality in the Global Context Session. Society for the Study of Social Problems.
2020	“The Determinants of Collective Action in the Era of American Resistance,” “Collective Behavior and Social Movements Session, American Sociological Association.
2020	“The regional determinants of collective action in the era of American Resistance,” “Capitalism and Contention Conference, 2020, New York University’s Sociology Department, Paper accepted, Postponed due to COVID19.
2020	“The regional determinants of collective action in the era of American Resistance,” San Diego State University, Mobilization Conference, Paper accepted, Postponed due to COVID19.
2018	“Shielded From Neoliberal Strictures: Oil, State and the Rise of Iran’s Auto Industry,” “Comparative Historical Social Sciences Conference, Northwestern University, Chicago.
2017	“Estimating the Effects of Disadvantaged Neighborhoods on Educational Outcomes in Norway Using Marginal Structural Model for Time-varying variable,” Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Brauer’s Lab Group. 2017.
2016	“The Obduracy of the Old Economy: The Trajectory of Manufacturing in the U.S. Economy,” American Sociological Association, Economic Sociology Pre-Conference, The University of Washington, Seattle, August 19, 2016.
2015	“Besieged at Home: Iran’s Auto Industry,” Graduate Student Research Conference, New York University, New York City.
2012	“Dialogue Among Civilizations” The Middle Eastern Studies Conference, Georgetown University’s Qatar Campus, Doha, Qatar.

## OTHER EMPLOYMENT

---

2018-2021	Princeton University, School of Public and International Affairs 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Consultant on the Politics of the Middle East Region</li> </ul>
2020-2022	University of Wisconsin-Madison, Center for Wisconsin Strategy (COWS). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Assistant, Statistical analysis on data related to cities in the US</li> </ul>

## LANGUAGES

---

English (Read, Write, Speak)  
Persian (Read, Write, Speak)  
Arabic (Read, Write, Speak)

## SOFTWARE SKILLS

---

R, STATA, Matlab, Geoda

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

---

- American Sociological Association
- Social Science History Association
- Population Association of America

## REFERENCES

---

Professor Ivan Ermakoff  
Sewell-Bascom Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [ermakoff@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:ermakoff@ssc.wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 262-8206

Professor Jane Collins  
Frances Perkins Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [jcollins@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:jcollins@ssc.wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 890-0348

Professor Christine Schwartz  
Vilas Distinguished Research Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [cschwartz@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:cschwartz@ssc.wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 262-5791

Professor Joel Rogers  
Noam Chomsky Professor  
Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [jrogers@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:jrogers@ssc.wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 262-4266

Professor Timothy Smeeding  
Lee Rainwater Distinguished Professor  
La Follette School of Public Affairs  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [smeeding@lafollette.wisc.edu](mailto:smeeding@lafollette.wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 890-1317

Professor Chad Goldberg  
Martindale-Bascom Professor of Sociology  
Department of Sociology  
University of Wisconsin–Madison  
Email: [cagoldberg@wisc.edu](mailto:cagoldberg@wisc.edu)  
Phone: (608) 262-2108