

# Thalia Gerzso

Cornell University  
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## Education

### Cornell University

Ph.D., Government 2018-2023

Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations

Dissertation: *Judicial dissent: The Role of Courts in Electoral Disputes*

Committee: Nicolas van de Walle (Chair), Rachel Beatty Riedl, Bryn Rosenfeld, and Alexandra E. Cirone

M.A., Government 2021

### Cornell Law School

LL.M. 2017

New York Bar Admission

### Université Paris 2 Panthéon Assas

Master of International Law, *Cum Laude* 2016

Bachelor of Law 2015

### Classe Préparatoire Hélène Boucher

Major: History and Geography 2012

*Summa Cum Laude, Sous-Admissible à l'Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS)*

## Research Interests

Authoritarian institutions; democratic backsliding; authoritarianism, democratization; Judicial decision-making; public law; sub-Saharan Africa.

## Publications

### BOOK CHAPTERS

"The Legal Mechanisms," in Leonardo Arriola et al. (eds), *Democratic Backsliding in Africa? Autocratization, Resilience, and Contention* (with Siri Gloppen and Nicolas van de Walle) - *Under Contract*

### WORKING PAPERS

The Politics of Legislative Expansion (with Nicolas van de Walle) - *Revise and Resubmit at Comparative Political Studies*

A Two-Headed Creature: Bicameralism in African Autocracies

### WORK IN PROGRESS

Institutional Trust in Authoritarian Regimes: Evidence from the Zimbabwean Electoral Commission

Supreme Court Composition and Judicial Autonomy: the Effects of Colonial Institutions

## Awards and Fellowships

Summer Centennial Center Research Grant American Political Science Association	2021
Philip E. Lewis Research Grant in French Studies Cornell University	2021
Einaudi Center International Research Travel Grant Cornell University	2020
Conference Travel Grant Cornell University	2019
Sage Fellowship College of Art and Sciences, Cornell University	2018
Graduate Legal Studies Fellowship Cornell Law School	2017
Rudolf B. Schlesinger Fellowship Cornell Law School	2016

## Teaching

### **Department of Government, Cornell University**

Teaching Assistant

LAW 3887: International Human Rights in Theory and Practice

GOVT 1313: Introduction to Comparative Politics

FREN 3020: Introduction to Comparative Politics, *taught in French*

GOVT 1817: Making Sense of World Politics

FREN 3020: Making Sense of World Politics, *taught in French*

GOVT 3443 Southeast Asian Politics

GOVT 3353 African Politics (Grader)

## Presentations

INVITED TALKS ROUNDTABLES	<i>Autocratic Lawfare in Africa</i> , University of Bergen	2021
ANNUAL MEETINGS	African Studies Association	2019, 2020
WORKSHOP AND OTHER CONFERENCES	Inter-University Graduate Conference, Cornell Law School	2018

## Research Assistance

Professor Alexandra E. Cirone	2021
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Professional Activities	Navacelle Law Firm, <i>Paris, France</i> Trainee Lawyer	03/18 –07/18
	World Coalition Against the Death Penalty, <i>Paris, France</i> Program and Administrative Assistant	09/17–02/18
	Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide, <i>Ithaca, NY</i> Research Assistant Fellow	Spring 2017
Additional Training	Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (virtual) Syracuse University	2021
	PSAC (Weekly Workshop), Graduate Student Coordinator First and Second-Year Colloquium, Student Representative	2020-2021 2019-2020
Service		
Fieldwork	Malawi (2016)	
Languages and Skills	French (native), English (fluent), Spanish (proficient), Italian (Pre- intermediate) Stata, R, $\LaTeX$	