

KIRA PRONIN

Political Scientist | Political Economy of Expertise, Advisory Institutions, and Elections

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Visiting Scholar, Martin J. Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University

RESEARCH PROFILE

Political economy and politics of expert advice; public inquiries and policy advisory systems; ranked-choice voting; campaign finance and elections. Research methods include formal theory, laboratory and survey experiments, statistical modeling, and comparative case studies.

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Scholar | *January 2026–present*

Syracuse University, Martin J. Whitman School of Management

Postdoctoral Researcher | *March 2023–December 2025*

Syracuse University, Martin J. Whitman School of Management

Research on COVID-19 scientific advisory committees and public inquiries.

Postdoctoral Research Associate in Experimental Political Economy | *January 2022–February 2023*

University of Pittsburgh, Department of Political Science

COMMISSIONED POLICY RESEARCH

Commissioned Researcher | *August–October 2025*

The Scottish Parliament

Produced a policy report for the Finance and Public Administration Committee on public inquiries and their legal and practical frameworks in Sweden and Norway, covering 1990–2024 and three case studies. The Committee's final report cited the research in support of recommendations concerning inquiry budgets and timescales.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Political Science | *May 2021*

University of Pittsburgh

Fields: Comparative Politics and American Politics. Dissertation advisor: B. Guy Peters.

Graduate Coursework in Public and International Affairs | *August 2011–April 2012*

University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA)

Coursework in policy analysis, environmental economics, public administration, microeconomics, and macroeconomics; transferred to the Political Science Ph.D. program.

Master of Economics | *May 2008*

University of Bergen, Norway

Master's thesis: Differential information economies and incomplete markets.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- Christensen, J., Hesstvedt, S., Pronin, K., Holst, C., Christiansen, P. M., & Holli, A. M. (2026). Experts in governance: A comparative analysis of the Nordic countries. *Policy & Politics*, 54(1), 163–187. [Article](#)
- Koppl, R., Pronin, K., Cowen, N., Podemska-Mikluch, M., & Paniagua, P. (2025). Bespoke science: The use of ad hoc scientific advisory committees in the Covid-19 pandemic. *Public Choice*, 205(3–4), 513–536. Winner of the 2025 Duncan Black Prize, Public Choice Society. [Article](#)
- Bardosh, K., Lacour, M., Pronin, K., Correa Aste, N., & Koppl, R. (2025). How many democratic countries have conducted Covid-19 public inquiries? An exploratory study of government-led post-pandemic reviews (2020–2024). *BMJ Public Health*, 3(2), e002567. [Article](#)
- Woon, J., Jang, M., Pronin, K., & Schiller, J. (2024). Discussion and fairness in a laboratory voting experiment. *Journal of Experimental Political Science*, 11(2), 224–236. [Article](#)
- Pronin, K., & Woon, J. (2023). Does allowing private communication lead to less prosocial collective choice? *Social Choice and Welfare*, 60, 625–645. [Article](#)
- Dahlström, C., Lundberg, E., & Pronin, K. (2021). No more political compromise? Swedish commissions of inquiry 1990–2016. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, 44(4), 416–440. [Article](#)
- Bonneau, C. W., Kelly, J. T., Pronin, K., Redman, S. M., & Zarit, M. (2017). Evaluating the effects of multiple opinion rationales on Supreme Court legitimacy. *American Politics Research*, 45(3), 335–365. [Article](#)
- Lunawat, R., Stecher, J., Pronin, K., & Dickhaut, J. W. (2011). Decision making and trade without probabilities. *Economic Theory*, 48(2–3), 275–288. [Article](#)

Book chapters

- Lacour, M., Pronin, K., & Koppl, R. (forthcoming 2027). Science in pandemic policy. In M. Altman, H. Altman, & L. Lamontagne (Eds.), *Encyclopedia of Pandemic Management*. Edward Elgar.
- Pronin, K. (forthcoming 2027). Coalitional politics in Sweden. In S. Prasser (Ed.), *Whither the Coalition*. Connor Court.
- Pronin, K. (2023). Commissions of inquiry in the Nordic countries. In S. Prasser (Ed.), *New Directions in Royal Commissions and Public Inquiries: Do We Need Them?* Connor Court.

WORKING PAPERS

Political economy and politics of expertise

- Pronin, K., & Murtazashvili, I. Performance management unbound: Executive-centered reform and the politics of efficiency. (Under review.)
- Pronin, K. Valence competition and political compromise: Evidence from policy advisory commissions.
- Pronin, K., & Dave, C. The control-information tradeoff in advisory system design.
- Pronin, K., & Koppl, R. Bias in expert advice in novel policy settings.
- Christensen, J., & Pronin, K. Academics on government-appointed commissions: Figureheads or knowledge champions?
- Pronin, K., Lundberg, E., & Eriksson, R. Institutional adaptation in democratic policy preparation: The contemporary logic of Swedish commissions of inquiry, 2016–2026.

Elections and campaign finance

- Pronin, K., & Veloso Maciel, M. Bundled elections: A lab experiment.
- Pronin, K. Wasted vote vs. wasted money: Ranked-choice elections, campaign donations, and candidate entry.
- Pronin, K., & Bonneau, C. Strategic delay: Campaign war chests and the timing of challenger entry.

POLICY REPORTS AND PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

- Pronin, K. (2025, October). Public inquiries in Sweden and Norway. *Scottish Parliament*. Commissioned report.
- Pronin, K. (2025, July). Covid-19 public inquiries: Policy learning or politisation? *Australian Outlook*.

Pronin, K. (2023). Sweden's NATO accession threatened by Quran burning. *Australian Outlook*.
Pronin, K. (2022). Dramatic gains for the right-populist Sweden Democrats Party in the 2022 elections. *Australian Outlook*.
Dahlström, C., Lundberg, E., & Pronin, K. (2019). The Swedish commissions of inquiry, 1990–2016. *SNS Research Brief 59*.
Dahlström, C., Lundberg, E., & Pronin, K. (2019, October 15). Sverige bör bädda bättre för politiska uppgörelser [Sweden should do a better job laying groundwork for political agreement]. *Svenska Dagbladet*.

HONORS AND GRANTS

Duncan Black Prize, Public Choice Society, 2025 - best paper by a senior scholar.
American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship, 2017 (\$13,000).
European Studies Center Klinzing Grant, 2017 (\$6,000).
B. Guy Peters Award for Graduate Research in European Politics, 2016 (\$2,000).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor and Teaching Assistant | 2014, 2016, 2017
University of Pittsburgh, Department of Political Science
Instructor: Media and Politics. Teaching assistant: Research Methods; Introduction to Comparative Politics; Introduction to American Politics.

SELECTED CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory (SAET), Ischia, Italy | July 2025
Koppl, R., & Pronin, K. Bias in expert advice in novel policy settings.
Southern Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois | June 2025
Johnston, J., Pronin, K., & Koppl, R. Judicial deference to expert but interested agencies: Theory and experimental evidence.
Southern Political Science Association, Chicago, Illinois | January 2024
Koppl, R., Pronin, K., Cowen, N., Podemska-Mikluch, M., & Paniagua, P. Bespoke science: The use of ad hoc scientific advisory committees in the Covid-19 pandemic.
American Political Science Association, Seattle, Washington | September 2021
Pronin, K. Including a broad range of stakeholders on advisory commissions builds consensus; Pronin, K., & Woon, J. Public deliberation, private communication, and collective choice.
EITM Summer Training Institute, University of Houston | June 2019
Pronin, K. Information and dissent in advisory commissions.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Journal reviewer: American Political Science Review; Political Science Research and Methods; American Politics Research; Party Politics; Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties; Journal of Public Policy; Policy Studies Journal; Journal of Public Economic Theory; Scandinavian Journal of Economics; The B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics.
Admissions assistant, Ukrainian Global University: Reviewed university applications and conducted applicant interviews.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

EITM Summer Training Institute, Hobby School of Public Policy, University of Houston, 2019.

METHODS AND SKILLS

Methods: Game theory; laboratory and survey experiments; mixed methods; comparative case studies; maximum likelihood; panel and multilevel models.
Software: Stata; Python; R; z-Tree.
Languages: Finnish (native); Swedish; Norwegian; German; Russian.