

# PON SOUVANNASENG

Assistant Professor of Global Studies  
Department of Global Studies  
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## Employment

2020- Assistant Professor of Global Studies, Bentley University  
2018 - 2020 Post-Doctoral Research Associate, University of Manchester  
2016 - 2018 Senior Teaching Fellow, University College London & SOAS

## Education

### LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

Ph.D. Political Science, 2019

Dissertation: "Losing Ground: The Political Economy of Development & Dependency in the Making of Power in Lao PDR"

Fields: International Political Economy, Comparative Politics, East/Southeast Asian Politics, International Development & International Relations

Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education - Associate Level (HEA), 2012

M.Res. Political Science, 2011

M.Sc. Comparative Politics, 2006

### TUFTS UNIVERSITY

B.A., Political Science (High Honors), 2005

### SCHOOL FOR SLAVONIC AND EASTERN EUROPEAN STUDIES, UCL

Visiting student; September 2003- June 2004

Coursework in Slavic history and languages, Political Geography

### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

California Governor's Scholar, June 2003 - August 2003

## Fellowships and Awards

- Mansfield-Luce Asia Scholar, 2020 - 2021.
- East West Center Washington DC - Japan Foundation - US Embassy Tokyo, 2020.
- American Political Science Association, Asia Fellow & individual grant recipient, 2019.
- LSE Teaching Excellence Award Nominee, 2014-2015; 2015-2016.
- International Federation for University Women Recognition Award, 2014-2015.
- US Fulbright Research Grant, United States Department of Education, 2013-2014.
- CLACSO-CODESRIA-APISA South-South Young Laureate Fellowship, 2012.
- Research Studentship, London School of Economics, 2010-2015.
- Undergraduate Research Award, Dean's Office, Tufts University, 2004.
- Summer Scholarship, Summer Scholars Fund, Tufts University, 2002.
- California Governor's Scholarship, 2001.

## Articles, Chapters & Work in Progress

Souvannaseng, P. (Forthcoming, 2020) 'Sino-African Hydropower Projects in Comparative Perspective' in Francois & Habich, *Hydropower in Southwest China: Drivers & Impacts*, (Palgrave IPE: London)

Souvannaseng, P. (Under Review, 2020 ) 'Institutional Poaching: Sub-Regional Rivalry and the Politics of Parallel Governance Building Along the Mekong'

Souvannaseng, P. (Under Review, 2020) 'Blending or Banking Towards 'Bankability'? Comparative Sino-OECD Export Finance Regimes, Divergent Risk Appetites and the Blurring of Trade and Development in the Global Infrastructure Market'

Souvannaseng, P. (Forthcoming, 2021) The US, Japan & China: Debating Hydropower Infrastructure Quality & Quantity Along the Mekong

Souvannaseng, P. (In Progress) Post-Socialism the Mekong Way: Sino-Investment in the CLMV Countries

Souvannaseng, P. (In Progress) Infrastructure as Asset or Public Good? Financializing Dams Along the Mekong

Souvannaseng, P. (In Progress) Fast Finance: Who Gives a Dam? Financial Crises and the Asian Political Economy of Speculative Infrastructure

Souvannaseng, P. (In Progress) Proximate Dependency: Asymmetric South-South Infrastructure Finance and the case of Lao PDR

## Conferences & Presentations

East West Center -Washington DC, April 2020

On Unequal Footing: Strategic Dissonance & Failures of Competition in US-Japan-Mekong Infrastructure Promotion'

East West Center -Washington DC, September 2019

'Sub-Regional Rivalry, Institutional Poaching & Parallel Governance Along the Mekong: From Liberal to Revisionist Institutionalism'

Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Washington DC, September 2019

'Searching for Patient Lending in an Impatient World: Infrastructure, Finance and the Illusion of Capital''

American Political Science Assoc. Asia Workshop, Universiti Sains-Malaya, Penang, June 2019

Institutional Poaching & Regional Subversion Along the Mekong' (article manuscript)

Development Studies Association, Open U. Milton Keynes, June 2019

Panel Convenor & Special issue organizer: 'Dams, Development, & Decision-Making; New Directions'

Columbia U. SIPA/NYSEARN Public Lecture, NYC, April 2019

“Infrastructure as Public Good or Portfolio Asset: Financing Development and Development Finance Along the Mekong and Ayeyarwaddy”

American Association of Geographers Conference, Washington DC, April 2019

“Fast Finance: Who Gives a Dam? Hydro-energy Expansion & Environmental Governance in the Age of Post-DAC Competitive Capital”

LSE International Development, Cumberland Lodge, Nov 2018

“(Mis)-Managing Water Resources Along the Mekong”

McGill University Doctoral Workshop 2015, Montreal, Canada, 2015

“Environmental Governance and Changing Land Institutions in the Age of Late Development: The Case of Lao PDR”

CLACSO-CODESRIA-APISA 5<sup>th</sup> South-South Summer Institute, Recife, Brazil, 2012

“Rethinking Development: Growth Regimes and Social Protection – the Case of Lao PDR”

ASEASUK, Panel on Laos in Historical & Contemporary Transition, Cambridge, UK, 2011

“On the Particular & the Shared: Lao PDR in Comparative Perspective”

UN Research Institute for Social Development, Geneva, Switzerland, October 2009

“Comparative Welfare Regimes: Poverty & Policy in the Developing World”

## **Research and Professional Experience**

Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Centre for Crisis Studies & Mitigation U. of Manchester, UK

- Developed online event series; provided support to research clusters & PI

Post-Doctoral Research Associate, U. of Manchester Global Development Institute, Manchester, UK  
August 2018 – January 2020

- Leader investigator, ‘Mapping Infrastructure Finance in Ghana and Myanmar’
- Research and fieldwork for UKRI-funded FutureDAMS research project

US Fulbright Doctoral Researcher, Lao PDR

September 2013 – August 2014

- Research & Teaching Affiliate, Department of Economics, National U. of Laos
- Dissertation Fieldwork

Research Analyst, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Geneva, Switzerland  
August 2008 – September 2010

- Assistant Coordinator for the UNRISD Flagship Report 2010 on *Combating Poverty & Inequality*
- Managed the Project on Poverty Reduction and Policy Regimes to produce 8 country studies, over 20 thematic background papers; involved project management, editing and re-editing of contributor papers

Research Consultant, ASEAN Ad-Hoc Working Group on Labor Practices, Bangkok, Thailand  
December 2007 - June 2008

- Preparation of study on *Tri-Partite Progressive Labor Practices* for the ASEAN Labour Minister's
- Conducted 100 interviews across nine countries with labor, business, and government representatives
- Drafted report, presentation materials and presented policy-relevant findings to high-level government ministers

Project Officer, International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) - London, UK & Singapore  
May 2006 - December 2007

- Managed relationships with key external government, business and academic stakeholders for institutional programmes, events and funding; edited *Strategic Dialogue* policy series
- Planned, organized and coordinated high-level multilateral security conference, the *Shangri-La Dialogue*

## Teaching Experience

### UCL Dept. of Political Science & School of Public Policy

*Fellow in Political Economy & International Development; BSc in PPE Programme Director*

Acting Programme Director, BSc in Politics, Philosophy, Economics (PPE) degree. 2017-2018.

Convener/Instructor, Introduction to Political Science (UG). 2017-2018.

Convener/Instructor, Undergraduate Capstone Workshop (UG). Spring 2018.

Convener/Instructor, International Development and Public Policy (UG). Spring 2017.

Convener/Instructor, Political Economy of Development (PG). Autumn 2016.

TA, Public Policy & Economic Analysis (PG). Autumn 2017.

### School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Dept. of Politics

*Senior Teaching Fellow*

Convener/Instructor, States & Society in Asia and Africa (PG). 2017-2018.

Convener/Instructor, Theory & Evidence in Contemporary Development (UG). 2014-2015.

### UC Berkeley in London

TA, Comparative Politics (UG). 2016-2017.

### London School of Economics & Political Science

*Fellow in Development Management*

TA, Development Management (PG). 2014-2016.

TA, Political Economy of Advanced Nations(UG). Summer 2012.

TA, Democracy/Democratization (UG). Spring 2011/13

TA, LSE 100 (UG). 2011-2012.

## Research and Teaching Interests

Comparative & International Political Economy; Political Economy of Development & Development Finance; East/Southeast Asian/African Political Economy; International Relations & Comparative Politics; Energy, Infrastructure & Environmental Politics; Research Methods (Qualitative and Quantitative)

## Graduate Student Supervision

Primary supervisor on 3 MSc dissertations, 2018-2018, University of Manchester.

Primary supervisor on 13 MSc dissertations, 2016-2018, UCL.

## Committee Membership

Chair, Staff-Student Liaison Committee, UCL, 2017-2018

Chair, Undergraduate Steering Committee, UCL, 2017-2018

Member, Department Teaching Committee, UCL 2017-2018

Member, MA Exam Board, UCL, 2017-2018

## Peer Review for Journals

*Development & Change; Journal of Labour & Society*

## Professional Membership

American Political Science Association; American Association for Geographers; Development Studies Association; Association for Southeast Asian Studies UK (Exec. Committee; Editor)

## Software Skills

Software: NVIVO, SPSS, STATA, 'R', Python and MS Office/Excel

## Languages

English (Fluent); Lao, Thai, French (Proficient), Mandarin & Serbian (Basic)

## References

Dr. Kate Meagher  
Associate Professor  
Department of International Development  
London School of Economics & Political Science  
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