

Bernat Puertas – Curriculum Vitae

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CURRENT POSITION

PhD Candidate

Sep 2021 - present

PhD Candidate, Personal Investigador Predoctoral en Formació (PIPF)

Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Supervisor: Dr. Abel Escribà-Folch

Thesis title: *Pathways to Personalism in Autocratic Regimes*. Deposited for defense.

EDUCATION

Master of Arts

Sep 2020 - Jun 2021

MA in Current Democracies: Nationalism, Federalism and Multiculturalism,

[Universitat Pompeu Fabra](#)

Bachelor of Arts

Sep 2016 - Jun 2020

BA in Political and Administration Sciences, [Universitat Pompeu Fabra](#)

RESEARCH STAYS

Visiting doctoral researcher

Feb 2026 - Apr 2026

Visiting doctoral researcher

[GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies](#) – [Institut für Asien-Studien](#). Hamburg, Germany

Research Programme 1 ([Accountability and Participation](#)) and Research Programme 2 ([Peace and Security](#)).

Host: Dr. David Kuehn.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RA Linguatrust Project

Jan 2024 - Nov 2024

Research Assistant for the project Linguatrust (PRE150/22/000008, Institut d'Estudis de l'Autogovern, Generalitat de Catalunya). Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and Universitat de València

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Authoritarian Regimes, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Economy, Authoritarian Elections, Democratization, Democratic backsliding, Research Design, Quantitative Methods.

PUBLICATIONS (PEER-REVIEWED)

Puertas, Bernat. 2026. The onset of civil armed conflicts and personalization of power in dictatorships. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/07388942261470438>

Rodon, Toni, Bernat Puertas, Avel·lí Flors-Mas, Núria Franco-Guillén and Sergi Morales-Gálvez. 2026. Could you please repeat it? The effect of language, and language variety on trust in multinational settings. *Electoral Studies*, 99. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.electstud.2025.103030>

Puertas, Bernat and Abel Escribà-Folch. 2026. Foreign aid, FDI and the personalization of power in autocracies. *Political Science Research and Methods* 14(1), 143-159. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/psrm.2025.9>

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Personalism and International Conflict: How Dictators Fight to Concentrate Power” (under review).

“Ballots for the Boss: Multiparty Elections and Personalization of Power in Autocratic Regimes” (in progress)

“Institutional Capture and the Foundations of Autocratic Survival in Backsliding Democracies” (in progress)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(*Teaching material*) Escribà-Folch, Abel i Bernat Puertas. 2025. *El tipus de règim i el sistema internacional* (1a. ed.) [recurs d'aprenentatge textual]. Fundació Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC). PID_00305495

(*Teaching material*) Puertas, Bernat i Escribà-Folch, Abel. 2025. *Varietats d'autocràcies: actors i sistemes institucionals* (1a. ed.) [recurs d'aprenentatge textual]. Fundació Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC). PID_00305493

(*Teaching material*) Puertas, Bernat. 2024. *Disseny de la Investigació: Els Enfocaments de Recerca*. (1a ed.) [recurs d'aprenentatge textual]. Fundació Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC). PID_00302955

(*Teaching material*) Puertas, Bernat. 2024. *Disseny de la Investigació: Mètodes i Tècniques*. (1a ed.) [recurs d'aprenentatge textual]. Fundació Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (FUOC). PID_00302954.

Puertas, Bernat and Toni Rodon. 2024. Does Language Affect Political Trust? An Exploration of Language Attitudes in the Political Field in Multilingual Catalonia. Pre-Analysis Plan. *OSF*. Available at: https://osf.io/zk3e4/overview?view_only=3fbb14597c734896a2d53b5142a589a2

TEACHING AND SUPERVISION

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Public Policy I

Apr 2025 - Jun 2025

Teaching assistant responsible for the seminars of the course “Polítiques Públiques I” (Public Policy I). BA in Political and Administrative Sciences.

Introduction to Political Science

Sep 2025 - Dec 2025

Teaching assistant responsible for the seminars of the course “Introducció a la Ciència Política” (Introduction to Political Science). BA in Political and Administrative Sciences.

Qualitative Methodology II

Sep 2025 - Dec 2025

Teaching assistant responsible for the seminars of the course “Metodologia Qualitativa II” (Qualitative Methodology II). BA in Political and Administrative Sciences.

Creator and instructor of summer course

Jun 2022 - present

Creator and instructor of the course “Com governar en el segle XXI: Estats, Conflicte i Poder” (How to govern in the 21st Century? States, Conflict, and Power). [Campus Junior \(Universitat Pompeu Fabra\)](#).

Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals - IBEI

Comparative Politics and Democratization

Sep 2022 - present

Teaching assistant responsible for the seminars of the course “Comparative Politics and Democratization”. MA in International Relations.

Universitat Pompeu Fabra – Barcelona School of Management

Introduction to Quantitative Methodology and RStudio

Nov 2025

Instructor of the course “Introducción a la Metodología Cuantitativa y RStudio” (Introduction to Quantitative Methodology and RStudio). Master in Political and Institutional Communication.

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Research Design in IR

Sep 2025 - present

Affiliated teaching staff for the course “Diseño de investigación en estudios internacionales” (Research Design in International Studies). BA in International Studies.

Varieties of regimes

Feb 2026 - present

Affiliated teaching staff for the course “Varietats de democràcies i autocràcies” (Varieties of democracies and autocracies). MA in Political Analysis and Government.

Thesis supervision

Feb 2026 - present

2 Bachelor’s theses. BA in Political Science and Administration.

PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS

Project Linguatrust

Jan 2024 - Nov 2024

Research Assistant for the project Linguatrust (PRE150/22/000008, Institut d’Estudis de l’Autogovern, Generalitat de Catalunya). Universitat de Barcelona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and Universitat de València

Membership in IPA Research Group

Sep 2021 - present

[Institutions and Political Actors Research Group](#). Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Elected post-graduate representative

Feb 2022 - Jan 2023

Department Board of the Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Pre-doctoral grant

Apr 2025 - present

Pre-doctoral grant. Personal Investigador Predoctoral en Formació (PIPF)
Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Beca Santander Idiomas

2021

Beca Santander Idiomas, English Up
British Council – Banco Santander

High school award

2016

Award of high school’s honors graduate
City council of Terrassa

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Populismo, erosión democrática y autocracias

Feb 2025

“Populismo, erosión democrática y autocracias.” (Populism, democratic backsliding and autocracies) in “Seminario Política Comparada, Populismo y Democracia”, Institut Barcelona d’Estudis Internacionals and Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú, Academic coordinator: Prof. Ana Sofía Cardenal.

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS PRESENTATIONS (P) & DISCUSSION (D)

[EPSS](#): 2026 (P)

[GIGA Research Programme 1 Working Group “Authoritarian Politics”](#): 2026 (P)

[EPSA](#): 2023 (P), 2024 (P, P)

[IPA Research Group Seminars \(UPF\)](#): 2022 (P), 2023 (P), 2024 (P), 2026 (P)

[Barcelona PhD Workshop on Empirical Political Science](#): 2022 (D), 2023 (P)

[SISP General Conference](#): 2022 (P)

[ECPR Summer School SGIR](#): 2022 (P)

PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS, SUMMER AND WINTER SCHOOLS

ECPR Summer School SGIR

2022

European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Summer School of the [Standing Group on International Relations](#), Universitat Ramon Llull

RECSM Summer Methods School

2022

9th Edition of the Research and Expertise Centre for Survey Methodology ([RECSM](#)) Summer Methods School, Universitat Pompeu Fabra

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Causal Inference

2022

9th Edition of the Research and Expertise Centre for Survey Methodology ([RECSM](#)) Summer Methods School, Instructor: Prof. Bruno Arpino. Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Working with Concepts in the Social Sciences

2022

Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Instructor: Frederic Schaffer (University of Massachusetts).

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer at: *Conflict Management and Peace Science*; *Democratization*; *Comparative Political Studies*.

Media editor of the [Barcelona Network of Political Science \(BANPS\)](#).

Co-organizer of the Linguatrust workshop “Language, democracy and political trust: An interdisciplinary perspective from political theory, political science and sociolinguistics” (18 November, 2024)

Advisor at Universitat Oberta de Catalunya to create the teaching materials of the courses on Research Design; Autocratic Regimes (with Abel Escribà-Folch) of the MA in Political Analysis.

LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

Catalan: Mother tongue

Spanish: Native level

English: Advanced level

SKILLS

R and RStudio, STATA, $\text{\LaTeX}$, Qualtrics, Survey design, GitHub

ACADEMIC REFERENCES

Dr. Abel Escribà-Folch

Dean and Associate Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

Senior Research Associate, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals.

Email: abel.escriba@upf.edu

Dr. Toni Rodon

Associate Professor, Department of Political and Social Sciences, Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

Research Fellow, London School of Economics and Political Science.

Email: toni.rodon@upf.edu

Dr. David Kuehn

Senior Research Fellow, GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies – Institut für Asien-Studien.

Email: david.kuehn@giga-hamburg.de