

**Bokai Qi**  
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## Education

2022–Now    **Ph.D. Candidate (ABD)**, Political Science, New York University  
2020–22    **M.A.**, Analytical Political Economy (MAPE), Duke University  
2016–20    **B.S. in Economics**, Major in Finance, Central University of Finance and Economics

## Research Interests

Substantive: Authoritarian Politics, Rebel Governance, Civil Conflicts, Elite & State Building.  
Methodology: Text-as-Data, Social Network Analysis.

## Dissertation

**Three Essays on Rebel Governance and Politics**  
Committee: Arturas Rozenas, Amy Catalinac, Michael Gilligan, Junyan Jiang

## Working Papers

**Mobilization without Representation: The Organizational Politics of Gender Liberation**  
*Job Market Paper*

**Killing Comrades: Alliances of Purge in the Chinese Red Army**  
*Coauthor: Xingchen Lan (NYU)*  
*Under Review*

**MuLTI: A Framework for Measuring Latent Ties from Rich but Noisy Observational Data**  
*Coauthor: Yinxuan Wang (NYU)*

**Lost Comrades, Surviving Ties: Revolutionary Social Capital and Postwar Elite Power**  
*Coauthor: Yinxuan Wang (NYU)*

## Work in Progress

**Becoming the Mouthpiece: Capture, Transform, and Propagandize Intellectuals**  
*Coauthor: Yinxuan Wang, Xingchen Lan (NYU)*

**Masquerading as the Capable: Moral Hazard and Imperfect Verifiability of Performance**

## Maintained Database

### Historical Biographical Database of the People's Liberation Army (HBD-PLA)

*Latest Version: 05-21-2026*

The Historical Biographical Database of the People's Liberation Army documents 7,798 military figures who served at or above the regimental level in the CCP's military organization before 1949. To ensure accuracy, I gathered up to three biographical records for each figure, cross-verifying the details provided. The HBD-PLA also tracks a wide range of personal attributes. Additionally, these rich texts enable the identification of interpersonal ties among militants for social network inference.

## Awards & Honors

|          |                                                                                  |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2025     | George Downs Prize, <i>New York University</i>                                   |
| 2025     | GSAS Conference Fund Program (2025-2026, Period 1), <i>New York University</i>   |
| 2022–Now | GSAS MacCracken Fellowship, <i>New York University</i>                           |
| 2020–22  | 2020 Duke Economics Master's Scholar Award, <i>Duke University</i>               |
| 2020     | Outstanding Graduate of 2020, <i>Central University of Finance and Economics</i> |

## Teaching

### New York University

|           |                                                                                                 |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2026 Fall | Teaching Assistant (POL-UA 500 Comparative Politics, Instructor: Tara Slough)                   |
| 2026 Spr  | Teaching Assistant (POL-UA 700 International Politics, Instructor: Bruce Bueno de Mesquita)     |
| 2025 Fall | Teaching Assistant (POL-UA 700 International Politics, Instructor: Michael Gilligan)            |
| 2025 Spr  | Teaching Assistant (POL-UA 850 Intro to Research Methods for Politics, Instructor: Anna Harvey) |
| 2024 Fall | Teaching Assistant (POL-UA 700 International Politics)                                          |

### Duke University

|           |                                                                |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2022 Spr  | Teaching Assistant (Econ 371 Labor & Family Economics )        |
| 2021 Fall | Teaching Assistant (PubPol 810 Microeconomics & Public Policy) |

## Presentations

### Talks

1. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *Killing Comrades: Alliances of Purge in the Chinese Red Army*. MPSA 2026 (Chicago, IL, USA). Apr. 2026.
2. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *Killing Comrades: Alliances of Purge in the Chinese Red Army*. SPSA 2026 (New Orleans, LA, USA). Jan. 2026.

3. **Qi, Bokai** & Wang, Y. *Lost Comrades, Surviving Ties: Revolutionary Social Capital and Postwar Elite Power*. 4<sup>o</sup> Summer Conference, Authoritarian Political Systems Group (London, UK). June 2026.
4. Wang, Y. & **Qi, Bokai**. *MuLTI: A Framework for Measuring Latent Ties from Rich but Noisy Observational Data*. Comparative Politics Workshop, Wilf Family Department of Politics, NYU (New York, NY, USA). Apr. 2026.
5. **Qi, Bokai**. *From Rebels to Elites: Social Network, Power Delegation, and Coup-Proofing Strategy*. Comparative Politics Workshop, Wilf Family Department of Politics, NYU (New York, NY, USA). Mar. 2025.
6. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *Exclusive Power Sharing and Rebel Military Control: Theory and Evidence from the Chinese Red Army*. APSA 2024 (Philadelphia, PA, USA). Sept. 2024.
7. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *The Art of Purging: Intra-rebellion Purge and Insurgent Cohesion*. MPSA 2024 (Chicago, IL, USA). Apr. 2024.
8. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *The Art of Purging: Intra-rebellion Purge and Insurgent Cohesion*. Comparative Politics Workshop, Wilf Family Department of Politics, NYU (New York, NY, USA). Apr. 2024.

## Posters

1. **Qi, Bokai**. *From Rebels to Elites: Social Network, Power Delegation, and Coup-Proofing Strategy*. Frontiers in Empirical Research on East Asia (FEREA 2025) (New York, NY, USA). May 2025.
2. Lan, X. & **Qi, Bokai**. *Strategic Logic of Military Purges in Civil Wars: Evidence from the Chinese Red Army*. Frontiers in Empirical Research on East Asia (FEREA 2024) (New York, NY, USA). May 2024.

## Skills

Language: English (Fluent), Mandarin Chinese (Native).

Software: R, STATA, Python,  $\LaTeX$ .

## Other Experience

|         |                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2021    | <b>World Resources Institute (WRI)</b>   Research Intern, Climate and Energy Program, Beijing Representative Office                             |
| 2019-21 | <b>Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)</b>   Green Finance Intern, Environmental Law and Governance Program, Beijing Representative Office |
| 2020    | <b>Paulson Institute</b>   Green Finance Intern, Green Finance Center, Beijing Office                                                           |

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Last updated: June 23, 2026