

**Rida Abu Rass** (he/him)  
PhD Candidate (ABD), Queen's University, Department of Political Studies  
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## **RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

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Comparative Politics, International Relations, Middle East Politics, Social Movements, Colonialism, Nationalism, Ethnicity and Race.

## **EDUCATION:**

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**2018 – 2024** **Queen's University**, Kingston, ON, Canada:

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Studies **expected 2024**.

Article-based PhD.

Committee: Oded Haklai, Zsuzsa Csergő, and John McGarry.

Fields: Comparative Politics, International Relations.

**2016 – 2017** **Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIS)**, Monterey, CA, USA:

Master of Arts in International Policy & Development **awarded 2017**.

Independent Practicum: *The Dynamics of Palestinian Contention in Israel*.

**2010 – 2016** **Brandeis University**, Waltham, MA, USA:

Master of Arts in Global Studies **awarded 2016**.

Dissertation: *Islamic Secularization in the West*.

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and International and Global Studies **awarded 2014**.

Study abroad: Brandeis Summer in The Hague (2013).

**2008 – 2010** **Red Cross Nordic United World College (RCN-UWC)**, Flekke, Fjaler, Norway:

International Baccalaureate (IB) **awarded 2010**.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS:**

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**2023** Peacock Travel Award – **Queen's**.

**2022** Ontario Graduate Scholarship – **Queen's**.

**2021** R. Samuel McLaughlin Fellowship – **Queen's**.

**2020** Mitacs Research Training Award – **Queen's**.

**2020** Department of Political Studies Graduate Student Award – **Queen's**.

- 2020** Office of Vice Principal (Research), Queen's SARS CoV-2/COVID-19 Research Competition "COVID-19 and the Condition of Democracy" (team member) – **Queen's**.
- 2019** **Nominated** by university for Vanier scholarship – **Queen's**.
- 2018** **Nominated** for Arts and Science Undergraduate Society TA Excellence Award – **Queen's**.
- 2018 – 2022** Principal's International Doctoral Award - **Queen's**.
- 2018 – 2022** Queen's Graduate Award – **Queen's**.
- 2016 – 2017** GS Gives (Lee Family) Scholarship – **MIIS**.
- 2010 – 2014** Sylvia and Joseph Slifka Coexistence Scholarship – **Brandeis**.

#### **ACADEMIC CONTRIBUTIONS:**

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##### ***Peer-reviewed publications:***

- Abu Rass, R.** (2024). The two-pronged Palestinian response to exclusion within Israel. *Palestine/Israel Review*, 1(2). <http://doi.org/10.5325/pir.1.2.0007>
- Abu Rass, R., & Jerreat-Poole, A.** (2023). Contaminating National Identity Through Intercultural Intimacy: (Im)purity and the Pandemic. *Journal of Critical Race Inquiry*, 10(2), 46–67. <https://doi.org/10.24908/jcri.v10i2.16049>
- Haklai, O., & **Abu Rass, R.** (2022). The fourth phase of Palestinian Arab politics in Israel: The centripetal turn. *Israel Studies*, 27(1), 35–60. <https://doi.org/DOI:10.2979/israelstudies.27.1.02>

##### ***Forthcoming publications:***

- Abu Rass, R.** (under review). Ethnic and Lateral Underbidding: Evidence from Israel and Turkey.

##### ***Selected academic presentations:***

- Abu Rass, R. (2024, April). *Ethnic and Lateral Underbidding: Evidence from Israel and Turkey*. 2024 Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC.
- Abu Rass, R. (2023, April). *Political opportunity and organizational fragmentation: Palestinian mobilization within Israel*. 2023 Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA.
- Abu Rass, R., & Jerreat-Poole, A. (2022, May). *Contaminating national identity through intercultural intimacy: (Im)purity and the Pandemic*. 26th Association for the Study of Nationalities Annual World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Abu Rass, R. (2022, March). *Social movements, regimes and political change*. Guest lecture for POLS 244: Democracy and Democratization, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.
- Abu Rass, R. (2021, August). *The two-pronged Palestinian response to exclusion within Israel*. Zionism: Inclusion within the Exclusion?, Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

- Haklai, O., & **Abu Rass**, R. (2021, June). *The fourth phase of Palestinian Arab politics in Israel*. 36th Annual Conference of the Association for Israel Studies, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.
- Abu Rass, R. (2019, November). *The role of religion in Israel and Palestine*. Guest lecture for POLS 406: Religion and Politics, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.
- Abu Rass, R. (2019, May). *The dynamics of Palestinian contention in Israel*. 24th Association for the Study of Nationalities Annual World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Abu Rass, R. (2019, March). *Determining the causes of political-organizational cohesion and fragmentation*. Political Studies Graduate Student Association Speaker Series, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario.

**News media and analysis – selected publications:**

- Abu Rass, R. (2018, June 14). The silent transfer of Palestinians from Area C. *Ynet News*.  
<https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5286150,00.html>
- Abu Rass, R. (2017, February 26). The Occupation is sustainable. *Haaretz*.  
<https://www.haaretz.co.il/opinions/1.3885405>
- Abu Rass, R. (2015, October 3). What Abbas should have told the United Nations. *+972 Magazine*.  
<https://www.972mag.com/what-abbas-should-have-told-the-united-nations/112259/>

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

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<b>2018 – present</b>	<p><b>Queen's University</b></p> <p><b>Teaching fellow</b> for course: <i>POLS 348 – Middle East Politics</i> (Fall 2021, 2022).</p> <p><b>Teacher's assistant</b> for courses:</p> <p><i>POLS 285 – Introduction to Statistics</i> (Winter 2023).</p> <p><i>POLS 244 – Democracy and Democratization</i> (Winter 2022).</p> <p><i>POLS 261 – International Politics</i> (Fall 2020)</p> <p><i>POLS 242 – Contemporary Regimes</i> (Winter 2019, 2020).</p> <p><i>POLS 243 – State, Nation and Democracy</i> (Fall 2018, 2019, 2020).</p>
<b>May–Nov 2020</b>	<p><b>Research assistant</b> with Dr. Oded Haklai, for project “COVID-19 and the Condition of Democracy”, which examined the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the quality of democratic governance around the world.</p>
<b>Jan–Aug 2018</b>	<p><b>B'tselem</b> - Jerusalem, Israel/Palestine.</p>

**Data coordinator:** Compiled reports on human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories with Israel's leading human rights NGO. Areas of specialization: Palestinian communities facing expulsion, freedom of movement, home entries. A list of items Abu Rass has written can be found [here](#).

- Winter 2014**                    **Brandeis University**  
**Teacher's assistant** for course: *Sociology of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*.
- Summer 2013**                    **Brandeis Institute for International Judges** - Lund, Sweden.  
**Intern:** Assisted setting up a conference for international judges (representing several international tribunals), transcribed discussions, and helped compile the [final report](#).
- 2012 – present**                    **Columnist and Blogger:** Published op-eds in different outlets. Most are also available on my personal [blog](#).

#### PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES:

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- August 2015**                    **Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (MIIS)**  
Peacebuilding Certificate **awarded** for completing an intensive 3-week program.

#### SERVICE:

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- 2023 – present**                    **Peer Review**  
2024 – *Digest of Middle East Studies*.  
2024 – *Palestine/Israel Review*.  
2023 – *Politicus* (Queen's University undergraduate student journal).
- 2019 – 2023**                    **Queen's University**  
Political Studies Graduate Student Association (PSGSA):
- PSGSA representative at Political Studies Department's Graduate Committee (2022-2023).
  - Mentor for new PhD students (PSGSA mentorship program; 2022-2023).
  - PSGSA representative at Political Studies Department meetings (2019).
- 2018 – present**                    **The Israeli and Palestinian United World Colleges (UWC) selection committees**

Mentor and volunteer: Assisted in selecting and mentoring Israeli and Palestinian students to the UWC program, together with other alumni.

**2016 – 2017**

**Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey**

- Founder, “MIIS Democratic Socialists” student club.
- Volunteer language instructor in Arabic and Hebrew at MIIS’ student-run BUILD (“Beyond yoUrself In Language Development”) program.

**LANGUAGES:**

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**Fluent** (native level) in English, Hebrew and Arabic.

**Fluent** (advanced) in Spanish.

**REFEREES:**

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**Dr. Oded Haklai (PhD advisor)**

Professor, Department of Political Studies, Queen’s University

[haklai@queensu.ca](mailto:haklai@queensu.ca)

**Dr. Zsuzsa Csergő**

Professor, Department of Political Studies, Queen’s University

[csergo@queensu.ca](mailto:csergo@queensu.ca)

**Dr. William Arrocha**

Associate Professor, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey

[warrocha@middlebury.edu](mailto:warrocha@middlebury.edu)