

# Soksamphoas Im, Ph.D.

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## Academic Positions

### **Michigan State University, Asian Studies Center**

Associate Director (Dec 2023 – Present)

- Provide support with program activities and initiatives related to Asian Studies

### **Stanford University, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center**

Visiting Scholar (Sep – Dec 2023 )

- Working on a book manuscript, “Authoritarian Resiliency: The Politics of Social Protection Policy in Cambodia”

### **University of Michigan, Center for Southeast Asian Studies**

Affiliated Scholar (May 2023 – Present)

- Conduct research focusing on “Authoritarian Populism in Southeast Asia”
- Teach a mini course, “Authoritarianism in Contemporary Southeast Asia,” coordinated by the Graduate Education and Training in Southeast Asia (GETSEA)

### **Lund University, The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**

Policy Researcher (Mar – Oct 2023)

- Leading a research project, “How has the Identification of Poor (IDPoor) Households program contributed to addressing poverty and debt crisis in rural Cambodia?”

### **Center for Khmer Studies | University of Sydney**

Postdoctoral Research Associate (Jan 2022 – Jun 2023)

- Co-investigated a research project, “Resilience and Recovery Among Tourism Workers in Cambodia during COVID-19,” – with the Director of Sydney Southeast Asia Centre

### **University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Department of Political Science**

Lecturer (Jan 2019 – May 2021)

- Courses taught: POLS 150 Introduction to Global Politics; POLS 316 International Relations

### **University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Department of Asian Studies**

Teaching Assistant (Aug 2017 – Jul 2018)

- Courses taught: ASAN 202 Topics in Asia; ASAN 312 Contemporary Asian Civilization

## Education

### **University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa**

Ph.D. Political Science, Social Policy & Southeast Asian Studies (2021)

M.A. Political Science (2019)

### **Durham University**

M.Sc. Defense, Development, & Diplomacy (2016)

**Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia | University of Leuven (KU Leuven)**

B.A. International Relations (2013)

**Research  
Interests**

Cambodia and Southeast Asia  
Social Welfare Policy  
Comparative Politics  
Aging and Sociodemographic Changes

Authoritarian Politics  
Health and Labor Policy  
Qualitative & Mixed Methods  
Diplomacy and International Relations

**Publications**

*Peer-  
Reviewed*

2023. "[Tourism Workers' Resilience in Siem Reap During COVID-19.](#)" *Annals of Tourism Research Empirical Insights*, 4(2). (with Michele Ford)

2023. "[The Union Difference: Experiences of Five-Star Hotel Workers in Cambodia during COVID-19.](#)" *Journal of Industrial Relations*, 00221856231193300. (with Michele Ford)

2023. "[Issues Concerning Ageing Population in Kampot and Takeo Provinces, and the Implications of the Cambodia National Ageing Policy 2017-2030.](#)" *Research on Ageing and Social Policy*, 11(1), 1- 28.

*Working Paper*

2021. [How was the Cambodian Cash Relief Program Assist Poor Women Affected by the COVID-19 Economic Crisis?](#) *Kyoto Working Papers on Areas Studies*, No. 135. (with Chanmono Oum)

*Book Reviews*

2023. [A Tiger Rules the Mountain: Cambodia's Pursuit of Democracy by Gordon Conochie, Monash University Publishing, 2023.](#)" *Asian Studies Review*, DOI: 10.1080/10357823.2023.2276973

2023. "[Strategies of Authoritarian Survival and Dissensus in Southeast Asia: Weak Men Versus Strongmen by Sokphea Young, Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.](#)" *Asian Politics & Policy*, 15(2), 331-335.

*Reports*

2023. [Resilience: Economic, Social and Psychological Coping Strategies among Hotel and Guesthouse Workers in Siem Reap During COVID-19](#) [Policy Report]. The Asia Foundation & The Center for Khmer Studies. (with Michele Ford)

2023. [Hospitality Worker's Resilience during COVID-19: Impact of Covid-19 on Tourism Sector in Siem Reap](#) [Policy Brief]. The Center for Khmer Studies. (with Michele Ford)

2022. [Cambodian American Older Adults](#). In: Periyakoil VJ, Ohuabunwa U, eds. Geriatrics Cultural Navigator. *American Geriatrics Society*. (with Sothy Eng & Barbara Yee)

*Dissertation*

2021. "[The Politics of Age: An Examination of the Cambodia National Ageing Policy 2017-2030.](#)" Doctoral dissertation, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

*Op-Ed*

2020. [Foreign Students and Scholars Confused by Visa Disruptions](#). Honolulu Civil Beat, July 17. [non-refereed]

*Under Review(s)*

"Winners and Losers: Cambodia's COVID-19 Emergency Cash Assistance Program for Hotel and Garment Workers" (with Michele Ford)

“Cambodia between Democratization and Autocratization: the Importance of Geopolitics” (with Sokphea Young) [Book Chapter for Routledge Handbook of Autocratization in Southeast Asia, Edited by Netina Tan and Yuko Kasuya]

“Band-Aid Policy: An Assessment of Cambodia’s Cash Transfer Program in Addressing Poverty and Debt”

*Manuscripts in Preparation* “The Predicament of Safety Nets in Times of Debt: Evidence from Cambodia and Sri Lanka” [Journal Article, with Amali Wedagedara]

“Caring for the People or Caring for the Party: Doctor and Lawyer Associations as Political Machines”

“Dynastic Politics in Southeast Asia: A Comparative Analysis of Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines”

**Book Project** *Authoritarian Resiliency: The Politics of Social Protection Policy in Cambodia* (ongoing)

**Academic Services** Reviewer, Journal of Cross-Cultural Gerontology, 2023  
Reviewer, Asia Pacific Journal of Social Work and Development, 2020  
Reviewer, Explorations Graduate Student Journal of Southeast Asian Studies, 2017-2020  
Contributor, American Geriatrics Society (AGS iGeriatrics), 2021

**Grants, Awards, Fellowships** 2023 Association of Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference Travel Grant  
2023 The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law – Research Grant for Human Rights & Poverty Issues in Cambodia  
2023 Southeast Asia Research Group (SEAREG) Travel Grant for Winter Conference  
2022 The Asia Foundation (TAF) and The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) – Grant for COVID-19 Impact Research in Cambodia (2022-23)  
2020 The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law – Research Grant for Human Rights & Gender Issues in Cambodia  
2020 Department of Political Science (UH Mānoa) Dissertation Completion Award  
2019 American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Doctoral Fellowship (2019-20)  
2019 Open Society Foundations (OSF) Civil Society Scholar Award (2019-20)  
2019 Graduate Division (UH Mānoa) Achievement Award  
2018 Office of International Student Service (UH Mānoa) Dai Ho Chun Scholarship  
2017 College of Social Sciences (UH Mānoa) Professional Development Award  
2017 Richard H. and Hester V. Cox (EWC) Scholarship for Students from Indochina Region  
2017 Center for Southeast Asian Studies (UH Mānoa) Moscotti Fellowship  
2016 East-West Center (EWC) Graduate Degree Fellowship (2016-18)  
2016 Asia Europe Foundation Scholarship to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Europe Meeting in Mongolia  
2015 Josephine Butler College (Durham University) Postgraduate Student Bursary Awards  
2014 Open Society Foundations (OSF) Civil Society Leadership Award (2014-15)  
2013 Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs Scholarship to attend the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange Students and Youths Program (JENESYS 2.00) in Japan

- 2013 German Academic Exchange Service Scholarship for Global Politics Summer School at Fudan University
- 2012 European Commission Erasmus Mundus AREAS Action II Undergraduate Scholarship in Belgium (2012-13)

**Conferences  
and  
Proceedings**

Hospitality Workers' Resilience in the Face of COVID-19 Pandemic: The Case of Siem Reap, Cambodia, Canadian Council for Southeast Asian Studies Conference | Presenter | Québec City, QC, Canada | October 12-14, 2023

Inclusion Matters: Addressing the Higher Education Gender Gap and Marginalization, Open Society Foundations Reassigned Grant Unit Forum | Panelist | Belgrade, Serbia | August 15-17, 2023

Contemporary Policy and Practice: Contemporary Politics and Predictions for Cambodia, Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference 2023 | Organizer, Chair, Presenter | Boston, MA, USA | March 16-19, 2023

Resilience and Recovery Among Workers in Cambodia's Hotel Industry During and Post COVID-19, Southeast Asia Research Group Winter Conference 2022-23 | Poster Presentation | Salt Lake City, UT, USA | January 5-7, 2023

Urban Transformation and Socio-Economic Changes in Post-COVID-19 Pandemic Recovery, The Asia Foundation, Ponlok Chomnes – National Policy Forum 2022 | Panelist | Phnom Penh, Cambodia | October 26-27, 2022

Welfare Reform Politics in Cambodia Post-2013 Election, University of Michigan – Center for Southeast Asian Studies | Invited Talk | Ann Arbor, MI, USA | September 9, 2022

A Reform Strategy that Sustains Authoritarianism in Cambodia, 79<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Political Science Conference | Chicago, IL, USA | April 7-10, 2022

Civil Society's Role in Development: A Case Study of HelpAge Organization with Ageing Policy Development in Cambodia, Ageing and Social Change: Tenth Interdisciplinary Conference | University of British Columbia | Vancouver, BC, Canada (September 24-25, 2020) [Virtual]

Seminar on Narrative Politics, The Gregynog Ideas Lab IX Summer School | University of Manchester, Politics Department | Mid Wales, United Kingdom (July 13-17, 2020) [Virtual]

Ageing as a Political Subject: The Rationale Behind Cambodia National Ageing Policy, 78<sup>th</sup> Annual MPSA Conference | Midwest Political Science Association | Chicago, IL, USA (April 16-19, 2020) [Virtual]

Understanding Civil Society Diplomacy in Southeast Asia in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, New Directions in Diplomacy Panel | International Political Science Association 25<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Political Science | Brisbane, Australia (July 21-25, 2018)

Ageing in Developing World: Long-term Welfare Policy for the Ageing Population in Cambodia, Ageing and Society: Seventh Interdisciplinary Conference and the Ageing and Society Research Network | University of California, Berkeley | Berkeley, CA, USA (November 3-4, 2017)

The Impact of War and Conflict on the Social Economic Security on the Cambodian Population, Approaches to Security in the Asia-Pacific Region | 58<sup>th</sup> International Studies Association Annual Convention | Baltimore, MD, USA (February 22-25, 2017)

The Country's Role Ahead in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, International Association for Political Science Students New Delhi and Mumbai, India (October 5-15, 2015)

Global Perspectives on Space for Civil Society: Experiences, Challenges and Resistance, Open Society Foundations | University of Oxford | Oxford Shire, United Kingdom (March 30 - April 2, 2015)

Road to ASEAN Economic Community 2015, ASEAN Warwick Conference | University of Warwick | Birmingham, United Kingdom (February 21-22, 2015)

Young Diplomat Training, European Academy of Diplomacy | Warsaw, Poland (February 5-20, 2015)

Soft Diplomacy Vs. Hard Diplomacy, NATO Summit Analysis Symposium | Atlantic Council of the UK | Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom (December 5, 2014)

Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youth Program, Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Tokyo and Hiroshima, Japan (December 6-14, 2013)

The New Landscape of Global Politics, Center for Global Politics of the Free University of Berlin | Fudan University | Shanghai, China (August 1-15, 2013)

**Professional Experience**

**Caritas Australia**

Research Consultant (May – Sep 2023)

**Winrock International**

Research Consultant (Oct 2022 – Apr 2023)

**Clinton Health Access Initiative, Inc.**

Senior Analyst, Country Support & Operations (Jun 2021 – Feb 2022)

**University of Hawai'i Cancer Center**

Research Assistant, Population Sciences in the Pacific Program (Aug 2020 – Jul 2021)

**University of Hawai'i at Mānoa**

Reference Assistant, Hamilton Library (Feb 2019 – Jan 2020)

Program Coordinator, School of Pacific & Asian Studies (Oct 2018 – Jan 2020)

Graduate Student Journal Editor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies (Jan 2017 – Dec 2019)

**Actions Pour Les Enfants Organization**

Assistant to Country Director (Oct 2013 – Aug 2014)

**Professional Training**

2015 Certificate in Diplomatic Studies – European Academy of Diplomacy, Poland

2014 Certificate of Completion for a Course on Conflict Analysis & Resolutions – Durham University, United Kingdom

2014 Certificate of Completion for Summer Research Training – Bilgi University, Turkey

2013 Certificate of Completion for Summer School in Global Politics – Fudan University, China

- Professional Affiliations** Association for Asian Studies  
Pi Gamma Mu, the International Honor Society in the Social Sciences  
American Association of University Women Alumni Network  
Midwest Political Science Association  
International Public Policy Association  
International Political Science Association  
International Studies Association  
East-West Center, Education Program
- Community Services** American Association of University Women Honolulu Chapter  
Project Coordinator (Oct 2020 – May 2021)
- University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Graduate Student Organization  
Student Employment and Compensation Chair (Nov 2018 – May 2019)
- University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Office of Public Health Studies  
Research Volunteer (Sep 2018 – Nov 2018)
- East-West Center Participants Association  
Vice-President and Acting President (Sept 2017 – Aug 2018)
- Languages** Khmer (native); French (reading proficiency); Dutch (reading proficiency)
- Software Applications** Google Application, Microsoft Office Suite, Canva, Adobe InDesign, NVivo, SAS, Zotero, EndNote, Mailchimp, and SurveyMonkey
- References** Dr. Katharina Heyer  
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
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- Dr. Ehito Kimura  
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- Dr. Michele Ford  
Professor and Director of Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, University of Sydney  
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- Dr. Eve Zucker  
President, Center for Khmer Studies | Lecturer of Anthropology, Yale University  
E-mail: [eve.zucker@khmerstudies.org](mailto:eve.zucker@khmerstudies.org) | Tel: +855-23-991-937
- Dr. Donald Emmerson  
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