

DR. HELYEH DOUTAGHI

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Education

Associate Research Scholar (non-tenured research faculty)
Deputy Director of The Law & Political Economy (LPE) Project
Yale Law School, Yale University

New Haven, CT
2023- 2025

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Law and Legal Studies

Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON
2017-2024

Dissertation: Wealth Drain and Value Transfer: A Study of the Mechanisms, Harms, and Beneficiaries of the Sanctions Regime on Iran

Co-Supervisors: Professor Umut Özsu & Professor Christiane Wilke

Master of Laws (LLM) in Transnational Law

The Dickson Poon School of Law, Kings' College London, London, UK

London, UK
2015-2016

Dissertation: Economic Sanctions Trades, Banks and Human Rights Violation

Bachelor of Arts Honours, Major in Law, Minor in Political Science

Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON
2012-2015

Academic Experience

Associate Editor

Middle East Critique Journal, Taylor and Francis Publication (peer review)

Online
2026 – current

- *Middle East Critique* provides a forum to develop intellectually innovative perspectives on and through key political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of the contemporary Middle East/West Asia and North Africa.
- Responsible for reviews and publications of Iran related articles.

Postdoctoral Fellow

University of Tehran

Tehran, Iran
2025 – current

- Conducting fieldwork and developing book manuscript on the impact of sanctions regime on Iran; critical approaches to international law; and law and political economy (LPE)

Non-Resident Scholar

Palestine Center for Public Policy, UC Berkeley

Berkeley, SA
2025 – 2026

Lecturer

Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON
2023

- Design syllabus for an undergraduate course in legal studies and human rights that exemplifies the principles of constructive alignment; construct lesson plans and deliver teachings that implement learner-centered approaches
- Coach Teaching Assistants
- Teach undergraduate course in law & human rights, and international organizations (LAWS 2105)

DR. HELYEH DOUTAGHI

Research Assistant

Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

2018 – 2023

- Collect and analyze primary data, review literature, co-organize writing collaborations, present at conferences, co-author articles
- Projects included: With Dr. Christiane Wilke: Privileged and Other Civilians: Hierarchies of Lives, Deaths, and Credibilities in Afghanistan and Iraq; Legal Technologies: Race, Technology and the Regulation of Aerial Bombing; Unforeseen: Airstrikes and Epistemologies of Ignorance. With Dr. Shireen Hassim: How Women Participate in Political and Public Life and Space. With Dr. Umut Ozsu: Completing Humanity. With Dr. Melanie Adrian: Nationalism and belonging in private Islamic Schools in Canada; Headscarves and the Law: Global Perspectives.

Teaching Assistant

Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

2018 – 2022

- Courses: Social Inquiry & Legal Methods; Public International Law; Law, State, & Citizenship; Law, State, & Constitution; Social Justice & Human Rights; Approaches to Legal Studies.

Other Professional Experience, Activities, Leadership & Services

Researcher and Contributor

Vocal Politics (VPol)

Online

February 2026-current

Second Supervisor

Taha Zeinali; Master of Arts in Political Economy, University of Kassel, Germany

Germany

February 2026

Co-organizer (with Eva Nanopoulos)

Economic Sanctions and Order-Making: Towards a New Approach Workshop

Queen Mary London

London, UK

May 2024

Co-Chair of The Steering Committee

International People's Tribunals on US Imperialism: Sanctions & Economic Coercive Measures

New York City

2021 –2023

External Reviewer

Middle East Critique - Taylor & Francis

Remote

Jan 2023

Middle East Research Fellow

The Institute for Peace and Diplomacy (IPD)

Toronto, ON

2020

National Chairperson & Executive

National Graduate Caucus, Canadian Federation of Students (CFS)

Ottawa

2019-2020

Vice-President External

Graduate Students' Association, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

2018 –2019

Member of the Organizing Committee

Critical Approaches to International Law Symposium

Dublin, Ireland

2019

DR. HELYEH DOUTAGHI

Outreach Coordinator

Graduate Students' Association, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

2019-2020

Professional Certificates & Additional Courses

Samir Amin: Dependency, Development, and the Making of the Global South

The Brooklyn Institute

NYC/Online

2024

The Preparing to Teach (PTT) Certificate

Teaching and Learning Services, Carleton University

Ottawa, ON

2022

Awards and Honors

Postdoctoral Scholarship

University of Tehran (awarded towards the pursuit of a postdoctoral fellowship)

Tehran, Iran

2025-2027

Department Graduate Scholarship

Carleton University (awarded towards the pursuit of a Doctor of Philosophy degree)

Ottawa, ON

2017-2023

The British Academy's Writing Workshops

Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) (awarded towards organizing a conference)

London, UK

2020

Entrance Scholarship

Carleton University (awarded towards the pursuit of a Bachelor's degree).

Ottawa, ON

2012-2015

Publications

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

- "Privileged and Other Civilians: Hierarchies of Credibility, Security, and Compensation in Afghanistan and Iraq" *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, (with Christiane Wilke & Hijaab Yahya), April 2025. Available [here](#).
- "Legal Technologies: Race, Technology, and the Regulation of Aerial Bombing" *Leiden Journal of International Law*. 37 *Leiden Journal of International Law*, August 2023 (with Christiane Wilke). Available [here](#).
- "Rethinking Accountability for Airstrikes" *Australian Feminist Law Journal*, (with Christiane Wilke & Hijaab Yahya, Deniz Konuk, Shabnam Salehi) [accepted, forthcoming 2025].
- "Economic Sanctions and Order-Making: Towards a New Approach" Special Issue in *Middle East Critique*. Co-editor with Eva Nanopoulos. [accepted forthcoming 2025]. Available [here](#).
- "Women's Movement and Gender Equality in Public Life: Global Trends and Challenges" Submitted to the *UN Commission of the Status of Women (CSW65) on How Women Participate in Political and Public Life and Space*. September 2020 (with Shireen Hassim, Laurel Weldon, Sriyani Dutta).

Book Chapters

- "Imperial Ignorance and Beyond: Mapping Production and Practices of Organized Ignorance" in Sheerin Hassim, et al eds. *Handbook on Politics and Society*. Edward Elgar Publishing, June 2025, (with Christiane Wilke & Hijaab Yahya). Available [here](#).
- "From Coercion to Capital: Privatization as Slow and Structural Harm of Sanctions" in *Middle East Critique Journal*, [accepted forthcoming 2026].

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Popular Media Outlets

- “Iran roundtable: The war and imperialism at this conjuncture”, *Prometheus Magazine*, May 2026. Available [here](#).
- “U.S.-Israeli War of Aggression Against Iran: Scahill Interviews Iranian Scholar Helyeh Doutaghi” *Drop Site News*. 23 Jun 2025. Available [here](#).
- “We Charge Imperialism: The Position Paper & Working Framework the International People’s Tribunal on U.S. Imperialism: Sanctions, Blockades, and Economic Coercive Measures” *Geopolitical Economy Report*, December 2022, (with Corinna Mullin). Available [here](#).
- “The shared struggles of Muslim Canadians and Indigenous peoples” *Rabble.ca*, June 2021, (with Ashley Courchene), Available [here](#).
- “On Iran sanctions, Canada needs to step up against Trump’s unilateralism” *The Hill Times*. September 2020, Available [here](#).
- “By not investigating the U.S. for war crimes, the International Criminal Court shows colonialism still thrives in international law” *The Conversation*. April 2019, (with Jay Ramasubramanyam), Available [here](#) & [here](#).

Book Reviews

- “Eva Nanopoulos, *The Jurisdiction of Individual Sanctions and the Politics of EU Law*.” 35 *Leiden Journal of International Law* 215–17 (with Umut Ozsu)

Selected Public Talks & Media Engagements, and Conference Presentations

- “Iranian academic describes US-Israeli attacks on Iran’s universities” *Al Jazeera*, March 2026. Available [here](#).
- “The War on Iran”, Progressive International, The People’s Academy, May 2026. Available [here](#).
- “The Slow and Structural Violence of Sanctions on Iran”, *The Anti-Imperialist Conference*, People’s Academy, Lahore, Pakistan, May 2026. Available [here](#).
- “Our destiny is shared with Palestinians” — Helyeh Doutaghi on how war is uniting Iran”, *Electronic Intifada*, April 2026. Available [here](#).
- “From Sanctions to Privatization: The Slow and Structural Harms of Iranian Sanctions Regime”, *International Conference on Development, War, and Agriculture in the Arab-Iranian Region – Rethinking the Agrarian Question*, November 2025, Tunis.
- “International Law and Imperialism”, [The People’s Academy](#), *Progressive International*, August 2025. Available [here](#).
- “Human Rights Situation in Palestine”, Side-Event at the 59th Session of the *United Nations Human Rights Council*, July 4th, 2025, Geneva, Switzerland.
- “From the River to The World”, *Socialism 2025 Conference*, Chicago, US. Available [here](#).
- “Re-orienting Critical Thoughts After Genocide”, *University of Tehran, Faculty of World Studies*, May 15, 2025. Tehran, Iran.
- “Rethinking Critical Theory After Genocide: A Cognitive Turning Point”, *Agrarian South Summer School*, February 2025, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- “Patterns of Sovereignty: Re-Reading the Justification of Iranian Sanctions Regime” *International Studies Association (ISA)*, April 3-5 2024, San Francisco, US. [Here](#).
- “Imperial Ignorance: The Production of Knowledge and Uncertainty about Civilian Casualties” Centre for International Policy Studies, University of Ottawa. October 2023, Ottawa, Canada. Available [here](#).
- “Legal Theft from Enemy State: U.S. Sanctions Regime on Iran” The Professional Staff Congress International Committee, City University of New York. May 2023, NYC, US.
- “Sanctions: A Wrecking Ball in a Global Economy” *Just Peace Advocates*, Anti-Sanctions Tour Book Launch, April 2023, Ottawa, Canada.

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- “The Slow and Structural Violence of Economic Sanctions: Beyond the Human Rights Framework” *Socio-Legal Studies Association* annual conference April 2023 - Ulster University (SLSA)
- “Unforeseen: Airstrikes and epistemologies of ignorance” *Socio-Legal Studies Association* annual conference April 2023 - Ulster University (SLSA) (with Christiane Wilke & Hijab Yahya).
- “International People’s Tribunal on U.S. Imperialism: Sanctions, Embargoes, & Economic Coercive Measures” at *People’s Forum*, January 2023, NYC, US. Available [here](#).
- “Privileged and Other Civilians: Hierarchies of Lives, Deaths, and Credibilities in Afghanistan and Iraq” *Law and Society Association (LSA) Conference*, (with Wilke, Christiane, Yahya, Hijab, Leah Wilson, Yousufi, Basir), June 2022, Lisbon, Portugal.
- “Re-reading Iranian Sanctions Regime” *Let’s talk research*, Department of Law and Legal Studies, Carleton University, November 2021, Ottawa, Canada.
- “How Economic Sanctions Work: A Contextual Re-reading of U.S., UN, and EU Sanctions Regimes on Iran” *Canadian Political Science Association (CPSA)*, June 2021, Alberta, Canada.
- “Legal Technologies: Race, Technology, and the Regulation of Bombing” *Law and Society Association (LSA) Conference*, May 2021, Chicago, United States.
- “Mechanisms, Victims, and Beneficiaries: Towards a Theory of Sanctions from Below” *Socio-Legal Studies Association (SLSA)*, March 2021, Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom.
- “United Nations Special Procedures on the Negative Impact of the Unilateral Coercive Measures on the Enjoyment of Human Rights” *Association for The Study of Law, Culture, and The Humanities*, March 2019, Ottawa, Canada.
- “Legal Regimes of Sanctions: Banks and Disproportionate Collateral Damage” *Law and Society Association (LSA) Conference*, June 2018, Toronto, Canada.

Translations [to and from Farsi]

- “TWAIL Coordinates”, Luis Esleva, *Critical Legal Thinking*, April 2019, translated to Farsi. Available [here](#).
- “Know Your Rights: A Guide to Protest”, National Lawyers Guild (NLG), Farsi translation. Available [here](#).

Skills & Interests

Technical: WordPress, Microsoft Office, Canva, NVivo, Trello Task Management, Slack.

Language: Farsi (native), Arabic (reading)