

RYAN JSUTO

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Languages: English (native)
Bar admission: Washington, D.C.

Citizenship: United States
Location: Burke, VA, USA

EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University College of Law

Fall 2025

Part-Time Lecturer

- Created and offered a 2-credit course, LAW 994 M604 ADV Legal Topics-Voting Rights (JDi) - Voting Rights Law and Policy.

FairVote

November 2021 — Present

Senior Manager of Government Affairs

Senior Policy Advisor

- Led a campaign to re-introduce the 2024 Fair Representation Act, which included weekly coalition work with the Leadership Conference, the DFAD coalition, and key partners such as NAACP, LDF, Common Cause, Brennan Center, and many more; secured more community support for the bill than ever before.
- Manage and execute legislative campaigns, including Hill strategy, partnership efforts, and coordinating media approaches by writing internal analyses, public-facing blog posts, and coalition-facing text aimed at advancing, explaining, and advocating electoral reform.
- Manage and direct the Government Affairs budget, priorities, and personnel by utilizing experience and training such as “Managing to Change the World” workshop by The Management Center.
- Draft proposed legislative text for introduction or inclusion into existing bills; engage in political analysis necessary to understand the viability and potential legislative process opportunities for such legislation.
- Interact regularly with Capitol Hill staffers, civil society organizations, and coalitions such as the Leadership Conference and the Declaration for American Democracy (“DFAD”) coalition in order to support allied initiatives and organizations and also build rapport and good will for FairVote efforts.

Arab American Institute

May 2017 — November 2021

Policy Counsel

Government Relations Manager

- Led the Institute’s policy team, which includes setting the organization’s legislative priorities, assigning tasks to policy associates, and representing AAI in coalitions and policy contexts.
- Worked closely with Hill staff on policy development, legislative drafting, and analyzing existing statutes.
- Interfaced with government actors and nongovernmental organizations to shape policy positions on immigration, foreign policy, hate crime, and various issues relating to civil rights and civil liberties.
- Wrote policy analyses, op-eds, speeches, and press releases for wide distribution and Hill staff.
- Wrote issue briefs and public-facing materials to facilitate education on political developments in Washington, D.C. and the Arab world, as well as develop action alerts to promote grassroots advocacy.
- Tracked legislation, interpret the impact and meaning of court decisions, write blog posts, and advocate for the rights of Arab Americans in all appropriate contexts.

Independent

April 2014 — May 2017

Analyst and Consultant

- Advised the U.S. State Department in the creation of a strategic communication plan explaining the values of the 1st Amendment of the U.S. Constitution to audiences in the Arab world.
- Conducted research and wrote reports for organizations such as the Arab Center for the Development of the Rule of Law and Integrity, FHI 360, the Near East Foundation, and Fair Vote.
- Conducted institutional, legal, and political research and analyses for the Institute for Policy Studies, Fair Observer, Atlantic Council, Open Democracy, Middle East Eye, Public Diplomat, and other websites.

Alexandria City Public Schools

August 2014 — June 2015

Adult Learning Teacher

- Produced syllabi, lesson plans, course materials, and evaluation mechanisms for diverse groups of adult English language learners.
- Employed educational scaffolding to reinforce prior knowledge, create connections within the curriculum, and support future learning.
- Engaged in active classroom teaching, employed various styles of teaching to reach all students, and encouraged critical thinking.
- Utilized technology and hands-on learning as a central tool for education.

Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy

June 2013 — April 2014

Research Associate

- Maintained two research portfolios: legal institutions and human rights; monitored daily developments in Egypt and Tunisia within these topic areas and produced daily email updates for each portfolio.
- Produced independent analysis and policy recommendations, as well as analyzed electoral processes, political parties, civil society organizations, legislatures, and other democratic institutions.
- Produced documents such as timelines of human rights violations in Egypt and policy analyses.

EDUCATION

Syracuse University

August 2009 — May 2013

College of Law

- JD, Law
 - Certificate, Global Law and Practice
 - Certificate, Law, Politics, and the Media

Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

- MA, International Relations
 - Certificate, Post-Conflict Reconstruction
 - Certificate, Middle Eastern Affairs

Newhouse School of Public Communications

- MS, Public Relations

Penn State University

August 2005 — December 2008

College of the Liberal Arts

- BA, Political Science
- BA, Philosophy

INTERNSHIPS

Broadcasting Board of Governors

January — May 2013

Intern

- Analyzed broadcast metrics for Voice of America foreign services.
- Developed recommendations for improved reach and broadcast content.
- Tracked audience numbers for all language services under VOA.

United Nations Development Program, Bahrain

May — August 2012

Legal Intern

- Drafted memos, proposals, work plans, and other reports such as the Country Program Action Plan (CPAP) Document.
- Developed, monitored, and evaluated project schedules and timelines.
- Tracked the progress of the implementation of the Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry (BICI) Report's recommendations on human rights reforms and other UN human rights regulations.

Ulster County Attorney's Office

May —August 2009

Legal Intern

- Drafted motions for review.
- Helped organize legal files and documents.
- Tracked lawsuits against and by the County.

The Office of Congressman Maurice Hinchey

May —August 2007

Congressional Intern

- Assisted with office operations and constituent services, including letter writing, issue-related research, and other tasks as assigned.
- Tracked the voting and committee progress of legislation in which the Congressman was interested.
- Answered phone calls and took notes on their content, as well as tracked district print media.

PUBLICATIONS

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, August 2) [Racial gerrymandering in Alabama: What are politicians trying to do, exactly?](#) *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, June 23) [Ten Years After *Shelby County v. Holder*](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, May 10) [North to the Future: Alaska's Supreme Court and the future of American elections](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, March 9) ["National divorce" rhetoric is neither sustainable nor surprising](#). *FairVote Action*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, February 16) [The History of Voting Rights in America is not Race Blind](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2023, January 4) [A new Congress, a new case for ranked choice voting](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, December 8) [What the *Moore v. Harper* decision could mean](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, August 3) [Congress Takes on the Electoral Count Act](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, July 1) [The Danger of the Independent State Legislature Theory](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, June 23) [This is What Nine Years Without the Voting Rights Act Looks Like](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, May 27) [Want to Fix Our Polarized Politics? Fix How We Vote](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, April 18) [The Authoritarian War on Democracy, at Home and Abroad](#). *FairVote Action*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2022, August 3) [Fifty-Seven Years after Selma](#). *FairVote*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2020, June 22) [See No Evil: Sotomayor highlights the Roberts Court's blind eye to discrimination](#). *Jurist*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2019, December 3) [After Stephen Miller Emails, Policymakers Must Make a Stand Against White Nationalism](#). *Rewire News*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2019, October 29) [Call For Change In Iraq](#). *Arab American Institute*.

Berry, Maya M. and Suto, Ryan J. (2019, April 1) [Brief For The Arab American Institute As Amicus Curiae In Support Of Respondents](#). *U.S. Supreme Court*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2019, February 18) Pelosi Shouldn't [Bring Rubio's Anti-BDS Measure to the House Floor](#). *Rewire News*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2019, January 25) [Message and Impact: The Muslim and Refugee Ban at Two](#). *Arab American Institute*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2018, January 10) [Instead of criminalising political speech, pass the NO HATE Act](#). *Middle East Eye*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2017, October 20) [The Latest Muslim Ban Litigation](#). *American Constitution Society*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2017, October 10) [Evading Review: The Administration's Muslim Ban Argument](#). *American Constitution Society*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2017, October 3) [The Attempt to Make the Muslim Ban Permanent](#). *American Constitution Society*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2017, July 20) [Material Support and the new FBI](#). *Arab Daily News*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2017, March 22) [What Does the Latest Electronics Ban Mean for Morocco?](#) *Fair Observer*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2016, October 6) [Public Health As Foreign Policy: Trauma In The Arab World](#). *LobeLog*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2016, September 30) [America's Outdated Special Relationship With Saudi Arabia](#). *LobeLog*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2016, September 22) [Bilateral Complicity: The Next US President And Egypt](#). *LobeLog*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2016, September 15) [Tunisia: New Leaders, Old Challenges](#). *LobeLog*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2016, September 7) [Promised Democracy: The Future Of Iraq](#). *LobeLog*.

Himelboim, I., Golan, G., Moon, B.B., Suto, R.J. (2014) **A Social Networks Approach to Public Relations on Twitter: Social Mediators and Mediated Public Relations**. *Journal of Public Relations Research*. Vol. 26 , Iss. 4.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, December 24). [Assured Dysfunction: Egypt's Parliamentary Constituencies Law](#). *Atlantic Council*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, August 28). [The trials of Mohamed Morsi](#). *Middle East Eye*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, June 3). [A Renewed Case for a Syria Tribunal](#). *Atlantic Council*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, May 26). [Pillar of autocracy: Egypt's presidential election law](#). *Middle East Eye*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, April 28). [Proven Guilty: Egypt's Judiciary and the Undermining of Democracy](#). *Atlantic Council*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, March 10). [Presidential Election Law Raises Serious Concerns](#). *Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2014, January 24). [Human Rights Treaties in Egypt: as Good as the Government that Upholds Them](#). *Tahrir Institute for Middle East Policy*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2013, July 25). [Four Recommendations for Egypt's Constitutional Process](#). *Atlantic Council*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2013, January 17). [Non-Self Determination: Foreign Elements in Iraq's Post-Conflict Electoral Design](#). *SSRN*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2013, January 13). [Small Nation, Big Questions: Bahrain After the Arab Spring](#). *SSRN*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2012). [The Obama Effect In The Arab World](#). *Exchange: The Journal of Public Diplomacy*. Vol. 3: Iss. 1, Article 8.

Suto, Ryan J. (2012, September 5). [Bahrain Independent Commission of Inquiry: Rule of Law in Post-Conflict Resolution](#). *JURIST*.

Suto, Ryan J. (2012, May 4). [Transitions in Tunisia and Egypt - What Does the Future Hold?](#) *SSRN*.

PROJECTS AND VOLUNTEERING

National Arab American Bar Association

April 2024 — Present

Board of Directors

- Founded the National Arab American Bar Association (NAABA) in 2020.
- Appointed to the Board of Directors.
- Chair of the Pro Bono Committee.

The Process of Policy Lecture Series

August 2023 — Present

Co-Moderator

- In partnership with the Center for Policy Design and Governance at Syracuse University.
- Co-moderate the Process of Policy, a series that explores the deliberation, formulation, design, and adoption of policies related to some of today's most pressing issues.
- Help to plan and execute two events each semester.

Various Political Campaigns

August 2006 — November 2008

Volunteer

- Planned campus events, activities, and communications aimed at Getting Out The Vote and increasing support for candidates for state and federal office, including Barack Obama.
- Engaged in door-to-door political advocacy, phonebanking, college campus debates, and issue advocacy in a crucial swing-state.
- Learned to apply strategic campaign planning, including use of SWOT analyses and setting measurable objectives and tangible tactics.

CERTIFICATES AND AWARDS

Outstanding Alumni Award Presented by the Philosophy Department, Penn State University	May 2020
Governance and Democratic Practices in War-to-Peace Transitions <i>Certificate of Attendance</i> , USIP Academy Course	May 2014
Training Session on Transitional Justice <i>Certificate of Attendance</i> , Public Interest Law & Policy Group, DLA Piper, USAID	September 2012
The David Rubin First Amendment Prize Awarded by the Newhouse School for demonstrating understanding, support, or defense of the First Amendment.	April 2012
Next Generation Leader Named by the American Constitution Society for demonstrating extraordinary leadership in the student chapter.	March 2012
eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance <i>Certificate of Completion</i> , European Commission, United Nations Development Program	January 2011

PRESENTATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Organizer and speaker , Fair Representation Act Launch Event Spoke at a press conference and moderated a webinar discussion	Washington, DC, USA — March 2024
Guest Lecturer , Policy Design Workshop Invited by the Center for Policy Design and Governance at Syracuse University	Syracuse, NY, USA — April 2023
Panelist , Discussion on Political Polarization Invited by Braver Angels to speak on a panel	Washington, DC, USA — March 2023
Speaker , Voting Rights Rally Invited by the NAACP to speak in support of the Voting Rights Advancement Act	Washington, DC, USA — August 2019
Speaker , Rally at the Supreme Court Invited by Common Cause in support of gerrymandering reform	Washington, DC, USA — March 2019
Expert , Arizona State House of Representatives Testified before the House Committee on State and International Affairs hearing on SB 1167	Phoenix, AZ, USA — March 2019
Presenter , International Communication Association <i>A Social Networks Approach to Public Relations on Twitter: Social Mediators and Mediated Public Relations</i>	London, UK — June 2013
First Place Winner , Whitehead Colloquium <i>Monochromatic Rule in the Rainbow Nation: Electoral Design in Post-Apartheid South Africa.</i>	South Orange, NJ, USA — April 2013
Presenter , New York Conference on Asian Studies <i>The State of the Media: Nepal's 2008 Constituent Assembly Elections</i>	Buffalo, NY, USA — September 2011