

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Yang Yan (燕阳)

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### ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Postdoctoral Researcher (11/2023–), Institute for Chinese Studies, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

-Advisor: Prof. Dr. Genia Kostka

Postdoctoral Fellow (2021–2023), School of Public Policy & Management, Tsinghua University, China.

-Advisor: Prof. Dr. Angang Hu

Research Associate (2021–2023), Institute for Contemporary China Studies, Tsinghua University, China.

### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Management Science and Engineering, School of Economics and Management, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication, China, 2021.

-Thesis: *Policy Agenda Setting and the Environmental Governance Performance*

-Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Chunhui Yuan

B.A., Public Administration, School of Economics and Management, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication, China, 2015.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Research field: Public Administration and Public Policy, Comparative Politics.

My research focuses on **policy processes**, **digital governance**, **elite politics**, and **political**

**communication**. Recently, I have been examining the local implementation and impacts of the “Digital China” strategy, with a particular interest in political communication strategies under authoritarian regimes in the digital age. I am also conducting experimental research on how generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is influencing policy processes and bureaucratic behavior at the grassroots level in China.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Yan, Y., & Yang, Z.\* (2025). Portraying Competence, Benevolence or Party Loyalty? Political Propaganda and the Image Building of Political Elites in China. *Comparative Politics*. 57(4), 529–550. <https://doi.org/10.5129/001041525X17380761641486>
- Yang, Z., Yan, Y.\*, & Xu, H. (2024). Towards “All-round Cadres”: Policy Priorities and Issue Diversity of Local Bureaucrats in China, 2005–19. *China: An International Journal*, 22(1), 1–24. <https://www.muse.jhu.edu/article/920955>

- **Yan, Y.**, Christensen, T., & Yang, Z.\* (2024). Personnel Control and Local Officials' Attention to Economic Development: Evidence from China. *Administration & Society*, 56(2), 145–171. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00953997231223518>
- **Yan, Y.**, Yang, Z.\*, & Yuan, C. (2022). Political Attention in a Single-Leading-Party State: A Comparative Study of the Policy Agenda in China, 2003–2019. *Journal of Comparative Policy Analysis: Research and Practice*, 24(2), 138–158. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13876988.2020.1843020>
- **Yan, Y.**, & Yuan, C.\* (2020). City Administrative Level and Municipal Party Secretaries' Promotion: Understanding the Logic of Shaping Political Elites in China. *Journal of Contemporary China*, 29(122), 266–285. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10670564.2019.1637570>

### Submitted Manuscript

- **Yan, Y.**, & Genia Kostka\*. Divergent Pathways to Digital China: Unveiling Provincial Digital Agendas Under Xi Jinping's Top-Level Design (R&R).
- **Yan, Y.**, & Zhusong Yang\*. Issue Manipulation in Political Propaganda: How Chinese Political Elites Build Political Reputations through Public Reporting (Under Review).
- **Yan, Y.**, Guo, D., & Kostka, G.\* Security and Beyond: Unpacking State Narratives and Emotional Undertones for Digital Surveillance in China (Under Review).

### Projects in Progress

- How Generative AI Shapes Administrative Burden and Autonomy in Local Bureaucracy: Evidence from China (Collaborated with Zhusong Yang, Yixuan Zhang, and Hao Zhang).
- The Politics of Perception: Experimental Studies of Elite Image and Citizen Trust in China (Collaborated with Shengxiang Ji and Wenjing Han).
- Policy Agendas and Environmental Protection: How Agenda-Setting Matters. *APSA Preprints*. <https://doi.org/10.33774/apsa-2023-8zqlk>

### Peer-Reviewed Chinese Articles

- Yuan, C., & **Yan, Y.** (2020). Central Environmental Inspection: Self-Adaptation of The Pressure Model of Environmental Governance in China <中央环保督察：压力型环境治理模式的自我调适>. *Governance Studies* <治理研究>, 36(1), 57–68. <http://doi.org/10.15944/j.cnki.33-1010/d.2020.01.008>
- Yang, Z., **Yan, Y.**, Zhang, X., & Zhang, J. (2021). Competence-oriented Cadre Selection of the Chinese Communist Party: Evidence from the Members of Standing Committee of Provincial Party Committee, 1983-2012 <中国共产党干部选任的能力导向——来自省委常委的证据(1983—2012年)>. *CASS Journal of Political Science* <政治学研究>, 3, 26–41.
- **Yan, Y.**, & Yang, Z. (2022). The Failure of Agenda-Setting of Local Government in China <地方领导干部政策注意力配置“失灵”现象及其治理>. *Academia Bimestris* <学海>, 197(05), 128–134. <https://doi.org/10.16091/j.cnki.cn32-1308/c.2022.05.007>
- **Yan, Y.**, Xian, Y., & Yang, Z. (2022). Issue-based Politics in China's Local Governance: An Analysis from the Perspective of Policy Attention <当代中国地方治理中的议题政治学——基于政策注意力

视角的分析>. *Humanities & Social Sciences Journal of Hainan University* <海南大学学报人文社科版>, 41(04), 94–104. <https://doi.org/10.15886/j.cnki.hnus.202207.0386>

- Huang, J., Yan, Y., Yang, Z. (2024). Cadres' Grassroots Working Experience and Regional Business Environment Construction: An Empirical Study Based on the Resumes of Standing Committee Members of Provincial Party Committees <干部基层工作经历与区域营商环境建设——基于省委常委履历的实证研究>. *Journal of Beijing University of Technology (Social Sciences Edition)* <北京工业大学学报>, Online first.

### **Book (in progress)**

*The Face of Authoritarianism: The Propaganda and Public Image of Chinese Political Elites*

### **Books (in Chinese)**

*The Regulation of the Express Delivery Industry* <快递市场监管>. Co-editor with Chunhui Yuan, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications Press, 2019.

*Issue-based Politics of State Governance in Contemporary China* <当代中国国家治理的议题政治学>, Co-author with Zhusong Yang, Guangming Daily Press, 2024.

### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

The State Post Bureau Project, “Feasibility Study on the Construction of Postal Industry Technology R&D Center”, team member, 2018.

National Social Science Foundation Project, “Study on the Logic and Incentive Mechanism of Policy Attention of Chinese Government”, team member, 2021–2025.

European Research Council, “Digital Governance in China”, team member, 2023–2025.

### **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

121<sup>st</sup> American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Vancouver, Canada, 9/2025.

PRIVACY-China Workshop, St Antony's College, University of Oxford, UK, 7/2025.

International Conference on China Policy Studies (ICCPS), Beijing Normal University, China, 6/2025.

Annual Conference of the Political Studies Association (PSA), University of Birmingham and Aston University, UK, 4/2025.

German Association for Asian Studies (ASC), Annual Meeting, University of Bonn, Germany, 11/2024.

SCRIPTS Workshop “Sharpening Analytic Instruments of Narrative Contestation During Conflicts”, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, 11/2024.

120<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, USA, 9/2024.

The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), General Conference, University College Dublin, Ireland, 8/2024.

119<sup>th</sup> American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, USA, 8/2023.

American Association for Chinese Studies (AACS), Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting, 10/2021.

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Modern Economic Theory, guest lecturer and teaching assistant for Prof. Chunhui Yuan, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, 2/2016–6/2016.

The Methodology of Social Science Research, guest lecturer, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, 3/2022, 3/2023.

LV 14228: Theories and Discourses in Chinese Social Science Studies, guest lecturer, Freie Universität Berlin, 11/2023, 10/2024.

### **DISSERTATION SUPERVISION**

Assisted in supervising the following graduate dissertations:

- Qingyang Li (李清阳), master's in Management, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, 2023–2024
- Zhen Yu (喻真), Ph.D. in Management, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, 2022–2023
- Jingyi Hua (华静宜), bachelor's in Public Management, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, 2022–2023

### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Anonymous reviewer: *Journal of Contemporary China, Administration & Society, Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy and Society*

Presenter, Academic Talk: "*Policy Agenda-Setting in Comparative Perspective: Theoretical Evolution and Research Frontiers*", Public Policy Speaker Series (#14), School of Government, Beijing Normal University, 6/2025.

Panel Chair, "*Citizens' Attitudes and Trust in Public Policy*", The 2nd International Conference on Chinese Public Policy, Beijing (Beijing Normal University), 6/2025.

Discussant, SCRIPTS Paper Workshop: "*Sharpening Analytic Instruments of Narrative Contestation During Conflicts*", Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, 11/2024.

Panel Chair, "*Pathways to 'Green Policies' and a Greener Future*", Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Los Angeles, USA, 8/2023.

Moderator, Academic Lecture: "*Contemporary China Studies Overseas: Trends and Developments*", delivered by Prof. Suisheng Zhao (Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver), School of Economics and Management, Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, 6/2019.

Panelists, Civil Society 20 (C20) Summit 2017 in Hamburg, Germany, 6/2017.

Internship, Legambiente Environmental Group in Padova, Italy, 6/2017–7/2017.

Internship, China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF), Beijing, 2/2017–5/2017.

Internship, The State Post Bureau, Beijing, 12/2015.

### **ACADEMIC HONORS**

Excellent Doctoral Dissertation of Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications, 6/2021.

### **LANGUAGE AND SKILLS**

Language: Chinese (Native speaker); English (Fluent); Korean (TOPIK: Level 2)

Statistical analysis: SPSS, Stata, R, Python, and NVIVO

### **DATASETS**

- Career Database of Political Elites in Chinese Prefecture-level Cities (2001–2019)
- Daily News Reports on Activities of Chinese Provincial Political Elites (2013–2023)

- Policy Agenda Database of Important Meetings of Chinese Central and Provincial Governments (2008–2023)

## **REFERENCES**

Chunhui Yuan (苑春荟)

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Genia Kostka

Chair & Professor of Chinese Politics

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