# **Melanie Sayuri Sonntag**

Department of Political Science
University of New Mexico
Social Sciences, Building 78, Room 2044
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### **Education**

*Ph.D.* Political Science 2016 - present

Concentrations: Comparative Politics, American Politics University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

M.A. Political Science 2014 - 2016

Gender Studies Certificate

Master's Thesis: Forced Prostitution as an issue of political conflict
- An Argumentation Analysis of the Japanese "Comfort Women"
Philipps-Universität Marburg, Marburg, Germany

B.A. International Liberal Studies 2010 - 2014 Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan

## **Research Interests**

Gender and Politics, Japanese Politics, Sexual Violence, Intersectionality

# **Employment**

Department of Political Science, University of New Mexico

Research Assistant

Professor Mala Htun

Assistant Professor Kendra Koivu

2016 - present

#### **Conference Presentation**

"Japan's Sex Slaves: Political discourse and partisan conflict over WWII human rights abuses." Melanie Sayuri Sonntag

Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2017

"Forging *Ikumen*: On State efforts to redefine masculinity in Japan" Mala Htun, Francesca Jensenius, Melanie Sayuri Sonntag *American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 2017* 

## **Field Research**

Tokyo, Japan June 2017

## Languages

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German Native fluency

Japanese Native fluency

English Full Professional Proficiency

TOEFL score ibt 114 January 2016