

RICHARD ROEWER

PROFILE

Passionate problem-solver and team leader with a focus on research-based education, capacity-building and project development. Extensive research experience with a focus on political parties in authoritarian settings, democratisation, and hybrid regimes. Familiar with leading research teams of up to five people.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2023, Mar. – Kreisau-Initiative
Executive Director
- Development and implementation of cutting-edge, political education programmes and capacity development programmes with a focus on human rights, democracy, and social inclusion.
 - Management of up to 10 full-time staff members and a yearly budget of ca. 2,000,000 USD.
 - Cooperation with over 150 partner organisations in Europe and beyond.
- 2016, Dec. – Initiative Austausch e.V.
2023, Oct. *Founder and Chairman of the Board*
- Support of Myanmar activists, development of the Political Education Programme for Junior Politicians (2016-2019), see <https://tinyurl.com/5aj3vwwj>.
 - Organisation of the academic conference ‘Shaping Past, Present, and Future: Political Parties and State Transformation in Myanmar’ in 2018, resulting in a special issue in the Journal of Contemporary Southeast Asian Studies, see <https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/saa/38/3>
- 2018 Aug. – Yangon School of Political Science
2018 Oct. *Lecturer*
- Taught courses on qualitative methodology in political science and regime change in Southeast Asia.
- 2013 Jul. - Kreisau-Initiative: MICC (Model International Criminal Court)
2016 Sep. *Myanmar Programme Coordinator*
- Coordination of MICC project components in Myanmar.
- 2015 Aug. - Kreisau-Initiative: SalaamShalom
2016 Aug. *Programme Coordinator Germany*
- Coordination of events on interfaith dialogue in cooperation with partners from Denmark, France, Germany and Sweden.
- 2012 Jun. - Teach for Myanmar, Yangon, Myanmar
2012 Aug. *English Teacher for ethnic and religious minority groups*
- 2011 Aug. - Centre for Bhutan Studies, Thimphu, Bhutan
2011 Sep. *Student Assistant*

EDUCATION

- 2017 Sep. - DPhil Candidate in Political Science
2022 Oct. *St. Antony's College, University of Oxford*
- Dissertation titled ‘Undemocratic Democrats: A Case Study of the National League for Democracy’, researching the effects of authoritarianism on the formation of democratic parties and investigating why pro-democracy parties might engage in undemocratic politics.
 - Coordination of five research assistants.

- Supervised by Professor Stephen Whitefield, University of Oxford, and Assistant Professor Matthew Walton, University of Toronto.
- Passed without corrections.

- 2016 Oct. - Research Fellow at the Institute for Asian Studies
2022 Oct. *German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg*
- Working on PhD research and as a member of the research teams ‘Democratic Institutions’ and ‘Authoritarian Politics’.
 - Supervised by Professor Patrick Köllner, GIGA and University of Hamburg.
- 2014 Sep. - MSc in Global Governance and Emerging Powers
2015 Sep. *Birkbeck College, University of London*
- MA thesis on democratisation policies in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy.
- 2011 Sep. - BA Hons. in Religion, Philosophy, and Ethics
2014 Jul. *Heythrop College, University of London*
- BA thesis on the role of institutionalised religion in the conflict in Rakhine State.

PUBLICATIONS

Roewer, Richard (2026), ‘Myanmar’, in *Asia in Crisis*, edited by Maartje De Visser and Po Jen Yap, Abingdon: Routledge.

As guest editor: Nan Lin (2023), ‘My Dangerous, Lonely Life in Myanmar’s Resistance’, in *New York Times*.

Roewer, Richard and Han Htoo Khant Paing (2023), ‘Myanmar’s Parliament’, in *The Parliaments in Asia Reader*, edited by Rehan Abeyratne und Po Jen Yap, Abingdon: Routledge.

As guest editor: Nilar Thein (2022), ‘Our Worst Fears Have Come True in Myanmar’, in *New York Times*.

Roewer, Richard and Han Htoo Khant Paing (2022), ‘Fighting the Fear: The Execution of Members of Myanmar’s Opposition Must be Stopped’, *The Diplomat*.

Roewer, Richard and Han Htoo Khant Paing (2021), ‘Democracy in Myanmar Needs German Support’, in *Vorwärts* (in German).

Roewer, Richard (2020), ‘Three Faces of Party Organisation in the National League for Democracy’ in *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 38 (3), pp. 286-306.

Bünthe, Marco, Köllner, Patrick und Roewer, Richard (2020), ‘Taking Stock Myanmar’s Political Transformation since 2011’ in: (ed.) *Journal of Current Southeast Asian Affairs*, 38 (3), pp. 249-264.

Roewer, Richard (2020), ‘The Political Dynamics of Myanmar Facing the International Court of Justice’ in *The Oxford University Politics Blog*.

Roewer, Richard (2020), ‘What the NLD’s top-down party structure means for Myanmar’ in *EAF*.

Han Htoo Khant Paing and Roewer, Richard (2018), ‘Testing the Water: the 2018 By-Elections and Myanmar’s Political Future’ in *Tea Circle Oxford*.

Roewer, Richard (2016), ‘Myanmar’s National League for Democracy at a Crossroads’, in *GIGA Focus Asia*.

LECTURES AND PANELS (SELECTION)

- 2023 Robert Bosch Democracy Academy, “Is Democracy in Decline? Measuring a Complex Concept” (R. Roewer).
- 2022 LSE Talk, ‘Narrating Democracy: Peoples and Futures of Myanmar’ (Minn Tent Bo, A. South, T. Wells, R. Roewer)
- 2020 EAI Online Seminar Series Roundtable, Seoul, South Korea: ‘2020 General Election and Democratic Transition in Myanmar’ (Sook Jong Lee, Sai Ye Kyaw Swar Myint, Moe Thuzar, Khine Win, R. Roewer).
- 2020 GIGA Berlin Talk, Berlin, Germany: ‘Becoming more authoritarian? Myanmar ahead of the November 2020 elections’ (J. Lorch, A. Munz, I. Hossain, R. Roewer).
- 2019 Association of Asian Studies Roundtable, Denver, US: “Rising Messiahs and Fallen Heroes: Charismatic Politics and Power in Southeast Asia” (S. Lemiere, D. Müller, PJ Thum, J. Liow, T. Llanera, R. Roewer).
- 2019 Public lecture on invitation of the Yangon School of Political Science, Yangon, Myanmar: ‘Political Parties and Democratic Regime Change in Myanmar’.
- 2018 Conference ‘Shaping Past, Present and Future: Political Parties and State Transformation in Myanmar’, Yangon, Myanmar: ‘Towards a Framework for Analysing Political Parties in Myanmar’.
- 2018 2018 International Burma Studies Conference, Bangkok, Thailand: ‘Understanding the NLD’s approach of reduced confrontation with the military’.
- 2016 GIGA Berlin Talk, Berlin, Germany: ‘Religion and Conflict in South(east) Asia: Insights from Bangladesh, India and Myanmar’.
- 2014 International Burma Studies Conference, Singapore: ‘Finding a Cause – the Role of Religion in the Ethnic Conflict in Rakhine State, Myanmar’.

LANGUAGES

Languages: German (native) and English (full proficiency)

REFERENCES

References are available upon request.