Dana received her PhD in Government from The University of Texas at Austin in June 2017. She specializes in Comparative Politics and International Relations. Today, she is a researcher at the Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies at the Doha Institute for Graduate Studies.

Theoretically, Dana is interested in the conflicts between states and their societies and the contentious politics they produce. She examines how authoritarian regimes try to implement policies and how external intervention may affect their success. Her research lies at the intersection of comparative and IR research, particularly with regards to international influence on regime development.

Substantively, Dana is interested in international involvement and authoritarianism within the Arab world. She writes on American foreign policy and its impact on society, historical state formation, and polarization in the region. Her multi-method research focuses on how authoritarian regimes in the Arab world have maintained durability, as well as the societal impact of this authoritarianism on political engagement.

Her current project looks at de-mobilization in the Palestinian territories. Specifically, she examines both the internal and external dynamics that led to a highly mobilized Palestinian civil society becoming fragmented and de-mobilized following the second Palestinian uprising. She analyzes the effect of repression on polarization and social cohesion, in particular assessing the impact of external repression (Israeli occupation) versus internal repression (Palestinian Authority policies). This project features both quantitative and qualitative data, from interviews with decision-makers to original surveys, original protest datasets, and laboratory experimental analysis.

**Topics of interest:** the effect of international involvement on domestic politics, state-society relations, repression, political mobilization, strategies of authoritarianism, US foreign policy in the Middle East, Palestinian politics