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David King is a leading academic and practitioner focusing on the U.S. Congress, on legislative procedures, and negotiations. Professor King joined the Harvard faculty in 1992 and, since 1996, has chaired Harvard's Bi-Partisan Program for Newly Elected Members of the U.S. Congress. He also chairs Harvard's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government.

In the wake of the 2000 presidential elections, Professor King directed the Task Force on Election Administration for the National Commission on Election Reform, chaired by former presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. That effort culminated in the landmark Help America Vote Act. After a problem-filled 2006 election in Boston, Professor King evaluated and oversaw a new management structure for Boston Mayor Thomas Menino.

Author, co-author, and co-editor of three books, David King has published in a range of journals, including *The American Political Science Review*. Professor King regularly speaks about U.S. elections to a variety of audiences, advises election-related non-profits, and is the Board Chair for the pro-democracy group, [Citizen Power Initiatives for China](#).

Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government

Senior Lecturer in Public Policy, since July 2012

Faculty Chair of the MPA Program, July 2012 – June 2018.

Lecturer in Public Policy, July 2003 – June 2012

Associate Professor, July 1999 – June 2003

Assistant Professor, July 1992 – June 1999

Education

Ph.D. 1992, A.M. 1990, (Political Science), University of Michigan

A.B. 1985, (Government; Philosophy), Lawrence University

Books

David C. King & Zachary Karabell. [*The Generation of Trust: How the U.S. Military has Regained the Public's Confidence since Vietnam*](#). (The American Enterprise Institute, 2003)

Joseph S. Nye, Philip Zelikow & David C. King (eds.). [*Why People Don't Trust Government*](#). (Harvard University Press, 1997)

David C. King. [*Turf Wars: How Congressional Committees Claim Jurisdiction*](#). (University of Chicago Press, 1997)

- Richard F. Fenno Prize, "Best New Book on Legislatures," 1998

- E. E. Schattschneider Prize, "Best Dissertation in American Government," The American Political Science Association, 1993

Articles and Book Chapters (selection)

- Alexander S. Belenky & David C. King. "[A Mathematical Model for Estimating the Potential Margin of State Undecided Voters in a U.S. Federal Election.](#)" *Mathematical and Computer Modeling*. 45:585-93: March 2007.
- David W. Nickerson, Ryan D. Friedrich, David C. King. "[Partisan Mobilization Campaigns in the Field: Results from a Statewide Turnout Experiment in Michigan.](#)" *Political Research Quarterly*, March 2006, 59:85-98.
- David C. King & Miles Pomper. "Congress, Constituencies, and U.S. Foreign Policy in the Caspian," in Brenda Shaffer, ed., *The Limits of Culture: Islam, Foreign Policy & the Caspian*. Cambridge: MIT University Press, 2005. And an earlier, longer, version published as, "[Congress and the Contingent Influence of Diaspora Lobbies: U.S. Foreign Policy toward Armenia.](#)" *Journal of Armenian Studies*, December 2004.
- David C. King & David Morehouse. "[Moving Voters in the 2000 Presidential Campaign: Local Visits and Local Media.](#)" In David Schultz, ed. *Lights, Camera, Campaign*. New York: Peter Lang. 2004.
- David C. King & Richard E. Matland. "[Sex and the Grand Old Party: An Experimental Investigation of the Effect of Candidate Sex on Support for a Republican Candidate.](#)" *American Politics Research*, November 2003.
- David C. King & Richard L. Zeckhauser. "[Congressional Vote Options.](#)" *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, August 2003, 28:387-411.
- Jonathan C. Borck, David C. King, Richard J. Zeckhauser. "[Contribution Shares in Alliances.](#)" *Proceedings of the IASTED International Conference on Alliances, Mergers, and Acquisitions*. Banff, Canada. July 3, 2003.
- Contributor, in chapters 5 and 7: *To Assure Pride and Confidence in the Electoral Process*. The National Commission on Federal Election Reform. July 31, 2001.
- Tim Groseclose & David C. King. "[Committee Theories Reconsidered.](#)" in Lawrence C. Dodd & Bruce I. Oppenheimer (eds.), *Congress Reconsidered*, 7th edition. Washington, DC: CQ Press, 2001.
- David C. King & Richard J. Zeckhauser. "Legislators as Negotiators," in Robert H. Mnookin & Lawrence E. Susskind (eds.), *Negotiating on Behalf of Others*. Thousand Oaks, California: Sage Publications, 1999.
- Tim Groseclose & David C. King. "The Little Theatre: Committees in Congress," in Herbert Weisberg & Samuel Patterson (eds.), *Great Theatre: The American Congress in the 1990's*. Cambridge University Press, 1998. Reprinted in Kelly D. Patterson & Daniel Shea, ed., *Contemplating the People's Branch*, New York: Prentice Hall, 2000.
- David C. King. "The Polarization of Political Parties and Mistrust of Government," in Joseph S. Nye, Philip Zelikow & David C. King eds., *Why People Don't Trust Government*. Harvard University Press, 1997.
- David C. King. "[The Nature of Congressional Committee Jurisdictions.](#)" *The American Political Science Review*, March 1994, 88:48-62.
- Gregory B. Markus, Jeffrey P. Howard, & David C. King. "[Integrating Community Service and Classroom Instruction Enhances Learning: Results from an Experiment.](#)" *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, Winter 1993, 15:410-19.
- David C. King & Jack L. Walker. "[The Provision of Benefits by Interest Groups in the United States.](#)" *The Journal of Politics*, May 1992, 54:394-426.

David C. King & Jack L. Walker. "An Ecology of Interest Groups" (Chapter 4) and "The Origins and Maintenance of Interest Groups" (Chapter 5) in Jack L. Walker, *Mobilizing Interest Groups in America*, University of Michigan Press, 1991.

John E. Jackson & David C. King. "[Public Goods, Private Interests, and Representation](#)," *The American Political Science Review*, December 1989, 83:1143-64.

Executive Program Teaching

- **Faculty Chair:**
 - o [Newly-Elected Members of the U.S. Congress](#), since 1992; Faculty Chair since 1996.
 - o [Senior Executives in State and Local Government](#), since 1998; Faculty Chair since 2010.
 - o Executive Program for Members of the Russian Duma and Federation Council. 1994-2003.
- **Faculty:** Senior Managers in Government (1995-97, 2015-present), Chinese Leaders in Development (since 1999), Wexner Senior Leaders (since 2015), Exercising Influence through Authentic Leadership, Persuasion, and Negotiation (since 2016), Vietnamese Political Leaders (2008, 2014-present), U.S./Russia National Security Program (1998-2010), Senior Executives in National Security (1996-2010), Black Sea Security Program (1999-2009), Taiwan Leaders Program (2001-09), Beijing Leadership and Development Program (2004-08), Meeting the Challenges of Mexico's Future (2010-12), Leaders in Transition (2012), Indonesian Local Leaders (2011-15).

Service

- **Board Chair**, [Initiatives for China](#), (since 2016)
- **Boards**, [RankTheVote](#) (since 2021); [Revels](#) (2017-19), [Better for America](#) (since 2016), [The Candidate](#) (2015-17), [New Majority Community Labs](#) (2015-17), Americans Elect (2011-12), Unity08, *Rules Committee* (2007-09), '18 in '08 (2007-09), Take Your Kids 2 Vote (2008-10), aPebble (2008-09), Kids Voting USA (2006-07), Youth Voter Corps (2001-04), Common Cause (1988-96), Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (1983-84).
- **Director**, Task Force on Election Administration, Carter-Ford National Commission on Federal Election Reform, January 2001 to October 2002
- **Overseer**, [Boston Election Department](#), November 2006 to March 2007
- **Faculty Coordinator**, U.S. State Department, I-VOTE program for Future Leaders of Emerging Nations, 2008

Talks (selection)

Governments

Testimony. "USMC Recruitment Strategy and Coordination," U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Command (2018), Massachusetts Joint Committee on Education, Boston (2015), Massachusetts Joint Committee on Election Laws, Boston (2007), [The Institute for Social Planning](#), Moscow (2007), [U.S. House Select Committee on Homeland Security](#), Washington DC (2003), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Panama (2002), [The Congressional Black Caucus](#), Washington DC (2001), Committee on Defense, State Duma of the Russian Federation, Moscow (1997).

Presentations. "[Re: Petition for Rulemaking](#) from Level the Playing Field to Revise and Amend 11 C.F.R. § 110.13(c)," with Larry Diamond (2014), "[Attitudes and the Formation of Attitudes Toward the U.S. Military](#)," U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Command (2008), "The 2004 U.S. Presidential Elections in Perspective," [U.S. Mission to the United Nations](#)

(2004), “Generational Trends in Support of the U.S. Military,” U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting Command (2004), Moderator: Massachusetts Republican Lt. Governor's Debate (2002), “The Constitutional Basis for Federal Regulation of Elections,” House Democratic Caucus Issues Conference (2001), Moderator: Massachusetts 9th Congressional District Democratic Debate (2001), The General Accounting Office (2000), Defense Science Board Task Force on Human Resources Strategy (1999).

Non-Profits (selection)

Keynote Address, [Bipartisan Policy Center](#), Freshmen and Sophomore Members of Congress (2019), “Youth as Change-Makers,” [Knovva Academy](#) (2019), “Representation and Community,” [LGBTQ Victory](#) (2018), “Immigration Policy and Politics,” [Enroot](#) (2017), “The New Political Realities in Washington,” [American Chamber of Commerce of Mexico](#) (2017), [Model G20 Summit](#) (2017), “[Congressional Careers Remembered](#),” Robert Byrd Congressional Institute (2016). Association of Centers for the Study of Congress (2016). [The Executive Forum](#) (2016). The [Stennis Center](#) for Public Sector Leadership (2016). [Mongolian Development Forum](#) (2016). The Commonwealth Fund [Mongan Fellowship Program](#) (since 2015). “[Hack4Congress](#),” OpenGovFoundation (2015), The [Victory Fund Leadership Institute](#) (2012–2015), “Conducting Arts Advocacy,” ArtSpeaks-Naperville (2012), “The Power of Incredible Teachable Moments,” David Bohnett Foundation (2011), “Politics, Culture, and Power,” Mentés Independientes, Bogota, Colombia (2011).

Universities (selection)

“Structure and Strategy in the 2020 Democratic Party Primaries,” HKS New York Alumni Network (2019), “[Impeaching a President](#),” Harvard IOP Forum (2019), “Trade and Representation,” [Indiana University](#) (2018), “[Foundational Presence](#),” HKS Executive Education Webcast Seminar (2017), “[After the Elections – US and Mexico](#)” IPADE Business School (2016), “[The Problem with Sunshine: How Transparency & Accountability Overwhelmingly Favor Special Interests](#),” with James D’Angelo & Brent Ranalli (2016), “[Preventing Gun Violence: Public Health Perspectives](#)” (2016), “The U.S. Presidential Election: Road to the Conventions,” HKS Executive Programs Webcast Seminar, (2016). “[Too Many Checks, No Balance](#),” (2014), “Tensions in Transparency,” IDEASpHERE (2014), [Gordon Wood Lecture](#) Panel, University of Massachusetts, Boston (2014), “[Two Sudans: the Paths Forward](#),” Harvard University (2014), “[Government Shutdown](#),” Harvard University (2013), Headmaster Installation, Blair Academy (2013), “[Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis](#),” Harvard University (2013), [Nepal Election Panel](#), Harvard University (2013), “Fiscal Cliff: Observations from Leaders Looking over the Edge,” Harvard University (2012), Conference on the [Future of the Sudan Region](#) (2012), “The Public Value of Art: Who Wins, Who Loses, and Who Picks up the Check?” Harvard University (2012), Social Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Israel (2011), Weatherhead Center for International Affairs (2010, 2012), “Median Voters, Sequencing, and the 2012 Republican Primaries,” Ohio Wesleyan University (2011), “U.S. Senate Rules & Procedures,” University of Michigan (2010), “Constitutional Design and Threats to Congressional Power,” Tufts University (2009), “The Future of the Electoral College,” Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2008), “The Internet and Politics,” Harvard Law School (2008), The Grand Old Party: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow (2008), Harvard Real Estate Academic Initiative (2004, 2006, 2008), “Youth Movements in U.S. Elections: Past and Present,” Harvard Law School (2008), Harvard Latino Law, Business & Public Policy Conference (2008), “Youth Voting and Participation in the

2006 Elections,” The Columbia Political Union (2007), The University of Rochester (2007); Symposium on the 125th Anniversary of the Birth of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Moscow (2007), The Cal-Tech/MIT Voting Technologies Project (2007).

Opinion Pieces (selection)

“[Let’s Have an Honest Debate about the Debates](#),” (with Larry Diamond), *The Hill*, June 17, 2015. “[Groundhog Day at the Presidential Debates](#),” *Boston Herald*, May 10, 2015. “[Petition for Rulemaking](#) from Level the Playing Field to Revise and Amend 11 C.F.R. § 110.13(c),” (with Larry Diamond), December 12, 2014. “[Power Shift](#),” *Harvard Gazette*, November 7, 2014. “[Aftermath of the 2012 Elections](#),” HKS PolicyCast, November 7, 2012. “[What’s at Stake for Education in the Fall Elections?](#)” HigherEdJobs.com; August 31, 2012. “[Preparing your College for the Fall Elections](#),” HigherEdJobs.com, July 17, 2012. “[The 112th Congress](#),” HKS Insights, November 5, 2010. “[Conversations with Great Teachers](#),” 2010. “[Obama and Higher Education](#),” HigherEdJobs.com, April 2009.

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