



SCHOLARS
STRATEGY NETWORK

Scholar Spotlight: Jonathan Cohen

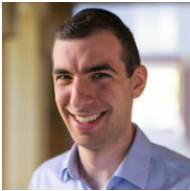
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Earlier this week, the Mega Millions lottery reached the second-highest jackpot ever, with a prize of over \$1 billion. This week's spotlight shines on Jonathan Cohen, who wrote OpEds in [The Washington Post](#), [Vox](#), and [CommonWealth Magazine](#) about the history of lottery systems to generate state revenue and how states spend this money. Jonathan's piece in CommonWealth led to a meeting between him and two Massachusetts state representatives to discuss how to change the way the state distributes lottery earnings.

Scholar Spotlight

JONATHAN COHEN

American Academy of Arts & Sciences



Cohen's research focuses on state-level gambling policy as it relates to issues of economic inequality and state-level tax policy. Overarching themes in Cohen's writings include changing rates in social mobility, the consequences of deindustrialization, and the role of the state in promoting the spread of gambling.