

RONIT BERGER

Department of Political Science
Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs
100 Eggers Hall, Syracuse University, Syracuse NY 13244-1020
315-247-2232
rberger@syr.edu, ronitberger.com

CURRENT POSITION

Post-Doctoral Fellow, Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, Israel, October 2016-July 2017

EDUCATION

PhD Candidate (ABD) in Political Science (IR/CP), Maxwell School, Syracuse University, 2011-2016 **Defense - September 26th 2016**

MA in Political Science, Maxwell School, Syracuse University, 2011-2012

MA in Government: Diplomacy and Conflict Studies, Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy, Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, Israel, 2008-2009

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B), Buchman Law School, Tel Aviv University, Israel, 2004-2008

Bachelor of Arts (B.A) in History of the Arts, Tel Aviv University, Israel, 2005-2008

DISSERTATION

The Dynamics of Conflict – Transforming Northern Ireland

I develop a levels-of-analysis theory which examines the interaction between individual leaders, organizational dynamics and structural constraints and opportunities. I conduct a detailed sequential tracing of the conflict transformation process in Northern Ireland with a particular focus on the Provisional Irish Republican Movement. The analysis employs mixed methods and relies on extensive archival sources and interviews conducted during field work. I argue that organizations sustaining both a political wing and a military one operate in one of four ways: dual-wing convergence towards violence, dual-wing congruence towards cooperation, divergence and confusion. The specific organizational behavior is determined by the interaction between factors at the three levels of analysis. I show that when acting as mediators in a multiple-levels game, leaders can overcome challenges, create opportunities and drive divergence to fit their own political interests.

Committee: Margaret G. Hermann (Chair), Miriam F. Elman, Assaf Moghadam, Seth K. Jolly, John Horgan

PUBLICATIONS

Blunders and Blame: How Armed Non-State Actors React to Their Mistakes (2016)– *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* (forthcoming, available online since July 2016) - With Ioana Emy Matesan

Say Terrorist, Think Insurgent: Labeling and Analyzing Contemporary Terrorist Actors (2014) – *Perspectives on Terrorism*, Vol. 8 (5) - With Assaf Moghadam and Polina Beliakova.

Book review: Civil Resistance and Conflict Transformation: Transitions from Armed to Nonviolent Struggle by Véronique Dudouet, ed., *Democracy and Security* (forthcoming)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Profiling Gerry Adams: The Role of Leaders in Conflict Transformation

Journal manuscript in preparation

The Threatening Aspects of Territory: Are Some Territories Simply Non-Negotiable?

Journal manuscript in preparation

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

International Security and Conflict Processes

European Leaders and Foreign Policy Making

International Relations

Comparative Politics

Insurgencies and Terrorist groups

Irish politics

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Scholars Project, Carnegie Corporation of NY, policy scholar, 2015 –

Bridging the Gap: One of thirty-five policy scholars from a five universities consortium that is working on building a program that will train scholars in the creation of policy relevant documents in order to bridge the gap between academia and the policy community.

Institute for Qualitative and Multi Method Research (IQMR), Syracuse University, Associate director, 2014

Responsible for organizing and managing the two-weeks long institution. Tasks included but were not limited to: coordinating with different service providers within and outside of Syracuse University; communicating with professors; organizing class materials; ordering food and beverages; organizing social events, providing on-site assistance.

The Remaking of Eastern Borders in Europe Workshop, The European Cooperation in Science and Technology Association (COST), held at the IDC Herzliya, Administrative Assistant, 2010

Responsible for managing the workshop. Tasks included but were not limited to: coordinating with different service providers; organizing materials; organizing social events, providing on-site and off-site assistance.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

The Dynamics of Conflict Transformation Processes: Understanding Northern Ireland
Transforming Intractable Conflicts: Their Restructuring and Framing Conference, the Program for the Advancement of Research on Conflict and Collaboration (PARCC) of the Syracuse University Maxwell School and The Tami Steinmetz Center for Peace Research of Tel Aviv University, Syracuse NY 2016

What drives terrorist leaders and how different are they from state leaders?

American Political Science Association (APSA) annual conference, Philadelphia, PA 2016

The Future of Terrorism Studies

The World Summit on Counter-Terrorism - ICT 16th international conference, Herzliya, Israel, (invited talk – declined)

The Dynamics of Conflict – Transforming Northern Ireland
International Studies Association (ISA) annual conference, Atlanta GA 2015

Dynamics of Conflict Transformation
International Security Studies Section of ISA and International Security and Arms Control of APSA (ISSS-ISAC), Springfield MA 2015

Blunders and Blame: Why Armed Non-State Actors Admit to Making Mistakes
ISSS-ISAC, Springfield MA 2015

Profiling Gerry Adams: The Role of Leaders in Conflict Transformation
International Society of Political Psychology (ISPP), Rome, Italy, 2014

Mistakes as Occasions for Decisions: Decision Making Processes in the Irish Republican Movement
ISPP, Herzliya, Israel, 2013

The Power of Territory: Are Some Territories Simply Nonnegotiable?
ISA Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA, 2013; New York Political Science Association (NYPSA) Annual Conference, Syracuse, NY, 2013

Urban refugees in Israel: Applying the Bureaucratic Politics Model to the Oscillating Israeli Policies
ISA, San Francisco, CA, 2013

Transitional Justice in Post-Conflict Communities
6th Annual Graduate Conference at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 2010

AWARDS

Dissertation Completion Award, Syracuse University (\$18,000), 2015
Year-long fellowship awarded by the Political Science Department

Teaching Assistantship, Syracuse University (\$16,000), 2011- 2015
Year-long fellowship awarded by the Political Science Department (used only for 2011-2013)

Research Fellowship, Syracuse University (\$8,000), 2014
Semester-long fellowship awarded by the Political Science Department for working with Professor Margaret G. Hermann

Betsy and Allan Cohn Award, Syracuse University (\$6,000), 2014
Awarded by the Political Science Department for best External Grant Application, in support of dissertation research and field work

Moynihan Institute of Syracuse University research grant (\$1,500), 2016
Awarded by the Moynihan Institute in support of dissertation field-work research

Moynihan Institute of Syracuse University research grant (\$1,000), 2016
Awarded by the Moynihan Institute in support of participation in the PSRP summer school in Edinburgh, Scotland

Roscoe Martin Award, Syracuse University (\$500), 2014
Awarded by the Maxwell School in support of dissertation research, used for field-work

ISA travel grant (\$500), 2016
Awarded by the International Studies Association in support of conference participation

Syracuse University Graduate Student Organization grant (\$300), 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013
Awarded by the graduate school in support of conference participation

APSA travel grant (180\$), 2016
Awarded by the American Political Science Association in support of conference participation

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Syracuse University, 2013
Campus-wide award given by the Graduate School, based on faculty nominations and student evaluations

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Principle Research Assistant and Research Coordinator, The Interdisciplinary Center

Assaf Moghadam's book project on terrorist cooperation, 2013-2015

Responsible for collecting materials for theoretical and empirical chapters of the book. Tasks included but were not limited to coordinating and providing quality control of eight research assistants, proof-reading and editing draft chapters.

Research assistant, The Interdisciplinary Center

Lesley Terris's book project on the effects of rebel leadership changes on conflict resolution and civil war termination, 2009-2011

Responsible for building a new dataset of all civil wars since the end of WWII that includes details on rebellious groups and their changing leaderships.

Hani Zubida and Robin Harper's (CUNY) project on community life of immigrant workers in Israel, 2009-2011

Responsible for holding interviews with immigrant workers in Israel, writing field notes and helping in creating a dataset of answers.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Post-Doctoral Fellow – Undergraduate level, IDC Herzliya, Israel (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)

Comparative Politics (Intro to Government); Introduction to International Relations

Post-Doctoral Fellow – Graduate level, IDC Herzliya, Israel (Fall 2016-Spring 2017)

Qualitative Research Methods; Political Leadership

Instructor, Syracuse University (May 2015)

PSC 300.m301: Mass Violence: Civil wars, insurgencies and terrorism

Designed and conducted an intensive two-week, three-credit course, combining theory with films and based on extensive student participation.

Instructor, IDC Herzliya, Israel (Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010)

Research Methods

Taught a weekly class on conducting research using SPSS. Was responsible for creating a syllabus and for designing assignments, as well as for grading and for assessing students' overall performance. Was also responsible for helping students in office hours and beyond, depending on each student's special needs.

Teaching assistant and discussion leader, Syracuse University (Fall 2011- Spring 2014)
Supreme Court in American Politics (Fall 2011), Ethics in International Relations (Spring 2012);
Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2013, Spring 2013); Political Conflict (Spring 2014)

Responsible for creating a discussion-section syllabus, for helping with the design of assignments, for grading and for assessing students' overall performance, in class debates and written assignments. Also responsible for helping students in office hours and beyond, depending on each student's needs.

Teaching assistant - Graduate level Courses, IDC Herzliya, Israel (Fall 2009- Spring 2015)
Insurgencies and Civil War (Fall 2013, Fall 2014); International Law and Conflict (Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Fall 2014); Conflict Analysis (Fall 2010, Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2015);
International Mediation (Spring 2010, Fall 2010); Israel National Security (Fall 2010); Approaches to Political Science (Fall 2010)

Teaching assistant - Undergraduate level courses, IDC Herzliya, Israel (Fall 2009-Fall 2014)
Civil Wars and Ethnic Conflicts (Spring 2011, Fall 2013, Fall 2014); Greed, Grievances and Civil Wars (Spring 2011); Israel Governance (Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2012); Public Administration and Policy in Israel (Fall 2009, Spring 2010, Fall 2010, Spring 2011)

Responsible for teaching several topics during the semester, for helping with the design of assignments, for grading and for assessing students overall performance, in class debates, in written assignments and in general. Also responsible for helping students in office hours and beyond, depending on each student's special needs and for holding group meetings with students on group projects and before assignments are due. Helping students with finding topics for final assignments, with finding sources and with structuring academic papers.

Guest Lectures, IDC Herzliya, Israel

Israel National Security and Human Rights Law (Fall 2010); Justice Versus Conciliation in Post Genocidal Societies (Spring 2011); Public Policy in Israel (Fall 2010), Truth and Reconciliation Commissions and their Role in Post Conflict Transformation (Spring 2011); Greed versus Grievances in Civil Wars (Fall 2014), Ethnic Conflicts and the case of Northern Ireland (Fall 2014), The Dynamics of Conflict Transformation – explaining Northern Ireland (Fall 2014)

OTHER EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE

Inclusive Political Settlements (PSRP) Summer School, Global Justice Academy, University of Edinburgh – June 2016

Assistant Director of the Qualitative Data Repository Search Committee, Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs, Syracuse University, member, 2015

Comparative Politics Search Committee, Political Science Department, Syracuse University, non-voting member representing the Graduate Student Association, 2015

Field-work study, Northern Ireland, October 2015, February 2016

Eddie Lazar Advocates and Notary, Pre-internship, Internship, Attorney at law, 2005-2009

Timlul, LTD., Court Stenographer and translator of legal documents, 2003-2008

MILITARY AND VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The Clinic for the Rights of Refugees at Tel Aviv University, 2006-2007
Preparation of victims' claims to the ICC, 2006-2007

Joint effort of the Clinic, HIAS Organization and ASSAF Organization to gather complaints and evidence from Sudanese refugees in Israel relevant to the case against the Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir

Founding member, ASAF Organization (Aid Organization for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Israel), 2006-2007

Sergeant, Israel Defense Forces, 2002-2003

LANGUAGES

Hebrew and English: fluent speaking, writing and reading; extensive translating experience
French – working knowledge of speaking, writing and reading
Italian – working knowledge of speaking and reading

REFERENCES

Margaret G. Hermann

Director of the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs
Syracuse University
345 Eggers Hall, Syracuse NY
315-443-4022
mgherman@maxwell.syr.edu

Miriam F. Elman

Syracuse University
400G Eggers Hall, Syracuse NY
315-443-7404
melman@maxwell.syr.edu

Assaf Moghadam

Associate Professor and Director, MA Program in Government
Lauder School of Government, Diplomacy and Strategy
Director of Academic Affairs, International Institute for Counter-Terrorism (ICT)
Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya, Israel
Natan Alterman st. Herzliya, Israel
+972-9-9602426
assafm@idc.ac.il