

Evan Perkoski

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APPOINTMENTS

University of Connecticut

2024 – Present. Associate Professor, Department of Political Science.

2017 – 2024. Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science.

Harvard University

2025 – Present. Democracy Fellow, Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation, Kennedy School of Government.

2020 – 2021. Faculty Research Fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Kennedy School of Government.

2014 – 2016. Predoctoral Research Fellow, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Kennedy School of Government.

Marine Corps University

2020 – 2023. Nonresident Fellow, Krulak Center for Innovation and Future Warfare.

University of Denver

2016 – 2017. Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, Josef Korbel School of International Studies.

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science. University of Pennsylvania, 2015.

MA, Political Science. University of Pennsylvania, 2013.

BA, Government (high honors). Wesleyan University, 2010.

PUBLICATIONS

Book

Evan Perkoski. *Divided not Conquered: How Rebels Fracture and Splinters Behave*. Oxford University Press (August 2022).

- Finalist, Book of the Year, Conflict Research Society (2023).
- Reviewed in [Perspectives on Politics](#) and [Choice](#).

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Nadiya Kostyuk, Evan Perkoski, and Michael Poznansky. “The Bureaucratic Politics of Cyber Strategy.” *Journal of Global Security Studies*, vol. 10, no. 3 (2025).

Evan Perkoski and Alec Wornsop. "Veterans, Novices, and Patterns of Rebel Recruitment." *Security Studies*, vol. 34, no. 1 (2025): pp. 59–93.

Christopher Blair, Erica Chenoweth, Michael C. Horowitz, Evan Perkoski, and Philip B. K. Potter, "Honor Among Thieves: Understanding Cooperation Among Violent Non-State Actors." *International Organization*, vol. 76, no. 1 (2022): pp. 164 - 203.

Evan Perkoski. "Internal Politics and the Fragmentation of Armed Groups." *International Studies Quarterly*, vol. 63, no. 4 (2019): 876-889.

Michael Poznansky and Evan Perkoski. "Rethinking Secrecy in Cyberspace: The Politics of Voluntary Attribution." *Journal of Global Security Studies*, vol. 3, no. 4 (2018): 402-416.

Michael C. Horowitz, Evan Perkoski, and Philip B. K. Potter. "Tactical Diversity in Militant Violence." *International Organization*, vol. 72, no. 1 (2017): 1-33.

Erica Chenoweth, Evan Perkoski, and Sooyeon Kang. "State Repression and Nonviolent Resistance." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* vol. 61, no. 9 (2017): 1950-1969.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Evan Perkoski. "Terrorist Technological Innovation" in *Oxford Handbook of Terrorism*, eds. Erica Chenoweth, Andreas Gofas, and Stathis Kalyvas (Oxford University Press, 2019), pp. 401-414.

Evan Perkoski and Michael Poznansky. "Offensive and Defensive Cyber Operations" in *Military Strategy, Joint Operations, and Airpower: An Introduction.*, eds. Ryan Burke, Michael Fowler, and Kevin McCaskey (Georgetown University Press, 2018).

Marc Meredith and Evan Perkoski. "Regression Discontinuity Design" in *Emerging Trends in the Social and Behavioral Sciences*, eds. Robert Scott and Michael Buchmann (Wiley, 2015).

Articles Under Review

Barak Mendelsohn and Evan Perkoski, "Double Agents: Branch Leaders and the Onset of Conflict between al-Qaeda and the Islamic State."

Working Papers

Evan Perkoski and Michael Poznansky. "Irregular Regime Change and Democratization."

Evan Perkoski, "Organizational Lineage and the Diffusion of Information between Armed Groups."

Evan Perkoski, Meredith Loken, and Alec Wornsop. "Introducing RMD: The Rebel Membership Data."

Erica Chenoweth and Evan Perkoski. "A Source of Escalation or a Source of Restraint? Civil Society and its Effect on Mass Killings."

In Progress

Evan Perkoski and Talbot Andrews. "Terrorism and Artificial Intelligence: Expert and Public Perceptions."

Evan Perkoski and Udi Eihran. "How Hamas Innovates."

RESEARCH GRANTS

Lead investigator, "Artificial Intelligence and Violent Nonstate Actors." Eric and Wendy Schmidt Fund for Strategic Innovation, 2025.

Lead investigator, "Understanding the Link Between the Recruitment and Operational Behavior of Terrorist Organizations," (with Alec Worsnop and Meredith Loken). National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center, 2022-2025 (\$514,000).

Lead investigator, "Creating a Database of Terrorist Recruitment Patterns." University of Connecticut, 2023 (\$25,000).

Lead investigator, "Insurgent and Counterinsurgent Recruitment Practices," University of Connecticut Research Excellence Program (with Alec Worsnop), 2020-2022 (\$42,000).

Co-Lead Investigator, "Civil Society and Mass violence," (with Erica Chenoweth), Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, US Holocaust Memorial Museum, 2019-2020, (\$10,000).

Co-recipient, course development grant (with Stephen Dyson), Stanton Foundation, 2018-2020 (\$50,000).

Lead investigator, World Politics and Strategy Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation, 2015-2016 (\$7,500).

Lead investigator, "Fragmented Terror: Exploring the Variation and Consequences of Terrorist Organizational Splintering," Horowitz Foundation for Social Science, 2014-2015 (\$7,500).

Lead investigator, "Machine-coding counterterrorism events in Spain," Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START, Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence), 2010 (\$2,000).

POLICY REPORTS & ENGAGEMENT

"Terrorist Recruitment Profiles and their Implications for Operational Behavior." National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (DHS Center of Excellence). March 2025.

"Trends in Terrorist Recruitment: Examining Recruitment Patterns among 250 Terrorist Organizations." National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (DHS Center of Excellence). November 2024.

"Shifts in Terrorist Recruitment Narratives and Patterns," in Ligon, G., & Harms, M. One Year Later: The Impact of the Oct. 7 Attack in the United States [Reachback Report]. National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (NCITE). Omaha, NE. October 2024.

“Recruitment and Operational Behavior in Violent Non-State Organizations Using Terrorism: An Investigation into Seven Terrorist Recruitment Dynamics and their Operational Effects.” National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (DHS Center of Excellence). June 2023.

“Emerging Technology and International Security: Challenges and Opportunities.” New Voices in National Security workshop. Sponsored by Bridging the Gap and New America. November 2022.

“A Source of Escalation or a Source of Restraint? Civil Society and its Effect on Mass Killings,” with Erica Chenoweth. Peer-reviewed special report for the Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide, US Holocaust Memorial Museum. July 2020. <https://bit.ly/3mtxLcz>

- Invited briefing for United Nations Development Program, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Peacebuilding Support Office, the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect. October 2020.
- Invited briefing for members of the US State Department. December 2020.

Disruptive Technology Workshop and Simulation. Marine Corps University and the Office of Naval Research. December 2018.

“Nonviolent Resistance and State Repression,” with Erica Chenoweth. Peer-reviewed special report for the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. April 2018. <https://bit.ly/3clKmc4>

- Invited briefing for members of the US State Department and global activists. June 2018.

Invited briefing for the National Ground Intelligence Center, US Army. December 2017.

Sie Center Quickfacts Policy Paper. “Preventing Mass Atrocities,” with Erica Chenoweth. April 2017. <https://bit.ly/2W5Zl4i>

“How Upheavals End: The Short and Long-Term Outcomes of Major Episodes of Contention,” with Erica Chenoweth. Report for the Political Instability Task Force. November 2014.

- Invited briefing for members of the US State Department and defense and intelligence communities. December 2014.

ORIGINAL DATA SETS

Rebel Membership Data, with Meredith Loken and Alec Worsnop. *In progress.*

Militant Group Alliances and Rivalries (MGAR), with Christopher Blair, Erica Chenoweth, Michael C. Horowitz, and Philip B. K. Potter.

- 7,402,203 undirected dyad-year observations of all known relationships for a large sample of militant groups globally from 1950 to 2016. Includes nearly 6,000 cooperative relationships and 1,500 hostile relationships among 2,613 militant groups.

RESEARCH AWARDS

Finalist, Book of the Year (*Divided not Conquered*), Conflict Research Society, 2023.

Patricia Weitsman Award, International Studies Association, International Security Studies Section. Awarded for the best graduate student paper on any aspect of security studies at the ISA Annual Conference in 2014.

Davenport Prize, Wesleyan University, Spring 2010. Awarded for excellence in the field of government and politics.

White Fellowship, Wesleyan University, Spring 2010. Awarded for excellence in government to a graduate or advanced undergraduate.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

European Initiative for Security Studies. 2024, 2022.

MIT Wargaming Lab Summer Institute, June 2024.

European Political Science Association Annual Meeting. 2023.

“Cyber Escalation in Conflict: Bridging Policy, Data, and Theory.” Center for Peace and Security Studies, University of California, San Diego. February 2023.

Responsible Public Engagement Institute, Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, University of Denver. May 2021.

Political Violence Working Group, Harvard University. 2020.

International Studies Association Annual Meeting. 2023, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2013, 2012, 2010.

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting. 2022, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014.

Online Peace Science Colloquium. 2020.

Workshop on Israel and the Middle East, Moshe Dayan Center, Tel Aviv University. 2018.

Summer Workshop in the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS). 2016.

Conflict, Security, and Public Policy Working Group, Harvard Kennedy School of Government. 2016, 2015.

Peace Science Society Annual Meeting. 2016, 2015, 2014.

Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting. 2016.

Conference on Terrorism, Insurgency and Asymmetric Conflicts, Combating Terrorism Center, US Military Academy at West Point. 2014.

Society for Terrorism Research Annual Conference. 2014, 2013.

New Era Foreign Policy Conference. 2012.

Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) Annual Meeting. 2010.

INVITED ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Ohio State University. 2026.

ETH Zurich. February 2025.

Northern Illinois University. November 2022.

US Naval War College. December 2021.

Belfer Center Research Seminar, Harvard Kennedy School of Government. 2021, 2015, 2014.

Reiff Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution, Christopher Newport University. 2018.

Sié Research Seminar, Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, University of Denver. 2017.

Department of Peace and Conflict Research Speaker Series, Uppsala University, Sweden. September 2015.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Undergraduate Courses

Political Violence

War and Technological Change

Rebel Group Dynamics

Nuclear Security

Research Design and Quantitative Analysis

Graduate Courses

Human Security

PhD Advising

David Berghel (in progress), Bieu Tran (in progress), Alexander Gray (in progress), Sercan Canbolat (2023)

MA Advising

Andrew Fox (2024), William Schad (2022), Thomas Brayton (2020)

Honors Thesis Advising

2025 (1), 2024 (1), 2023 (1), 2020 (1), 2019 (2), 2018 (1)

TEACHING AWARDS

Finalist for Outstanding Undergraduate Advising Award, University of Connecticut, 2024.

Recognition of Teaching Excellence, University of Connecticut. 2023-2024, 2022-2023, 2021-2022, 2020-2021, 2019-2020, 2018-2019, 2017-2018.

Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2013.

Rubinstein Prize for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student in Political Science, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2013.

BLOG POSTS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

“Terrorist Recruitment, Desired Skills, and AI,” *NCITE Insights* (National Counterterrorism, Innovation, Technology, and Education Center), 22 March 2025.

“FBI returns to Houston home of New Orleans terror attack suspect,” *ABC 13* (Houston, Texas), 12 January 2025.

“The evolution of memes and how they’ve shaped political dialogue,” *Where We Live* (WNPR), 13 February 2023.

“‘Significant rise in white supremacist propaganda’ in CT, experts say.” *CT Insider*, 8 July 2022.

“How do Americans join extremist groups? A CT professor is set to study that for a governmental agency.” *CT Insider*, 22 June 2022.

“Looking Back at 9/11.” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 9 September 2021.

“The attack on the Capitol was a success. So what happens next?” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 12 January 2021.

“The Life and Death of Terrorist Networks,” with Christopher Blair, Erica Chenoweth, Michael Horowitz, and Philip Potter. *Foreign Affairs*, 5 October 2020.

“How Civil Society Affects Mass Violence.” Interview with *UConn Today*. 14 October 2020.

“Civil Society to the Rescue?” with Erica Chenoweth. *Political Violence at a Glance*, 10 September 2020.

“The Stability-Instability Pandemic?” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 14 May 2020.

“What if Al Qaeda and the Islamic State Joined Forces?” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 23 March 2020.

“Israel, Palestine, and the Perpetual Denial of Nationalist Claims.” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 10 October 2019.

“U.S. Cyber Command Targeted Russian Operatives to Deter Election Meddling. Here’s Why.” with Michael Poznansky. *NetPolitics*, Council on Foreign Relations, 31 October 2018.

“Nonviolent Resistance the Prevention of Mass Killings during Popular Uprisings.” Public webinar for the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict, 15 July 2018.

“Claiming Credit for Cyber Attacks.” Interview with *UConn Today*. 2 May 2018.

“States are Far Less Likely to Engage in Mass Violence Against Nonviolent Uprisings than Violent Uprisings,” with Erica Chenoweth. *Political Violence at a Glance*, 8 May 2018.

“Did the U.S. ‘hack back’ at Russia? Here’s why this matters in cyberwarfare,” with Michael Poznansky. *Monkey Cage*, 21 February 2018.

“New data shows a sharp increase in U.S. protest activity in April,” with Erica Chenoweth, Jeremy Pressman, and Ches Thurber. *Monkey Cage*, 22 May 2017.

“Deterring Russian Cyber Intrusions,” with Michael Poznansky at *Lawfare Podcast*, 24 December 2016.

“An Eye for an Eye: Deterring Russian Cyber Intrusions,” with Michael Poznansky. *War on the Rocks*, 19 December 2016.

“Attribution and Secrecy in Cyber Space,” with Michael Poznansky. *War on the Rocks*, 8 March 2016.

“France’s Hollande Calls for Anti-ISIL Coalition.” Interview with *Al Jazeera English*, 23 November 2015.

“Militant Proliferation and the Consequences of Fragmentation.” *Political Violence at a Glance*, 30 July 2015.

“Why Some Terror Attacks Get More Coverage Than Others.” Interview on *Greater Boston*, WGBH, 13 January 2015.

“Connection Between Boston and Paris Bombings.” Interview on *Broadside with Jim Braude*, New England Cable News (NECN), 8 January 2015.

“A Closer Look at ISIS in Iraq,” with Alec Worsnop. *Political Violence at a Glance*, 16 June 2014.

“Islam Alone Can’t Explain the Boston Bombings.” *Huffington Post*, 25 April 2013.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Director of Undergraduate Studies. Spring 2023–Present.

Graduate Admissions Committee. 2019, 2023.

Courses and Curricula Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. 2020-2021, 2019-2020, 2018-2019, 2017-2018.

Bennett Research Program, Faculty Advisor. 2020-2021, 2019-2020.

Executive Advisory Committee (elected). 2023-present, 2022-2023, 2021-2022, 2020-2021, 2019-2020, 2018-2019, 2017-2018.

International Relations Faculty Search Committee. 2019.

Colloquium Committee. 2018-2019, 2017-2018.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & MEMBERSHIPS

- Manuscript reviewer for Oxford University Press.
- Article reviewer for *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Global Security Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *Journal of Human Rights*.
- Member of the American Political Science Association, the International Studies Association, and the Peace Science Society.

SKILLS

- Stata, L^AT_EX.
- Highly proficient in Spanish.
- Archival research experience in Belfast, London, Dublin, Madrid.