

JESSICA LEA WEEKS

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EDUCATION

Stanford University

Ph.D. Political Science (expected June 2008)
Fields: International Relations, Political Institutions
Subfields: Comparative Politics, Political Methodology

Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva

M.A., International History and Politics (2003)

The Ohio State University

B.A., Political Science (2001), minors in French and English
OSU Distinguished Scholarship (1997-2001)
Summa cum laude, 4.0 GPA, Phi Beta Kappa

RESEARCH

Dissertation: Leaders, Accountability, and Foreign Policy in Non-Democracies

Committee: Kenneth Schultz (chair), James Fearon, Scott Sagan, and Michael Tomz

What explains differences in the foreign policy behavior of non-democracies? Put differently, why do some authoritarian regimes behave like rogues, while others act like responsible members of the international community? To explain this puzzle, I draw on insights from comparative politics to argue that the potential for domestic accountability varies greatly across non-democracies, and has important effects for leaders' foreign policy decisions. Even in the absence of democratic institutions, regime insiders can often overcome their coordination dilemma and punish authoritarian leaders. Elite coordination is less likely, however, when the leader personally allocates high government posts and controls security forces that can monitor regime insiders. I introduce a new dataset of detailed authoritarian regime characteristics allowing me to measure regimes on these two dimensions, and subject my argument to a battery of quantitative and qualitative empirical tests. Among the many findings, I discover that authoritarian leaders without personal control over monitoring and high office are virtually indistinguishable from democracies in terms of conflict initiation, war and dispute outcomes, and audience costs.

Publications, Working Papers, and Data Collection Projects

“Autocratic Audience Costs: Regime Type and Signaling Resolve” (forthcoming in *International Organization*, Winter 2008 (62.1))

-Presented at the 2005 Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Leaders, Accountability, and Foreign Policy in Non-Democracies”

-Presented at the 2007 Meeting of the International Studies Association

MID Narratives+ Project (with Michael Tomz)

The Militarized Interstate Disputes (MID) dataset is an invaluable data source for scholars studying international conflict. We are working with a team of over 20 student researchers to make the dataset even more useful, accurate, and accessible to scholars. The project features:

- Narratives for each dispute (nearly 1,000 collected through July 2007)
- Full citations for every source uncovered for each MID (including the original sources used by the authors of the dataset)
- New variables allowing researchers to select samples of MID's appropriate to their particular research question
- An internet wiki allowing researchers to amend and improve narratives and citations for each dispute (to be opened to the public in 2008)

“Red Herrings: Non-State Actors, Democracy, and the Militarized Interstate Disputes Dataset” (with Dara K. Cohen).

-Presented at the 2007 Meeting of the International Studies Association

“U.S. Military Interventions and the Promotion of Democracy: An Analysis Using Matching”

-Presented at the 2006 Meeting of the American Political Science Association

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS

- National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2007-2008, “Leaders, Accountability, and Foreign Policy in Non-Democracies,” \$9,000 for data collection and research support
- Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Center on International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), 2007-2008
- Graduate Fellow, Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation, 2006-2007
- Stanford Richard S. Goldsmith Writing Award in Dispute Resolution, 2006
- Morris Abrams Award in International Relations, 2006 (national competition)
- Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University, June 2006 (given once every two years)
- Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association Graduate Fellowship, June 2006
- Department of Political Science, Stanford University, Graduate Fellowship, 2003 – 2008
- Tokyo Foundation Scholarship at Graduate Institute of International Studies, Geneva 2002-2003
- National Merit Scholar, 1997; Ohio State University Distinguished Scholarship, 1997-2001

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

International Studies Association, March 2007: “Leaders, Accountability, and Foreign Policy in Non-Democracies”

International Studies Association, March 2007: “Red Herrings: Non-State Actors in the Militarized Interstate Disputes Dataset” (with Dara K. Cohen)

American Political Science Association, September 2006: “U.S. Military Interventions and the Promotion of Democracy: An Analysis Using Matching”

American Political Science Association, September 2005: “Much Ado About Democracy: Rethinking Regime Type and Credible Threats”

International Studies Association, March 2006: “What Fishing Disputes Can Tell Us About Democracy and Conflict” (with Dara K. Cohen)

Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy, July 2005.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Co-organizer, Department Teaching Assistant Training for first-time TAs
Officer, Political Science Graduate Student Association, 2004-2005
Student Representative, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2007

TEACHING

Head TA for PS114, International Security in a Changing World, Prof. Scott Sagan and Prof. Coit Blacker, Winter 2006; taught section of Masters level students

Head TA for PS 1, Introduction to International Relations, Prof. Michael Tomz, Autumn 2005

TA for PS114S, Major Issues in International Conflict Management, Prof. Stephen Stedman, Spring 2006

TA for PS114T, International Security in a Changing World, Prof. Scott Sagan and Prof. Coit Blacker, Winter 2005

TA for PS 1, Introduction to International Relations, Prof. Michael Tomz, Autumn 2004

Senior Honors Thesis Mentor, Department of Political Science, 2004-2005; 2006-2007

Awarded Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University, June 2006

-University award given once every two years

-Based on faculty and student recommendations

LANGUAGES

German (near-fluent)

French (strongly proficient)

Dutch (strongly proficient)

REFERENCES

Kenneth Schultz

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James D. Fearon

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