

# Alec Worsnop

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- ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS      **School of Public Policy, University of Maryland—College Park**  
Assistant Professor, 2017 – present
- EDUCATION                      **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**  
Ph.D., Department of Political Science (2016)  
**Colby College**  
B.A., Government, *summa cum laude* (2007)
- PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS      “Who Can Keep the Peace? Insurgent Organizational Control of Collective Violence.” *Security Studies*, volume 26, no. 3 (2017): 482-516  
“Fatality Thresholds, Causal Heterogeneity, and Civil War Research: Reconsidering the Link Between Narcotics and Conflict.” *Political Science Research and Methods*, volume 7, no. 1 (2019): 85-105
- BOOK PROJECT                *Organization and Community: The Determinants of Insurgent Military Power*  
– 2017 Lucian Pye Award for best MIT dissertation in political science
- WORKS IN-PROGRESS              “Veterans, Novices, and Patterns of Rebel Recruitment,” with Evan Perkoski (*Revise and Resubmit*)  
“How Political is Violence? Developing a Typology of Insurgent Civil-Military Relations” (*Revise and Resubmit*)  
“Rebels Fire and Maneuver Too: How Combat Training Sustains Insurgent Warfare”  
“A Typology of Rebel Public Health Behavior,” with Catherine Worsnop and Davin O’Regan  
“The Worst Case Scenario? Assessing the Impact of a Complete ISAF Military Withdrawal from Afghanistan”
- BOOK REVIEWS                **2021.** Theodore McLauchlin. 2020. *Desertion: Trust and Mistrust in Civil Wars*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press. *Perspectives on Politics*, forthcoming
- ESSAYS AND OPINION PIECES      “[What the First Week of Fighting in Ukraine Tells Us About a Potential Insurgency](#)”, CISSM Policy Brief, 7 March 2022.  
“[How the Taliban Exploited Afghanistan’s Human Geography](#)”, War on the Rocks, 2 September 2021.  
“[From Guerrilla to Maneuver Warfare: A Look at the Taliban’s Growing Combat Capability](#)”, Modern War Institute, 6 June 2018.  
“[A Closer Look at ISIS in Iraq](#)”, with Evan Perkoski (University of Pennsylvania), Political Violence @ a Glance, 16 June 2014.  
“[Insurgent Organizational Structure and the Control of Collective Violence](#)”, *Précis*, Fall 2013.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 2022-2025 *Understanding the Link between the Recruitment and Operational Behavior of Terrorist Organizations*  
National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology, and Education Center (DHS Center of Excellence), with Evan Perkoski and Meredith Loken (500k)
- 2021-2022 Research Excellence Program Grant  
University of Connecticut, with Evan Perkoski
- 2021 Center for International and Security Studies at Maryland Seed Grant  
University of Maryland
- 2020-2021 Faculty-Student Research Award, The Graduate School  
University of Maryland
- 2017-2018 Modern War Institute at West Point Military Academy  
Non-Resident Fellow
- 2017 Lucian Pye Award for best MIT political science dissertation
- 2016-2017 Belfer Center at Harvard Kennedy School  
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, International Security Program
- 2015-2016 George Washington University Institute for Security and Conflict Studies  
Predoctoral Research Fellow
- 2015-2016 Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
- 2014 Levitan Award for Excellence in Teaching
- 2013, 2014 MIT Center for International Studies Research Grant
- 2014 Smith Richardson Foundation World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship
- 2013 Tobin Project National Security Fellowship
- 2010-2015 MIT Graduate Fellowship

TEACHING

- “Quantitative Aspects of Public Policy”
- “Military Intervention, Civil Conflict, and Terrorism”
- “Political Science Scope and Methods” (Teaching Assistant)

INVITED TALKS

- Belfer Center International Security Program Seminar, Harvard University (Cambridge, MA—April 2017)
- Triangle Institute for Security Studies New Faces Conference (Chapel Hill, NC—October 2015)
- PRIO/MIT Conference on Counterinsurgency and Counterterrorism, MIT (Cambridge, MA—November 2011)

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- APSA Annual Meeting (September 2021)
- ISA Annual Convention (2020)
- APSA Annual Meeting (Washington, DC—September 2019)
- ISA Annual Convention (Toronto, Canada—March 2019)
- APSA Annual Meeting (Boston, MA—September 2018)
- ISA Annual Convention (Baltimore, MD—February 2017)

APSA Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, PA—September 2016)  
ISA Annual Convention (Atlanta, GA—March 2016)  
APSA Annual Meeting (San Francisco, CA—September 2015)  
ISA Annual Convention (New Orleans, LA—February 2015)  
APSA Annual Meeting (Washington, DC—August 2014)  
Strategic Use of Force Working Group, MIT (Cambridge, MA—May 2014)  
Harvard-Yale-MIT Conference on Political Violence (April 2014)

PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE

**Chemonics International**, Washington, D.C.  
*Manager, Afghanistan and Pakistan Business Development* 2009-2010  
Traveled to Afghanistan to assist in the development of USAID programs.  
*Associate/Manager, Middle East* 2007-2009  
Managed planning, compliance, and budgeting for USAID programs in Egypt  
and Jordan.  
**National Democratic Institute**, Washington D.C.  
*Project Assistant, Middle East and North Africa* 2007