

PHILIP G. ROESSLER

Margaret Hamilton Associate Professor
Department of Government
Co-Director
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EDUCATION

University of Maryland, College Park, MD
PhD, Government and Politics, 2007

Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
BA, Political Science with Honors, 2001

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA
Margaret Hamilton Associate Professor, Department of Government, 2011-Current

Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK
Visiting Fellow of Practice, 2017-2018

Oxford University, Oxford, UK
Senior Research Fellow, Department of Politics and International Relations, 2010-2011
Andrew Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow in Comparative Government, Department of Politics and International Relations, 2007-2010

Stanford University, Stanford, California
Pre-Doctoral Fellow at the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC),
Stanford University, 2006- 2007

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Roessler, Philip. *Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

*2017 Choice Outstanding Academic Title.

*Winner of 2017 best book award from the American Political Science Association's African Politics Conference Group and best book award from the International Studies Association's International Security Studies Section.

Roessler, Philip, and Harry Verhoeven. *Why Comrades Go to War: Liberation Politics and the Outbreak of Africa's Deadliest Conflict* (Oxford University Press/Hurst Publishers, 2016).

Peer-reviewed journal articles

Mach, Katharine J., Caroline M. Kraan, W. Neil Adger, Halvard Buhaug, Marshall Burke, James D. Fearon, Christopher B. Field, Cullen S. Hendrix, Jean-Francois Maystadt, John O'Loughlin, **Philip Roessler**, Jürgen Scheffran, Kenneth A. Schultz, and Nina von Uexkull. "Directions for research on climate and conflict," *Earth's Future* (2020)
<https://doi.org/10.1029/2020EF001532>

Mach, Katharine J., W. Neil Adger, Halvard Buhaug, Marshall Burke, James D. Fearon, Christopher B. Field, Cullen S. Hendrix, Caroline M. Kraan, Jean-Francois Maystadt, John O'Loughlin, **Philip Roessler**, Jürgen Scheffran, Kenneth A. Schultz, and Nina von Uexkull. "Climate as a risk factor for armed conflict," *Nature* 571, no. 7764 (2019): 193-197
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-019-1300-6>

Roessler, Philip, and David Ohls. "Self-Enforcing Powersharing in Weak States," *International Organization*, Vol. 72, No. 2 (Spring 2018): 423-454.

Beber, Bernd, **Philip Roessler**, and Alexandra Scacco. "Intergroup Violence and Political Attitudes: Evidence from a Dividing Sudan," *The Journal of Politics* 76, no. 03 (2014): 649-65.

Roessler, Philip. "The Enemy Within: Personal Rule, Coups and Civil War in Africa," *World Politics*, Vol. 63, No. 2 (April 2011): 300-346.

*Winner of Gregory Luebbert Award for best article in comparative politics in 2010 or 2011 from the APSA-Comparative Politics section.

Howard, Marc Morjé, and **Philip Roessler**. "Liberalizing Electoral Outcomes in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes," *American Journal of Political Science* 50, 2 (April 2006): 365-381.

Roessler, Philip. "Donor-Induced Democratization and the Privatization of State Violence in Kenya and Rwanda," *Comparative Politics* 37, 2 (January 2005): 207-227.

Book chapters and book reviews

Review of *Beyond Ethnic Politics in Africa* by Dominika Koter for *Journal of African History*, 2019.

Critical dialogue for *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2018 with Kate Baldwin on *The Paradox of Traditional Chiefs in Democratic Africa* and *Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap*.

"Civil War," in David Anderson and Nic Cheeseman, eds., *Routledge Handbook of African Politics* (New York: Routledge, 2013).

“Post-Cold War Political Regimes: When Do Elections Matter?” (with Marc Morjé Howard) in Staffan Lindberg, ed., *Democratization by Elections: A New Mode of Transition* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009).

“Democratic Republic of the Congo,” (with John Prendergast) in William Durch, ed., *Twenty-First-Century Peace Operations* (Washington, D.C.: United States Institute of Peace Press, 2006).

Under review and working papers

Roessler, Philip, Peter P. Carroll, Flora Myamba, Cornel Jahari, Blandina Kilama, and Daniel L. Nielson, “The economic impact of mobile phones on low-income households,” 2020. Under review.

Roessler, Philip, Yannick I. Pengl, Kyle Sorlie Titlow, Robert Marty and Nicolas van de Walle. “Cash Crops, Colonialism and Legacies of Spatial Inequality: Evidence from Africa,” 2020. Under review.

Blair, Robert, and Philip Roessler. “The Effects of Chinese Aid on State Legitimacy in Africa: Cross-National and Sub-National Evidence from Surveys, Survey Experiments, and Behavioral Games,” 2020. Revise and resubmit.

Blair, Robert, Robert Marty, and Philip Roessler. “Foreign Aid and Soft Power: Great Power Competition in Africa in the Early 21st Century,” 2020. Under review.

BenYishay, Ariel, Lisa Mueller, Katherine Nolan, and Philip Roessler, “Can We Talk Our Way out of Development Problems? An Experimental Test of Multi-Stakeholder Dialogues in Niger,” 2020. Under review.

Pengl, Yannick I., Philip Roessler, and Valeria Rueda. “The Political Economy of Ethnicity in Africa: A Research Design,” 2020. Under review.

Pengl, Yannick I., and Philip Roessler. “Colonial Cash Crops and Political Power,” 2020. In progress.

Pengl, Yannick I., and Philip Roessler. *Markets, States and Power: The Cash Crop Revolution and the Making of Modern Africa*, 2020. Book manuscript.

Roessler, Philip, Peter P. Carroll, Flora Myamba, and Daniel L. Nielson. “Mobile Phone Churn Impedes Financial Inclusion Among Women in Developing Markets: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Tanzania,” 2020. In progress.

Roessler, Philip, Peter P. Carroll, Flora Myamba, and Daniel L. Nielson. “Mobile Phone Ownership and Civic Engagement: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Tanzania,” 2020. In progress.

Briefings, policy reports and blog posts

- “Foreign Aid and Soft Power: Great Power Competition in Africa in the Early 21st Century,” (with Robert Blair and Robert Marty). 2019. AidData Working Paper #86. Williamsburg, VA: AidData.
- “The Effectiveness of Sports Academies on Children’s Social and Cognitive Development: An Impact Evaluation of the Monrovia Football Academy.” (with Suma Massaley, Carolyn Meyers, Aaron Spittle and Henry Young). Center for African Development at W&M, Working Paper, February 2019.
- “The Effects of Chinese Aid on State Legitimacy in Africa: Cross-National and Sub-National Evidence from Surveys, Survey Experiments, and Behavioral Games,” (with Robert Blair). 2018. AidData Working Paper #59. Williamsburg, VA: AidData.
- “The Mobile Phone Revolution and Digital Inequality: Scope, Determinants and Consequences.” Report for Pathways for Prosperity: Commission on Technology and Inclusive Development. 2018.
- “How the African Union Got It Wrong on Zimbabwe,” *AlJazeera*, December 5, 2017. Available at <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/african-union-wrong-zimbabwe-171204125847859.html>
- “Did Congo’s Crisis Just Get a Lot Worse?” *The Monkey Cage* blog, *Washington Post* online, February 3, 2017. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/02/03/why-democracy-in-congo-is-so-hard-to-achieve/?utm_term=.635b3d45badf
- “China and the African State: Evidence from Surveys, Survey Experiments and Behavioral Games in Liberia,” USAID, Research and Innovation Grants Working Papers Series, November 1, 2016.
- “Mobile Phones as a Catalyst for Development: Findings from a Pilot Study in Tanzania” (with Flora Myamba and Daniel Nielson), Center for African Development at W&M, Working Paper, August 2015.
- “Chinese Development Finance and the African State: A Capacity-Legitimacy Trade-Off?” *First Tranche* blog, AidData.org, June 19, 2014. <http://aiddata.org/blog/chinese-development-finance-and-the-african-state-a-capacity-legitimacy-trade-off>
- “Why South Sudan Has Exploded in Violence,” *The Monkey Cage* blog, *Washington Post* online, December 24, 2013. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2013/12/24/why-south-sudan-has-exploded-in-violence/>
- “Chinese Development Finance and Strategies of Political (and Territorial) Survival in Sudan,” *First Tranche* blog, AidData.org, May 8, 2013. <http://aiddata.org/blog/chinese-development-finance-and-strategies-of-political-and-territorial-survival-in-sudan>

“Coping with Partition: Southerners in Khartoum After Separation.” Briefing Paper for United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), May 2012 (with Bernd Beber and Alex Scacco).

“The Summer of Fury: The War Inside Sudan’s Islamic Movement and Implications for US Policy,” United States Institute of Peace, February 2012.

GRANTS AND FUNDING

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Call to Action, “Catalyzing Cooperative Intra-Household Mobile Technology Use and Knowledge Sharing: A Pilot Study in Malawi,” 2020-2022, \$199,989.

Reves Center for International Studies at the College of William & Mary, Drapers’ Faculty Fellowship, “The Cash Crop Revolution, Colonialism and the Making of Modern Africa,” 2020-2021, \$10,000.

Annual Research Fund, Arts & Sciences, College of William & Mary, Grant, “Do Sport Academies Cultivate Leaders? Preliminary Research for an Impact Evaluation of LEAD Africa,” 2019-2020, \$7,500.

Reves Center for International Studies at the College of William & Mary, Faculty Fellowship, “Mobile Agricultural Insurance and Resiliency to Climate Change: A Pilot Study and New Research Program,” 2019-2020, \$8,000.

United States Department of Agriculture, “Mobile Phone Ownership and Civic Engagement: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Tanzania,” October 2017-October 2018, \$109,952.79.

Swiss National Science Foundation, International Short Visit to International Conflict Research Group at ETH-Zurich, July-August 2017. 7,000 CHF.

Innovations for Poverty Action, “Incentivizing Mobile Money as a Financial Savings Instrument among Young Women in Tanzania,” (with Flora Myamba, Daniel Nielson, Joseph Price, and Wayne Sandholtz) 2017-2019. \$299,955.

National Science Foundation, Political Science Program, “The Origins and Consequences of Spatial Inequality,” 2016-2018. \$148,817

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, “Improving Women’s Access and Usage of Digital Financial Services,” (with Flora Myamba and Daniel Nielson), 2015-2017. \$795,199

Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations, the William & Mary, “The Causes and Consequences of Spatial Inequality in Africa,” 2015-2016. \$18,600

USAID Global Development Lab, “Participatory, Responsive Governance in Niger: Impact Evaluation” (with Ariel BenYishay and Lisa Mueller). 2015-2017. \$574,000

Reves Center for International Studies at the William & Mary, Faculty Fellowship, “Mobile Phone Ownership and Women’s Empowerment: A Field Experiment in Tanzania,” 2015-2016, \$9,000

Tigo Tanzania, “An Impact Evaluation of the Connected Women Program,” (with Flora Myamba), 2015-2016. \$30,000

Institute for the Theory and Practice of International Relations, the William & Mary, “Mobile Phone Ownership and Women’s Empowerment: A Field Experiment,” 2014-2015. \$30,000

USAID’s Democracy Fellows and Grants (DFG) program (with Robert Blair), “China and the African State: Assessing the Effects of Chinese Investment and Development Projects on State Capacity and Legitimacy in Sub-Saharan Africa,” 2014-2015. \$85,000

Harry Frank Guggenheim Research Grant (with Harry Verhoeven), “When Comrades Go to War: Post-liberation Movements, Elite Politics and the Internal Dynamics of Africa's Great War,” 2012-2015. \$65,000

The William & Mary, Faculty Summer Research Grant, 2014, 2013, 2012.

United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Sudan Office. “Sudan in Transition: A Panel Survey of Individual Experiences of Partition.” (with Bernd Beber and Alex Scacco) , 2011-2012. \$40,000

British Academy Research Development Award, “Identity, Citizenship and Trust in a Dividing State: The Case of Sudan,” 2010-2011. £116,113

John Fell OUP Research Fund, Main Award for project “Darfur in Comparative Perspective: Regime Crises, Political Exclusion and Civil War Onset in Africa,” 2007-2009. £19,160

UK Department for International Development, Pre-Bid Conference on Governance, Security and Justice in Conflict-Affected Situations, March 2010. £10,000

John Fell OUP Research Fund, Small Grant for project, “The Effects of the Southern Sudan Independence Referendum in Identity and Citizenship in Khartoum,” 2010. £7,500

John Fell OUP Research Fund, Main Award for project “Darfur in Comparative Perspective: Regime Crises, Political Exclusion and Civil War Onset in Africa,” 2007-2009. £19,160

Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, 2006- 2007.

Pre-doctoral Fellowship, Intra-State Conflict Program, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard University, 2006–2007 (declined).

Africanist Doctoral Candidate Fellow, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, 2006.

National Science Foundation (NSF), Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, 2005.

National Security Education Program (NSEP), David L. Boren Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-2005.

United States Institute of Peace, Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship, 2004-2005 (declined).

Doctoral Fellowship at the Harrison Program on the Future Global Agenda, University of Maryland (UMD), 2003-2004.

Research and Travel Grant by the Committee on Africa and the Americas, University of Maryland, 2002.

Graduate Fellowship at the University of Maryland, 2001-2002, 2004-2005.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2018 Plumeri Award, College of William & Mary

2017 Choice Outstanding Academic Title for *Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap*

2017 Winner of best book award from the American Political Science Association's African Politics Conference Group and the International Studies Association's International Security Studies Section for *Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap*

2017 Finalist for the African Studies Association's 2017 Melville J. Herskovits Prize for *Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap*

2016 Margaret S. Glauber Faculty-Student Research Fellow, Charles Center, W&M

2012 Winner of Gregory Luebbert Award for best article in comparative politics in 2010 or 2011 from the APSA-Comparative Politics section.

2012 Honorable Mention for Best Article in 2011 from the African Politics Conference Group. Presented at the 2012 Meeting of the African Studies Association.

Winner with Marc Morjé Howard of the 2006 Award for best paper presented at the previous APSA annual convention, in the organized section on Comparative Democratization of the American Political Science Association.

TEACHING

Lecture course: Introduction to Comparative Politics

Lecture and Study Away course: Mixed Methods for the Study of Conflict and Development

Senior seminar: State Building, Conflict and Development in Africa

Lecture course: Politics of Africa

Lecture course: Politics of Developing Countries

Senior seminar: Civil War

SERVICE

William & Mary, Department of Government, Associate Chair, 2019-current.

William & Mary, Department of Government, Merit Committee, 2016-current.

William & Mary, Department of Government, Diversity Committee, 2016-2017.

William & Mary, Department of Government, International and Comparative Development Search Committee, 2016.

Young African Leadership Initiative (YALI), lecturer and faculty mentor, Williamsburg, VA 2014-2016.

US State Department, Diplomacy Lab, Faculty Mentor, "Social Media Use in Africa," Spring 2016.

William & Mary, Reves Center for International Studies Faculty Fellowship Selection Committee, 2016.

William & Mary, Department of Government, Comparative Politics Search Committee, 2015.

US State Department, Diplomacy Lab, Faculty Mentor, "Sudan and the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD): Political, Social, and Economic Costs and Benefits," Fall 2014.

Guest Lecturer, Joint Forces Staff College (JFSC), AFRICOM elective, Norfolk, VA 2013-2014.

Member, AidData Research Consortium, Democracy and Governance Team, 2013-present.

William & Mary, Department of Government, International Relations Search Committee, 2013.

Chair, Gregory Luebbert Award Committee for best article in comparative politics in 2011 or 2012 from the APSA-Comparative Politics section.

Consultant, United States Institute of Peace, 2012-2013.

African Politics Conference Group, Best Article Committee, 2011.

Charles Center, William & Mary Internal Reviewer, 2011-present.

Briefings to Office of U.S. Special Envoy to Sudan, 2010-2012.

Briefing to Conflict Research Group, Foreign Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom, June 2010.

Field Analyst in Sudan, International Crisis Group, February 2005-April 2006.

Research Assistant/Consultant, International Crisis Group, Washington, D.C., Kenya, Sudan, Zimbabwe, 2001-2003.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED TALKS

“Increasing Smallholder Farmers’ Resilience to Climate Change.”

- Presentation at Workshop on Mobile Agricultural Insurance and Resiliency to Climate Change, Chuka University, Chuka, Kenya, May 20, 2019.

“Chinese Aid, Soft Power, and Democratic Erosion in Africa.”

- Paper presented at the 2019 Yale Africa-China Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, May 15-17, 2019.

“Colonial Cash Crops and Political Power” (with Yannick I. Pengl)

- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 4-7, 2019.
- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30 1-September 2, 2018.

“The Political Economy of Ethnicity” (with Valeria Rueda and Yannick I. Pengl)

- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 29-September 1, 2019.
- Keynote talk at Conference on Sustainable Development in Africa, Students for Africa and Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy, Josef Korbel School of International Studie, University of Denver, April 26, 2019.
- Princeton University, Comparative Politics Colloquium, October 24, 2018.
- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30-September 2, 2018.
- Working Group on African Political Economy, London School of Economics, March 23-24, 2018.

“Dashed Expectations? Chinese Foreign Aid and Soft Power in Africa” (with Robert Blair and Robert Marty)

- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, August 30 1-September 2, 2018.

“Mobile Phone Ownership and the Uptake and Usage of Digital Financial Services by Women in an Emerging Economy: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Tanzania,” (with Peter Carroll, Cornel Jahari, Blandina Kilama, Flora Myamba, Daniel Nielson)

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Annual Meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, October 27-October 30, 2019.
- Project launch, REPOA, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, December 13, 2018.

- Presentation to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, Washington, May 17, 2018.

“The Dual Legacy of Colonial Cash Crop Production: State Capacity, Resource Dependence, and the Risk of Conflict,” (with Yannick I. Pengl).

- Oxford Conflict Working Group, Brasenose College, University of Oxford, May 1, 2018.
- Paper Presented at the Centre for Study of African Economies Annual Conference. Oxford University, March 2018.
- Comparative Politics Workshop, Yale University, February 6, 2018.

“Mobile Phone Ownership and Civic Engagement: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Tanzania,” (with Peter Carroll, Flora Myamba, and Dan Nielson).

- United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, December 10, 2018.
- Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Atlanta, Wed, Nov 28 to Sat, Dec 1, 2018.
- Comparative Politics Seminar, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, February 27, 2018.

Evaluation Workshop Tanzania Social Action Fund, January 24-26, 2018, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Expert Group Deliberation on Climate Change and Conflict, *December 4-5, 2017, Stanford University*

“Policing Constitutionalism: The African Union’s Anti-Coup Regime and Its Unintended Consequences.” Presentation at Workshop on “Future of African Instability,” June 15-16th, 2017, Rift Valley Institute in Nairobi.

Ethnic Politics and State Power in Africa: The Logic of the Coup-Civil War Trap Book Talk

- William & Mary, February 9, 2017
- Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford, November 8, 2017

Why Comrades Go to War (with Harry Verhoeven)

- National Museum of Kenya, Nairobi, January 22, 2018
- African History & Politics Seminar, University of Oxford, October 10, 2016
- Royal African Society and SOAS, University of London, October 11, 2016
- Centre of Governance and Human Rights Events Series, October 12, 2016
- Institute of Development Policy and Management (IOB), University of Antwerp, October 14, 2016

“The Effects of Chinese Aid on State Legitimacy in Africa: Cross-National and Sub-National Evidence from Surveys, Survey Experiments, and Behavioral Games,” (with Robert Blair).

- Institute for International Education, Washington, D.C., Thursday, July 28, 2016.
- CSAE Conference 2018: Economic Development in Africa, University of Oxford, March 20, 2018.

“The Empty Panorama: The Colonial Origins of Spatial Inequality in Africa,” (with Yannick I. Pengl, Kyle Titlow, Robert Marty and Nicolas van de Walle)

- Centre for Study of African Economies, University of Oxford, November 29, 2017
- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, December 1-3, 2016.
- Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 1-September 4, 2016.
- Comparative-Historical Social Sciences (CHSS) Workshop at Northwestern University, May 6, 2016.
- Comparative Politics of Colonialism, Workshop, at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State University, April 29-April 30, 2016.
- Penn State University, Political Science Lecture Series, April 1, 2016.
- William and Mary International Development Seminar, March 25, 2016.

“Please Hold the Phone: The Effects of Mobile Ownership on Women’s Financial and General Welfare in Tanzania,” (with Daniel Nielson). Evidence in Governance and Politics (EGAP) 15, Rice University, October 23-24, 2015.

“New Perspectives on Conflict, State-Building and Development in Africa.” Issues in African Development Seminar Schedule, Institute for African Development, Cornell University, September 17, 2015.

“Please Hold the Phone: A Pilot Field Experiment on Mobile Technology and Women’s Welfare and Research Designs for Phase 2 and Phase 3,” (with Daniel Nielson). Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, September 3-6, 2015.

“What’s Endogenous and Exogenous to Colonial Rule: Occupations, Investments and State-building in Colonial Africa,” (with Nicolas van de Walle). Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, California, September 3-6, 2015.

“The Societal Origins of Powersharing: Ethnic Geography, Threat Capabilities and Horizontal Accountability in Weak States,” Colloquium, Center for Comparative and International Studies, ETH-Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, February 13, 2015.

“Foreign Aid and State-Building: A Capacity-Legitimacy Trade-off?” Presentation at the Workshop on “Foreign Aid, Effective and Legitimate Governance in Areas of Limited Statehood,” SFB700 and AidData, Berlin, Germany, February 11, 2015.

“Ethnic Politics and the Coup-Civil War Trap: A New Perspective on State Failure in Africa.”

- German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Institute of African Affairs at the Hamburg, Germany, February 9, 2015.
- Georgetown University School of Foreign Service-Qatar, Doha, Qatar, April 12, 2015.

“Mobile Phones and Women's Empowerment: Experimental Evidence from Tanzania.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Indianapolis, IN, November 20-November 23, 2014.

“Ethnic Geography, Coups and Civil War: The Logic of Self-enforcing Powersharing in Africa.”

- African Studies Center brown-bag lunch presentation, Oxford University, November 12, 2014
- African Politics Seminar Series, London School of Economics, October 30, 2014.
- Guest Lecture, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland, September 24, 2014.
- Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Washington, D.C., August 28-August 31, 2014.
- Research Colloquium, Global Governance, Politics and Security Program (GGPS) at American University's School of International Service (SIS), May 15, 2014.

“Ethnic Peace: Escaping the Coup-Civil War Trap in Africa.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Toronto, Canada, March 26th - 29th, 2014.

“The Economic Geography of Colonialism and Regional Inequality in Africa: A Research Agenda.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Baltimore, MD, November 21-November 24, 2013.

“Africa’s Two Equilibriums: Power Distribution and the Coup-Civil War Trap.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, August 29, 2013-September 1, 2013.

“Is Africa Escaping the Coup-Civil War Trap?” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 11-April 14, 2013.

“In the Shadow of the Coup D’état: The Politics of Civil War in Africa,” Presentation to the Program on Order, Conflict and Violence, Yale University, January 29, 2013.

“Who Supports Partition? Violence and Political Attitudes in a Dividing Sudan.” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 12, 2012-April 15, 2012; American Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA, August 31, 2012-September 4, 2012 and the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 29-December 1, 2012.

“Coping with Partition: An Analysis of Southerners in Khartoum Before and After Separation,” UNHCR-Khartoum, 31 May 2012 and to the University of Khartoum, 31 May 2012.

“Sudanese Perceptions of the Egyptian Revolution: Results from the Second Round of a Panel Survey, Oct-Dec 2011,” Conference on Sudan-Egypt Dynamics, RAND, May 18, 2012.

“Irregular Regimes, First-Strike Capabilities, and Preemption: Revisiting the Conflict Trap,” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, Washington, August 31, 2011-September 4, 2011.

- “Identity in Partition: New Survey Evidence from Sudan,” Paper Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Seattle, Washington, August 31, 2011-September 4, 2011.
- “Sudan’s Perfect Storm: Preventing State Collapse,” Workshop on Future Governance in the Two Sudans in the Context of Regional and International Influences, US Department of State, August 25, 2011.
- “Identity and Political Attitudes in a Dividing State: Preliminary Results from Round 1 of a Panel Survey in Khartoum, Sudan,” USIP North Sudan Working Group, January 27, 2011.
- “After Liberation: A Micro-Level Analysis of Elite (and Ethnic) Accommodation, Fragmentation and Violence in South Sudan,” Ethnic Politics Workshop at George Washington University, October 15, 2010.
- “The Enemy from Within: Civil War Politics in Africa,” African Studies Program and the Center for Conflict Resolution, Georgetown University, October 13, 2010.
- “Belonging and Identity in Sudan on the Eve of the South’s Self-Determination Referendum,” presentation at the African Studies Association-UK Biennial Conference 2010 in Oxford, UK.
- “The Structure of Power and the Threshold of Contestation in Electoral Authoritarian Regimes” (with Marc Morjé Howard and Hesham Sallam), ” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, in Washington, D.C., September 2-5, 2009 and to the African Studies Association-UK Biennial Conference 2010 in Oxford, UK.
- “The Point of No Return: Kabila, Rwanda, and the Internal Dynamics of Africa’s Great War,” presented at the UK Foreign Commonwealth Office, June 28, 2010, Cambridge University, May 25, 2010, and School of Oriental and African Studies, March 16, 2011.
- “State Building from the Bottom-Up,” presented at the UK Department for International Development, May 4, 2010.
- “Will the Global Financial Crisis Derail Africa's Transformation?” presented to 2010 St Anne's and Queen's Colleges' PPE Conference at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, February 12, 2010.
- “Ethnic Power Sharing, Coups and Civil War” presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, in Toronto, Canada September 3-6, 2009 and to the African History and Politics Seminar, University of Oxford, October 26, 2009.
- "Darfur in Comparative Perspective: Regime Crises, Political Exclusion and Civil War in Africa," presentation delivered to the Sudan Programme at St. Antony’s College, University of Oxford, November 26, 2008 and at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington D.C., June 26, 2007.

“Electoral Dominance in Authoritarian Regimes” (with Marc Morje Howard), presented at the Oxford Centre for the Study of Inequality and Democracy Faculty Seminar in Comparative Politics, November 21, 2008; Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, in Boston, August 28-31, 2008.

“Warmaking and Peacemaking in Sudan” (with Sharath Srinivasan) presented at the African Studies Seminar, University of Oxford, November 13, 2008.

“Failed Coups and Civil Wars,” presented at African Studies Center, University of Oxford, May 20, 2008.

“What are the Consequences of the Civil War on the Present Situation in Darfur?” invited talk at “Darfur, Sudan and its Neighbours” conference, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Geneva, Switzerland, 12-14 December 2007.

“Measuring and Analyzing Post-Cold War Political Regimes,” presented at the “Democratization by Elections?” conference, University of Florida, November 30-December 1, 2007 and the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, in Chicago, August 30-September 2, 2007.

“Committing to War: Regime Centralization and Ethnic Exclusion in Africa” paper presented at 48th Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association, Chicago, IL February 28, 2007.

"Committing to War: Political Exclusion and Indiscriminate Violence in Africa," presentation delivered at Social Science Seminar sponsored by Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, February 22, 2007.

“Neopatrimonialism and Political Rule in Africa,” presented at the 49th Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association in San Francisco on November 19, 2006.

“Clientelism, Repression and Civil War,” DC Area Workshop in Contentious Politics, College Park, Maryland, April 26, 2006.

“Liberalizing Electoral Outcomes in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes” (with Marc Morjé Howard), presented at the Center for International Development and Conflict Management, University of Maryland, November 3, 2004.

“Empowering the Lame Leviathan: Globalization and the State in Africa,” Paper Presented at Annual Meeting of International Studies Association, Montreal, Quebec, March 2004.

“Donor-Induced Democratization and the Privatization of State Violence in Kenya and Rwanda,” presented at DC Area Workshop in Contentious Politics, College Park, Maryland, 2003.

FIELD RESEARCH

Angola, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Sudan (Khartoum, Darfur, eastern Sudan, southern Sudan), Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe