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EMPLOYMENT

Lecturer, University of Richmond, 2010-2011

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science, The University of Chicago, December 2010 (expected)

M.A., Political Science, The University of Chicago, 2006

Visiting Scholar, Government, Cornell University, 2006

M.A., International Politics of the European Union, Marmara University (Istanbul), 2002

B.A., Political Science, Bogazici University (Istanbul), 2000

DISSERTATION

“Politics of Survival, Nationalism, and War for Territory: 1648-2003”

Committee: Duncan J. Snidal (Chair), John J. Mearsheimer, Charles Lipson

Abstract: My dissertation is an analytical and empirical inquiry into the relationship between the emergence of nationalism and the evolution of territorial conflict in the modern state system. The argument is comprised of three related essays. The first essay investigates the following question: how can we explain the fact that territorial war since the Peace of Westphalia (1648) has become an increasingly infrequent but intense enterprise? I argue that the rise of nationalism has amplified the political value of territory, rendering it difficult for leaders to risk territorial wars but also to limit the intensity of wars once they erupted. The second essay examines the impacts of the rise of nationalism on rational bargaining among states and challenges the conventional wisdom in the bargaining models of war literature by arguing that the perceived indivisibility of territory -- a common theme that accompanies nationalistic ideologies -- does not increase but in fact decreases the likelihood of conflict by easing the difficulties involved with pre-war bargaining while at the same time increasing the costs of conflict that break out by making mid-war bargaining extremely costly. The third essay explores the ways in which ideological threats to regime survival, depending on whether they emanate from external or domestic challengers, affect the patterns in interstate war through their impacts on the severity of the security dilemma among states and then utilizes this framework to explain the patterns of war during the century that followed the outbreak of the French Revolution.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

International Relations: Theories of IR, International Security, Nationalism and War, Religion and Security Studies, Sovereignty, Private Military Companies, Diplomatic and Military History

Comparative Politics: Nationalism, State Formation, Civil Wars, Regional Politics of the European Union & the Middle East, Civil-Military Relations

Methods: Comparative Case Study & Process Tracing, Applications of Rational Choice Theory, Statistical Analysis

* Citizenship: Turkish Citizen & Permanent Resident of the United States

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

LECTURER

- International Politics of the Middle East*, University of Richmond
• Original course designed for Political Science majors
Spring 2011
- Causes of War*, University of Richmond
• Original course designed for Political Science majors
Fall 2010
- Introduction to International Relations*, University of Richmond
• Part of the Political Science Core
Fall/Spring 2010-11
- Social Science Inquiry III*, University of Chicago
• Part of the College Core sequence on research methods
Spring 2009
- State Preferences and War*, University of Chicago
• Original course designed for Grodzins Prize Lectureship
Winter 2009
- States and Their Private Armies*, University of Chicago
• Original course designed for International Studies Prize Lectureship
Winter 2009
- Social Science Inquiry I*, University of Chicago
• Part of the College Core sequence on research methods
Fall 2008
- Democracy and Social Science III*, University of Chicago
• Part of the College Core sequence on research methods
Spring 2007
- Civilizations in the Age of Globalization*, Koc University
• Part of the College Core sequence on Global History
Spring 2003
- Introduction to World Civilizations*, Koc University
• Part of the College Core sequence on Global History
Fall 2002

TEACHING ASSISTANT

- Strategy and International Politics*, University of Chicago
Professor Robert Pape
Spring 2009
Spring 2008
Spring 2007
- Introduction to International Relations*, University of Chicago
Professor Charles Lipson
Spring 2009
- Political Economy of Public Policy*, University of Chicago
Professor Ethan Bueno de Mesquita
Fall 2008
Fall 2007
Fall 2005
- War and the Nation-State*, University of Chicago
Professor John J. Mearsheimer
Winter 2008
- The Politics of International Trade*, University of Chicago
Professor Jong Hee Park
Winter 2008
- Organization Theory & Public Management*, University of Chicago
Professor Boris Shor
Winter 2008
Spring 2007

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Professor Duncan J. Snidal, University of Chicago 2007-2009

- Conducted historical research on World Trade Organization
- Assisted Prof. Snidal during a project on Social Corporate Responsibility
- Worked on numerous projects involving research on international organizations

Professor Michael Mousseau, Koc University Summer 2004

- Conducted research on the concept of bounded rationality
- Contributed to research on the relationship between social norms and rationality
- Assisted Prof. Mousseau with his project on the liberal market economies

Professor Bruce Kuniholm and Professor Suhnaz Yilmaz, Koc University 2002 - 2003

- Conducted research on the US foreign policy in the Middle East
- Carried out research on a number of topics ranging from the European Union to the rise of political Islam in Central Asia

OTHER

MA Workshop Coordinator, University of Chicago 2008-09

- Held weekly workshops for first and second year PhD students (Political Science)

RESEARCH

MANUSCRIPTS

“Politics of Survival, Nationalism, and War for Territory: Explaining the Changing Trends in Territorial Conflict, 1648-2003.”

“Revolutionary Wars and Conservative Peace: Ideological Threats and Military Competition During the ‘Great Transformation’, 1789-1864.”

“State Preferences in IR Theory: The Use and Abuse of Survival Assumption.”

“Trapping the War Inside A Model: Assessing the Long-term Impacts of *The War Trap* (1981) on the Social Scientific Study of War.”

“What is Diplomacy Good For: A Theory of Diplomacy and Focal Points in Social Communication.” With Jonathan Obert.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Indivisibility and Territorial Conflict Redefined: Nationalism, Indivisible Territory, and Patterns of War Since 1648.”

“Two Faces of Sovereignty in the Modern State System: Territoriality and Nationalism From Westphalia (1648) to Paris (1919).”

“Why Transnational Islamic Movements Are Winning and What to Do About Them: Learning From the Gulen Movement.”

“Charisma versus Bureaucracy: The Rise and Fall of Turkish Armed Forces As A Political Actor.” With Pelin Kadercan.

“How Private Military Contractors Saved Europe from Military Dictatorships: A Comparative Historical Analysis of Early-Modern European and Ottoman Military Institutions.”

“Impersonal Trust and the Market Culture.” With Michael Mousseau.

SERVICE

Community Outreach Specialist for Turkish-American Cultural Alliance of Chicago, 2007-2010

Member, Omnibus Hiring Committee and International Relations Hiring Subcommittee, Department of Political Science, University of Chicago, 2007-08.

HONORS & AWARDS

Mellon Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2009-2010

Grodzins Lectureship Prize (University of Chicago), 2009

International Studies Lectureship Prize (University of Chicago), 2009

Provost's Summer Research Fellowship (University of Chicago), 2008

Provost's Summer Research Fellowship (University of Chicago), 2007

Graduate Fellowship (University of Chicago), 2004-2008

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

International Studies Association

REFERENCES

Duncan J. Snidal
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John J. Mearsheimer
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Charles Lipson
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Robert Pape
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