

Thomas Zeitzoff

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APPOINTMENTS

Professor: School of Public Affairs, American University, September 2024-present.

Associate Professor: School of Public Affairs, American University, 2018-August 2024.

Co-Director: Peace and Violence Research Lab, American University, 2015-present.

Assistant Professor: School of Public Affairs, American University, 2014-2018.

Postdoctoral Fellow: Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance in Regional Political Economy, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, 2013-2014.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Politics, New York University, 2008-September 2013.

Fields: International Relations, Conflict, Comparative Politics, and Political Psychology.

Dissertation: Three Essays on the Macro- and Microfoundations of Conflict.

Committee: Bruce Bueno de Mesquita (co-chair) and Rose McDermott (co-chair, Brown University), Bernd Beber, John T. Jost (Psychology), and Alexandra Scacco.

M.A. Politics, New York University, 2010.

M.A. Political Economy, Washington University in St. Louis, 2008.

B.A. *cum laude* Economics, Latin American Studies, Washington University in St. Louis, 2007.

RESEARCH

Books

No Option But Sabotage: The Radical Environmental Movement and the Climate Crisis.
Under contract with Oxford University Press.

Nasty Politics: The Logic of Insults, Threats, and Incitement. June 2023, Oxford University Press.

Articles

28. "Balancing Act: How Militant Groups Manage Strategic and Ideological Resources." *Conditionally Accepted Perspectives on Terrorism*. (joint with Hannah Chesterton and Tricia Bacon).
27. "Moral reasoning and support for punitive violence after crime." *Forthcoming Journal of Peace Research*. (joint with Hannah Baron, Omar García-Ponce, Jorge Olmos Camarillo, and Lauren Young).
26. "Cyber and Contentious Politics: Evidence from the U.S. Eco Direct Action Movement." *Forthcoming Journal of Peace Research*. (with Grace Gold)
25. "How the Relationship Between Education and Antisemitism Varies Between Countries." *Accepted at Research and Politics*. (with Brendan Nyhan and Shun Yamaya)
24. "Distract and divert: How world leaders use social media during contentious politics." 2024. *The International Journal of Press/Politics*. 29(1): 47-73. (with Pablo Barberá Anita R. Gohdes, and Evgeniia Iakhnis).
23. "Anger and Support for Vigilante Justice in Mexico's Drug War." 2023. *Journal of Peace Research*. 60(2): 274-290 (with Omar García-Ponce and Lauren Young).
22. "Motives Don't Matter? Motive Attribution and Counterterrorism Policy" 2021. *Political Psychology*. 42(3): 483-499. (with Daphna Canetti and Joshua Gubler).
21. "In the Shadow of Conflict: How Emotions, Threat Perceptions and Victimization Influence Foreign Policy Attitudes." 2021. *British Journal of Political Science*. 51(1): 181-202. (with Alexander Kupatadze).
20. "The effects of corrective information about disease epidemics and outbreaks: Evidence from Zika and yellow fever in Brazil." 2020. *Science Advances*. 6(5). (with Carey, John M., Victoria Chi, D. J. Flynn, and Brendan Nyhan).
19. "The Allure of Distant War Drums: Refugees, Geography, and Foreign Policy Preferences in Turkey." 2019. *Political Geography*. 74. (with Anna Getmansky and Tolga Sinmazdemir).
18. "More Than Just Hurdles: How Fieldwork Difficulties Provide Insights into Conflict." 2019. *PS: Political Science & Politics*. 52(3): 507-512.
17. "Conspiracy and Misperception Belief in the Middle East and North Africa." 2018. *The Journal of Politics*. 80 (4): 1400-1404. (with Brendan Nyhan).
16. "Refugee Influxes, Xenophobia, and Domestic Conflict: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Turkey." 2018. *Journal of Peace Research*. 55(4): 491-507. (with Anna Getmansky and Tolga Sinmazdemir).
15. "Fighting the Past: Perceptions of Control, Historical Misperceptions, and Corrective Information in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." 2018. *Political Psychology*. 39(3): 611-631. (with Brendan Nyhan).
14. "The New Public Address System: Why Do World Leaders Adopt Social Media." 2018. *International Studies Quarterly*. 62(1): 121-130. (with Pablo Barberá).
13. "Does Social Media Influence Conflict? Evidence from the 2012 Gaza Conflict." 2018. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 62(1): 29-63.
12. "Anger, Legacies of Violence, and Group Conflict: An Experiment in Post-Riot Acre, Israel." 2018. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. 35(4): 402-423.
11. "A Bargaining Theory of Conflict with Evolutionary Preferences." 2017. *International Organization*. 71(3):523-557. (with Andrew T. Little).
10. "How Social Media is Changing Conflict." 2017. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 61(9): 1970-1991.

9. "A Bottom-Up Theory of Public Opinion about Foreign Policy." 2017. *American Journal of Political Science*. 61(3): 543-558. (with Joshua Kertzer).
8. "Addressing Violent Intergroup Conflict from the Bottom Up?" 2017. *Social Issues and Policy Review*. 11(1): 38-77. (with Ruth K. Ditlmann and Cyrus Samii).
7. "Citizen Information, Electoral Incentives, and Provision of Counter-Terror: An Experimental Approach." 2015. *Political Behavior*. 37(3): 723-748. (with Andrew Bausch).
6. "Using Social Media to Measure Foreign Policy Dynamics: A Case Study of the Iranian-Israeli Confrontation on the Iranian Nuclear Weapons Program (2012-2013)" 2015. *Journal of Peace Research*. 52(3): 368-383. (with John Kelly and Gilad Lotan).
5. "Anger, Exposure to Violence, and Intragroup Conflict: A "Lab in the Field" Experiment in Southern Israel." 2014. *Political Psychology*. 30(3): 309-335.
4. "Terrorism and Voting: The Effect of Rocket Threat on Voting in Israeli Elections." 2014. *American Political Science Review*. 108(3): 588-604. (with Anna Getmansky).

Blog and media mentions:

- The Monkey Cage
 - Vox
 - Marginal Revolution
 - CFR Daily Brief, July 17, 2014
 - The Dish
3. "Warnings, Terrorist Threats and Resilience: A Laboratory Experiment." 2013. *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. 30(5): 433-451. (with Andrew W. Bausch and Joao R. Faria).
 2. "Using Social Media to Measure Conflict Dynamics: An Application to the 2008- 2009 Gaza Conflict." 2011. *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. 55(6): 938-969. ****Winner of the 2011 Bruce Russett Award for the best article published in the journal during the previous year****
 1. "Vote-Seeking Incentives and Investment Environments: The Need for Credit Claiming and the Provision of Protectionism." 2010. *Electoral Studies*. 29(2): 221-226. (with Brian F. Crisp, Nathan M. Jensen, and Guillermo Rosas).

Working Papers & Projects

- "Stopping Cycles of Retributive Violence: A Lab-in-the-Field Investigation in Mexico." (joint with Hannah Baron, Omar García-Ponce, and Lauren Young).
- "The Politics of Anti-Technology" (joint with Jan Zilinsky).
- "World on Fire: The Rise, Fall, and Future of the Eco Direct Action Movement."
- "Red lines and Negotiables: How Exposure to Wartime Violence Influences Support for Peace Settlements in Ukraine." (with Anna Getmansky, Anton Grushetsky, Nadiya Kostyuk, Tolga Sinmazdemir, and Austin Wright).
- "Measuring Support for Contentious Attitudes on Abortion." (with Dara Kay Cohen, Joshua Kertzer, and Dorothy Manevich).

Field Research

Ukraine (May 2017, June 2018, February 2019, August 2019, January 2020); Mexico (July 2012, July 2016, September 2016, February 2018, August 2019); Israel (June-August 2010, May-August 2011, March 2016); Georgia (July 2015); and Turkey (June 2014).

Grants

- Principal Investigator: Center for Growth & Opportunity: “Anti-tech Sentiment Survey” for \$18,000 (joint with Jan Zilinsky).
- Principal Investigator: National Science (SES-2226883), “RAPID: Red lines and Negotiables: How Exposure to Wartime Violence Influences Support for Peace Settlements (in Ukraine)” for \$31,434. June 2022-May 2023. (joint with Anna Getmansky, Anton Grushetsky, Sasha Jason, Nadiya Kostyuk, Tolga Sinmazdemir, and Austin Wright).
- Principal Investigator: Charles Koch Foundation, “The Nasty Style: Why Politicians Use Violent Rhetoric.” for \$36,570. 2021.
- Co-Principal Investigator, Law and Social Sciences, National Science Foundation (SES #1754344), for \$249,021 (joint with Omar García-Ponce and Lauren Young) “Analysis of Cycles of Retributive Violence.” (2018-2020).
- Sub-awardee, Research Council Norway (016-2021), for \$2,393,597 (joint with Dave Armstrong, Christian Davenport, Hanne Fjelde, Scott Gates, Ragnhild Nordas, and Havard Nygard). “The Costs of Contention: Comprehensively Understanding the Impact of State and/or Challenging Behavior.” 2016-2021.
- Co-Principal Investigator, American University and Faculty Research Support Grant, for \$22,530 (joint with Tricia Bacon and Joseph K. Young). “Winning Hearts and Minds or Preaching to the Choir? Gauging the Influence of Extremist Messaging and Counter Messaging”
- Co-Principal Investigator, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant National Science Foundation (SES-1064501) for \$11,900 entitled “The Effect of Anger and Sadness on Vengeance.” May 2011-April 2012.
- Co-Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation Grant for \$5,000 entitled “A Strategy for Enhancing Community Resilience Against Ongoing Terrorist Threat.” November 2010-December 2011.

Invited Talks and Conferences

- Election Campaigns and Democratic Norms, National University, Dublin, Ireland, Dcember 2023
- Book Conference, Tamar Mitts (Columbia University) October 2023
- Workshop on Content Moderation and Free Speech, Technical University Munich, Germany, October 2023
- Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley October 2022
- Georgetown Digital Economy and Security Collaborative Workshop, Washington DC, April 2022
- Invited Faculty Opponent of Eric Skoog’s PhD Defense, Uppsala Univeristy (Sweden) March 2020
- Department of Political Science, Columbia University March 2020
- Computational International Relations Workshop, University of California, Los Angeles February 2020
- Workshop on Political Violence, Washington University in St. Louis October 2019
- Data Science and Conflict Workshop, Columbia University October 2019
- Center for Human Compatible AI, University of California, Berkeley March 2019.
- Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin, April 2018.
- Department of Government, University of Essex (U.K.), August 2017.
- Department of Political Science, Yale University, March 2017.

Department of Political Science George Washington University, March 2017.
Working Group in Political Psychology, Harvard University, February 2017.
Department of Political Science, Stanford University, January 2017.
Symposia organizer at International Society for Political Psychology, Warsaw, Poland, July 2016.
School of Political Science, University of Haifa, Israel, March 2016.
International Studies Association Innovation Panel, March 2016.
Department of Politics, University of Virginia, November 2015.
Symposium in Psychology, Biology, and Political Attitudes, University of Nebraska at Lincoln, April 2015.
Department of Political Science, Brigham Young University, March 2015.
Blogs and Bullets Conference, Stanford University, March 2015.
Johns Hopkins University and Applied Physics Lab, February 2015.
Social Media and Political Participation Conference, New York University, October 2013.
RAND Corporation, September 2012.
Jeremy Ginges Lab, The New School, November 2011.
Blogs and Bullets Conference, Stanford University, February 2011.
Bridging Areas of Expertise: Funding Research on Terrorism, at University of Texas at Dallas, October 2010.

TEACHING AND ADVISING

Teaching (American University)

Introduction to Justice Research (BA-level research methods class). Fall 2014, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017.
Psychology of Political Violence and Terrorism (MA-level). Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2022. Fall 2023.
Ideology, Extremis, and Violence (MA-level). Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023.
Causes of Terrorism and Political Violence (MA-level). Fall 2015, Fall 2016. Fall 2017.
Causal Inference in the Lab, the Field, and in Nature (PhD-level). Spring 2015, Spring 2016.
Terrorism, Crime, and Public Policy (MA-, PhD-level). Spring 2018
Conduct IV: Causal Inference in the Lab, the Field, and in Nature (PhD-level). Spring 2015, Spring 2022.

Advising

Current

Maria Borselli PhD committee member.
Bethany Leap PhD committee member.
Daniel Stenman PhD committee member.
Alexandria Samson PhD committee chair.

Past

Hannah Chesterton: PhD committee chair. Tenure-track faculty Catholic University (Fall 2022-present)

Jason Fritz: PhD committee member. Defense Security Cooperation University (2022-present)

Erin M. Kearns: PhD committee member. Tenure-track faculty, University of Alabama (2017-2021), and now University of Nebraska at Omaha (2021-present)

Katherine Parsons: PhD committee chair. Research Specialist at the National Counterterrorism Innovation, Technology and Education Center (NCITE), University of Nebraska at Omaha (2021-present)

Divya Ramjee: PhD committee chair. Tenure-track faculty Rochester Institute of Technology (Spring 2024-present)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer

American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, International Organization, Journal of Politics, Journal of Peace Research, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, International Security British Journal of Political Science Journal of Experimental Political Science, Political Psychology, World Development, and Conflict Management and Peace Science.

Professional Membership

American Political Science Association.