

# YELENA BIBERMAN

Department of Political Science  
SKIDMORE COLLEGE  
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## Positions

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- Assistant Professor SKIDMORE COLLEGE, Saratoga Springs, NY  
Department of Political Science (Fall 2014-Present)
- Nonresident Fellow ATLANTIC COUNCIL SOUTH ASIA CENTER, Washington, D.C.  
(March 2016-Present)
- Visiting Instructor UNION COLLEGE, Schenectady, NY  
Department of Political Science (Winter and Spring 2014 Terms)

## Education

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- Ph.D. BROWN UNIVERSITY  
Political Science (September 2008-May 2014)  
Areas: Comparative Politics (*high merit*) and International Relations  
Dissertation: *Why States Outsource the Use of Force to Domestic Nonstate Actors*  
Committee: Ashutosh Varshney (Chair), Peter Andreas, Pauline Jones-Luong  
M.A. Political Science (2010)
- M.A. HARVARD UNIVERSITY  
Regional Studies – Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia (2004-06)
- B.A. WELLESLEY COLLEGE  
International Relations (2000-04), *Magna cum Laude*, Honors in International Relations  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY  
Philosophy and International Relations (2002-03)

## Publications

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### *Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles*

- “Militia Welfare: Resource Endowment and Public Goods Provision by Armed Nonstate Groups in Pakistan and Nigeria” (with Megan Turnbull), *Political Science Quarterly*, forthcoming.
- “Terrorist Prison Breaks” (with Trevor Cloen and Farhan Zahid), *Perspectives on Terrorism* 12, no. 1 (2018).
- “How We Know What We Know About Pakistan: *New York Times* News Production, 1954-1971,” *Modern Asian Studies* 51, no. 5 (September 2017): 1598-1625.
- “Genocidal Violence, Nation-Building, and the Bloody Birth of Bangladesh” (with Rachel Castellano), *Asian Security* (June 2017), DOI: 10.1080/14799855.2017.1335712.

- “Self-Defense Militias, Death Squads, and State Outsourcing of Violence in India and Turkey,” *Journal of Strategic Studies* (July 2016), DOI: 10.1080/01402390.2016.1202822.
- “Why Terrorists Target Children: Outbidding, Desperation, and Extremism in the Peshawar and Beslan School Massacres” (with Farhan Zahid), *Terrorism and Political Violence* (February 2016), DOI: 10.1080/09546553.2015.1135425.
- “Channeling Islam: Religious Narratives on Pakistani Television and Their Influence on Pakistani Youth,” (with Sahar Gul and Feryaz Ocakli), *Asian Affairs: An American Review* 43, no. 3 (2016): 78-97.
- “One Shield, Two Responses: Anti-U.S. Missile Defense Shield Protests in the Czech Republic and Poland” (with Feryaz Ocakli), *Politics & Policy* 43, No. 2 (April 2015): 197-214.
- “The Politics of Diplomatic Service Reform in Post-Soviet Russia,” *Political Science Quarterly* 126, No. 4 (Winter 2011-2012): 669-680.
- “Bureaucratic Partisanship and State Building: The Case of Ukrainian Foreign Ministry,” *Problems of Post-Communism* 58, No. 2 (March/April 2011): 17-27.
- Awarded 2011 Millar Prize
- “Assessing the Costs of Weak Diplomatic Institutions” (Ukrainian: «Оцінюючи Втрати Внаслідок Слабких Інститутів Дипломатії»), *Academic Bulletin of the Diplomatic Academy of Ukraine* (Науковий Вісник Дипломатичної Академії України) Vol. 15 (2010): 228-234.
- “Political Science and the Rules of Causal Inference” (Russian: «Политология и правила выявления причинно-следственных отношений»), *Polis* 10, No. 6 (2009): 168-176.

### ***Book Chapter***

- “Violence by Proxy: Russia’s Ex-Rebels and Criminals in Chechnya” (pp. 135-150), in *State Terror, State Violence: Global Perspectives*, Ed. Bettina Koch (Wiesbaden: Springer, 2016).

### ***Policy***

- “An Opportunity for Regional Leadership in South Asia,” *New Atlanticist*, February 7, 2017.
- “Bridging the Gap between Policing and Counterinsurgency in Pakistan” (with Farhan Zahid and Philip Hultquist), *Military Review* (November-December 2016): 37-43.
- “When the Strong Weaponize the Weak: States and Guerrilla Warfare,” *Sustainable Security* (Oxford Research Group), October 19, 2016.
- “Between Radicalization and Violence” (with Gage Willand), *Political Violence @ a Glance*, June 23, 2016.
- “Peace by Assassination?” *Political Violence @ a Glance*, May 25, 2016.
- “The Problem with Proxies: Ideology is No Substitute for Operational Control” (with Orr Genish), *Small Wars Journal*, September 27, 2015.
- “Reimagining Pakistan’s Militia Policy,” *Atlantic Council Issue Brief*, April 27, 2015.

“In Pakistan, Domestic Threats Begin to Overshadow India,” *Washington Post* (Monkey Cage), January 6, 2015.

“Are There Lessons from Pakistan for Future of Fighting in Ukraine?” *Washington Post* (Monkey Cage), May 27, 2014.

“Generation Putin,” *Foreign Policy*, January 22, 2008.

“Between the East and West,” *Moscow Times* 4326 (Feb. 8, 2010), 7.

“Unwelcomed Missiles” (with Feryaz Ocakli), *Russia Profile*, December 29, 2009.

“Iran: Code Orange?” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, June 30, 2009.

“Learning from the Soviets in Afghanistan,” *Foreign Policy in Focus*, June 20, 2008.

“U.S.-Iran Relations Need Reform,” *Wellesley News*, September 2003.

### ***Selected Reporting***

“Children of the Revolution: A New Generation of Russians Tries to Become Politically Active,” *Russia Profile*, February 5, 2008.

“Why Alma Mater Matters,” *Russia Profile* 5, No. 6 (July 2008): 8-9.

“A Rural Referendum: Villagers Hope Medvedev Will Continue Down Putin’s Path,” *Russia Profile*, March 3, 2008.

“Banking on Russian Women,” *Passport Moscow* (September 2008): 30-32.

### **Awards and Fellowships**

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2016, 2017. Skidmore College Faculty Student Summer Research Grant

2015-2016, 2016-2017. Judith Johns Carrico Faculty Grant

2014-2015. Atlantic Council US-Pakistan Exchange Fellowship

2015, 2016, 2017. Skidmore College Faculty Development Grant

2014. Skidmore College Center for Leadership in Teaching and Learning Course Development Grant

2014. American Institute of Pakistan Studies Travel Grant

2014. Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences Travel Grant

2013-2014. Watson Institute for International Affairs Graduate Fellowship [declined, to accept a teaching position at Union College]

2012-2013. Jennings Randolph Peace Scholar Dissertation Fellowship, United States Institute of Peace (USIP)

2012-2013. American Institute of Pakistan Studies Junior Fellowship

2012. Smith Richardson Foundation World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship

2011. Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy Research Grant (Special Recognition: John L. Stanley Award)

2011. James R. Millar Graduate Student Prize from the National Council for Eurasian and East European Research (NCEEER)

2011. New York Public Library Short-Term Research Fellowship

2011. American Political Science Association Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs Fellow

2011. Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship, South Asia Summer Language Institute (Urdu)

2011-2012. Brown University Graduate School Internal Dissertation Fellowship

2011, 2012, 2013. Brown University Office of International Affairs Research Travel Grant

2010, 2011, 2012. Brown University Graduate School Research Travel Grant

2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013. Brown University Graduate School Conference Travel Grant

2010. Brown University Political Science Department Methods Training Fellowship

2009. IREX U.S. Embassy Policy Specialist Fellowship

2009. Watson Institute for International Affairs Graduate Program in Development Summer Fieldwork Grant

2008-2009. Stanley J. Bernstein '65 Graduate Fellowship, Brown University

2006-2007. Fulbright Fellowship

2005. Harvard University Davis Center Research Travel Grant

2005. Harvard University Ukrainian Institute Research Travel Grant

2005. Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship

2002-2003. National Science Foundation Award for the Integration of Research and Education

2002, 2003. Francis Beirne National Essay Contest First Place Prize

2003. Target "All-Around" Award

2003. Wellesley Class Of '69 Community Service Award

2002. Centuria of Excellence Award

2001, 2002, 2004. Wellesley College Spirit of Service Award

2001. Youth Venture Grant

2001. Wellesley College First Year Academic Distinction

## **Conference and Workshop Presentations**

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International Studies Association Annual Meeting (2014, 2015, 2017)

Book Manuscript Workshop (daylong examination of my *Gambling with Violence* book manuscript), Center for Contemporary South Asia, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, Brown University (November 11, 2016)

Annual Conference on South Asia (2013, 2014, 2015)

American Institute of Pakistan Studies Junior Scholars Conference (2015)

International Studies Association Northeast Annual Conference (2015, 2017)

Political Violence Workshop at Hamilton College (2015)

Association for the Study of Nationalities Annual Conference (2015)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2010, 2014)

Modern South Asia Workshop at Yale University (2014)

Cambridge University Press Watson Seminar, book manuscript review (2013)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Strategic Use of Force Working Group (2013, 2013)

New England Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, forthcoming 2017)

Jennings Randolph Senior Fellows and Peace Scholars Workshop, USIP (2013)

Midwest Political Science Association Conference (2009, 2012, 2014)

National Seminar for Research Scholars on “Understanding Pakistan,” Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India (2011)

Harvard University Post-Communist Politics and Economics Workshop (2011)

IREX/Woodrow Wilson Center Regional Policy Symposium (2009)

Inter-Ivy Sociology Symposium at Columbia University (2009)

Russian Academy of Education Conference on Professional Education, Cheboksary, Russia (2006)

Harvard University Graduate Student Conference on Comparative and Security Policies (2006)

Harvard University Davis Center Undergraduate Research Conference (2004)

Wellesley College Ruhlman Conference, Wellesley College (2004)

Wellesley College Tanner Conference (2003)

## **Invited Events and Guest Lectures**

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Raisina Dialogue, New Delhi, India, Delegate (January 16-18, 2018)

Pi Sigma Alpha [National Political Science Honor Society] Keynote Speech at Skidmore College Political Science Department's induction ceremony (March 10, 2016)

Silver Bay YMCA, Silver Bay, NY (June 28, 2016)

International Student Union, Skidmore College (December 2, 2016)

- “The Middle-Eastern and European Refugee Crisis: Causes, Consequences, Next Steps”

Skidmore College WIB (“Women in Business”)Talk (March 28, 2016)

- Event highlighted “personal stories and academic careers of remarkable female Skidmore Professors.”

Skidmore Encore (October 27 and 29, 2015)

Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi, India (August 2015)

Center for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India (August 2015)

Newcomb Foreign Affairs Roundtable, Newcomb, NY (July 2015)

National Police Academy, Islamabad, Pakistan (December 2014)

National Ground Intelligence Center, Charlottesville, VA (August 2014)

Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russia (March 2008; November and December 2012)

Institute of Kashmir Studies, University of Kashmir in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir (2012)

Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India (2012)

IREX Regional Office in Kiev, Ukraine (2009)

American Center in Moscow, Russia (2008)

U.S. Embassy in Moscow, Russia (2008)

History of Russian-American Diplomatic Relations: 200 Years, FLEX Alumni Conference in Yaroslavl, Russia (2007)

## **Teaching**

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### **Instructor**

*Politics of Modern South Asia*

Union College (Winter 2014); Skidmore College (Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017)

*States, Rebels, and Warlords*

Union College (Spring 2014); Skidmore College (Fall 2014, Fall 2015)

*Politics of Modern Warfare*

Skidmore College (Spring 2015, Fall 2016)

*They Might Be Giants: Global Rise of BRICS*

Union College (Winter 2014); Skidmore College (Spring 2015)

*Introduction to Comparative and International Politics*

Skidmore College (Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

*Soldiers, Diplomats, and Spies: The Art of Politics by Other Means*

Skidmore College (Fall 2016)

### **Teaching Assistant**

*Politics, Economy, and Society in India*, Brown University (Spring 2011)

*The Roots of Radical Political Islam*, Brown University (Fall 2010)

*Politics, Markets, and States in Developing Countries*, Brown University (Fall 2009)

*Introduction to International Relations*, Brown University (Spring 2010)

### **Volunteer Instructor**

Global Learning Non-Profit Organization in San Roque, Costa Rica (2001)

Albany Youth Leadership Institute in Albany, NY (2002)

### **Founder and Director**

College Prep Program in Albany, NY (2002-03)

### **Additional Training**

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Project Vis Data Visualization, Skidmore College (February 2017)

National Security Seminar, U.S. Army War College (June 2016)

Dissertation to Book Workshop, American Institute of Indian Studies, Annual Conference on South Asia, Madison, WI (October 2014)

Philip Merrill Center for Strategic Studies Basin Harbor Workshop (June 2014)

Training in the field of strategic studies through a five-day pedagogical colloquium focusing on teaching an introductory course in strategic studies; syllabus construction; case teaching; use of film in the classroom; gaming and simulations; and staff rides

Pay It Forward: Women Helping Women in International Relations, International Studies Association Annual Convention (2014)

Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy (SWAMOS), Cornell University, Ithaca, NY (2013)

Olympia Summer Seminars: *Transformation of Conflict*, Olympia, Greece (2012)

Staff Writer, *Russia Profile* Magazine in Moscow, Russia (2007-08)

- Authored over 50 analytical articles; substituted Executive Editor in July 2008

### ***Methodological Training***

Research and Design for Causal Inference, Northwestern Law (2014)

Spatial Structures in the Social Sciences Geographic Information System (GIS) Institute (2012)

Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse, NY (2010)

### ***Pedagogical Training***

Brown University Sheridan Center Teaching Certificate I (2009-10) and Certificate III (2010-11)

College Reading and Learning Association Tutor Certification (2002-03)

### **Selected Media Appearances**

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*Foreign Policy*, Quoted in “Streetfighting Men: Is Ukraine’s Government Bankrolling a Secret Army of Adidas-Clad Thugs?” (February 6, 2014)

*Al Jazeera Arabic News Channel*, Live Interview (April 18, 2008)

*The Wall Street Journal*, *The Informed Reader*, Coverage of my *Foreign Policy* article “Generation Putin Eyes the World Warily” (January 29, 2008)

Chinese Xinhua News Agency, Interview (February 29 and March 3, 2008)

Political Talk Show *Narod Hochet Znat’* (TVS-Moscow Television Channel), Interview (November 30, 2007)

### **Manuscript Reviewer**

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*American Political Science Review*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Asian Affairs: An American Review*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *African Journal of Political Science and International Relations*, *Brown Journal of History* (Associate Editor, 2011)

### **Service**

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Faculty Advisor to *Skidmore News* (Fall 2015-Spring 2017), Faculty Advisor to Kashmir Flood Volunteer Action Committee, Skidmore College (Fall 2014); Campus Access Advisory Committee, Office of Disability Services, Brown University (2011-12); Educational Equity Leadership Group, Brown (2011)

### **Languages**

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Urdu/Hindi – advanced introductory; Russian – fluent; Spanish – intermediate; Turkish – introductory; Belarusian, Ukrainian – working knowledge