

# KATHARINE PETRICH

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## EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science May 2019

Northeastern University, Boston, MA

- Dissertation: “The Resilient Terrorist: How Criminal Diversification Impacts the Longevity, Durability, and Target Selection of Terrorist Groups”

Masters of Arts, International Relations, *with honors* May 2013

University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

- Thesis: “Maritime Security Cooperation in the Gulf of Aden: An Assessment of the Ongoing International Naval Effort to Combat Somali Piracy”

Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science, *cum laude* May 2010

University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Aqil, Nauman, **Katharine Petrich**, and Rajeev Gunder. (2023). “Leveraging Identity to Overcome Temporal and Financial Limitations in Rapid Ethnography.” *Journal of Criminology*. DOI: [10.1177/26338076231172521](https://doi.org/10.1177/26338076231172521)

**Petrich, Katharine**. (2022). “Terrorist Organizations and Transnational Organized Crime.” In the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford University Press. DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.705](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.705)

**Petrich, Katharine** and Victor Asal. (2022). “I’d Like to Speak to the Person in Charge: Measuring Dominant Ethnopolitical Organizations in the Middle East.” *Terrorism and Political Violence*. DOI: [10.1080/09546553.2022.2106856](https://doi.org/10.1080/09546553.2022.2106856)

Stiles, Greg, Janina Pescinski, **Katharine Petrich**, and Anastasia Ufimtseva. (2022). “For early-career researchers by early-career researchers: The *GPNG* model for advancing, promoting and supporting innovative research.” *Learned Publishing*, 35: 361-366. DOI: [10.1002/lead.1474](https://doi.org/10.1002/lead.1474)

**Petrich, Katharine**. (2021). “Crime-Terror Nexus.” In the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*. Oxford University Press. DOI: [10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.608](https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190846626.013.608)

**Petrich, Katharine**. (2019). “Cows, Charcoal, and Cocaine: al-Shabaab’s Criminal Activities in the Horn of Africa.” *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*. 45:5-6, 479-500. DOI: [10.1080/1057610X.2019.1678873](https://doi.org/10.1080/1057610X.2019.1678873)

**Petrich, Katharine** and Phoebe Donnelly. (2019). “Worth Many Sins: al-Shabaab’s Shifting Relationship with Kenyan Women.” *Small Wars and Insurgencies* 30:6-7, 1169-1192. DOI: [10.1080/09592318.2019.1649814](https://doi.org/10.1080/09592318.2019.1649814)

## PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Petrich, Katharine. "Am I Being Detained? Exploring the Relationship Between Sovereign Citizens, Anti-authority Movements, and Illicit Trafficking in Canada." (Accepted for APSA 2021)

Petrich, Katharine. "It Ain't What They Call You, It's What You Answer To: The Impact of Nomenclature on Terrorism Studies" (Accepted for ISA 2021)

Petrich, Katharine. "Door Kickers or Peace Officers: The Role of Special Operations Forces in Responding to Crime-Terror Groups." (Accepted for ISA 2021)

## SELECTED PUBLIC FACING PUBLICATIONS

Petrich, Katharine. "How crime is closely linked to al-Shabaab's survival strategy." *The Conversation*. April 8, 2020. <https://theconversation.com/how-crime-is-closely-linked-to-al-shabaabs-survival-strategy-134432>

Petrich, Katharine. "Guns, Pirates, and Charcoal" *Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime*. December 18, 2018. [https://globalinitiative.net/somalia\\_untocwatch/](https://globalinitiative.net/somalia_untocwatch/)

Petrich, Katharine. "Al-Shabaab's Mata Hari Network." *War on the Rocks*. August 14, 2018. <https://warontherocks.com/2018/08/al-shabaabs-mata-hari-network/>

Petrich, Katharine. "The Drug Trade in Afghanistan and Pakistan: A Confluence of Criminality and Terror." *Freedom Writers CA*. August 28, 2013. <https://www.mosecon.com/freedomwritersca-guest-blog-the-drug-trade-in-afghanistan-and-pakistan-a-confluence-of-criminality-and-terror/>

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Middlebury Institute of International Studies

Assistant Professor

January 2022 – Present

Visiting Assistant Professor

June 2023 – Present

January 2022 – May 2023

- Designed and taught graduate courses and workshops on security and conflict including: Political Violence in Latin America; Transnational Crime and Terrorism; Terrorism and Counterterrorism in Africa; and Corruption
- Oversaw the development of and assessed a series of innovative projects that required students to develop real world experience, including tasks such as 'red teaming' or simulate participation in a terrorist network, developing and producing conflict oriented podcasts, and using open source intelligence to develop actionable policy recommendations
- Mentored and advised students on job applications, writing samples, and Peace Corps applications

### Santa Clara University

Adjunct Lecturer

September 2019 – December 2020

- Designed and taught Comparative Politics and Transnational Crime to approximately 150 undergraduate students over three quarters
- Used games and simulations in addition to traditional lectures to create a broader learning environment
- Delivered lectures, graded assignments, facilitated group discussions, and wrote evaluative assignments and exams
- Quickly pivoted to online learning pedagogy following the 2020 Covid 19 health crisis, resulting in accessible and effective student learning outcomes

**Middlebury Institute of International Studies**

January 2020 & 2021

Adjunct Lecturer

- Designed and taught intensive graduate course on Transnational Crime and Terrorism for 25 Masters level students
- Oversaw the development of and assessed 25 innovative final projects that required students to ‘red team’ or simulate participation in a terrorist network in order to develop actionable policy recommendations
- Mentored and advised students on job applications, writing samples, and Peace Corps applications

**Northeastern University**

May 2016 – January 2018

Instructor of Record

- Designed undergraduate level International Relations courses to teach complex problem-solving skills in an evolving and ambiguous international environment
- Delivered lectures, graded assignments, facilitated group discussions, and wrote evaluative assignments and exams

**Northeastern University**

September 2014 – May 2016, February 2018 – May 2018

Teaching Assistant

- Delivered lectures, graded assignments, facilitated group discussions, and provided one–on–one mentoring and advising
- Briefed professors on comprehension, inquiries, and progress of students
- Political Science Classes:
  - International Relations, Comparative Politics, American Politics, National Security, US Foreign Policy, Globalization

**Northeastern University**

May 2015 – August 2016

Writing Tutor, Student Athlete Services

- Worked one–on–one with student athletes on academic writing assignments to better understand technical conventions of academic writing
- Taught research design, library research skills, and citation formats (MLA, APA, Chicago)
- Supported students in interpreting assignments, brainstorming paper ideas, discussing course readings, and planning for a paper
- Improved student editing and proofreading skills and expanded vocabularies

## RESEARCH POSITIONS

### Independent Consultant

July 2019 – Present

- Produced bespoke research for a range of security, development, and government clients.
- Reviewed relevant literature, interviewed field experts, attended and synthesized briefings.
- Wrote a range of products including policy briefs, reports, grants, and white papers.
- Clients included: US Department of Homeland Security Advisory Committee's Subcommittee on Economic Security, Center for Women and Enterprise, and the International Republican Institute.

### Center for Policy Research

July 2019 – August 2021

#### Visiting Researcher

- Conducted mixed methods research on the popularity of violent ethnic groups in the MENA region, women involved in crime and terror, and the resurgence of the IRA post-Brexit
- Wrote peer reviewed publications and public facing commentary on counterterrorism and special operations policy
- Engaged with the academic and policy communities to build professional and research networks
- Produced literature reviews of relevant primary and secondary source literature

### Research on International Policy Implementation Lab

October 2020 – February 2021

#### Research Fellow

- Principle Investigator for “‘Grey Zone’ Challenges: Mapping the Relationship between Governance, Development, and Conflict”
- Conducted qualitative and mixed methods research on emerging and nontraditional conflicts
- Wrote peer reviewed article and public facing commentary on terrorist groups, criminal gangs, sovereign micro-states, illicit financial flows, and ‘ungoverned’ spaces.
- Developed evidence-based policy solutions and assessment framework to guide policy responses to grey zone challenges

### Naval Postgraduate School

August 2018 – April 2019

#### Visiting Researcher, National Security Affairs Department

- Wrote fieldwork-based articles on crime-terror connections, special operations forces, and asymmetric conflict
- Assembled new dataset on the impact of criminal behavior on terrorist organization longevity and target selection

### United States Department of Justice

June 2016 – April 2019

#### Graduate Honors Intern

- Served in Federal Bureau of Investigation's Global Unit of the Directorate of Intelligence, Boston Field Office, and San Francisco Field Office
- Prepared major counterterrorism trial materials, including preparing expert witness on terrorism and briefing Assistant United States Attorney team on the state of the field.
- Wrote strategic analytic information briefs utilizing wide ranging intelligence sources
- Conducted enterprise – wide strategic analyses to identify threats and trends emanating from state actors in the Asia – Pacific
- Built unique databases to track and analyze activity reports from assigned Area Of Responsibility

- Prepared briefings, reports, and intelligence products for both internal FBI and external dissemination

**United States Department of State**

August 2017 – March 2018

Graduate Intern, Virtual Student Foreign Service

- Developed security briefing papers focused on Mexican security trends for deployed diplomats in the field
- Analyzed online open source information to write security assessments of each Mexican states
- Used Mexican governmental data to produce qualitative research assessments

**Northeastern University**

October 2017 – March 2018

Graduate Research Assistant

- Researched under Dr. Nikos Passas in support of a forthcoming think tank report
- Investigated corruption in rare mineral exports in West Africa and Asia at the international, regional, national, and local level
- Developed theory of systematic corruption focused on integrity, participants, and motives using qualitative and primary source materials

**United States Military Academy**

May 2017 – August 2017

PhD Research Intern, Modern War Institute

- Conducted qualitative research on strategic decisions and tactical evolution of insurgent groups, primarily focused on the case studies of Sri Lanka and Vietnam
- Built unique quantitative dataset of insurgency characteristics, designed to track strategic calculation and miscalculation over time

**Hudson Institute**

September 2015 – December 2015

Graduate Research Intern

- Supported the Center for Political – Military Analysis under Dr. Richard Weitz
- Researched critical security issues focused on corruption and terrorism, built dossiers for distribution to senior staff and external stakeholders
- Assessed special operations counterterrorism deployments in Africa, focusing on Niger

**Northeastern University**

May 2015 – September 2015

Research Assistant

- Researched under Dr. Nikos Passas in support of a forthcoming manuscript
- Investigated corruption in athletics at the international, regional, national, and local level
- Developed theory of systematic sports corruption focused on integrity, participants, and motives using qualitative and primary source materials

**Freedom Observatory**

May 2013 – April 2015

Contributing Analyst

- Wrote articles analyzing international security for an independent online publication
- Analyzed modern global security context to provide insight on international relations
- Subject matter expert on Latin America, Africa, South Asia, and border community issues

**Justice in Mexico Project, Trans – Border Institute**

May 2012 – August 2014

Petrich CV September 2023

## Graduate Researcher

- Documented and recorded homicide victims of cartel related violence utilizing open source information as a contribution to the only publicly accessible database of casualties of Mexico's drug conflict
- Compiled and synthesized Spanish language news items for daily national security and defense briefings for the Justice in Mexico Project news blog (WordPress platform)
- Quantitatively analyzed violence trend to create one-, three-, and six-month predictions
- Researched and drafted major security brief on status of drug cartel violence in Monterrey, MX
- Analyzed-spillover violence and the impact of narco – violence on the San Diego community

## University of San Diego

January 2009 – August 2009

### Research Assistant

- Worked for Dr. Noelle Norton, Chair of the Department of Political Science
- Researched United States legislative participation on international women's rights and contributed independent analysis to the project "Voting Beyond Our Shores: International Women's Rights Legislation"
- Designed and entered data into a database of proposed international women's rights actions presented to Congress, including specific kinds of legislation, sponsor information, type of feminism expressed, and success/failure of each

## SERVICE

### *Global Policy: Next Generation*

August 2020 – Present

#### Deputy Editor

- Collaborated with the editorial team to develop new publishing strategies for policy relevant research at GNPG.
- Developed network of leading scholars and researchers, specifically focused on early career and Global South scholars.
- Judged whether projects are publishable editorially; if so, solicited and managed peer reviews
- Worked extensively with authors to ensure proper preparation of manuscripts & responding to reviewer feedback
- Developed slate of educational programming for ECRs and Global South Scholars to broaden access to academic publishing, including webinars, forums, podcasts, and blog posts.

## GRANTS

American Political Science Association (APSA) Travel Grant (2019)

Northeastern University Provost Graduate Thesis/Dissertation Research Grant (2018-2019)

Northeastern University PhD Network Fieldwork Travel Grant (Summer 2018)

Northeastern University Graduate Student Research and Experiential Learning Grant (Summer 2018))

Cornell University - Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Workshop Travel Grant (March 2018)

Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop Funding (March 2018)

Northeastern University Graduate Student Research and Experiential Learning Grant (Summer 2017)

Northeastern University Graduate Student Government (GSG) Research Funding Award (December 2015, March 2017, August 2017)  
Northeastern University Doctoral Funding (2014 – 2019)  
University of San Diego Travel Grant (December 2013)  
University of San Diego Dean's Graduate Merit Scholarship (2011 – 2013)  
Summer Business Institute Dean's Merit Scholarship (2012)  
University of San Diego Presidential Scholarship (2006 – 2010)  
University of San Diego Athletics Scholarship (2006 – 2010)  
University of San Diego Dean's List (2006 – 2010)  
National Society of Collegiate Scholars (2006 – Present)

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Empires of Blood and Fire: How Cocaine Changed the Trajectories of M-19 and FARC.” American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Washington DC (August 2019)  
“Worth Many Sins: Al-Shabaab's Shifting Relationship with Kenyan Women.” International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto, CA (March 2019)  
“Strategic Miscalculations: The Maoist Model of War.” International Studies Association (ISA) Annual Convention, Toronto, CA (March 2019).  
International Security Working Group. American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (September 2018)  
“The Resilient Terrorist: How diversification into transnational organized crime impacts longevity, durability, and target selection of terrorist groups.” Cornell University - Judith Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Workshop, Ithaca, NY (March 2018)  
Bridging the Gap New Era Program. American University, Washington, D.C. (March 2018)  
“Strategic Miscalculations: Why Do Insurgent Groups Seek to Shift to Conventional Tactics Despite Previous Success in Guerrilla Warfare.” Boston International Security Graduate Conference. Boston, MA (February 2018)  
International Security Working Group. American Political Science Association (APSA) Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (September 2017)  
“Terrorism and Resilience: How Family Businesses Respond to Terrorist Activity” with Dr. Luis Dau, Dr. Max Abrahms, and Dr. Elizabeth Moore. Academy of International Business – Latin America Annual Meeting, Lima, Peru. (March 2017)  
Research In Conflict Zones, Harvard Kennedy School, Cambridge, MA. (February 2017)  
“Developing a Methodology for Assessing and Countering Transnational Organized Crime.” U.S. Army Peacekeeping and Stability Operations (PKSOI) Working Group, Rockville, Maryland. (April 2016)  
“Battling the Hydra: The Role of Special Operations Forces in Countering the Hybridization of Terror.” Presented to Annual Symposium of the Special Operations Research Association, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. (December 2015)  
“Maritime Security Cooperation in the Gulf of Aden: An Assessment of the Ongoing International Naval Effort to Combat Somali Piracy.” Presented at the University of San Diego Department of Political Science MAIR Capstone Conference. (May 2013)

“Extremists in Forgotten Corners: Hezbollah in Latin America.” Presented to the International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime, Antalya, Turkey. (December 2012)  
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly, Prague, Czech Republic (November 2012)  
North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly, Bucharest, Romania (October 2011)

## **LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE**

Deputy Editor, *Global Policy: Next Generation* (September 2020 – Present)  
Security Fellow, Truman National Security Project (2018 – Present)  
Member, NatSecGirlSquad (2017 – Present)  
Candidate, She Should Run (Spring 2020)  
Founding Member, International Security Working Group, American Political Science Association (APSA) (2017 – 2020)  
Founding Member, International Security Working Group, Northeastern University (2016 – 2019)  
PhD Peer Mentor, Northeastern University (2016 – 2019)  
President, Boston International Security Graduate Conference (2017 – 2018)  
Founder, Northeastern Women in Political Science (2017 – 2018)  
Representative, Public Awareness Committee, Junior League of Boston (2017 – 2018)  
Steering Committee, PhD Student Organization (PoliTea), Northeastern University (2015 – 2018)  
Graduate Representative, Political Science Chair Search Committee, Northeastern University (2015 – 2016)  
President, Master of Arts in International Relations, University of San Diego (2012–2013)  
MAIR Representative, Graduate Student Council, University of San Diego (2012 – 2013)  
Graduate Student Representative, Graduate Studies Committee, University of San Diego (2012 – 2013)  
Captain, Women’s Rowing, University of San Diego (2009 – 2010)

## **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

International Security; Escalation of Civil Conflicts; Non-state Actors; Terrorism; Transnational Crime; Emerging States

Regional focuses on developing states in South Asia, Horn of Africa, Latin America

## **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (intermediate) and Swahili (beginner)