

SANNE CORNELIA J. VERSCHUREN

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science.

Brown University

Expected May 2021

Providence, USA

Working Title: Imagining the Unimaginable: War, Weapons and Procurement Politics

Comprehensive Exams in International Relations and Comparative Politics (September 2017)

Master of Arts in Political Science.

Brown University

2015-2017

Providence, USA

Master of Science in Politics of Conflict, Rights and Justice. Distinction.

School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London

2013-2014

London, UK

Master Thesis: General Elections in Kenya: Breaking with the History of Violence?

Master of Laws in Law. Magna Cum Laude.

Ghent University

2011-2013

Ghent, Belgium

Master Thesis: The Development of Unmanned Weapons and Challenges for International Law

Master of Laws in Law. Erasmus Exchange. Pass with Distinction.

Lund University

January-June 2013

Lund, Sweden

Bachelor of Laws in Law.

Ghent University

2008-2011

Ghent, Belgium

Bachelor Thesis: Discrimination in Education: A Comparative Study of Relevant Cases of the European Court of Human Rights and the Supreme Court of the United States

ACADEMIC AFFILIATION

Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School *Sept-June '21*

Predocctoral Fellow, International Security Program

Center for International Studies, Sciences Po

Visiting Researcher

April-July 2019

Department of War Studies, King's College London

Visiting Researcher

January-March 2019

RESEARCH

Research Interests

- Development of Military Technology, Shifts in Strategy and Tactics, and Role of Ideas and Norms
- Global Trends in Armament and Disarmament
- Export of Conventional Weapons and Small Arms
- Intersection of the Study of Conventional Capabilities and Nuclear Weapons

Work in Progress

- Up in Arms: The Influence of Political Parties on Compliance with Arms Export Regulations. (working paper)
- Writing IR after COVID-19: Reassessing Political Possibilities, Good Faith and Policy Relevance. With Benoît Pelopidas. (working paper)
- The Never-Ending Pursuit of Missile Defenses. (working paper)
- An Inescapable Paradox? The Obama Administration and Missile Defense. (in preparation)
- Culture and Technology as Ambiguous Variables. With Erik Peinert. (in preparation)
- Measuring Elite Understandings of Nuclear Deterrence. With Daniel Post. (data collection)

Related Publications

- "War Isn't (Quite) the Right Metaphor for COVID-19." 20 May 2019. In *Political Violence at a Glance*. With Sara Plana. ([link](#))
- "Belgians know little about Nuclear Weapons (but do oppose them)." 7 August 2018. In *De Standaard*. ([link](#))
- "Time to Really Ban to Bomb." 14 May 2015. In *Mo**. ([link](#))

Conferences

- American Political Science Association, Virtual (scheduled for September 2020) - Presenter
- Future Strategy Forum, Virtual (June 2020) - Participant
- New England Political Science Association, Mystic (cancelled due to COVID19) - Presenter
- International Studies Association, Honolulu (cancelled due to COVID19) - Presenter
- International Security Studies Section of ISA, Denver (October 2019) - Presenter and Discussant
- Breaking the Mold 2.0 Workshop at U.S. Naval War College, Newport (October 2018) - Participant
- International Studies Association North East, Providence (November 2017) - Presenter
- Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago (April 2017) - Presenter and Discussant

Invited Talks

- Political Economy Workshop, Joint Forum with Boston University (scheduled for October 2020)
- Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University (rescheduled due to COVID19)
- Workshop of Nuclear Knowledges, Center for International Studies, Sciences Po (June 2019)
- Foundation Biermans-Lapôte, Paris (May 2019)
- Political Economy of National Security Workshop, Boston University (December 2017)

Research Assistance

- Professor Linda Cook (Winter 2016-2017)
- Professor Mark Blyth (Winter 2015-2016)
- Professor Leslie Vinjamuri (Spring and Summer 2014)

Additional Training

- IR Theory Colloquium, by Sarah Kreps, Nuno P. Monteiro, and Sebastian Rosato (scheduled for September 2020-June 2021)
- New Era Workshop, Bridging the Gap (rescheduled for October 2021 due to COVID19)
- Summer Seminar in History and Statecraft, Clements Center for National Security, University of Texas at Austin (rescheduled to July 2021 due to COVID19)
- Summer Workshop on Analysis of Military Operations and Security (SWAMOS), Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies, Columbia University (July 2018)
- The Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), Center for Qualitative and Multi-Method Inquiry, Syracuse University (June 2018)

- Prospectus Development Workshop, Tobin Project (June 2017)
- International Summer School on Chinese Politics and Economics, Renmin University of China (July 2012)

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

External

- Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant - National Science Foundation, Science, Technology and Society Program, Award Number 1849585 (2019-2020)
- Harold D. Lasswell Award - Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy (2019)
- Prospectus Development Workshop - The Tobin Project (2017)
- Cabeaux-Jacobs Fellowship - Belgian American Education Foundation (2015-2016)
- Scholarship for Internship at United Nations - Flanders Trainee Programme (2014)
- Young Woman in Public Affairs Award - Zonta Belgium (2008)

Internal

- Dissertation Fellowship - Department of Political Science (2020-2021)
- Conference Travel Grant - Graduate School (2020, 2019, 2017)
- Research Fellowship - Center for Contemporary South Asia (2019)
- Global Mobility Research Fellowship Award - Graduate School (2019)
- Doctoral Research Travel Fund - Graduate School (2019)
- International Travel Fund Award - Graduate School (2019, 2016)
- Joukowsky Summer Research Award - Graduate School (2019, 2018, 2016)
- Internal Dissertation Fellowship - Department of Political Science (2018-2019)
- P. Terrence Hopmann Award for Excellence in Teaching - Department of Political Science (2018)
- Research Funding - Social Science Research Institute (2018)
- Methods Training Award - Department of Political Science (2018)
- Travel Funding - Graduate Student Council (2018)
- Teaching Consultant Award - Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2018)
- Workshop Mentor Award - Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2017)
- Five-Year Funding Guarantee - Graduate School (2015-2020)

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant

- The International Law and Politics of Human Rights, Nina Tannenwald (Spring 2018) - Head TA
- Introduction to International Relations, Jordan Branch (Fall 2017) - Head TA
- Ethnic Politics and Conflict, Linda Cook (Spring 2017)
- The International Law and Politics of Human Rights, Nina Tannenwald (Fall 2016)

Mentoring

- Second Reader, Senior Honors Thesis of Anna Victoria Sasaki (Spring 2016)

Additional Training

- Teaching Consultant Program - Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2017-2018)
- Course Design Seminar - Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2017)
- Seminar on Reflective Teaching - Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning (2016)

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Guest Researcher

*May-June 2016
Stockholm, Sweden*

- Research for working paper on arms exports
- Analysis of arms export legislation and practice in Germany, Sweden, and the United Kingdom

Flemish Peace Institute

Research Intern

*April-June 2015
Brussels, Belgium*

- Analysis of the implementation of the ICT Directive in France and the United Kingdom
- Research for projects on Transfer without Transshipment and the Discovery of Dual-Use in 1925 Geneva Protocol

United Nations Office For Disarmament Affairs

Political Affairs Intern

*July-December 2014
New York, USA*

- Wrote daily summaries of the disarmament news for the High Representative and created Disarmament Digest and drafted a speech for the High Representative
- Conducted research for a report on unmanned aerial vehicles and contributed to the UN Disarmament Yearbook and other UNODA publications, including a guide on armed violence
- Conducted a trend analysis of UNODA's donor relations for the High Representative

Centre For The International Politics Of Conflict, Rights And Justice

Research Intern

*January-August 2014
London, UK*

- Provided research assistance to Dr. Leslie Vinjamuri and Dr. Stephen Hopgood on the ICC in Sudan, Syria, and Libya, the relationship between the ICC and the UNSC, and the criminal justice architecture in Africa
- Used social media tools strategically to build the Centre's online presence and organized the Centre's events

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & SKILLS

Professional Service

- Coordinator of the Student Speakers Series on International Security - Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University (2019-2020)
- Coordinator of Graduate Peer Mentorship Program - Department of Political Science, Brown University (2019-2020)
- Graduate Representative - Department of Political Science, Brown University (2018-2019)
- Convener of the Graduate Workshop for International Relations and Comparative Politics - Department of Political Science, Brown University (2015-2017)
- Co-Organizer of the Graduate Women in Political Science Workshop - Department of Political Science, Brown University (2016-2017)
- Student Representative - Faculty of Law and Student Council, Ghent University (2008-2012)
- Deputy for Academic Development - Law Student Association, Ghent University (2008-2009)

Membership

- International Studies Association
- American Political Science Association
- Midwest Political Science Association

Languages

- Dutch (Mother Tongue)
- English (Fluent)
- French (Fluent)
- German (Basic Knowledge)

Skills

- Stata, HLM, LaTeX, Microsoft Office

Fieldwork

- Washington DC, United States (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, and Spring 2020)
- London, United Kingdom (January-March 2019, working with Professor Susan Martin)
- Paris, France (April-July 2019, working with Professor Benoît Pelopidas)
- New Delhi, India (rescheduled due to COVID19, affiliated with the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses)

REFERENCES

Nina Tannenwald (*co-chair*)

Director of International Relations Program,
Senior Lecturer in Political Science
Department of Political Science and
The Watson Institute
Brown University
Nina.Tannenwald@brown.edu

Mark McGann Blyth (*co-chair*)

Director of the William R. Rhodes Center,
Professor of International Economics
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The Watson Institute
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Jeff D. Colgan

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Richard Holbrooke Associate Professor
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Jordan Branch

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Government Department,
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Jonathan D. Caverley

Professor of Strategic and Operational Research
United States Naval War College, and
Research Scientist,
Political Science and Security Studies
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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