

# SANNE CORNELIA J. VERSCHUREN

111 Thayer Street, Box 1844 ◊ Providence, RI 02912, USA

(+1) 401-440-4516 ◊ sanne\_verschuren@brown.edu

www.sanneverschuren.com

## EDUCATION

---

### **Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science.**

Brown University

*Expected May 2021*

*Providence, USA*

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

Committee: Nina Tannenwald, Mark Blyth, Jeff Colgan, Jordan Branch, and Jonathan Caverley

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 AFFILIATIONS

---

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

Predoctoral 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 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

## 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)

## RESEARCH

---

### Work in Progress

- Up in Arms: The Influence of Political Parties on Compliance with Arms Export Regulations. (under review)
- Writing IR after COVID-19: Reassessing Political Possibilities, Good Faith and Policy Relevance. With Benoît Pelopidas. (under review)
- 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

- International Studies Association, Virtual (scheduled for April 2021) - Presenter
- American Political Science Association, Virtual (September 2020) - Presenter

- Future Strategy Forum, Virtual (June 2020) - Participant
- New England Political Science Association, Mystic (cancelled due to COVID-19) - Presenter
- International Studies Association, Honolulu (cancelled due to COVID-19) - 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**

- International Security Program Seminar, Belfer Center (October 2020)
- Political Economy Workshop, Joint Forum with Boston University (October 2020)
- Center for Contemporary South Asia, Brown University (rescheduled due to COVID-19)
- Workshop of Nuclear Knowledges, Center for International Studies, Sciences Po (June 2019)
- Foundation Biermans-Lapôtre, 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, Cornell University-Yale University-University of Notre Dame (September 2020-June 2021)
- New Era Workshop, Bridging the Gap (rescheduled for October 2021 due to COVID-19)
- Summer Seminar in History and Statecraft, Clements Center for National Security, University of Texas at Austin (rescheduled for July 2021 due to COVID-19)
- 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)

## **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** *January-August 2014*

Research Intern

*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 COVID-19, 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  
Department of Political Science and  
The Watson Institute  
Brown University  
Mark\_Blyth@brown.edu

### **Jeff D. Colgan**

Director of Security Studies,  
Richard Holbrooke Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science and  
The Watson Institute  
Brown University  
Jeff\_Colgan@brown.edu

### **Jordan Branch**

Assistant Professor of Political Science  
Government Department,  
Claremont McKenna College  
Jordan.Branch@cmc.edu

### **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  
Jon.Caverley@usnwc.edu