

FOTINI CHRISTIA

MIT Political Science, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Room E53-417, Cambridge, MA 02139, cfotini@mit.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

July 2017-present : Professor, MIT Department of Political Science

July 2014-June 2017: Associate Professor (with tenure), MIT Department of Political Science

July 2012-June 2014: Mark Hyman Jr. Career Development Associate Professor of Political Science, MIT

July 2008-June 2012: Assistant Professor, MIT Department of Political Science

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

PhD in Public Policy, June 2008

Fields: Comparative Politics/Ethnic Politics/International Relations

Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs

MA in International Affairs, June 2001

Harriman Institute Certificate, June 2001

Columbia University, Columbia College

BA in Economics and Operations Research, June 2000

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude, Dean's List

BOOKS

Alliance Formation in Civil Wars, Cambridge University Press, New York, NY 2012

- Luebbert Award for Best Book in Comparative Politics
- Leggold Award for Best Book in International Relations
- Distinguished Book Award of the Ethnicity, Nationalism, and Migration Section of the International Studies Association (ENMISA)
- Referenced in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Foreign Policy* among others and reviewed in *The Boston Globe*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *The Middle East Journal*, *H-Diplo*, and *International Journal of Middle East Studies* among others.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

2018-20 Serial Interactions in Imperfect Information Games Applied to Complex Military Decision Making, DARPA (~\$200K; part of larger grant shared with Prof. Erik Demaine, Costantinos Daskalakis, John Dickerson, Mohammad Taghi Hajiaghayi)

2018 Institute for Data Systems and Society (IDSS) Seed Grant (\$75K)

2018 Access to Call Detail Records (CDRs) from Data for Refugees (D4R) Turk Telecom Competition

2015 Andrew Carnegie Inaugural Fellow (\$200K)

2015 ARO MURI Renewal Grant for work on Networks, Culture and Conflict (~\$200K)

2012 Mark Hyman Jr. Career Development Chair (\$60K)

2012 ARO MURI Grant for work on Networks, Culture and Conflict (~\$300K; part of larger grant shared with Prof. Ali Jadbabaei, Jon Kleinberg, Daron Acemoglu, Asu Ozdeglar, Matt Jackson)

2011 UN WFP/USAID Wheat Grant and Logistics for Afghan Development Evaluation (~\$725K)

2011 IGC/LSE Data Collection Grant for Afghan Development Evaluation (\$150K)

2011 CIDA Data Collection Grant for Afghan Development Evaluation (\$150K)

2010-12 Draper Lab Grant for Afghan Data Collection (\$50K)

09-12 Post Doctoral Research Fellow, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies

2009 SHASS MIT Research Fund Grant, (\$20K)

2007 Graduate Fellow, American Academy of Political and Social Science
 2007 Derek Bok Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University
 2006 Weatherhead Center Dissertation Completion Grant, Harvard University
 2006 Russell Sage Foundation, Research Grant (\$4,500)
 2005 Predoctoral Fellow, Olin Institute, Harvard University
 2004 Predoctoral Fellow, Belfer Center Harvard University

ARTICLES

"COVID-19 and Fieldwork: Challenges and Solutions," forthcoming in *Politics and Society* eds. Peter Krause and Ora Szekeley.

"Tests for Network Cascades via Branching Processes," Tests for Network Cascades via Branching Processes" in *IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering*, doi:10.1109/TNSE.2020.2981327 (with Paolo Bertolotti and Ali Jadbabaei).

"State Capacity Redux: Integrating Classical and Experimental Contributions to an Enduring Debate," *Annual Review of Political Science (ARPS)*, 21, 71-91 (with Elissa Berwick).

"Direct Democracy and Resource Allocation: Experimental Evidence from Afghanistan," *Journal of Development Economics (JDE)*, 124, 199-213 (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov).

"Electoral Rules and Political Selection: Theory and Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan," *The Review of Economic Studies (ReStud)*, 83 (3), 932-968 (with Andrew Beath, Georgy Egorov and Ruben Enikolopov).

"Empowering Women through Development Aid: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan," *American Political Science Review (APSR)*, Volume 107, Number 3, August 2013, pp.540-557 (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov).

"Context Modularity of Human Altruism," *Science*, 9 December 2011:334 (6061):1392-1394 (with Marc Alexander).

"Following the Money: Muslim versus Muslim in Bosnia's Civil War," *Comparative Politics*, Volume 40, Number 4, July 2008, pp.461-480. Reprinted in *Political Violence*, Erica Chenoweth, eds., SAGE Library of International Relations, 2013.

"The Effect of Drone Strikes on Cellphone Communication: Evidence from Yemen," Revise and Resubmit at *Political Science Research and Methods* (with Michael Freedman, Spyros Zoumpoulis, Leon Yao and Ali Jadbabaei).

"Winning Hearts and Minds through Development: Evidence from a Field Experiment in Afghanistan," Under Review (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov).

"Do Elected Councils Improve Governance? Experimental Evidence on Local Institutions in Afghanistan," Under Review (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov).

"The Nature of Sectarianism" Under Review (with Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox).

The Social Network Effects of Drone Strikes." Under Review (with Paolo Bertolotti and Ali Jadbabaei).

"Imams and Businessmen: Service Provision in Turkey," Under Review (with Tugba Bozcaga).

"Scalable Equilibrium Computation in Multi-agent Influence Games on Networks," Under Review (With Michael Curry, Aidan Milliff, Qi Yang, Adam Hesterberg, Constantinos Daskalakis, Erik Demaine, John Dickerson and Mohammadtaghi Hajiaghayi)

"Training Py Torch-Big Graph Embeddings on a Large Real World CDR Graph," Working Paper, (With Michael Curry, Aidan Milliff, Qi Yang, Adam Hesterberg, Constantinos Daskalakis, Erik Demaine, John Dickerson and Mohammadtaghi Hajiaghayi)

"Networks of Sectarianism: Experimental Evidence on Access to Services in Baghdad," Working Paper (with Dean Knox and Jaffar Al-Rikabi).

Book Chapters

"Piety and Religious Communalism among Shiites in Iraq and Iran," in *The Oxford Handbook of Politics in Muslim Societies*, eds. Melani Cammett and Pauline Jones, Oxford University Press 2020. (With Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox)

"Navigating Data Collection in War Zones," in *An Unorthodox Guide to Fieldwork*, eds. Peter Krause and Ora Szekeley, Columbia University Press 2020.

"Assessing Syrian Refugee Integration Using Call Detail Records from Turkey" *Guide to Mobile Data Analytics in Refugee Scenarios*, eds. Salah, Pentland, Lepri, Letouze, Vinck, de Montjoye and Dong, Springer 2019. (With Tugba Bozcaga, Constantinos Daskalakis, Elizabeth Harwood, and Christos Papadimitriou)

"Decentralization in Post-Conflict Settings: Assessing Community-Driven Development in the Wake of Violence," *Decentralized Governance and Accountability: Academic Research and the Future of Donor Programming*, eds. Jonathan Rodden and Erik Wibbels, Cambridge University Press 2019.

Essays and Opinion Pieces

["Training the COVID-19 Cohort: Adapting and Preserving Social Science Research"](#), SSRN, 30 July 2020 (with Chap Lawson)

["Tehran Paints Over its AntiAmerican Murals,"](#) *Foreign Policy*, 11 November 2019

"Even Conservative Iranians Want Closer Ties to the United States," *Foreign Policy*, 23 May 2019 (With Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox)

"The Geography of Gulenism in Turkey," *Foreign Policy*, 18 March 2019 (With Tugba Bozcaga)

"Turkish Referendum Rallies in Europe Made Headlines. Did they Affect Election Results?" *Monkey Cage/The Washington Post*, 6 May 2017 (With Tugba Bozcaga)

"Shiites are Participating in the World's Largest Pilgrimage Today. Here is how they View the World," *Monkey Cage/The Washington Post*, 21 November 2016 (With Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox)

"Mapping Shiite Opinion: Insights from the Arba'een Pilgrimage," Foreign Affairs, 24 October 2016 (With Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox)

"Yemen Calling: Seven Things Cell Data Reveal About Life in the Republic," Foreign Affairs, 6 July 2015 (with Leon Yao, Stephen Wittels and Jure Leskovec).

"Too much of a Good Thing?" Foreign Policy, 18 December 2013 (with Ruben Enikolopov).

"What Can Civil War Scholars Tell US about the Syrian Conflict," appeared in *The Political Science of Syria's War*, *POMEPS Briefings* in collaboration with Foreign Policy, 18 December 2013.

"Why I Fight for a Free Syria: A Graphic Story of one Man's Struggle," Al Jazeera America, 5 September 2013 (with Thalia Chantziara).

How Syrian Women are fueling the Resistance and Why Washington Should Support them, Foreign Affairs, March 2013.

"Letter from Kabul: Fear and Abandonment in Afghanistan" Foreign Affairs, June 2011.

"Defining Success in Afghanistan: What can the United States Accept," Foreign Affairs, July/August 2010, (with Stephen Biddle and J. Alexander Thier).

"Viewpoint: Measuring Success in Afghanistan," 22 February 2010, The BBC.

"Co-opt the Commanders," in "Is It Time to Negotiate With the Taliban? Room for Debate, A Running Commentary on the News," The New York Times, September 1, 2009,(with Michael Semple).

"Sartorial Stumping", Op-Ed, The New York Times, 18 August 2009.

"Flipping the Taliban How to Win in Afghanistan," Essay, Foreign Affairs, July/August 2009, pp.34-45, (with Michael Semple).

"A Quiet Battle for Rights in Iran," Op-Ed, The Washington Post, 27 August 2007.

"Voices of Iranian Reform, Silenced," Op-Ed, The Washington Post, 9 July 2006.

" Hamas at the Helm," Op-Ed, The New York Times, 27 January 2006. Also appeared in the International Herald Tribune, 28 January 2006,(with Sreemati Mitter).

"Strange Bedfellows in Afghanistan," Op-Ed, The Boston Globe, 18 September 2005.

"Uzbekistan's Tiananmen," Op-Ed, The Boston Globe, 21 May 2005.

Digital Collections

Photos from Tehran murals I collected in 2006 that are now archived at Harvard University Libraries Digital Collections.

- Featured in the *Boston Globe*, and its *Arts Section*, the *Harvard Gazette*, *Harvard's Weatherhead Center*, and in *Iranian.com* among others.

- Accompanying article: “The Art of State Persuasion: Iran’s Post-Revolutionary Murals, *Persica* 22 (1-13), 2008 (with Houchang Chehabi).

Reports and Reviews

“Meta-Analysis Pre-Analysis Plan on Community Policing” (with Graeme Blair and Jeremy Weinstein and EGAP Metaketa Team on Community Policing).

“The World as the Religious Shi’a See It: Survey of Shiite Pilgrims to Karbala,” Report (with Elizabeth Dekeyser and Dean Knox).

Impact Evaluation Design for USAID’s “Communities Thrive” Local Governance Program in the West Bank, registered with EGAP (with Erin York and Ruben Enikolopov).

Baseline Report for USAID’s “Communities Thrive” Local Governance Program in the West Bank (with Erin York and Ruben Enikolopov).

Impact Evaluation Pre-Analysis Plan for USAID’s “Communities Thrive” Local Governance Program in the West Bank (with Erin York and Ruben Enikolopov).

"The National Solidarity Programme: Assessing the Effects of Community-Driven Development in Afghanistan", *International Peacekeeping*. 22 (4): 302-320. Special Issue: Development Assistance for Peacebuilding. (With Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov)

Roundtable of Reviews for Paul Staniland’s *Networks of Rebellion: Explaining Insurgent Cohesion and Collapse*. (Cornell University Press, 2014) in *H-Diplo*, 11 May 2015.

Roundtable of Reviews for *Alliance Formation in Civil Wars* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) in *H-Diplo*. 6 (2), 11 October 2013.

“Randomized Impact Evaluation of Afghanistan’s National Solidarity Program: Endline Report” (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov), July 2013.

“Randomized Impact Evaluation of Afghanistan’s National Solidarity Program: Report on Interim Impacts.” (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov), July 2010.

“Randomized Impact Evaluation of Afghanistan’s National Solidarity Program: Baseline Data Report.” (with Andrew Beath and Ruben Enikolopov), October 2008.

Book Review of T. Barfield’s Princeton University Press book: *Afghanistan: A Cultural and Political History*. Review appeared in *The Middle East Journal* 64, no. 4 (2010): 650-651.

APSA CP Newsletter, Symposium: Concepts that Hinder Understanding and What to Do About Them: Structuring Political Conflict: Ethnicity, APSA-CP Vol. 20, No.2, p.13, August 2009.

Book Review of: John Hagan’s *Justice in the Balkans: Prosecuting War Crimes in the Hague Tribunal*. Review appeared in: *Nationalities Papers*, Vol.32, No.3, September 2004, p.694-696.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Reviewer for: *Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Cornell University Press, Science, PNAS, AER: Micro-Economics, APSR, AJPS, Journal of Politics, World Politics, International Organization, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Conflict Resolution, International Security, Public Opinion Quarterly, Security Studies, Journal of Institutional Economics, Journal of Peace Research, International Studies Quarterly, DIME-the World Bank.*

Association for Analytic Learning about Islam and Muslim Societies (AALIMS)

AALIMS MIT 2020 Organizing Committee

AALIMS Board Member 2018-present

AALIMS Faculty Fellow 2016-2018

Experiments in Governance and Politics Research Group (EGAP)

- Field Experiments on Community Policing “Metaketa” Committee Member 2014-present
- EGAP Organizing Committee 2011-2012

American Political Science Association

- Journal Advisory Committee Experimental Research 2019-present
- Chair APSA’s Gabriel A. Almond Award Committee 2018
- Luebbert Book Award Selection Committee 2015
- Chair of the Nominating Committee of the Experimental Methods Section 2015
- Comparative Democratization Best Fieldwork Award Committee 2010

International Growth Center (IGC) Research Affiliate May 2016-present

Associate Editor for *Journal of Experimental Political Science* January 2016-September 2017

Expert Academic on DFID/IRC Advisory Group on Community Driven Development, 2014-2015

Member on World Bank Advisory Committee on Governance in Conflict Contexts, 2014

LANGUAGES

Greek (native), working knowledge of Farsi/Dari and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Russian (read and written), German (read and written), French (read and written), Arabic (basic).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

MIT, Department of Political Science

17.SS2020 Religion and Politics in the Developing World, Spring 2020

This course offers a contemporary understanding of how religion has resurfaced as a viable political power and how religion and politics have become intertwined.

17.568 Comparative Politics and Int. Relations of the Middle East, Spring 2015, Spring 2017 (with Rich Nielsen)

Survey course on the contemporary politics of the Middle East.

17.869 Scope and Methods, Fall 2008, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014

Course designed to provide an introduction to a variety of empirical research methods used by political scientists.

17.956 Counterinsurgency, Spring 2014 (with Roger Petersen)

Survey course on political economy, comparative politics and international relations literature on insurgency and counterinsurgency.

17.582 Civil Wars, Fall 2008, Fall 2010, Fall 2012, Fall 2013, Fall 2014, Spring 2017, Spring 2020

Survey course on the social science literature on civil war. Studies the origins of civil war, discusses variables affecting duration, and examines termination of conflict.

17.583 Conflict through the Graphic Novel, Spring 2013

This course addresses an array of conflict dynamics through seminal works in political science and uses graphic novels to present the empirics, covering some of the most important cases of war and violence.

17.586 Warlords, Terrorists and Militias, Spring 2010, Spring 2011

General overview of the recent political science literature on violent non-state actors. The class covers works on the production side of non-state violence as well as the response that violence elicits.

17.504 Ethnic Politics, Fall 2010 (with Roger Petersen)

General overview of the major theories and empirical work on the relationship between ethnicity and politics.

Harvard University, Department of Government

Harvard University, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning

Certificate of Distinction in Teaching in Fall 2007 for my service as a Teaching Fellow in a course on the Political Economy of Development and in Spring 2007 for my service as an Instructor in a seminar on the Contemporary Politics of the Middle East.

Senior Thesis Advisor, Fall 2007-Spring 2008. Advised a senior concentrator in Government, who wrote a thesis in the field of Comparative Politics and the Middle East and received magna and summa grades for her thesis. Duties included counseling on thesis theoretical contribution, empirical analysis, and research methods.

Teaching Fellow, Social Analysis 52/Gov1100: The Political Economy of Development, (Prof. Robert Bates) Fall 2007. Held weekly sections, developed assignments, advised students and graded papers for this course which looks at the economic and political origins of modern states from a comparative perspective, comparing political development in capitalist and socialist economies, as well as across regions in the developing world.

Instructor, Government 98r: Junior Tutorial in Contemporary Politics of the Middle East, Spring 2007-2008.

Developed the syllabus and taught this seminar, which addresses open questions in the politics of the Middle East focusing on the political economy of natural resources, the relationship between the state and civil society, causes of regime change and persistence, as well as American foreign policy in the region.

Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government

Course Assistant, ISP-224: Human Rights and International Politics: The Basic Policy Dilemmas (Prof. Michael Ignatieff), Fall 2002-2005. Developed assignments, advised students, and graded papers for this course which is an introduction to international human rights and the dilemmas that result when states, NGOs, international institutions, and citizens try to use human rights to guide policy and action.

Course Assistant, ISP-226: Human Rights, State Sovereignty and Intervention (Prof. Michael Ignatieff), Spring 2004-2005. Developed assignments, advised students, and graded papers for this course which addresses questions on the role of human rights in justifying and shaping the interventions that states make in the internal affairs of other states.

Harvard University, Quincy House

Resident Advisor in Public Policy and Tutor for Fellowships, Fall 2002-Spring 2008. Advised Harvard College students on fellowship applications and study abroad.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

USAID Mission to the West Bank and Gaza (contracted via NORC)

Consultant 2015-2018

Co-authored an impact evaluation design for a municipal governance and development initiative in the West Bank and will be the Principal Investigator in the evaluation.

World Bank

Kabul, Afghanistan

Consultant 2007-2012

Principal Investigator in the Randomized Impact Evaluation of the National Solidarity Program, the biggest development program in Afghanistan.

Freedom House

New York, NY

Consultant 2011-2014

Wrote the country report for Afghanistan and evaluated and scored the country in terms of civil liberties and political rights.

EU Mission to Yemen

Aden, Yemen

Short Term International Elections Observer

September 2006

Served as a European Union short term elections observer for the Yemeni Presidential elections, deployed in the former South Yemeni capital of Aden.

EU Mission to the West Bank and Gaza

Nablus, West Bank

Short Term International Elections Observer

January 2006

Served as a European Union short term elections observer in the Palestinian Parliamentary elections, deployed in the West Bank city of Nablus.

EU Mission to the West Bank and Gaza

Ramallah, West Bank

Short Term International Elections Observer

January 2005

Served as a European Union short term elections observer in the first Palestinian Presidential elections in the post Arafat era, deployed in the West Bank city of Ramallah.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission to Uzbekistan, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Long Term International Elections Observer

December 2004

Served as one of 12 OSCE long-term observers of the Uzbek Parliamentary elections, deployed in Tashkent.

Hellenic Rescue Team

Thessaloniki, Greece

Assistant to Head of Mission

Summer 2003

Worked on establishing relations with the US provisional authority in Iraq as a way to facilitate Hellenic Rescue Team's medical activities in the field.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Assistant to Human Rights Officer Summer 2002
Conducted field-research and wrote a 50-page report on the discrimination faced by returnee children in the realm of education in BiH's Canton 1 Municipalities.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission to Kosovo **Kosovo, FRY**
International Elections' Supervisor November 2001
Served as an international elections supervisor, deployed in Vucitrn/Vushtri, in Mitrovica municipality.

PROGRAMS/SUMMER SCHOOLS

2016 Summer Workshop at Hebrew University, Israel
2014 Instructor at the Winter Experimental Social Science Institute, NYU Abu Dhabi
2012 Summer Institute at the Dayan Center at the University of Tel Aviv, Israel
2010 Academic Exchange to Israel with the Yitzhak Rabin Center, Israel
2010 Instructor at the Olympia Summer Academy
2008 Instructor at Dar Al Hekma all-women's college in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
2006 Summer Language Study in Farsi at the University of Tehran, Iran
2005 EU Training for Civilian Aspects of Crisis Management, Sennybridge Military Training Camp, UK
2003 United Nations Civil-Military Coordination Training Course, Guatemala City, Guatemala