

# RACHEL A. SCHWARTZ

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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University of Wisconsin–Madison  
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## EDUCATION

### University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI, USA

Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science, *expected May 2019*

Major fields: Comparative Politics, Political Theory

Minor field: Political Methodology

Dissertation: *Civil War, Institutional Change, and the Criminalization of the State in Central America*

Committee: Scott Straus (chair), Noam Lupu, Erica Simmons, and Nils Ringe  
M.A. in Political Science, 2015

### Haverford College, Haverford, PA, USA

B.A. in Political Science and Latin American and Iberian Studies, 2011

## PUBLICATIONS

2018. “What Drives Violence against Civilians in Civil War? Evidence from Guatemala’s Conflict Archives,” with Scott Straus, *Journal of Peace Research* 55(2): 222-235.

2018. “From Reconciliation to Rule of Law: The Shifting Landscape of International Transitional Justice Assistance in Guatemala,” with Anita Isaacs, in *Transitional Justice, International Assistance, and Civil Society: Missed Connections*, eds. Paige Arthur and Christalla Yakinthou (New York: Cambridge University Press), 27-51.

Forthcoming. “Rethinking Comparison,” with Erica S. Simmons and Nicholas Rush Smith, *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*.

## WORKING PAPERS

“Civil War, Institutional Change, and the Criminalization of the State: Evidence from Guatemala” (revise and resubmit at *Comparative Politics*)  
*Awarded the 2018 Mildred Hovland Potter Article Prize, UW–Madison Department of Political Science*

“From the Moreno Network to *La Línea*: Explaining Postwar Institutional Persistence in Guatemala”

“From Organized Terror to Organized Crime: The Criminalization of the State-Idea in Postwar Guatemala”

“‘To Make Men Believe Their Rebellion Just’: On Thomas Hobbes, Civil War, and the Social Construction of Greed and Grievance,” with Dan Kapust

## COMMENTARY & POLICY ANALYSIS

2018. “Why are so many children coming to the U.S. from Central America in the first place?” The Monkey Cage, *The Washington Post*, June 29.

2018. “Is Russia interfering in Guatemala’s anti-corruption commission? The real story might surprise you,” The Monkey Cage, *The Washington Post*, May 9.

2017. “Guatemala’s president tried to expel the U.N. commissioner who announced he was under investigation,” The Monkey Cage, *The Washington Post*, September 6.

2015. “Confronting Government Corruption in Guatemala and Honduras,” *SSN Basic Facts*, Scholars Strategy Network.

2013. “Repression, Resistance, and Indigenous Rights in Guatemala,” with Anita Isaacs, *Americas Quarterly* (Winter): 32-7.

2012. “Democracy in Progress: El Salvador’s Unfinished Transition,” with Michael Shifter, *World Politics Review*, Feature Report: *After the Ink Dries: Long-Term Postconflict Reconciliation*.

2012. “El Salvador’s Gang Truce Raises Troubling Questions for the Region,” *World Politics Review*, May 11.

2011. “¿Equilibrio en la frontera? México en los medios de comunicación norteamericanos,” with Michael Shifter, *Temas* 68 (Oct.-Dec.): 46-55.

#### **SELECT HONORS & AWARDS**

ILS Law and Society Graduate Fellow, UW–Madison Law School, 2018-2019

Fulbright US Student Award (Guatemala), 2016-2017

United States Institute of Peace Jennings Randolph Peace Scholarship, 2016-2017

Graduate Student Fieldwork Award, International Institute, UW–Madison, 2015

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (Portuguese), US Department of Education, 2014-2015

Tinker Nave Field Research Grant, Latin America, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, UW–Madison, 2014, 2015

Herman M. Somers Thesis Prize, Haverford College, 2011

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

“Civil War, Institutional Change, and the Criminalization of the State”

- Western Political Science Association Conference, San Diego, CA, planned for April 2019
- American Political Science Association Conference, Boston, MA, 2018
- Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, 2018
- Comparative Politics Colloquium, UW–Madison, 2018
- Guatemala Scholars Network (GSN) Meeting, Antigua, Guatemala, 2017
- United States Institute of Peace (USIP) Peace Scholar Workshop, Washington, DC, 2016

“From the Moreno Network to *La Línea*: Examining Postwar Institutional Persistence in Guatemala”

- Institute for Legal Studies Law and Society Fellows Workshop, UW–Madison Law School, 2018
- Latin America Studies Association Annual Congress, Barcelona, 2018

“Uncovering Wartime Criminal Networks through State Archives”

- Symposium for Archives and Historical Memory in Guatemala, Haverford College, planned for 2019

“Civil War, Institutional Evolution, and the State: Rethinking the Comparative Approach”

- “Rethinking Comparison in the Social Sciences” Workshop, City College of New York, 2017

“From Organized Terror to Organized Crime: The Criminalization of the State-Idea in Postwar Guatemala”

- Latin America Studies Association Annual Congress, Lima, 2017

“What Drives Escalation in Atrocity Violence? Evidence from Guatemala”

- American Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, 2015

**TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE**

*University of Wisconsin–Madison*

The Politics of Human Rights, Teaching Assistant, Spring 2018

Social Mobilization in Latin America, Teaching Assistant, Fall 2014

The Politics of Multiculturalism in the US, Teaching Assistant, Spring 2014

*Haverford College*

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Teaching Assistant, Spring 2011

Writing Center Tutor and Mentor, Haverford College, 2009-2011

*Consultancy*

Supplemental Material Development, *International Studies* (textbook), Sage Publications, Inc., 2018

**RESEARCH  
EXPERIENCE**

*Fieldwork*

Guatemala: 18 months (May-July 2014; June-August 2015; September-November 2016; April-December 2017)

Nicaragua: 4 months (December 2016-March 2017)

*Research Assistance*

Noam Lupu, UW–Madison, 2013-2014, 2015-2016

Erica Simmons, UW–Madison, Spring 2016, 2018-2019

Helen Kinsella, UW–Madison, Summer 2016

Anita Isaacs, Haverford College, 2008-2011

*Pro-Bono Consultancy*

Expert Witness, Community Immigration Law Center, Madison, WI, 2018

**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE**

Inter-American Dialogue, Washington, DC, USA

Program Assistant/Associate, Office of the President, 2011-2013

Coordinated programs and publications on citizen security and migration in Central America and Mexico and Congressional outreach.

**SERVICE** Graduate Fellow, Madison Chapter, Scholars Strategy Network, 2015-2016  
Coordinator, Comparative Politics Colloquium, Department of Political Science, UW–Madison, 2015-2016  
Coordinator, Political Economy Colloquium, Department of Political Science, UW–Madison, 2015-2016  
Reviewer, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *International Studies Quarterly*

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS** American Political Science Association  
Latin American Studies Association  
Guatemala Scholars Network  
Scholars Strategy Network

**ADDITIONAL TRAINING** Teaching Academy Summer Institute, UW–Madison, 2018  
Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Methods Research, Syracuse University, 2016

**LANGUAGE SKILLS** English (native), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (intermediate)

**REFERENCES** Scott Straus (chair), Professor of Political Science and International Studies, UW–Madison, sstraus@wisc.edu, (608) 263-2036

Noam Lupu, Associate Professor of Political Science and Associate Director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project, Vanderbilt University, noam.lupu@vanderbilt.edu, (615) 875-9181

Erica S. Simmons, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies, UW–Madison, essimmons@wisc.edu, (608) 263-2414

Daniel J. Kapust, Professor of Political Science, UW–Madison, djkapust@wisc.edu, (608) 263-9429

*Last updated: 20 December 2018*