

# Alyssa K. Prorok

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## Academic Positions

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**  
Associate Professor of Political Science, 2021-present  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2017-2021

**University of Iowa**  
Assistant Professor of Political Science, 2013-2017

## Affiliations

**Program in Arms Control and Domestic & Int'l Security, UIUC**  
Core Faculty Member, 2022-present  
**Cline Center for Advanced Social Research, UIUC**  
Faculty Affiliate, 2020-present  
**Folke Bernadotte Academy, Sweden**  
Research Working Group Member, 2018-present

## Education

**University of Maryland at College Park**  
Ph.D., Government and Politics, 2013  
Fields: International Relations and Comparative Politics  
M.A., Government and Politics, 2008.

**University of Notre Dame**  
B.A., Political Science and History, 2004  
Magna cum Laude, with Honors in Political Science

## Publications

“Not Too Distant: Grievance, Opportunity, and the Onset of Civil War.”  
(with Benjamin Appel and Caleb Lucas). Forthcoming. *Civil Wars*.

“Cheap Talk or Costly Commitment? Leader Statements and the Implementation of Civil War Peace Agreements.” (with Deniz Cil). 2022. *Journal of Peace Research*. 59(3): 409-424.

“Battles and Bargains: Escalation, Commitment, and Negotiations in Civil War.” (with Elizabeth Menninga). 2021. *International Studies Quarterly* 65(2): 406-422.

“Selling Out or Standing Firm? Explaining the Design of Civil War Peace Agreements.” (with Deniz Cil). 2020. *International Studies Quarterly* 64(2): 329-342.

- Publications  
Cont.
- “Third Party Actors and the Intentional Targeting of Civilians in War.” (with Benjamin Appel). 2019. *British Journal of Political Science* 49(4): 1453-1474.
- “Led Astray? Leaders and Civil War Duration.” 2018. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 62(6): 1179-1204.
- “The (In)compatibility of Peace and Justice? The International Criminal Court and Civil War Termination.” 2017. *International Organization* 71(2): 213-243.
- “Leader Incentives and Civil War Outcomes.” 2016. *American Journal of Political Science*. 60(1):70-84.
- “International Law and the Consolidation of Peace Following Territorial Changes.” (with Paul Huth). 2015. *Journal of Politics* 77(1): 161-174.
- “Compliance with International Humanitarian Law: Democratic Third Parties and Civilian Targeting in Interstate War” (with Benjamin Appel). 2014. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 54(4): 713-740.
- Book Chapters
- “Editors’ Introductory Chapter” (with T. David Mason and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell). Forthcoming. *What do we Know about Civil Wars?, Second Edition*, ed. Mason and Mitchell. Rowman and Littlefield.
- “The Conduct and Consequences of War” (with Paul Huth). 2019. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of International Studies*.
- “Editors’ Introductory Chapter” (with T. David Mason and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell). 2017. *What do we Know about Civil Wars?*, ed. Mason and Mitchell. Rowman and Littlefield.
- “The Conduct and Consequences of War.” (with Paul Huth). 2012. *Guide to the Scientific Study of International Processes*, ed. Paul Diehl, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, and James Morrow. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing.
- “The Conduct and Consequences of War” (with Paul Huth). 2010. *The International Studies Encyclopedia, Volume I*, eds. Robert Denemark et al. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing.
- Works in Progress
- “Understanding the Determinants of ICC Involvement: Legal Mandate, Power Politics, and the Crisis of Legitimacy.” (with Benjamin Appel and Shahryar Minhas). R&R.
- “Leader Punishment in Civil War.” (with Myung Jung Kim).
- “Rethinking the Conflict Trap: Understanding the Multiple Pathways to Civil Conflict Recurrence.” (with Hyun Joo Cho).

- Fellowships,  
Grants,  
& Awards
- Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation Grant (with Elizabeth Menninga), “Cooperation in Multi-Dyadic Civil Conflicts” (2022-2025) (\$519,772)
- Robert and Mildred Rosenthal Memorial Fund Grant Development Award, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois (2022) (\$2,000)
- Faculty Fellow, Center for Advanced Study, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (AY 2020-21) (\$12,000)
- Principal Investigator, DoD Army Research Office Grant (with Elizabeth Menninga (Co-PI)), “Tainting the Well or Priming the Pump? The Dynamics of Cooperation in Civil War” (2020-2022) (\$358,199)
- Co-Principal Investigator, Folke Bernadotte Academy Research Grant (with Elizabeth Menninga (Co-PI)), “Negotiation Dynamics: Evaluating the Cumulative Effects of Negotiations in Civil War Resolution” (2020) (SEK \$264,673 (USD \$28k))
- David F. Linowes Fellowship, Cline Center for Advanced Social Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (AY2019-20 & 2020-21) (\$10,000)
- Principal Investigator, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Research Board Grant, “Rethinking the Conflict Trap” (2019) (\$23,699). *\*Received Arnold O. Beckman Award for special distinction or promise*
- Robert and Mildred Rosenthal Memorial Fund Grant Development Award, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois (2018) (\$2,000)
- Included on the List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent, University of Illinois (2017, 2018, 2021, 2022)
- Small Grant Awards, Political Science, University of Iowa (2015-16) (\$5,000)
- Curriculum Development Grant, International Programs, University of Iowa (2014) (\$4,000)
- Old Gold Summer Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Iowa (2014) (\$6,000)
- Pre-Doctoral Research Fellowship, Foreign Policy Program, Brookings Institution (AY 2012-2013) (\$32,000)
- Visiting Pre-Doctoral Scholar, Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University (Fall 2011)
- Don Piper Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics (2011)

- Invited Talks
- “Building a Dataset: Best Practices for Observational Data Collection.” UIUC Political Science Graduate Student Association Lecture Series February 21, 2022.
- “Tracking Cooperation in Civil Conflict: Building the Cooperation in Civil War Dataset.” Center for Advanced Study Lecture Series, UIUC November 29, 2021.
- “How Civil Wars End: Achieving Sustainable Peace after Civil Conflict.” Multi-University Master Class hosted by University of Maryland and Ohio State University, (virtual presentation) April 14, 2021.
- “Tainting the Well or Priming the Pump? The Dynamics of Cooperation in Civil War.” Workshop on Conflict, Michigan State University April 20, 2018.
- “Tainting the Well or Priming the Pump?” Folke Bernadotte Academy Research Workshop. San Francisco, CA April 8-9, 2018.
- “Understanding the Determinants of ICC Involvement: Legal Mandate, Power Politics, and the Quest for Legitimacy.” Frontiers of Human Rights Research Conference, University of Michigan April 2, 2018.
- “Explaining the Design and Implementation of Civil War Peace Agreements.” Folke Bernadotte Academy Research Workshop on Peacebuilding after Armed Conflict. Bogota, Colombia Nov. 27-29, 2017.
- “The Impact and Effectiveness of the International Criminal Court.” Security Studies Colloquium of the Center for International Security Studies (CISS), Princeton University April 14, 2016.
- The (In)compatibility of Peace and Justice? The International Criminal Court and Civil War Termination.” George Washington University Virtual Workshop on Intrastate Conflict and Violence, April 16, 2015.
- The Future of Human Rights Research in Political Science,” UI Center for Human Rights 15th Anniversary Conference “The Future of Human Rights in the Academy and the Community”, University of Iowa, Nov. 15, 2014.
- “Leader Incentives and the Termination of Civil War.” Brookings Institution Foreign Policy Program, Washington DC January 2013.
- “Not Too Distant: Understanding How Opportunity and Grievance Jointly Determine the Onset of Civil War.” Uppsala University, Department of Peace and Conflict Research Seminar, Uppsala Sweden Fall 2011.

- Conference Presentation “Introducing the Cooperation in Civil War (CCW) Dataset: Tracking Cooperative Events During Civil Conflicts.” (with Elizabeth Menninga). APSA Annual Convention, Seattle, WA, Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 2021, and Peace Science Society International Annual Convention, Ann Arbor, MI, Nov. 12-14, 2020 (virtual).
- “Leader Punishment in Civil War.” APSA Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, Sept. 10-13, 2020 (virtual), and ISA Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI, March 25-28, 2020 (cancelled).
- “Revealed Sincerity and Negotiations in Civil War.” (with Elizabeth Menninga). ISA Annual Convention, Honolulu, HI, March 25-28, 2020 (cancelled), and APSA Annual Convention, Washington, DC, Aug. 28-31, 2019.
- “Negotiation Dynamics: Evaluating the Cumulative Effects of Negotiations in Civil War Resolution.” (with Elizabeth Menninga). ISA Midwest, St. Louis, MO, Nov. 16-18, 2018.
- “Selling Out or Standing Firm? Explaining the Design of Civil War Peace Agreements.” (with Deniz Cil). Online Peace Science Colloquium. Dec. 14, 2018, and APSA Annual Convention, Boston, MA, Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 2018.
- “Understanding the determinants of ICC Involvement and Escalation.” (with Benjamin Appel). ISA Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, Feb. 22-25, 2017.
- “Revisiting the Sustainable Settlement of Civil Wars: Leaders and the Implementation of Peace Agreements.” (with Deniz Cil). ISA Annual Conference, 2017 and 2016, APSA Annual Conference, Philadelphia Sept. 1-4, 2016, and Peace Science, Notre Dame Oct. 21-22, 2016.
- “Surrender or Fight? Explaining Variation in the Fates of Individuals wanted by the ICC.” ISA, Atlanta March 16-19, 2016, and MPSA, Chicago April 8-11, 2016.
- “Building Reputation: Leader Change and Combatant Behavior in Civil War” ISA Annual Conference, New Orleans Feb. 18-21, 2015.
- “Led Astray? Leaders and Civil War Duration.” ISA Annual Conference, New Orleans Feb. 18-21, 2015 and ISA Annual Conference, Toronto March 26-29, 2014.
- “Windows of Opportunity: Leader Change and Negotiations During Civil War.” Peace Science Annual Convention, Philadelphia PA Oct. 10-11, 2014.
- “Does the ICC have an Africa Problem? Understanding the Determinants of ICC Involvement.” APSA Annual Convention, Washington DC Aug. 28-31, 2014.

**Conference Presentation Cont.** “Leader Incentives and the Termination of Civil War.” Conflict Consortium Virtual Workshop, April 2, 2014 and APSA Annual Convention, Chicago IL Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 2013.

“International Law and the Consolidation of Peace Following Territorial Change.” (with Paul Huth). ISA Annual Conference, Toronto March 26-29, 2014, ISA San Francisco CA April 3-6, 2013, ISA San Diego CA April 1-4, 2012, and APSA Annual Conference, Seattle WA Aug. 2011.

“The (In)compatibility of Peace and Justice? The International Criminal Court and Civil War Termination.” Peace Science Annual Convention, Knoxville TN Oct. 25-26, 2013.

“Leader Incentives, the ICC, and Civil War Termination.” ISA Annual Convention, San Francisco CA April 3-6, 2013.

“A Theory of Reputation in Security Disputes” (with Benjamin Appel). ISA Annual Conference, Montreal, March 16-19, 2011.

“Leader Incentives and Civil War Termination: Culpability and Outcomes.” APSA Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, Aug. 2012 (cancelled due to Hurricane Katrina).

“Not Too Distant: Understanding How Opportunity and Grievance Jointly Determine the Onset of Civil War” (with Benjamin Appel). ISA Annual Conference, Montreal, March 16-19, 2011.

## Teaching

### Students

PhD Committee Chair: Myung Jung Kim (prospectus stage)

PhD Committee Chair: Jinwon Lee (prospectus stage)

PhD Committee Member: Jaeseok Cho (in progress)

PhD Committee Member: Hyun Joo Cho (in progress)

PhD Committee Member: Faon Grandinetti (in progress)

PhD Committee Co-Chair: Navida Wang (2022)

PhD Committee Co-Chair: Julian Scheirer (2020)

PhD Committee Member: Tyler Pack (2019)

PhD Committee Member: Sojeong Lee (2018)

PhD Committee Member: Rouxi Du (NA)

PhD Committee Member: Kieun Sung (2015)

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Anna Blair (2022-23)

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Ryan Coady (2022-23)

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Sonja Shirkevich (2022-23)

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Benjamin Nathan (2021-22)

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Jessica Angel (2020-21) \*2021 Thesis Award winner

Undergrad Thesis Advisor: Ljubica Basica (2017-18)

## Teaching Cont.

### Courses Taught at University of Illinois and Iowa

Civil Wars (Graduate)  
 Civil Wars (Undergraduate)  
 Domestic Politics in International Relations (Undergraduate)  
 International Conflict (Undergraduate)  
 International War (Graduate)  
 Junior Honors Seminar (Undergraduate)  
 Non-State Violent Actors in World Politics (Undergraduate)  
 Undergraduate Research Practicum (Undergraduate)  
 Undergraduate Research Assistance (Undergraduate)

## Professional Activities

**Referee:** *American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Civil Wars, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, European Journal of International Relations, European Journal of International Security, Foreign Policy Analysis, International Interactions, International Organization, International Studies Perspectives, International Studies Quarterly, International Studies Review, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Global Security Studies, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics, Political and Military Sociology, Political Research Quarterly, Research and Politics, Terrorism and Political Violence, World Politics, Swiss National Science Foundation (grant reviewer), National Science Foundation (grant reviewer)*

### Memberships

American Political Science Association member, 2006-present  
 APSA Conflict Processes Section member, 2013-present  
 International Studies Association member, 2009-present  
 ISA Scientific Study of International Processes Section member, 2013-present  
 Peace Science Society International member, 2010-present

### Disciplinary and University Service

APSA Conflict Processes Section Council Member, 2023-24  
 Program Chair, APSA Annual Convention (Conflict Processes Section), 2022-23  
 UIUC Faculty Senate Committee on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, 2022-23  
 UIUC Faculty Senator, 2022-2023  
 Program Chair, MPSA Annual Convention (IOs and Cooperation Section), 2019-20  
 Priority Fulbright Reviewer (UIUC Scholarships Program), 2019, 2020  
 APSA Conflict Processes Lifetime Achievement Award Committee, 2016-17

### Departmental Service

Departmental Ombudsperson (elected position, UIUC PS), 2022-23  
 Department Climate Committee Member (UIUC PS), 2022-23  
 IR Area Head (UIUC PS), 2022-23  
 Livny P&T Committee Member (UIUC PS), 2022-23

Professional  
Activities  
Cont.

- Accounting Associate Search Committee Chair (UIUC PS), 2022-23
- Junior Faculty Mentor (UIUC PS), 2022-23
- Department Advisory Committee (elected position, UIUC PS), 2021-22, 2022-23
- IR Search Committee Member (UIUC PS), 2021-22
- Diversity Advocate for IR Search Committee (UIUC PS), 2021-22
- Graduate Affairs Committee (UIUC PS), 2020-21
- Committee to Review Zero-Percent Appointment (UIUC PS), Spring 2020
- Department Grant Review Committee (UIUC PS), 2019-20
- Department Advisory Committee (elected position, UIUC PS), 2018-19, 2019-20
- Department Awards Committee (UIUC PS), 2019-20
- Comprehensive Exam Committee (UIUC PS), 2018-2023
- IR Search Committee (UIUC Poli Sci), 2018-19
- Instructional Programs and Internship Committee (UIUC PS), 2017-18
- Distance Education Committee (U Iowa), 2016-17
- Committee for Visiting Speakers (U Iowa), 2013-17
- IR Subfield Qualifying Exam Committee (U Iowa), 2014-16
- Co-organizer, Shambaugh Conference on Civil War (U Iowa), September 2014
- Organizer, Political Science Modeler's Workshop (U Iowa), 2014-15
- Executive Committee Member (U Iowa), 2014-15