

Katherine Collin

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. International Relations, School of International Service, American University, 2016
Dissertation: “Peacemaking Referendums”
Committee: Charles T. Call (chair), Boaz Atzili, Terrence Lyons
- M.A. International Policy, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, 2003
- B.A. Peace & Conflict Studies, History, University of California at Berkeley, 1998
highest honors, Phi Beta Kappa, Peace & Conflict Studies Dept. Award 1998

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2017 – 2018 The Brookings Institution, Postdoctoral Fellow, Foreign Policy
- 2010 – 2014 International Organization for Migration, out-of-country voting operations
Iraq, South Sudan, Libya
- 2004 – 2007 United Nations peace operations, elections administration and advising
Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq, Nepal

PUBLICATIONS

Peer Reviewed Articles

- 2019 “Peacemaking Referendums in Oceania: Making or Delaying Peace in New Caledonia and Bougainville,” *Ethnopolitics* 18 (2), 139-157.

Book Chapter

- 2015 "Do Referendums Resolve or Perpetuate Contention?" in Pippa Norris, Richard W. Frank, and Ferran Martínez i Coma, eds., 111-130. *Contentious Elections: From Ballots to Barricades*. Routledge.

Revise and Resubmit

“Populist and Authoritarian Referendums: Trends in Latin America, Europe and Africa”
Brookings Institution: Democracy at Risk (scheduled for publication spring 2019)

“Colombia’s Rejected Peacemaking Referendum: a bridge between peacemaking and peacebuilding,” *Representation (solicited for a special edition)*

“The United Nations’ Turn to Conflict Prevention: Will it Succeed?” with Charles T. Call,
International Studies Perspectives

In Submission

“Peacemaking referendums: the use of direct democracy in peace processes” *Democratization*

In Preparation

“Peace Referendums and Peacebuilding” (*solicited for a special edition, UBC Law Review*)

“Peacemaking Referendums in Sudan: South Sudan, Abyei, and Darfur”

“Sub-national Stabilization: Conflict Management without Political Peace” for the Brookings Institution

Policy Publications

- 2018 “Lessons and Future Challenges for the United Nations in Conflict Prevention: A Brookings Report,” with Charles T. Call and Bruce Jones, The Brookings Institution, July
- 2017 “Strategies for Sub-national Stabilization,” with Bruce Jones and Charles T. Call, The Brookings Institution, November
- 2015 “[United Nations Policy Brief on Peacebuilding](#)” with Charles T. Call, for the Rising Powers in Peacebuilding project, November
- 2010 UNDP ELECT Project Document, UNDP Afghanistan Office, Kabul, April
- 2009 “[UNDP ELECT Independent Mid-term Evaluation](#)” Report to United Nations Development Programme Afghanistan Office, with Horacio Boneo, Catinka Slavu, and Toks George Coker, December
- 2006 “[The Unclear Future of Afghanistan’s Electoral Commission](#),” *Democracy at Large*, 3:1, 22-26, January/February
- 2003 “Refugee Integration and Service Access,” Report to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Representation in Romania, August

Commentary and Other Publications

- 2018 “[Seven years into the Syrian civil war: Is there a way out?](#)” *Lawfare*, March 16
- 2017 “[The year in failed conflict prevention](#)” Order from Chaos, The Brookings Institution, December 14
- 2017 “[When Do Referendums Lead to Conflict?](#)” *Political Violence at a Glance*, November 13

- 2017 [“Democratic Weakness and the Secessionist Impulse”](#) Duck of Minerva, November 4
- 2017 [“The referendum in Catalonia – explained”](#) Order from Chaos, The Brookings Institution, September 29
- 2017 [“The Kurdish referendum won’t deliver independence – here’s why it matters anyway”](#) Markaz, The Brookings Institution, September 19
- 2017 [“Puerto Rico votes on statehood on Sunday – for the fifth time. Here’s what’s at stake”](#) The Washington Post Monkey Cage, June 10
- 2016 [“Are the people always right?”](#) UK United Nations Association Magazine, winter
- 2016 [“The electoral college badly distorts the vote. And it’s going to get worse”](#) The Washington Post Monkey Cage, November 18
- 2016 [“Everything you need to know about election observers and why the U.S. needs them”](#) The Washington Post Monkey Cage, October 28
- 2016 [“Why the Colombia peace agreement failed, and what we can expect now”](#) The Washington Post Monkey Cage, October 4
- 2016 [“Sunday, Colombians vote on the historic peace accord with the FARC. Here’s what you need to know”](#) The Washington Post Monkey Cage, October 1

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- 2018 Research grant, Brookings Institution
- 2017 – 2018 Post-doctoral Fellowship in Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution
- 2013 – 2014 Graduate Student Research Grant, Office of the Provost American University
- 2013 PhD Summer Fellowship, School of International Service, American University
- 2012 Graduate Research Award, School of International Service, American University
- 2007 – 2011 Dean's Fellowship, School of International Service, American University
- 2001 – 2003 Merit Scholarship, Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey

INVITED TALKS

- 2018 “Peacemaking Referendums: Risk Mitigation Strategies for Practitioners” June 7, United Nations Electoral Assistance Division, New York NY

- 2018 “The Iraqi Kurdish Referendum and Its Implications” New Approaches to Research in the Eastern Mediterranean, Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington DC, February 7
- 2017 “Peacemaking Referendums: Mechanisms for Ratification and Implementation of Peace Agreements” The challenges of mediation in contemporary war-to-peace transitions, University of Birmingham’s Institute for Conflict, Cooperation and Security, Birmingham UK, February 10
- 2016 “Peacemaking Referendums and Territorial Change” Territory and Ethnic Conflict Workshop, Queen’s University Laboratory on Ethnic Conflict Research, Kingston, Ontario CA, November 18
- 2015 “Peacemaking Referendums: East Timor and the Iraqi Disputed Territories” Political Violence Research Workshop, December 15

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Panels Organized

- 2019 “Referendums: Peace, Conflict and Contention” International Studies Association, Toronto CA, March 2019 (scheduled)
- 2015 “From Ukraine to Scotland: Referendums in Comparative Perspective” International Studies Association, New Orleans LA, February 19

Papers Presented

- 2019 “Colombia’s Peacemaking Referendum: Contributions to peace without a vote for peace” International Studies Association, Toronto CA, March 27 (scheduled)
- 2019 “Peacebuilding Referendums: The impact of referendums on the implementation of peace agreements” International Studies Association, Toronto CA, March 27 (scheduled)
- 2018 “Peacemaking Referendums in Sudan” International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, April 4
- 2018 “Populist Referendums” International Studies Association, San Francisco, CA, April 6
- 2017 “Peacemaking Referendums in the South Pacific: New Caledonia and Bougainville” International Studies Association, Baltimore MD, February 25
- 2016 “Peacemaking Referendums and New States: Upcoming Votes in Bougainville and New Caledonia” International Studies Association, Northeast, Baltimore MD, November 5

- 2015 "Sovereignty Referendums: Linking Legitimacy to Process Inclusion"
International Studies Association, New Orleans, LA, February 19
- 2013 "Peacemaking Referendums: Building Consensus for State Transformation"
American Political Studies Association/Electoral Integrity Project, Chicago IL
August 13
- 2013 "Peacemaking Referendums" International Studies Association, San Francisco,
CA, April 5

CAMPUS TALKS

- 2018 "Referendums: Peacemaking, State-making and War-making" Brookings
Institution Work-in-Progress, April 19
- 2014 "Referendums and Peace: Building Consensus for State Transformation" School
of International Service Ph.D. Colloquium, April 23
- 2013 "Theory of Peacemaking Referendums" School of International Service Ph.D.
Colloquium, February 6
- 2012 Libya's National Assembly Elections, American University, June 27

TEACHING

American University, School of International Service On-line Masters' Program, Co-Instructor

Causes of War, online MA (fall 2018, summer 2019)
Global Governance, online MA (fall 2018, spring & summer 2019)
Conflict Analysis and Prevention, online MA, (spring, summer, fall 2017; spring & summer 2019)

George Washington Elliott School of International Affairs, Sole Instructor

Introduction to Conflict Resolution (fall 2018, 2019)

American University, School of International Service, Sole Instructor

International Relations of Africa (spring 2014, 2015)

University of California, Berkeley, Department of Peace & Conflict Studies, Sole Instructor

Interdisciplinary Methods for Peace and Conflict Studies (spring 1998)

American University, School of International Service, Teaching Assistant

World Politics (fall 2010)
Peacebuilding in Divided Societies (fall 2007)
Reconciliation and Justice (fall 2007)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

American University, School of International Service:

2015 – 2016 Charles Call, Emerging Powers in Peacebuilding Project
2011 Sharon Weiner
2007 Mohammed Abu-Nimer

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2014 Libya Out of Country Voting, United States Country Coordinator,
Council of Representatives Elections,
International Organization for Migration (IOM), Washington DC
Responsible for human resources, logistics, public information, training at seven
sites throughout the US

2013 Libya Out of Country Voting, United States Country Coordinator,
Constitutional Drafting Assembly Elections, IOM, Washington DC
Responsible for human resources, logistics, public information, training at five
sites around the US

2012 Libya Out of Country Voting, United States Country Coordinator,
General National Council Elections, IOM, Washington DC
Responsible for human resources, logistics, public information, training

2010 – 2011 Southern Sudan Referendum, Out of Country Voting, US Training Officer,
IOM, Washington DC: Responsible for training of trainers, human resources,
oversite of procedures at eight sites around the US

2010 Iraq Parliamentary Out of Country Voting, US Country Adviser,
International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), Washington DC
Advised Iraqi electoral team on all aspects of conducting the US vote

2007 Capacity Building Programme Manager, United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP) Iraq
Designed High Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq capacity building
program, including specialized trainings and international exchanges. Organized
BRIDGE electoral training program

2007 Nepal Constituent Assembly Elections, Training Officer,
United Nations Mission in Nepal, Kathmandu, Nepal
Advised the Nepali electoral commission in training operations

2005 Afghanistan National Assembly Elections,
Head of Training and Capacity Building, United Nations Office of Project
Services (UNOPS), Kabul, Afghanistan

Responsible for training electoral workers throughout Afghanistan on voter registration, polling, counting; designed and oversaw capacity building program for Afghan election officials; designed and oversaw fraud remediation program during the counting of ballots.

- 2004 – 2005 Iraq Transitional National Assembly Elections, Out of Country Voting, Head of Training, IFES, Amman, Jordan
Responsible for management of training department, training of Iraqi polling officials in 13 countries
- 2004 Afghanistan Presidential Election, Out of Country Voting, Procedures and Training Officer, IOM, Islamabad, Pakistan
Responsible for writing procedures, training of trainers, and procedural oversight; led fraud remediation team at the count center in Kabul
- 2003 – 2004 Office of Senator Paul Sarbanes
Foreign Affairs Research Assistant and Legislative Correspondent
- 2003 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Bucharest, Romania
Capacity building with partner organizations, organizational development and fundraising
- 2000 Kosovo Civil and Voter Registration, Deputy Regional Records Coordinator, United Nations Mission in Kosovo, Gnjilane, Kosovo
Responsible for oversight in establishing six municipal records offices

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018 Conducted a series of elite interviews with peace negotiators, election officials, civil society in Colombia (July).
- 2013 Conducted a series of elite interviews with peace negotiators, election officials, civil society in Cyprus, East Timor, Indonesia, and South Sudan (April – July).
- 2009-10 UNDP Afghanistan, Election assistance program evaluation and project document
Conducted a series of elite, stakeholder interviews with Afghans and international stakeholders on UNDP's election assistance projects' performance and future requirements (December, April).
- 2003 UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Bucharest, Romania
Conducted study of refugee access to service and needs across Romania.
Designed and carried out a national survey (in Romanian) of individuals with protected status on service access and integration experiences (January – August).

SERVICE

- 2015 – 2019 Faculty advisor and second reader for undergraduate capstone project, graduate research projects
- 2010, 2011, 2012, Workshop leader: Election Observation Methods Election Management Institute: Center for Democracy and Election Management (CDEM)
- 2009 CDEM, Study Tour Leader, for GCC election officials of the 2009 Indonesian presidential election, Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2006 – 2007 American-Romanian Partnership for Gender Equality, board member
- 1999 – 2000 Bay Area Women against Rape: California state certified crisis counselor, hotline and hospital exam advocate

MEDIA

- 2018 Salacanian, Stasa, “Iraq’s wrangle over natural resources: The battle for Kurdish oil,” *Qantara, Deutsche Welle*, June 30
- 2017 *Voice of America*, Secessionism, Catalonia and Kurdistan, October 24
- 2017 Canada Television News, CTV Your Morning, Catalonia update, October 23
- 2017 BTRToday, The Daily Beat, “Katy Collin: Secessionist Movements” October 12
- 2017 BTRToday, The Daily Beat, “Katy Collin: The Catalan Referendum” October 11
- 2017 Bloomberg Radio, Catalan declaration of independence, October 10
- 2017 Serhan, Yasmin, “The Catalonia Referendum: “‘It’s a Constitutional Crisis:’ The region voted for independence from Spain. Now what?” *The Atlantic*, October 3
- 2017 Bloomberg Radio, Spain doubles down on Catalonia, October 3
- 2017 China Central Television News, United States’ position on the Kurdish referendum, September 22
- 2016 Brown, Ryan Lenora, “From Kenya, US gets helping hand with election monitoring,” *The Christian Science Monitor*, November 7

LANGUAGES

French, advanced reading, writing, speaking

Romanian, advanced reading, writing, speaking

Spanish, beginner reading, speaking