

Michael J. Soules

Department of Political Science
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Academic Employment

Assistant Professor (August 2023 – Present)

Department of Political Science, University of Houston

Donald R. Beall Defense Fellow (2022 – July 2023)

Department of Defense Analysis, Naval Postgraduate School

Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University, May 2022

Dissertation: “Persuasion, Coercion, and Force: How Rebel Groups Recruit”

Committee: James A. Piazza (Chair), Douglas Lemke, Bumba Mukherjee, James P. Dillard

Major Field: International Relations

Minor Fields: Comparative Politics, Methodology

M.A. Political Science, Pennsylvania State University, 2018

B.A. Political Science and History, *Summa cum Laude*, Texas A&M University, 2016

Substantive Interests

Terrorism, counterterrorism, insurgency, civil war, women’s participation in political violence, recruitment for political violence, database construction

Research

Peer Reviewed Publications

9) Soules, Michael J. 2023. “Recruiting Rebels: Introducing the Rebel Appeals and Incentives Dataset.”

Journal of Conflict Resolution, DOI: 00220027231154813.

8) Karstens, Mikaela, **Michael J. Soules**, and Nicholas Dietrich. “A Crack in the Foundation: Event Data, Newspaper Databases, and Threats to Validity and Replicability.” *PS: Political Science and Politics*.

7) Soules, Michael J. 2023. “Thinking Outside of the Box: Transnational Terrorism in Civil Wars.”

International Studies Quarterly 67(2).

6) Soules, Michael J. 2022. “The Tradeoffs of Using Female Suicide Bombers.” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 39 (1): 3-23.

- 5) Soules, Michael J. 2022 “Martyr or Mystery? Female Suicide Bombers and Information Availability.” *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism* 45 (1): 62-91.
- 4) Palmer, Glenn, Roseanne McManus, Vito D’Orazio, Michael R. Kenwick, Mikaela Karstens, Chase Bloch, Nicholas Dietrich, Kayla Khan, Kellan Ritter, and **Michael J. Soules**. 2022. “The MID 5 Dataset, 2011-2014: Procedures, Coding Rules, and Description.” *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 39 (4): 470-482.
- 3) Avdan, Nazli, James A. Piazza, and **Michael J. Soules**. 2021. “Silver Lining? The Effects of Epidemics on Terrorist Groups.” Accepted and Forthcoming. *Terrorism and Political Violence*.
- 2) Piazza, James A. and **Michael J. Soules**. 2021. “Terror After the Caliphate: The Effect of ISIS Loss of Control over Population Centers on Patterns of Global Terrorism.” *Security Studies* 30 (1): 107-135.
- 1) Soules, Michael J. 2020. “Women in Uniform: The Opening of Combat Roles to Women in State Militaries.” *International Interactions* 46 (6): 847-871.

Working Papers

“Is There a Rebel Resource Curse?” *Under Review*.

Michal J. Soules and Kathryn Howarth. “Forced Recruitment and Terrorism in Civil Wars.” *Under Review*.

Michael J. Soules and Christopher Willis. “Rebel Recruitment and Repertoires of Violence”

“Convincing them to Fight: How Rebel Groups Choose Their Recruitment Tactics.”

Works in Progress

“Rebel Recruitment and Governance: How Mobilization Strategies Shape Rebels’ Provision of Social Services.”

“Women’s Status and the Gender Gap in Support for Political Violence.”

Michael J. Soules, Nazli Avdan, and James A. Piazza. “Magical and Spiritual Practices in Rebel Groups.”

“Variation in Terrorist Tactics and Civil War Outcomes.”

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

The Pennsylvania State University:

Robert S. Friedman Award for Excellence in Teaching, Fall 2020 – Spring 2021
Outstanding Political Science Graduate Student, Fall 2019 – Spring 2020
Research and Graduate Studies Office (RGSO) Dissertation Support, \$2,000 – Fall 2020
Research and Graduate Studies Office (RGSO) Dissertation Support, \$1,000 – Fall 2019
Program for Empirical International Relations (PEIR) Fellowship, Fall 2019 – Spring 2020
Robert W. Graham Endowed Graduate Fellowship, Summer 2017 and Summer 2018
Florence and Angelo Paterno Graduate Fellowship in the Liberal Arts, Fall 2017– Spring 2018

Professional Experience

Research

Research Assistant for James A. Piazza, Summer 2020 and Fall 2021
Research Assistant for Glenn Palmer and Roseanne McManus for the Militarized Interstate Dispute (MID) 5.0 Dataset, Summer 2018 – Summer 2019

Teaching

Instructor of Record

PLSC 418W- International Relations Theory (World Campus), Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2023
GLIS 400 - Seminar in Global and International Studies (Civil Wars), Fall 2020
PLSC 439 - The Politics of Terrorism, Summer 2019

Teaching Assistant

PLSC 14 - Introduction to International Relations, Douglas Lemke, Spring 2017
PLSC 14 - Introduction to International Relations, Errol A. Henderson, Fall 2016

Guest Lecturing

“The Strategic and Sociopolitical Determinants of Female Suicide Terrorism” for James Piazza’s PLSC 439-Terrorism Class, Fall 2018, the Pennsylvania State University
“Women’s Status and the Prevalence of Female Suicide Bombers” for James Piazza’s PLSC 439-Terrorism Class, Spring 2018, the Pennsylvania State University
“The Battlefield and Propaganda Advantages of Female Suicide Bombers” for James Piazza’s PLSC 439-Terrorism Class, Spring 2018, the Pennsylvania State University
“Expect the Unexpected: The Strategic Use of Female Suicide Bombers (And Why Variable Measurement Matters)” for Anne Whitesell’s PLSC 308-Research Design Class, October 2017, the Pennsylvania State University
“Introduction to Terrorism” for Douglas Lemke’s PLSC 014-Introduction to International Relations Class, Spring 2017

Conference Participation

- “Rebel Recruitment Tactics and Sexual Violence.” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Montreal, September 2022).
- “Thinking Outside of the Box: Transnational Terrorism in Civil Wars.” Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention. (April 2022).
- “Fighting to the Bitter End: Rebel Recruitment Tactics and Civil War Outcomes.” Presented at the Peace Science Society International North American Meeting (November 2021).
- “Thinking Outside of the Box: Transnational Terrorism in Civil Wars.” Presented at the International Studies Association Northeast Annual Convention. (November 2021).
- “Natural Resource Endowments and Rebel Group Recruitment Strategies.” Poster Presented at the American Political Science Association (October 2021).
- “Gender and Conflict” workshop participant at the Peace Science Society International North American Meeting (November 2020).
- “Persuasion, Coercion, and Force: Introducing the Rebel Appeals and Incentives Dataset (RAID)” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (September 2020).
- “The Surviving Victim Problem: Causes and Consequences of Non-Lethal Violence” workshop participant at the Peace Science Society International North American Meeting (Manhattan, November 2019).
- “Women in Uniform: The Opening of Military Combat Roles to Women” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Washington, D.C., August 2019).
- “The Strategic Use of Female Suicide Bombers” Presented at the International Studies Association Annual Convention. (Toronto, March 2019).
- “The Scientific Study of Gender and Conflict” workshop participant at the Peace Science Society International North American Meeting (Austin, November 2018).
- “Breaking Through: Female Suicide Bombers and Media Freedom” Presented at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (Boston, September 2018)

Invited Talks

- “Mobilizing for Equality: Why Armed Groups Do (Not) Promote Gender Egalitarianism” Presented at the Monash Gender, Peace and Security (GPS) Centre. (Melbourne, AU, May 2019).

Departmental Service at Penn State

- Graduate Student Representative on the Graduate Recruitment Committee (Fall 2018-Spring 2019)
- Graduate Association of Political Science (GAPS) Secretary (Fall 2017-Spring 2018)
- Graduate Student Representative on the Department Social Committee (Fall 2017-Spring 2018)

General Service to the Discipline

- Reviewer for *African Security*; *Conflict Management and Peace Science*; *Global Studies Quarterly*; *International Interactions*; *International Journal of Law, Crime, and Justice*; *International Studies Quarterly*; *Journal of Peace Research*; *Security Studies*

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association; International Studies Association; Peace Science Society; Phi Beta Kappa

Miscellaneous

Programming Languages: R, Stata

References

Available Upon Request