

Benjamin J. Appel
Department of Political Science
Michigan State University
368 Farm Lane
East Lansing, MI 48824

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, August 2017-present

Department of Political Science
Michigan State University

Assistant Professor, August 2012-2017

Department of Political Science
Michigan State University

Dickey Center Fellow, 2011-2012

John Sloan Dickey Center for International Understanding
Dartmouth College

EDUCATION

Ph.D., May 2012, University of Maryland, College Park

Department of Government and Politics

B.A., May 2001, Mercyhurst College

Major: History and Intelligence Studies

PUBLICATIONS

“In the Shadow of the International Criminal Court: Does the ICC Deter Human Rights Violations?” *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2018) 62,1: 3-28.

“Third Party Actors and the Intentional Targeting of Civilians in War” with Alyssa Prorok *British Journal of Political Science* (2018) 49,4: 1-22.

“Conflict Recurrence and Post-Conflict Justice: Addressing Motivations and Opportunities for Sustainable Peace” with Cyanne Loyle *International Studies Quarterly* (2018) 61, 3: 690-703

“Intergovernmental Organizations and Democratic Victory in International Crises”
Journal of Politics (2018) 80,1: 274-287

“Compliance with International Humanitarian Law: Democratic Third Parties and Civilian Targeting in Interstate War” with Alyssa Prorok *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2014) 58,4: 713-740.

“Bringing Law to the Table: Legal Claims, Bargaining Leverage and the Settlement of Territorial Disputes Since 1945” with Paul Huth and Sarah Croco *American Journal of Political Science* (2013) 57,1: 90-103.

“Investing in the Truth: Economic Incentives for Post-Conflict Justice” with Cyanne Loyle *Journal of Peace Research* (2012) 49,5: 685-699.

“Law and the Use of Force in World Politics: The Varied Effects of Law on the Exercise of Military Power in Territorial Disputes” with Paul Huth and Sarah Croco. *International Studies Quarterly* (2012) 56,1: 17-31

“Does International Law Promote the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes? Evidence from the Study of Territorial Conflicts since 1945” with Paul Huth and Sarah Croco. *American Political Science Review* (2011) 105,2: 415-36

*Mentioned in Wall Street Journal’s “Week in Ideas” column (May 14, 2011)

“Domestic Political Unrest and The Diversionary Use of Force: The Case of Japan, 1890-1941” with Paul Huth and Natsuko Hayashi. *International Studies Quarterly* (2010) 54,4: 915-937

BOOK MANUSCRIPT – ACCEPTED

Disturbing Spells: State Repressive Campaigns and What Can Be Done To Stop This (with Christian Davenport)

ARTICLES -- REVISE AND RESUBMIT

Stopping State Repression: An Examination of Spells (with Christian Davenport)

Not Too Distant: Understanding How Opportunity and Grievance Theories Jointly Determine the Onset of Civil War (with Alyssa Prorok and Caleb Lucas)

Domestic Sources of Compliance with International Law and Territorial Disputes (with Sarah Croco and Paul Huth)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The Impact of the Novel Coronavirus on State Repression

The Effectiveness of Sanctioning Foreign Terrorist Organizations (with Jakana Thomas)

Democratic Backsliding and Foreign Policy Behavior

Inclusion, Polarization, and Democratic Backsliding (with Langston Thomas)

Climate Change and State Repression (with Nate Smith)

Asking For Help: Why Leaders Consult the United Nations Security Council in International Crises

The United Nations and International Crises

Understanding the Determinants of ICC Involvement (with Alyssa Prorok and Shahyrrar Minhas)

AWARDS

Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative Program, College of Social Science, Michigan State University, 2020

Provost Undergraduate Research Initiative Program, College of Social Science, Michigan State University, 2015-2016

Notre Dame, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, 2012-2013 fellowship (declined)

USC, Center for International Studies, 2012-2013 fellowship (declined)

Don Piper Award for Best Graduate Student Paper, University of Maryland, Department of Government and Politics, 2011

National Science Foundation: Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS), “International Law, Territorial Disputes, and Domestic Accountability” with Sarah Croco and Paul Huth, 2009

Dissertation Research Grant, International Relations Subfield, University of Maryland, 2009-2010

Graduate Student Travel Grant, University of Maryland, ISA Annual Meeting, February 2010

Methods Training Grant, International Relations Subfield, University of Maryland, Summer 2007

SELECTED CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

“The United Nations Security Council and International Crises”
- Rice University Workshop on International Law and Agreements, December 2016

“The ICC and Election Violence”
-University of Nebraska Workshop on International Law and Human Rights, April 2016

“The United Nations Security Council and International Crises”
-George Washington University Workshop on Conflict, February 2016

“Domestic Sources of Compliance with International Law and Territorial Disputes” with Sarah Croco and Paul Huth
-University of Tennessee Workshop on Territorial Disputes, June 2015

“The Effectiveness of Sanctioning Foreign Terrorist Organizations” with Jakana Thomas

-2016 Sie Cheou-Kang Center for International Security & Development Workshop,
University of Denver

“Onset, Termination, and Recurrence of High-Repression spells” with Christian Davenport
-Presented at 2015 University of Michigan Workshop on Contentious Politics

“Does the ICC have an Africa Problem? Understanding the determinants of ICC Involvement”
with Alyssa Prorok
-Presented at 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Onset, Termination, and Recurrence of High-Repression spells” with Christian Davenport
-Presented at 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Killing to Survive The Impact of Human Rights Violation on Leadership Tenure” with Christian
Davenport
-Presented at 2013 University of Michigan Workshop on Contentious Politics

“International Law on the Use of Force and United Nations Security Support in International
Crises”
-Presented at 2014 Workshop on Conflict

“Post-Conflict Justice Institutions and the Reoccurrence of Civil Conflict” with Cyanne Loyle
-Presented at 2013 University of Michigan Workshop on Contentious Politics

“Not Too Distant: Understanding How Opportunity and Grievance Theories Jointly Determine the
Onset of Civil War” with Alyssa Prorok
-Presented at 2012 Workshop on Conflict

“International Law on the Use of Force and United Nations Security Support in International
Crises”
-Presented at 2012 Peace Science Society Conference

“The Court of Worldwide Public Opinion: International Law on the Use of Force and International
Crises”
-Presented at 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Post-Conflict Justice Institutions and the Reoccurrence of Civil Conflict” with Cyanne Loyle
-Presented at 2011 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“A Theory of Reputation in Security Disputes: An Application to International Humanitarian Law
and the Intentional Targeting of Civilians in Interstate War” with Alyssa Prorok
-Presented at 2011 International Studies Association Conference

“Not Too Distant: Understanding How Opportunity and Grievance Theories Jointly Determine the
Onset of Civil War” with Alyssa Prorok
-Presented at 2011 International Studies Association Conference

“Credible Commitments and the Escalation of Civil Conflicts” with Alyssa Prorok

-Presented at the 2010 Peace Science Society Conference

“The Politics of Self-Defense: The Pacifying Role of International Law on the Use of Force in International Crises”

-Presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Investing in the Truth: Economic Incentives for Post-Conflict Justice” with Cyanne Loyle

-Presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association

“Never Again: An Empirical Assessment of Genocide since 1955” with Christian Davenport

-Presented at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association

“Understanding When Trade Promotes Peace: Core-Periphery Dyads and the WTO”

-Presented at the 2008 Annual meeting of the American Political Science Association

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Michigan State University

-Undergraduate: Introduction to World Politics, Social Science Approaches to the Law, International Institutions and International law, Human Rights and State Repression, Conflict Processes, the United Nations

-Graduate: International Institutions, International law, Human Rights and State Repression, and Transitional Justice and Post-conflict Justice Institutions

Dartmouth College

-War Crimes and the Law of Armed Conflict

SERVICE

MSU College Curriculum Committee (2017-present)

MSU Experiential Learning Sub-Committee 2018, 2020

Editorial Board Member, *International Interactions*, 2015-2018

Section Chair for the 2015 Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association

Section Chair for the 2018 Conference of the Southern Political Science Association

MSU Department of Political Science IR Field Committee 2012-present

MSU Department of Political Science IR Field Chair 2018-2019

MSU Workshop on Conflict, Co-organizer

MSU Department of Political Science Ad-hoc Committee on Climate and Governance (2014-2015)

MSU Department of Political Science Advisory Committee (2014-2015)

Reviewer for: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *International Organization*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *International Interactions*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *European Journal of Political Science*, *Review of International Organizations*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *International Studies Review*, *Foreign Policy Analysis* *International Studies Perspectives*, *International Journal of Transitional Justice*