

Vera Mironova

Present Address

5 Haskell st. 43
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Contact Information

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Academic Appointment

Harvard University 2014-NA
2018-NA Center Associate (**Davis Center**)
2015-2018 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, International Security Program(**Belfer Center**)
2014-2015 Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Program on Negotiations (**Harvard Law School**)

Education

University of Maryland, Ph.D in Political Science, 2017

Moscow State University Lomonosov

Equiv. MSc; Applied Mathematics, 2007; *Valedictorian*, Thesis with distinction
Equiv. MSc; Social and Economic Geography of Foreign Countries, 2007

Additional Education

Harvard Law School, Coursework on Criminal and Intentional Law (10 classes), 2018-2019
SUNY Stony Brook, Graduate coursework for Ph.D. in Economics (15 classes), 2010

Book

From Freedom Fighter to Jihadist: Non-State Armed Groups Human Resources, *Oxford University Press*, 2019

- Opening START/OUP Book Series on Terrorism and Counter Terrorism
- Featured in: **The New Scientist** (Cover Article), **The Economist**, **New York Times**, **NPR**, **BBC**, **Foreign Affairs**, **Foreign Policy**
- Book Reviews: **Journal of Peace Research**

Journal Articles

9. Vera Mironova, Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt “Preferences for Violence in Civil War: Evidence from Syria,” *Forthcoming*, **Journal of Conflict Resolution**
- Featured in: *Washington Post*, *Foreign Affairs*
8. Vera Mironova and Sam Whitt, “From the Maidan to the Military: Mobilizing Civilians for Counter-Insurgency in Eastern Ukraine,” *Forthcoming*, **Journal of Peace Research**
- Featured in: *Political Violence @ a Glance*
7. Vera Mironova, Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt “Risk Tolerance during Conflict: Evidence from Aleppo, Syria,” *Forthcoming*, **Journal of Peace Research**
- Featured in: *U-T San Diego*, *Political Violence @ a Glance*
6. Vera Mironova and Yegor Lazarev “Minority Status and Investment: Evidence from Natural and Lab Experiments in Bosnia and Herzegovina,” **World Development** , Volume 106, June 2018, Pages 27-39
5. Vera Mironova and Sam Whitt, 2015 “The evolution of prosociality and parochialism after violence,” **Journal of Peace Research** Volume: 53 issue: 5, page(s): 648-664
*Runner-up, Nils Petter Gleditsch Award

4. Vera Mironova and Sam Whitt, 2015 “Social Norms after Conflict Exposure and Victimization by Violence,” **British Journal of Political Science**, Volume 48, Issue 3 July 2018 , pp. 749-765
3. Vera Mironova and Sam Whitt, 2014 “International Peacekeeping and Micro-foundations for Positive Peace,” **Journal of Conflict Resolution**, Vol 61, Issue 10, pp. 2074 - 2104
2. Vera Mironova and Sam Whitt, 2014 “Ethnicity and Altruism after Violence,” **Journal of Experimental Political Science**, 1(2), pp. 170-180
1. Stefano DelaVigna, Ruben Enikolopov, Vera Mironova, Maria Petrova and Kattia Zhuravskaya, 2013 “Unintended Media Effects in a Conflict Environment: Serbian Radio and Croatian Nationalism,” **American Economic Journals: Applied Economics** 6(3): 103-132

Special Issues 1. Vera Mironova “Who Are the ISIS People?”, **Perspectives on Terrorism**, Vol 13, No. 1

Selected Working Papers 5. “Conflict Encourages Parochialism in Humans,”(with Sam Whitt), *Revise and Resubmit*, **Journal of Politics**

4. “The Effect of Violence on Impulsivity: Evidence from the DR Congo,” (with Alex Imas and Michael Kuhn), *Revise and Resubmit*, **American Economic Journals: Microeconomics**
- Featured in: *World Bank Development Blog*

3. “Rebel Group Attrition and Reversion to Violence: Micro-Level Evidence from Syria ” (with Sam Whitt), *Revise and Resubmit*, **International Studies Quarterly**

2. “Gender and Public Accountability for Political Violence ” (with Sam Whitt), *Under Review*
- Featured in: *New York Times*

1. “Due Process and Accountability Under Transitional Justice: Evidence from Mosul, Iraq ” (with Sam Whitt), *Under Review*

Military Publications 7. “Can ISIS regroup? Lessons from interviews with ex-ISIS fighters”, **NATO Review**, August 9, 2018

6. “Adaptation and Innovation with an Urban Twist: Changes to Suicide Tactics in the Battle of Mosul,”(with Craig Whiteside) **Military Review**, Vol. 97, No. 6, 2017

5. “ISIS Prisons Where Labor Demand Meets Labor Supply,”(with Mohammed Hussein) **CTX**, Naval Postgraduate School, Volume 7/1, 2017

4. “CTC Prospectives. The Islamic State’s Drone Documents: Management, Acquisitions and DIY Tradecraft,”(with Don Rassler and Muhammad al-‘Ubaydi) Commissioned Policy Report, **CTC West Point**, 31 January 2017; reprinted by *The New York Times*, *Daily Beast*, *Small Wars Journal*

3. “Understanding the Changing Tactics of So-called Islamic State” **NATO Review**, April 15, 2016; Translated and reprinted by Kurdish Ministry of Peshmerga Affairs

2. “The Motivations of Syrian Islamist Fighters” (with Sam Whitt and Loubna Mrie), **CTC Sentinel**, Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, Vol.7, No. 10 (Oct. 2014) pp.13-15

1. “A Glimpse into the Minds of Four Foreign Fighters in Syria” (with Sam Whitt), **CTC Sentinel**, Combating Terrorism Center at West Point, Vol.7, No. 6 (June 2014) pp.6-7

Book Chapters 1. “ISIS Practice of Sharia Law”, *Forthcoming*, in **Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics**, ed. William R. Thompson, (New York: Oxford University Press)

Policy Publications “Jihadists from Ex-Soviet Central Asia”(with Edward Lemon and William Tobey), Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, 8 December 2018

“Fearing ISIS in the Shadows” Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, 20 April 2017

“What ISIS Can Teach Policymakers”(with Ruben Enikolopov and Mohammed Hussein) Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, October 21, 2015; translated and reprinted by *Internationale Politik und Gesellschaft* (in German); used by SOJTF-OIR (US Special Operation Joint Task Force- Operation Iraqi Resolve);

“KAP Report: Knowledge, Awareness and Practices (in Yemen)” Commissioned Policy Report, UNICEF Yemen, 2015

“Paris Attacks Reveal ISIS’s Weakness, Not its Strength” (with Jill Goldenziel) Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Harvard Kennedy School, November 25, 2015

“What Do Syrian Rebels Want From The West?” (with Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt) Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 07 April 2014

Documentary Movie Co-Producer of **Exiled: The Plight of Rohingya Muslims**, Filmed in Bangladesh and Myanmar. Awards: *Oniros* (Italy, 2019) Screening: *Marda Loop Justice Film Festival* (Canada 2019), *LA Film Festival* (Los Angeles 2019)

Opinion Pieces 5. “Is the Future of ISIS Female?” Op-Ed, **New York Times**, 20 February 2019

4. “The next Islamic State would be deadlier” Op-Ed, **Washington Post**, 5 October 2017

3. “Fixing the Mess in Syria” (with Rami Nakhla), Article, **The National Interest**, 17 December 2014

2. “Fractured opposition groups disillusion Syrians” (with Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt), Op-Ed, **U-T San Diego**, 22 Jan. 2014

1. “Is Syria ready for peace?” (with Sam Whitt), Op-Ed, **The Baltimore Sun**, 17 Jan. 2014

Essays

27. "The New Face of Terrorism in 2019," Article, **Foreign Policy**, 1 January 2019
26. "Islamic State Fighters Are Back, and This Time They Are Taking Up Arms With Shiite Militias," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 15 October 2018, translated and reprinted in *Alfajr News* (in Arabic) and *Rudaw* (in Kurdish)
25. "Putin Is Building a Bosnian Paramilitary Force," (with Bogdan Zawadewicz), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 8 August 2018
24. "The Bloody Split Within ISIS," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova and Karam Alhamad), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 8 December 2017
23. "ISIS' Intelligence Service Refuses to Die," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova and Karam Alhamad), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 22 November 2017
22. "The Lives of Foreign Fighters Who Left ISIS," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova and Karam Alhamad), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 27 October 2017
21. "Will Former ISIS Fighters Help the Rohingya?" (with Ekaterina Sergatskova), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 23 September 2017
20. "The Chechens of Syria," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 9 September 2017
19. "How Ukraine Reined In Its Militias," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 1 August 2017
18. "The Names of Jihad," (with Karam Alhamad), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 14 July 2017
17. "The Struggle Over Sinjar," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 5 June 2017
16. "Land Grabs in Iraq," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 10 April 2017
15. "Cracks in the Islamic State," (with Ekaterina Sergatskova), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 15 February 2017
14. "ISIS New Frontier," (with Karam Alhamad), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 1 February 2017; translated and reprinted in *Aljazeera* (in Arabic)
13. "The New ISIS Insurgency," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 9 January 2017
12. "The Overloaded Prisons of Iraq," Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 1 December 2016
11. "Iraq After ISIS," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 3 November 2016
10. "The Downfall of ISIS," (with Mohammed Hussein), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 26 September 2016; Translated and Reprinted in *Arabi21*; Ghad (Lebanon); Rasseen (Jordan)

9. “What Would You Do If Your Neighborhood Turned Into a War Zone?” Podcast, **Boston Globe**, 29 February, 2016
8. “In Two Charts, This Is What Refugees Say About Why They Are Leaving Syria Now,” (with Karam Alhamad and Sam Whitt), Article, **Washington Post**, 28 September 2015
7. “The Jihadi Who Came in From the Cold,” (with Ahmed Mhidi and Sam Whitt), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 10 August 2015
6. “Ramadan in Syria,” (with Karam Alhamad and Sam Whitt), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 9 July 2015
5. “Why Are fighters leaving the Free Syrian Army?” (with Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt), Article, **Washington Post**, 12 May 2014, Reprinted in POMEPS Briefing “*Syria and the Islamic State*”
4. “Syria’s Democracy Jihad,” (with Rich Nilson, Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt), Article, **Foreign Affairs**, 14 January 2014; Reprinted in “*The ISIS Crises*” edited by Gideon Rose
3. “I Am Only Looking Up For Paradise,” (with Loubna Mrie and Sam Whitt), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 2 October 2014
2. “Ukraine’s Do-It-Yourself War,” (with Valerie Hopkins), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 11 July 2014
1. “Putin Is Behaving in Ukraine Like Milosevic Did in Serbia,” (with Maria Snegovaya), Article, **The New Republic**, 19 June 2014; Reprinted by KievPost (Ukraine), Russia Today (Russia), Chanel 9 (Israel)

Professional Blogs “Changing Calculus and Learning from our Enemies” (with Craig Whiteside), **Strategy Bridge**, 8 December 2017

“What Young Ukrainians Are Fighting For” (with Sam Whitt), **Violence at Glance**, 9 October 2014

“Competition Within Terrorist Industry: Notes From the Field in Syria and Yemen”, **Violence at Glance**, 23 September 2014

“What Young Ukrainians Are Fighting For” (with Sam Whitt), **Violence at Glance**, 9 October 2014

“Islamists at a Glance: Why Do Syria’s Rebel Fighters Join Islamist Groups?” (with Sam Whitt), **Violence at Glance**, 13 August 2014

“Norms and Attitudes in the Midst of Civil War: Experimental and Survey Evidence from Syria” (with Sam Whitt), **Violence at Glance**, 17 March 2014

Book review

Book Review of Monica Duffy Tofts’ Princeton University Press Book: *Securing the Peace: The Durable Settlement of Civil Wars*, Appeared in *Nationalities Papers*, Vol.41, No.5, July 2013, pages 861-863

**Awards,
Fellowships and
Grants**

Terrorism Research Initiative, Finalist Best Ph.D. Thesis on Terrorism
Association for Analytic Learning about Islam and Muslim Societies, Graduate Fellow
US Department of Homeland Security, 2015, Best Research on Terrorism Award
National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, 2015,
Grant
Harvard Law School, 2015, Future Generation Research Grant
Harvard University, 2014-2016, Various Fellowships and Grants
Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, 2015, Research Grant
Open Society Foundation, 2011-2013, Fellowship
University of Maryland, 2010-2016, Various Fellowships
Moscow State University, 2002-2007, Various Fellowships

Teaching Positions*Instructor*

Behavioral Economics, summer 2015 (American University in Iraq)
Teaching assistant
Research methods fall 2011 and spring 2012 (GVPT department; UMD)
Introduction to Microeconomics (Economics department; SUNY Stony Brook)
Financial economics (Economics department; SUNY Stony Brook)
Guest Lecture
Economics of Religion (Economics department; Harvard University)

Invited Talks

2020 (book talk) London School of Economics *scheduled*
2020 (book talk) Kings College London, *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) Washington Institute, *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) Harvard University *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) FPRI, Philadelphia *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) Yale University, Jackson Institute *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) Princeton University, ESOC *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) University of Maryland *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) USMA West Point *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) UCSD *scheduled*
2019 (book talk) American University *scheduled*
2018 Danish Institute for International Studies
2018 Economics Department, Harvard University
2018 Central Florida University, Research Seminar
2017 Order, Conflict, and Violence Speaker Series, Yale University
2017 McMillan Center, Yale University
2017 Washington Institute, Washington DC
2017 Colgate University, University Lecture
2017 Central Florida University, Research Seminar
2017 Maastricht University, Netherlands
2017 Washington Institute, Washington DC
2017 National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism, Washington DC
2017 Middle East Research Initiative, Erbil, Iraq
2016 Boston University, Conflict and Terrorism Seminar
2016 SUNY Albany, International Relations Seminar
2016 Harvard Kennedy School, Belfer Center Seminar
2016 Naval Postgraduate School, International Relations Seminar
2015 National Defense University, Civil War Seminar
2015 US Institute of Peace, Research Seminar
2015 Program on Negotiations, Harvard Law School
2015 Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University
2015 Political Violence Workshop, Harvard University

2015 Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, GWU
2014 Rady Business School, UCSD
2014 Harriman Institute, Columbia University

Presentations and Workshops

- 2019 World Summit on Counter-Terrorism: ICT's 19th International Conference
- 2019 Social norms: emergence, persistence, and effects, UTennessee
- 2018 Jihadism after the Fall of the Caliphate, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 2018 Collective Emergent Complexity in Terrorism, UC Davis
- 2017 SMA Conference, Joint Base Andrews
- 2017 UK-US ECR Workshop, Boston
- 2017 GPPi, Berlin Germany
- 2017 Munich Workshop on Behavior and Terrorism, Germany
- 2016 Behavioral Exchange Conference, Harvard Business School
- 2016 Economics of National Security Winter Meeting, NBER
- 2016 Security and Human Behavior Workshop, Harvard University
- 2016 Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference, Harvard University
- 2015 Political Violence Workshop, Harvard University
- 2015 Symposium for the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism
- 2015 Evolution and Warfare Workshop, University of Tennessee
- 2015 POMEPS Workshop, George Washington University
- 2015 PONARS workshop, George Washington University
- 2015 Annual Bank Conference on Africa, UC Berkeley
- 2015 Harvard-MIT-Yale Political Violence Conference
- 2015 AALIMS Graduate Conference, Princeton University
- 2014 Florida State University, Political Violence Seminar (via Skype)
- 2014 IDS Workshop on Mixed Methods Research in Poverty and Vulnerability
- 2014 The Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy, NYU
- 2013 Graduate Conference in Political Science, Hebrew University
- 2013 Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics, Stanford University
- 2012 Ethnic Politics Workshop, Arizona State University
- 2012 BYU-Princeton conference "Experiments in IR", BYU

Discussant 2017 International Security Workshop, Northeastern

Annual Association Conference Presentations

- American Political Science Association (2014, 2015, 2016)
- International Society of Political Psychology (2014, 2016)
- International Studies Association (2013, 2014, 2015)

Other Studies

- Tunis Exchange Study Program, June 2018
- Beirut Exchange Study Program, January 2017
- UCSD Spring Institute in Behavior Economics, March 2013
- Stanford Summer Institute in Political Psychology, July 2012
- Yale University, Center of Order Conflict & Violence, July 2010
- Ronald Coase Institute on Institutional Analysis, May 2010
- US Institute of Peace (USIP), June 2009

Fieldwork

- Embedded with Armed Forces
- 2016-2017 October-July, Iraq (Iraqi Special Operations Forces, Battle for Mosul)
- 2017 January and July, Ukraine, (Battalion Donbas)
- 2016 August, Iraq (Kurdish Pesmerga, operations in Khazir, Navaran and Bashika)
- 2016 July, Ukraine (Volunteer battalions Pravyi Sektor and UDA in village Avdeevka)
- 2015 July, Iraq (Kurdish Pesmerga, Mahmour frontline)
- 2014 March, DR Congo (National Army and Police near Bukavu)

Other Fieldwork

2019: Iraq, Georgia (Pankisi Gorge), Ukraine, Fergana Valley (Kyrgyzstan)
2018: Iraq, Tunisia, Fergana Valley (Kyrgyzstan), Bangladesh/Myanmar, Georgia (Pankisi Gorge)
2017: Iraq, Lebanon, Ukraine
2016: Iraq, Ukraine, Sudan
2015: Iraq, Ukraine, Morocco (Western Sahara)
2014: Yemen, Syria/Turkey, DR Congo, Kyrgyzstan
2013: DR Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan
2012: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Kosovo, Azerbaijan, Georgia
2011: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia
2010: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia
2009: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Croatia, Serbia
2008: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia
2007: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Russia

Research Appeared on Syllabi

Harvard Kennedy School (public policy); MIT (economics); Georgetown (political science); NYU (history); Naval Postgraduate School (political science); United States Military Academy (political science); Rice (political science); Boston University (public policy); University Toronto (political science), Max Planck Institute (economics); American University (political science); Carnegie Mellon (economics); University of Lausanne (economics); University of Bonn (economics); FSU (political science); Purdue University (politics science); University of Georgia (political science)

Manuscript Referee

Oxford University Press (x1), International Security (x6), American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics (x2), Journal of Conflict Resolution (x2), Comparative Political Studies (x2), Journal of Peace Research (x4), British Journal of Political Science (x2)

Professional Affiliations

Harvard Davis Center (2018-NA); American University of Iraq (Iraq) (Summer 2015, 2016, 2017); Harvard Woman and Public Policy Program (2016-2017); Yemen College of Middle Eastern Studies (Summer 2014); University of California San Diego (Rady Business School) (Fall 2013)

Media Coverage

English: Vice News, New York Times, BBC, Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, Washington Post, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, Associated Press, USA Today, NPR, The Atlantic, Al Jazeera, American Interest, Christian Science Monitor, Newsweek, Council on Foreign Relations, The Baltimore Sun, U-T San Diego, Business Insider, Fox News, ArmyTimes, NavyTimes, Daily Mail, Voice of America, HKS PolicyCast, CBC/Radio-Canada (Canada), World Bank Development Blog, Harvard Gazette, Danish Radio, India Times, Belfer Newsletter, Political Violence at a Glance blog, The Duck of Minerva blog, Syria in Crises blog and Syria Comment blog; Russian: Novaya Gazeta, Vedomosti, Slon; Radio Vesti Ukraine; Hromadske; Kurdish: Awene, Rudaw; Portuguese: Lusa

Consultancy

UNICEF, Yemen, Consultant (2014)

World Bank (DIME), DR Congo (2013-2014), Azerbaijan (2012-2013), Consultant

Center for Security Studies, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Intern (2011)

Languages

Russian (*Native*), Arabic -Yemeni dialect (*Intermediate*), Croatian-Bosnian-Serbian (*Fluent*), Ukrainian, Macedonian

References

Stathis Kalyvas, *Gladstone Professor of Government*, Oxford University, stathis.kalyvas@yale.edu

Jacob Shapiro, *Professor of Politics and International Affairs*, Princeton University, jns@princeton.edu

Richard Nielsen, *Assistant Professor of Political Science*, M.I.T rnielsen@mit.edu

Paul Huth, *Professor of Government & Politics*, University of Maryland, phuth@umd.edu