Conference on Micro-Comparative Studies of 20th Century Conflicts

April 23-24, 2016, Yale University, New Haven, CT

Organizers
Program on Order, Conflict, and Violence
The MacMillan Center, Yale University
(Stathis Kalyvas, Director)
Daniel Fedorowycz (University of Oxford)

Location
Room 202, The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for
International and Area Studies, Henry R. Luce Hall, 34 Hillhouse
Avenue, New Haven, CT

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Conference Overview

Historical cases of civil war and political violence are a major and underutilized source for the systematic study of conflict. While the fluid nature of ongoing or recent conflicts makes reliable data collection challenging, historical cases provide researchers with a unique opportunity to conduct systematic micro-comparative research, triangulating a variety of evidentiary sources. In post-conflict years, previously classified archives have opened; pronounced partisanship and controversies have subsided; and a rich descriptive secondary literature has emerged. In search of better quality data, scholars of political violence are increasingly turning to the systematic study of historical cases to facilitate understanding of the dynamics driving conflict. Yet, this “historical turn” in conflict studies remains fragmented across several disciplines and subfields.

The conference on “Micro-Comparative Studies of 20th Century Conflicts” aims to highlight this emerging trend in conflict studies. In particular, the meeting seeks to create a network of scholars who use a combination of extensive archival research with methodologies that have traditionally been used in isolation (e.g. ethnographic research, quantitative analysis), as well as conduct disaggregated theoretical and empirical research on civil wars and other forms of political violence. Over the course of the conference, participants will present their ongoing research and investigate ways in which different approaches can be combined to advance scholarship about the complex processes driving the micro-dynamics of political violence.
Conference Program

Saturday, April 23, 2016

9:15 am  Welcome and Introduction

9:30 am  Panel I: Dynamics of Civil Conflict I

Chair:  Livia I. Schubiger, London School of Economics and Political Science
Discussant:  Ana Arjona, Northwestern University

The Political Determinants of Resistance to Foreign Occupation, France 1940-1944
Matthew Kocher, Yale University
Nuno P. Monteiro, Yale University

Violence as a Generative Force: How Ethnic Categories Change During Ethnic Conflict (Bosnia and Croatia 1941)
Max Bergholz, Concordia University

Civil War Mobilization in Tribal Society: Evidence from 1941-1942 Montenegro
Vujo Ilič, OCV Fellow and Central European University

11:15 am  Coffee Break

11:45 am  Panel II: Dynamics of Civil Conflict II

Chair:  Jenny Guardado, Georgetown University
Discussant:  Anastasia Shesterinina, OCV Fellow, Yale University

Fearing Betrayal, Betraying Fear? Executions of Officers in Republican Spain, 1936-1939
Theodore McLauchlin, Université de Montréal
Álvaro La Parra-Pérez, Weber State University

The Politics of On-Side Fighting in Civil Wars: Deadly Failures of Alignment in Historical Comparative Perspective
Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl, University of Virginia and Harvard Kennedy School

Discourse and Emotion in Sustaining Violent Social Movements During Military Occupations
Irena L. Sargsyan, Georgetown University

1:30 pm  Lunch
2:30 pm  Panel III: Legacies of Conflict  
Chair:  Christopher Sullivan, Louisiana State University  
Discussant:  Francesca Grandi, Yale University  

The Legacy of Political Violence Across Generations  
Noam Lupu, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Leonid Peisakhin, New York University – Abu Dhabi  

The Legacy of Stalin’s Terror in Eastern Europe  
Yuri Zhukov, University of Michigan  
Sebastian Schutte, University of Konstanz  

The long-term electoral legacies of civil war in young democracies: Evidence from Italy (1946-1968)  
Stefano Costalli, University of Essex  
Andrea Ruggeri, University of Oxford  

Civil War Displacement and Post-War Local Politics in Beirut  
Amanda Rizkallah, UCLA and Harvard Kennedy School  

4:30 pm  Coffee Break  

5:00 pm  Keynote  

The Pitfalls of Statistical Studies of Historical Micro-Level Violence  
Jason Wittenberg, UC Berkeley  

Sunday, April 24, 2016  

9:00 am  Panel IV: Dynamics of Civil Conflict III  
Chair:  Yuri Zhukov, University of Michigan  
Discussant:  Niloufer Siddiqui, Yale University  

Vigilante Mobilization and Local Order: Evidence from Mexico  
Javier Osorio, City University of New York  
Livia I. Schubiger, London School of Economics and Political Science  
Michael Weintraub, Binghamton University (SUNY)  

Political Violence as a Channel of Persistence: Evidence from the Peruvian Mita  
Jenny Guardado, Georgetown University  

Everyday Forms of Resistance Under Insurgent Rule  
Marc Opper, University of Virginia
10:45 am  Coffee Break

11:15 am  **Panel V: Dynamics of State Repression**

*Chair:* Max Bergholz, Concordia University  
*Discussant:* Laia Balcells, Duke University

Challenger Demands and Human Rights Improvements in Guatemala, 1975-1985  
*Christopher Sullivan, Louisiana State University*

The Military Organization of State Repression During the Argentine Dirty War, 1976-1983  
*Adam Scharpf, University of Mannheim*

The Moroccan Monarchy's Use of Political Violence During Post-Independence: A Reaction to Dissent and a Survival Tool  
*Yasmina Abouzzohour, University of Oxford*

The Anatomy of State Repression: Micro-Level Analyses of the Internal Organization and Management of Colonial Police Forces in Former German Southwest Africa  
*Alexander De Juan, University of Konstanz*  
*Fabian Krautwald, Freie Universitat Berlin*  
*Jan Pierskalla, Ohio State University*

1:15 pm  Lunch

2:15 pm  **Panel VI: Dynamics of Protest**

*Chair:* Jonah Schulhofer-Wohl, University of Virginia and Harvard Kennedy School  
*Discussant:* Vujo Ilić, OCV Fellow and Central European University

Civilian Protest during the June 17 1953 uprising in East Germany: Economic Grievances and Revolutionary Unrest  
*Henry Thomson, University of Oxford*

*Carlos Moreno Leon, Binghamton University*

3:30 pm  Coffee Break
4:00 pm  Panel VII: Dynamics of Civil Conflict IV

Chair: Andrea Ruggeri, University of Oxford  
Discussant: Bonnie Weir, Yale University

Non-Competitive Elections and Incentives for Insurgency: Micro-Level Evidence from the Soviet Union  
Arturas Rozenas, New York University

Compelling Collaboration: British Counterinsurgency in Palestine, 1936-1939  
Evgeny Finkel, George Washington University  
Joshua R. Goodman, Yale University

Wartime mobilization and postwar remobilization of the youth in former Japanese Empire – from the 1947 Taiwanese rebellion to a comparative outlook  
Victor Louzon, SciencesPo

6:00 pm  Coffee Break

6:30 pm  Round Table
Ana Arjona, Northwestern University  
Laia Balcells, Duke University  
Stathis Kalyvas, Yale University  
Matthew Kocher, Yale University  
Jason Wittenberg, UC Berkeley