

Vera Mironova

Present Address

5 Haskell st. 43
Cambridge, MA 02140

Contact Information

Mobile(240) 646-2302
Email mironova.vera@gmail.com

Academic Appointment

Harvard University 2014-NA
2018-NA Research Fellow (**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

Books

3. **Courts in War: Prosecution of ISIS Members in Iraq and Syria**, fieldwork completed

2. **From Nazis, Islamists, to Thieves: How Prisons Radicalize**, manuscript completed, *Under Review*

1. **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

- Finalist Conflict Research Society Best Book Award

- Finalist Terrorism Research Initiative (TRI) Award

- Featured in: **The New Scientist** (Cover Article), **The Economist**, **New York Times**, **NPR**, **BBC**, **Foreign Affairs**, **Foreign Policy**, **Irregular Warfare Podcast**

- Book Reviews: **Journal of Peace Research**

Journal Articles

10. Vera Mironova, Sam Whitt and Karam Alhamad “Rebel Group Attrition and Reversion to Violence: Micro-Level Evidence from Syria,” *Forthcoming*, **International Studies Quarterly**

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 Katia 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. “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*
4. “Conflict Encourages Parochialism in Humans,”(with Sam Whitt), *Under Review*
3. “Child is Father of the Man? Retribution or Reintegration of ISIS Youth in Mosul, Iraq ” (with Sam Whitt), *Under Review*
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 Ressler 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

Policy Publications

“Life inside Syrias al-Hol camp ”Middle East Institute, 9 July 2020
- Used by UN Commission of Inquiry on Syria, UNICEF

“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**, Al Jazeera, Filmed in Bangladesh and Myanmar. Awards: *Oniros* (Italy, 2019) Screening: *Marda Loop Justice Film Festival* (Canada 2019), *LA Film Festival* (Los Angeles 2019), *Genocide conference* (Bangladesh 2019), *Mammoth Lakes Film Festival* (Canada 2019)

Opinion Pieces

6. “Viral nationalism, tolerance and the threat of renewed conflict ” Op-Ed, **The Hill**, 12 May 2020

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

34. "Spending the Pandemic in an Iraqi Jail," **Foreign Policy**, 3 September 2020
33. "The Worlds Most Dangerous Coronavirus Lockdowns," **Foreign Policy**, 1 April 2020
32. "The Iraqi Military Won't Survive a Tug of War Between the United States and Iran," **Foreign Policy**, 15 January 2020
31. "The Year the Islamic State Lost Its Last Strongholds," **Foreign Policy**, 27 December 2019
30. "The Future of Iraqs Oil Is Russian," (with Mohammed Hussein), **Foreign Policy**, 15 November 2019
29. "Captives in ISIS Detention Camps Fear Calm Before the Storm," (with Mohammed Hussein), **Daily Beast**, 18 October 2019
28. "Iraq Confronts Its Own Prisoners Dilemma," (with Sam Whitt and Dara Tahsim Assi), Article, **Foreign Policy**, 12 October 2019
27. "The New Face of Terrorism in 2019," Article, **Foreign Policy**, Special New Year Issue, 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)

Podcasts

“What to Do With Detained Islamic State Fighters in Iraq and Syria”, **Lawfare Podcast**, 28 July 2020

“Nonstate Armed Groups in Syria and Iraq ”, **Irregular Warfare Podcast**, 23 July 2020

“Women in Islamist Militancy ”, **Janes Terrorism & Insurgency Centre**, 10 July 2020

“From Freedom Fighters to Jihadists ”, **Foreign Policy Research Institute**, 15 October 2019

“The Market of Insurgent Groups”, **Harvard Kennedy School Office Hours**, 1 December 2017

“What Do You Do When War Comes To Town ”, **Harvard Kennedy School PolicyCast**, 24 February 2016

Professional Blogs

“What Foreign Islamic State Women Think About Guilt and Responsibility ”, **Lawfare**, 19 August 2020

“Iraq’s Broken Justice System for Islamic State Fighters ”, **Lawfare**, 25 July 2020

“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)

Presentations and Invited Talks **2020** University of Helsinki (book conference); University of Pennsylvania (book talk); University of Oxford (book talk); London School of Economics (book talk); Kings College London (book talk)

2019 Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey (book talk); Naval Postgraduate School (book talk); IISS, London (book talk); UCSD (book talk); ESOC, Princeton University (book talk); FPRI, Philadelphia (book talk); University of Maryland (book talk); American University (book talk); Harvard University (book talk); Macmillan Center, Yale University (book talk); Qualitative Research Colloquium, Princeton University (book talk); Harvard Club, New York; World Summit on Counter-Terrorism: ICT’s 19th International Conference; Social norms: emergence, persistence, and effects, UTennessee

2018 Danish Institute for International Studies; Rutgers University, Political Science Department; Harvard University, Economics Department; Bush School, TAMU; Central Florida University, Research Seminar; Jihadism after the Fall of the Caliphate Conference, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Collective Emergent Complexity in Terrorism Conference, UC Davis

2017 Order, Conflict, and Violence Speaker Series, Yale University; Macmillan Center, Yale University; Washington Institute, Washington DC; Colgate University, University Lecture; Central Florida University, Research Seminar; Maastricht University, Netherlands; Washington Institute, Washington DC; National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism, Washington DC; Middle East Research Initiative, Erbil, Iraq; SMA Conference, Joint Base Andrews; UK-US ECR Workshop, Boston; GPPi, Berlin Germany;

Munich Workshop on Behavior and Terrorism, Germany

2016 Boston University, Conflict and Terrorism Seminar; SUNY Albany, International Relations Seminar; Harvard Kennedy School, Belfer Center Seminar; Naval Postgraduate School, International Relations Seminar; Behavioral Exchange Conference, Harvard Business School; Economics of National Security Winter Meeting, NBER; Security and Human Behavior Workshop, Harvard University; Experimental Political Science Graduate Conference, Harvard University

2015 National Defense University, Civil War Seminar; US Institute of Peace, Research Seminar; Program on Negotiations, Harvard Law School; Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University; Political Violence Workshop, Harvard University; Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, GWU; Political Violence Workshop, Harvard University; Symposium for the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism; Evolution and Warfare Workshop, University of Tennessee; POMEPS Workshop, George Washington University; PONARS workshop, George Washington University; Annual Bank Conference on Africa, UC Berkeley; Harvard-MIT-Yale Political Violence Conference; AALIMS Graduate Conference, Princeton University; Florida State University, Political Violence Seminar

2014 Rady Business School, UCSD; Harriman Institute, Columbia University; IDS Workshop on Mixed Methods Research in Poverty and Vulnerability; The Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy, NYU; Graduate Conference in Political Science, Hebrew University; Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics, Stanford University

2013 Stanford Institute of Theoretical Economics, Stanford University; Ethnic Politics Workshop, Arizona State University; BYU-Princeton conference "Experiments in IR", BYU

**Annual
Association
Conference
Presentations
Other Studies**

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

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
2020: Armenia, Georgia (Pankisi Gorge)

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

Manuscript Referee

Oxford University Press, International Security, American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Peace Research, British Journal of Political Science

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)

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@politics.ox.ac.uk

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