

EDUCATION

University of Oxford, 2019-current

Candidate for Doctor of Philosophy in International Relations, Department of Politics and International Relations, Nuffield College

Working Dissertation title 'Community Responses to Jihadist Mobilisation in Central Mali'

Supervision: Professor Stathis Kalyvas

Other activities: Coordinator, T.E. Lawrence Program on Conflict and Violence (2022-2023)

Member: T.E. Lawrence Programme on Conflict and Violence

London School of Economics and Political Science, 2014-2015

MSc in Conflict Studies, Distinction

Dissertation: Civilian Victimisation in Sri Lanka's Uncivil War 2006-2009, Distinction, 75%

University College London, 2009-2013

BA in European Social and Political Studies, specialising in International Relations with French (2:1, Upper Division)

Dissertation: Why is there still violence in the 'post-conflict' Democratic Republic of Congo, despite the presence of the largest UN peacekeeping mission in the 21st century? 1st Class

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo, Norway

- PhD Fellow, Peace, Conflict, Development Research Group, July 2019 – current
- Other activities: NUPI Theory Seminar Coordinator for the Peace, Conflict and Development Research Group

Research Fellow, Training for Peace Programme, August 2018-July 2019

- Research, project assistance and policy support to the African Union Commission
- Organised and participated in the Effectiveness of Peace Operations research studies on the AU mission in Somalia and the UN peacekeeping mission in Mali
- Led research on Mali for review of the UN Independent and External Review of the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections
- Other activities: Book review editor, Forum for Development Studies Journal (February 2017-September 2018)

Junior Research Fellow, Training for Peace Programme, January 2016-August 2018

- Research, administrative and project assistance to capacity-support programme to the African Union Commission

Affiliations

- Fellow, Expert Network, Centre on Armed Groups, Geneva, 2022-2024

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed journal articles

- The Joint Force of the G5 Sahel: An Appropriate Response to Combat Terrorism? *Conflict Trends* 2, 2018, 11-18.
- Strengthening Community Engagement in United Nations Peace Operations: Opportunities and Challenges. *Conflict Trends* 3, 2016, 21-26.

Book Chapters

- Women, Peace, Security and Female Peacekeeping Personnel, in Davies, S.E. and True, J. (eds.) *The Oxford Handbook on Women, Peace and Security*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018 (with Eli Stamnes and John Karlsrud)
- Tangled up in Glue: Multilateral Crisis Response in Mali, in Karlsrud, J. and Reykers, Y. (eds.) *Rapid Response Mechanisms: High Investments, Low Dividends?* Abingdon, Oxford: Routledge, 2018 (with John Karlsrud and Dennis Tull)

Op-Eds and Media

- The Sahel's jihadists don't all govern alike: context matters. *The Conversation*, 14 September 2021 (with Mikael Hiberg Naghizadeh)
- Slik Styrer Jihadistene [This is how jihadists rule], Interviewed by forskning.no, 24 June 2021
- Statskupp i Mali: – Står foran en vanskelig tid [Coup in Mali, hard times ahead]. *Forsvaretsforum*, 24 August 2020.
- The impact of COVID-19 on the crisis in the Sahel, ACCORD COVID-19 Resilience Monitor, September 16, 2020 (with Morten Bøås)
- When the dust settles: what will Droukdel's death mean for the jihadist project in the Sahel? *The Broker*, 29 June 2020 (with Morten Bøås).
- En jihadist leders-død [the death of a jihadist leader] *Klassekampen*, 23 June 2020 (with Morten Bøås).
- The violence in Mali is getting bloodier, but religion is not necessarily at its root. *The Broker*, 10 April 2019 (with Morten Bøås)
- Mørke skyer over Mali [Dark clouds over Mali] *Klassekampen*, 8 April 2019 (with Morten Bøås).
- What is the African Union? NUPI *Hvor Hender det?* Nr. 9, 27 August 2020.

Reports and Policy Briefs

- Reviewing Jihadist Governance in the Sahel. NUPI Working Paper 894. NUPI: Oslo, 2021 (with Mikael Naghizadeh and Corentin Cohen)
- Assessing the Effectiveness of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali. Effectiveness of Peace Operations Network: Oslo, 2019 (co-authored with Jair van der Lijn et al.)
- Women and the Katiba Macina in Central Mali. NUPI Policy Brief, 2019 (13). NUPI: Oslo, September 2019 (with Yida Diall)
- Local Drivers of Violent Extremism in Central Mali. UNDP Policy Brief. UNDP: Addis Ababa, 2019 (with Morten Bøås)
- The Civilian Casualty Tracking Analysis and Response Cell: an emerging best practice for AU Peace Support Operations? NUPI Policy Brief (3). NUPI: Oslo, 2019.
- Assessing the Effectiveness of the African Union Mission in Somalia. Oslo: Effectiveness of Peace Operations Network, 2018 (co-authored with Paul Williams et al.)
- Operationalising Protection in Peace Enforcement Operations: The Civilian Casualty Tracking Analysis and Response Cell in the African Union Mission to Somalia, in *Annual Review of African Union Peace Support Operations*, Accra: KAIPTC, 2017, 101-112.
- How can peacekeepers strengthen their engagement with local communities? Opportunities and challenges in the field. NUPI Policy Brief (30). NUPI: Oslo, 2016.

Works in Progress

- The emergence of jihadist rule in Central Mali (with Yida Diall) (journal article)
- High risk solidarity on the frontlines of inter-communal violence: evidence from Central Mali (article in preparation for ISA 2024)
- Community Resistance to Jihadism in Central Mali (article in preparation for ISA 2024)
- Fieldwork on rural jihadist conflicts from capital cities (journal article)

Book Review

- Jihadists of North Africa and the Sahel: local politics and rebel groups / Alexander Thurston. - Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2020.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Fieldwork Grant (£2,000), March 2022
- Nuffield College, University of Oxford, Fieldwork Grant (£1,500), December 2021
- PhD Scholarship under NUPI-led project 'Jihadist Insurgent Governance in the Sahel' funded by the Norwegian Research Council under FRIPRO (funding scheme for ground-breaking, independent projects), 2019-2023
- Nuffield Scholarship, University of Oxford, 2019 (underwritten due to receipt of NUPI scholarship)
- PRIO PhD Fellowship, 2019 (declined due to receipt of NUPI scholarship)
- United Nations Development Programme, Regional Programme on Violent Extremism, \$30,000 (with Morten Bøås as Principal Investigator), 2017
- Oslo International School Scholarship for Gap Year, NOK 15 000, 2008

INVITED TALKS

- 'Engaging Jihadist Groups', organised by International Crisis Group. Presented in a panel on 'The local dynamics of jihadist conflicts,' 8-9 June 2022, Geneva, Switzerland
- 'Armed Group Control and Influence,' organised by ODI's Centre for the Study of Armed Groups, 6 December 2021 (online)
- 'Resolving the Sahel Crisis: Strategic Goals in Theory and Practice'. Presentation on 'AU's Role in the Sahel', organised by the University of St Andrews, 8 April 2021 (online)
- 'Civilian-Armed Group Relations', Roundtable organised by ODI's Centre for the Study of Armed Groups, 21 June 2021 (online)
- 'Reviewing Jihadist Governance in the Sahel', report launch, NUPI, 22 June 2021 (online)
- 'Jihadist Mobilisation in Central Mali', NORCAP, 29 June 2021 (online)
- Briefing Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on MINUSMA in Mali, with co-authors of Effectiveness of MINUSMA report, 23 October 2020
- 'MINUSMA and humanitarian assistance' in 'The relationship between peace operations and humanitarian assistance: enabling or harmful?', organised by Effectiveness of Peace Operations and the Norwegian Centre for Humanitarian Studies, 9 September 2020 (online)

PRESENTATIONS

- 'Jihadist Mobilisation and Civilian Resistance in Central Mali,' for the Rebel Governance in the Sahel Workshop, Oxford, All Souls, May 2022, 30-31 May 2022.
- 'Jihadist Mobilisation and Resistance in Central Mali', T.E. Lawrence Program on Conflict and Violence, Graduate Workshop, 22 June 2022.
- 'Jihadist Insurgencies in the Sahel: Mobilisation and Resistance,' T.E. Lawrence Program on Conflict and Violence, Graduate Workshop (online), 2 March 2021.
- 'Jihadist Insurgencies in the Sahel: Mobilisation and Resistance,' UCL Conflict and Change Workshop, February 2021 (online)
- 'Jihadist Rule in Central Mali', Nuffield Conflict Dynamics Workshop, University of Oxford, 28-29 September 2020 (online)
- 'Jihadist Rule in Central Mali', UCL Conflict and Change Workshop, London, February 24-25, 2020
- 'Protecting civilians in armed conflict: mapping practices on the ground', at ISA, San Francisco, 4-8 April 2018

- Mitigating Harm to Civilians in Stabilisation Operations, paper presented at International Studies Association, San Francisco, 4-7 April 2018.
- Protecting Civilians while fighting terrorism: the double-edged sword dilemma in African Stabilisation Operations, paper presented at International Studies Association, San Francisco, 4-7 April 2018.
- AU Peace Operations and the Protection of Civilians: norm localisation in the African Union Mission in Somalia,' paper selected for Junior Symposium Panel at International Studies Association, Baltimore, 22-26 February 2017.
- The securitisation of Mali and the militarisation of peace operations, paper presented at International Studies Association Regional Conference 'May You Live in Interesting Times', Notre Dame, Indiana, 4-6 November 2016.
- Community Engagement: Softening the Hard Edge of Stabilisation, paper presented at Academic Council on the United Nations System, New York, 14-16 June 2016.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND ROUNDTABLES

- Roundtable on Geopolitical tension, African security policy and Norwegian strategy, organised by PRIO, NUPI and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 23 November 2022
- The politics and epistemology of the study of jihadi movements in Africa, organised by Yvan Guichaoua, Corrina Jentsch and Vincent Foucher, 27 May 2022 (online)
- 20 Years of Conflict Research, University of Ghent, 23-24 May 2022
- 'The Future of Overseas Counter-Terrorism: Developing the Western Response', organised by Oxford's Changing Character of War Centre, 24-25 February 2021 (online)
- Effectiveness of Peace Operations Workshop, Implementing Women, Peace and Security and Protection of Civilians, 24 March 2021
- RAND 'What if France ended Operation Barkhane' 24 March 2021 (online)
- Panel on 'Conflict Prevention in the 21st Century', Chair, ISA, San Francisco, 4-8 April 2018

EVENTS ORGANISED

- Jihadist Governance in the Sahel Academic Seminar, 13-14 June 2023, All Souls, Oxford
- Jihadist Governance in the Sahel Academic Seminar, 30-31 May 2022, All Souls, Oxford
- 'Fieldwork, Remote Research & COVID-19 in Conflict-Affected Countries', 28 June 2021 (online, with Sam Ritholz)
- Annual Meeting of the Civilian Strategic Support Group (CSSG), Civilians in AU Peace Support Operations: Operating in High-Intensity Contexts, 19-20 September 2017, Addis Ababa.
- The Syria Conflict: Great Power Politics and Humanitarian Consequences, 9 January 2017, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo, Norway.
- Workshop on funding options for African-led peace support operations and High-Level Seminar on the Operationalisation of the AU Peace Fund, 25-26 May 2016, New York, USA
- Workshop on Lessons Learned Methodologies for African Union Peace Support Operations, 10-11 February 2016, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

OTHER RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

- African Union Commission, Policy Officer in Peace Support Operations Division, seconded through Training for Peace Programme, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, February – November 2017
- Human Rights Watch, London, Development and Outreach Intern, London, January – April 2014
- Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Research Assistant (part-time), Oslo, October – November 2013
- Six Oranges Documentary Film, Research Intern, London, August 2012
- Relief International, Research and External Relations Intern, Colombo, Sri Lanka April-June 2009

COURSES

- Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Oslo, August 22-26, 2016, includes Basic First Aid course
- Gender, Peace and Security, Peace Research Institute (PRIO), Oslo, 21-23 November 2016

Reviewer

Journal of Politics, African Conflict & Peacebuilding Review

Fieldwork

Mali, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka

Skills

MS Office, NVivo, R

Languages

English – native speaker

French – research proficiency

Norwegian – native speaker