

Mara Redlich Revkin

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Durham, NC 27708-9985

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Duke University

Associate Professor of Law
and Political Science (Secondary Appointment) July 2022—
Sept. 2023—

Georgetown University Law Center

National Security Fellow, Center on National Security and the Law 2020-2022

Yale Law School

Robina Foundation Post-Graduate Fellow in International Human Rights 2019-2020

EDUCATION

Yale Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, Ph.D. in Political Science 2019
M.Phil. (2018), M.A. (2017)

Dissertation: “The Microfoundations of Rebel Governance:
Theory and Evidence from the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria”

Committee: Elisabeth Wood (chair), Robert Blair, Oona Hathaway, Ellen Lust,
Jason Lyall, Elizabeth Nugent

Yale Law School, J.D. 2016

Swarthmore College, B.A. with High Honors 2009

Major: Political Science, Minors: Arabic & Anthropology

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: International, Humanitarian, and Human Rights Law, Transitional Justice, Comparative Law of the Middle East, Empirical Legal Studies, International Criminal Law

Additional: Property, Criminal Law & Procedure, Islamic Law, Military Justice, National Security and Foreign Relations Law

Courses Taught: Transitional Justice (Fall 2022, 2023), Property Law (Spring 2023, 2024), International Criminal Law (Summer 2024, Spring 2025), Evidence-Based Humanitarian Aid in South Sudan (Fall 2024, Fall 2025).

ARTICLES

Oona A. Hathaway, Azmat Khan & **Mara R. Revkin**, *The Dangerous Rise of “Dual Use” Objects in War: History, Evidence, and the Case for Reform*, 134 YALE LAW JOURNAL (forthcoming 2025).

Mara R. Revkin, Ala Alrababah & Rachel Myrick, *Evidence-Based Transitional Justice: Incorporating Public Opinion into the Field, with New Data from Iraq and Ukraine*, 133 YALE LAW JOURNAL 1582-1675 (2024). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin & Kristen Kao, *No Peace Without Punishment? Reintegrating Islamic State Collaborators in Iraq*, 71 THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE LAW 989-1032 (2024). [PDF](#).

Kristen Kao & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Retribution or Reconciliation? Post-Conflict Attitudes Toward Enemy Collaborators*, 67 THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE 358-373 (2023). [PDF](#).

- Awarded the American Political Science Association’s 2020 Franklin L. Burdette Pi Sigma Alpha Award for best paper presented at the previous annual meeting.

Mara R. Revkin, *When Do Closed Camps Become Prisons by Another Name?*, 47 YALE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 57-70 (2022). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *How Does Subnational Variation in Repression Affect Attitudes Toward Police? Evidence from Iraq’s 2019 Protests*, 3 VIOLENCE: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL 85-99 (2022). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *Competitive Governance and Displacement Decisions Under Rebel Rule: Evidence from the Islamic State in Iraq*, 65 THE JOURNAL OF CONFLICT RESOLUTION 46-80 (2021). [PDF](#).

- Awarded the Bruce Russett Award for Article of the Year in The Journal of Conflict Resolution

Mara R. Revkin, *What Explains Taxation by Resource-Rich Rebels? New Data from the Islamic State in Syria*, 82 THE JOURNAL OF POLITICS 757-764 (2020). [PDF](#).

- Awarded Yale Law School’s 2016 Clifford Porter Prize for Best Paper on Taxation.

Mara R. Revkin & Elisabeth J. Wood, *The Islamic State’s Pattern of Sexual Violence: Ideology and Institutions, Policies and Practices*, 6 THE JOURNAL OF GLOBAL SECURITY STUDIES 1-20 (2020). [PDF](#).

- Cited in UN Special Rapporteur report, “Human rights impact of counter-terrorism and countering (violent) extremism ... on the rights of women, girls and the family” 12 (2021). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin & Ariel I. Ahram, *Perspectives on the Rebel Social Contract: Exit, Voice, and Loyalty in the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria*, 132 WORLD DEVELOPMENT 1-9 (2020). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *When Terrorists Govern: Protecting Civilians in Conflicts with State-Building Armed Groups*, 9 HARVARD NATIONAL SECURITY JOURNAL 100–144 (2018). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *Triadic Legal Pluralism in North Sinai: A Case Study of State, Shari’a, and ‘Urf Courts in Conflict and Cooperation*, 13 UCLA JOURNAL OF ISLAMIC AND NEAR EASTERN LAW 21–59 (2014). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *Egypt’s Constitution in Question*, 5 MIDDLE EAST LAW AND GOVERNANCE 331–343 (2013). [PDF](#).

Chibli Mallat & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Middle Eastern Law*, 9 ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE 405–433 (2013). [PDF](#).

WORKING PAPERS AND PROJECTS

Benjamin Krick, Jonathan Petkun & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Civilian Harm and Military Legitimacy in War*, WORKING PAPER (revise & resubmit, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION). [PDF](#).

Janina Dill, Marnie Howlett, Carl Muller-Crepon & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Collaboration, Resistance, and Redemption in Ukraine*, WORKING PAPER.

MARA R. REVKIN, *INSURGENT LEGALITY* (book manuscript in process).

Mara R. Revkin & Olivia Wang, *Is There a “Right to Forget” Atrocities? The International Law on Memory with New Evidence from South Sudan*, WORK-IN-PROGRESS.

Mara R. Revkin & Jonathan Petkun, *Against Casual Empiricism*, WORK-IN-PROGRESS.

Janina Dill & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Law, Morality, and Blame: Attitudes Toward Civilian Casualties in Mosul*, WORK-IN-PROGRESS.

Mara R. Revkin & Orly Stern, *Internal Military Deployments: A Blind Spot in International Humanitarian Law*, WORK-IN-PROGRESS.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Mara R. Revkin, *Authoritarian Transitional Justice*, in OXFORD HANDBOOK ON LAW AND AUTHORITARIANISM (forthcoming 2024, eds. Cora Chan, Madhav Khosla, Benjamin Liebman & Mark Tushnet).

Florian Kohstall, Sarah E. Parkinson & **Mara R. Revkin**, *After the Field*, in SAFER FIELD RESEARCH IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES: A GUIDE TO HUMAN AND DIGITAL SECURITY IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS 69–88 (Jannis Grimm et al. eds., 2020). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *“I Am Nothing Without a Weapon”: Understanding Child Recruitment and Use by Armed Groups in Syria and Iraq*, in CRADLED BY CONFLICT: CHILD INVOLVEMENT WITH ARMED GROUPS IN CONTEMPORARY CONFLICT 104–139 (O’Neil & van Broeckhoven eds., 2018). [PDF](#).

Nathan J. Brown & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Islamic Law and Constitutions*, in THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF ISLAMIC LAW 1–27 (2018). [PDF](#).

INVITED ESSAYS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO SYMPOSIUMS

Mara R. Revkin, *The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Perpetual War in Iraq*, CHATHAM HOUSE (Mar. 20, 2023).

Mohammad A. Tabaar, Reyko Huang, Kanchan Chandra, Evgeny Finkel, Richard A Nielsen, **Mara R. Revkin**, Manuel Vogt, Elisabeth Jean Wood, *Forum: How Religious Are “Religious” Conflicts?*, 25 INT’L STUDIES REV. (2023).

Mara R. Revkin, *Reflections on Authoritarianism*, 36 ARAB LAW QUARTERLY 525-530 (2022).

Mara R. Revkin, Hayal Akarsu, Monica Bell, Joanna Gilmore, Nicole Nguyen, Akwasi Owusu-Bempah, Omar Sirri, Alex Vitale, *Roundtable: Police Reform in Global Perspective*, THE CENTURY FOUNDATION (May 17, 2022).

Mara R. Revkin, *Police Decentralization, Fragmentation, and Implications for Patterns of Violence: Insights from Iraq*, APSA COMPARATIVE POLITICS NEWSLETTER (Dec. 7, 2020). [PDF](#).

POLICY REPORTS (SELECTED)

Mara R. Revkin, Benjamin Krick & Raed Ahmed, *Understanding Local Variation in Reintegration of Displaced Iraqis with Perceived ISIL Affiliation: Survey and Interview Evidence from Anbar, Ninewa, and Salah al-Din*, UN INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH (forthcoming 2024).

Olga Aymerich, **Mara R. Revkin** & Samuel Akau, *Understanding Multidimensional Fragility in South Sudan*, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (Nov. 2023). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *Pathways to Reintegration: Iraqi Families Formerly Associated with ISIL*, UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (Mar. 2021). [PDF](#).

Jeni Klugman, Robert Nagel, **Mara R. Revkin** & Orly Stern, *Can the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and International Humanitarian Law Join Forces?*, Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace, and Security (Jan. 2021). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin & Olga Aymerich, *Perceptions of Police, Security, and Governance in Iraq*, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION AND YALE LAW SCHOOL’S CENTER FOR GLOBAL LEGAL CHALLENGES (May 2020). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin & Delair Jabari, *West Mosul: Perceptions on Return and Reintegration Among Stayees, IDPs, and Returnees*, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (Jun. 2019). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *After the Islamic State: Balancing Accountability and Reconciliation in Iraq*, UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR POLICY RESEARCH (May 2018). [PDF](#).

Tal D. Eisenzweig, Peter Posada & **Mara R. Revkin**, *A “Most Serious Crime”: Pakistan’s Unlawful Use of the Death Penalty*, Justice Project Pakistan and the Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic at Yale Law School (Sept. 2016). [PDF](#).

Mara R. Revkin, *The Legal Foundations of the Islamic State*, 21 The Brookings Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World (Jul. 2016). [PDF](#).

POPULAR AND OTHER SHORT WRITINGS (SELECTED)

Megan A. Stewart, Jonathan B. Petkun & **Mara R. Revkin**, *The Progressive Case Against Retrenchment*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (forthcoming 2024).

Mara R. Revkin, *The Costs of Social Inequality for Military Effectiveness: A Review of Jason Lyall’s “Divided Armies: Inequality and Battlefield Performance in Modern War,”* LAWFARE (Aug. 31, 2022).

Mara R. Revkin, *Jihad as a Universalist Project in Comparative Perspective: A Review of Darryl Li’s The Universal Enemy*, LAWFARE (May 28, 2020).

Kristen Kao & **Mara R. Revkin**, *How the Iraqi Crackdown on the Islamic State May Actually Increase Support for the Islamic State*, WASHINGTON POST (Jan. 7, 2019).

Mara R. Revkin, *Iraq’s Harsh Approach to Punishing Islamic State “Collaborators” Stands to Have Counterproductive Consequences*, LAWFARE (Jun. 11, 2018).

Mara R. Revkin, *How Militants in Iraq Recruit Children*, WASHINGTON POST (Feb. 14, 2018).

Mara R. Revkin, *Law and Lawfare in the Islamic State*, LAWFARE (Aug. 5, 2016).

Mara R. Revkin & Ahmad Mhidi, *Quitting ISIS: Why Syrians are Abandoning the Group*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (May 1, 2016).

Mara R. Revkin, *Does ISIS Need Territory to Survive?*, NEW YORK TIMES, (Oct. 20, 2016).

Mara R. Revkin, *Islamic Laws of Evidence in ISIS’s State-Building Project*, SHARIASOURCE, HARVARD LAW SCHOOL (September 21, 2016).

Mara R. Revkin, *ISIS’ Social Contract*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Jan. 10, 2016).

Andrew F. March & **Mara R. Revkin**, *Caliphate of Law*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Apr. 15, 2015).

Mara R. Revkin, *Egypt’s New Constitution and the Police State*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Feb. 11, 2014).

Mara R. Revkin, *Sharia Courts of the Sinai*, FOREIGN POLICY (Sept. 20, 2013).

Mara R. Revkin, *Egypt’s Power Vacuum is Radicalizing the Sinai Peninsula*, WASHINGTON POST (Aug. 29, 2013).

Mara R. Revkin, *The Egyptian State Unravels*, FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Jun. 27, 2013).

Mara R. Revkin & Yussef Auf, *Egypt’s Fallen Police State Gives Way to Vigilante Justice*, THE ATLANTIC (Apr. 3, 2013).

Mara R. Revkin, *Immigration Issues: City on a Hill* 18 THE AMERICAN PROSPECT 31–33 (2007).

GRANTS (SELECTED)

Duke Bass Connections Grant, “Evidence-Based Aid in South Sudan” (\$24,317) 2024–25

National Science Foundation, “Legitimacy and Efficacy of Transitional Justice Institutions in Comparative Perspective (with Gabriella Levy and Roya Talibova)” (\$612,494) 2024-27

Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation, “Fragility in South Sudan” (\$10,000) 2023–24

National Science Foundation-UK Research Institute, “Cumulative Civilian” (£1,500,000) 2023-26

Harm” (with Noam Lubell, Janina Dill, Anna Cave, Mitt Regan, and Amichai Cohen)		
Duke Social Science Research Institute (with Stephanie Wright, Benjamin Krick, and Imad Alhaji)	(\$25,000)	2023
APSA MENA Collaborative Grant (with Raed Ahmed)	(\$6,000)	2023
Duke Global Health Institute Travel Grant (with Jonathan Petkun)	(\$5,000)	2022–23
Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation, “Civilian Harm in Iraq”	(\$10,000)	2022–23
Folke Bernadotte Academy (“Transitional Justice in Iraq”)	(\$42,232)	2021–22
Liechtenstein’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Justice and Culture (with Jeni Klugman, Robert Nagel, and Orly Stern)	(\$109,380)	2021
Innovations for Poverty Action Peace & Recovery Fund	(\$4,064)	2020
APSA Second Century Fund Grant	(\$2,428)	2019
Philanthropic Educational Organization Scholar Award	(\$15,000—declined)	2019
Project on Middle East Political Science Research Grants	(\$10,000)	2015, 2017, 2019
Program on Governance and Local Development Research Grants	(\$12,000)	2013, 2015, 2017
Jennings Randolph Peace Doctoral Fellowship, U.S. Institute of Peace	(\$20,000)	2017-18
FLAS Fellowship (Arabic), U.S Department of Education	(\$33,000)	2013-14

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS (SELECTED)

Bruce Russett Award for Article of the Year in The Journal of Conflict Resolution		2022
APSA Franklin L. Burdette Pi Sigma Alpha Award (with Kristen Kao)		2020
Yale MacMillan Center International Dissertation Research Fellowship		2017-18
Yale Fox Fellow at Boğaziçi University in Istanbul, Turkey		2017-18
Scholarship, Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology		2018
Islamic Law and Civilization Research Fellow, Yale Law School		2016-17
Clifford L. Porter Prize for Best Paper on Taxation, Yale Law School		2016
Associate World Fellow, Yale University (one of two Yale graduate students selected)		2014-15
Junior Fellow (Middle East), Carnegie Endowment for International Peace		2010-11
Fulbright Fellowship (Research) in Oman, U.S. Department of State		2009-10
Critical Language Scholarship for Arabic study in Jordan, U.S. Department of State		2009

EXPERT TESTIMONY & BRIEFINGS (SELECTED)

U.N. Mission in South Sudan, presentation of findings of Duke-IOM study		Oct. 2023
U.S. Department of State, Briefing on Iraq for NEA, PRM, and CT Offices		Sept. 2023
U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, “Human Rights and CVE”		Nov. 2021
Expert declaration in <u>U.S. v. Omar Ameen</u> on the prevalence of false accusations of of ISIL affiliation in Iraq		Oct. 2021
UN Office of the International Impartial and Independent Mechanism on Syria, “The Islamic State’s Pattern of Sexual Violence” (with Elisabeth Wood)		Mar. 2021
Expert declarations for the Creating Law Enforcement Accountability & Responsibility Project (legal aid for immigrants and refugees targeted by law enforcement on counter-terrorism or national security grounds)		2020
UN Investigative Team for ISIL Accountability, “The Islamic State’s Pattern of Sexual Violence” (with Elisabeth Wood)		Nov. 2020
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, “Police Reform in Iraq”		Jul. 2020
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, “Islamic State Governance”		Feb. 2020
UN University, “Legal Obstacles to Reintegration of Children Recruited by ISIL”		Aug. 2017
World Bank, MENA Chief Economist Seminar, “The ISIS Social Contract”		Mar. 2017
Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN, “Recruitment of Children by ISIL”		Dec. 2016

U.S. Department of Defense, Special Operations Command Central, “ISIL’s Military Justice System” Apr. 2015

INVITED TALKS & ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

U.S. Institute of Peace Launch of Action Guide on Rehabilitation and Reintegration Nov. 2023
Brown University Workshop on Extra-Legal Governance, “Insurgent Legality” Oct. 2023
NYU Law School’s Law & Development Workshop, “Insurgent Legality” Apr. 2023
AALS New Voices in Human Rights Panel, “No Peace Without Punishment?” Dec. 2021
King’s College London, “The Islamic State’s Pattern of Sexual Violence” May 2021
American Society of International Law, “New Voices in International Law” Mar. 2021
Cornell Political Science Workshop, “Attitudes Toward Rebel Collaborators in Iraq” Mar. 2021
UCLA Political Science Workshop, “Attitudes Toward Rebel Collaborators in Iraq” Mar. 2021
Princeton ESOC Lab, “Attitudes Toward Rebel Collaborators in Iraq” Jun. 2020
Fordham University School of Law, “Protecting Children in Armed Conflict” Oct. 2018
Oxford University, “ISIS State-Building and State Failure” Apr. 2017
Harvard Political Violence Workshop, “The Non-Economic Logic of Rebel Taxation” Apr. 2016
Yale Anthropology Colloquium, “The Non-Economic Logic of Rebel Taxation” Apr. 2016
Harvard Political Violence Workshop, “The Non-Economic Logic of Rebel Taxation” Apr. 2016

GUEST LECTURES (SELECTED)

Guest lecture, “Transitional Justice” for Tom Ginsburg, University of Chicago Law May 2024
Guest lecture, “Comparative Authoritarianism” for Madhav Khosla, Columbia Law Jan. 2024
Guest lecture, “Security, Peace & Conflict” for Eric Mvukiyehe, Duke Political Science Jan. 2024
Guest lecture, “Human Rights & Conflict” for Catherine Admay, Duke Sanford Oct. 2023
Guest lecture, “International Organizations” for Katerina Linos, Berkeley Law Apr. 2023
Guest lecture, “Middle East Politics” for Scott Williamson, Bocconi University Nov. 2021
Guest lecture, “Advanced Property” for Claire Priest, Yale Law School Aug. 2021
Guest lecture, “Islamic Political Thought” for Ben Petersen, Texas A&M University Mar. 2021
Guest lecture, “Terrorism” for Laia Balcells, Georgetown University Nov. 2020
Guest lecture for students at the American University of Iraq, Sulaimani Nov. 2019
Guest lecture, “Advanced Property” for Claire Priest, Yale Law School Nov. 2018
Guest lecture, “International Humanitarian Law” for Eyal Benvenisti, Yale Law School Apr. 2015

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (2018, 2023, 2024); Annual World Justice Project Scholars Conference (2018); Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (2017-2024); Peace Science Workshop on International Security Sector Assistance and Reform (2020); Middle East Legal Studies Seminar (2014-2023); American Society of International Law Mid-Year Meeting (2017, 2020, 2021, 2024); American Society of International Law Annual Meeting (2021); Law & Society (2021, 2022); Empirical Studies of Conflict Annual Meeting (2018); American Law & Economics Association (2024)

LANGUAGES & PROGRAMS

Foreign Languages: Modern Standard Arabic (professional fluency), French (advanced reading)
Programs: R, LaTeX

FIELD RESEARCH

South Sudan (interviews, surveys, field experiments)	2023-current
Syria (interviews)	2022-2023
Iraq (in-person surveys, experiments, interviews)	18 months between 2015-current
Turkey (interviews)	14 months between 2014-2018
Egypt & North Sinai (interviews, Arabic language training)	10 months between 2007-2013
Jordan (Arabic language training)	2 months, 2009
Oman (interviews, Arabic language training)	10 months, 2009-2010

EXTERNAL SERVICE & ASSOCIATIONS

Advisory Board for the American Society of International Law's Interest Group on International Law and Social Sciences (ILASS)	2023-current
Security Sector Reform Advisory Network to the United Nations	2021-current
Working Group on Police & Accountability, The Century Foundation	2021-2023
Research Advisory Board, Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE)	2020-current
Folke Bernadotte Academy Research Working Group on Security Sector Reform	2019-2022
Fellow, Association for the Analytic Learning of Islamic Societies	2018-current
American Political Science Association	2016-current

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Duke University School of Law, Workshops, Curriculum, and Pro Bono Committees	2023-2025
Faculty Working Group for the Provost's Initiative on the Middle East	2024-2025
Duke University School of Law, Workshops and Curriculum Committees	2023-2024
Duke Political Science, Search Committee for Comparative Ethnic Politics	2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

Mercy Corps and the Northeast Syria NGO Forum, Consultancy on Al-Hol Camp	2022
United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq, Senior Advisor to the Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Iraq on Support for Iraqi Nationals	2021-2022
Returned from Syria	
UN Investigative Team for ISIL Accountability, Expert Assessor for Report on ISIL Financing	2020
United Nations Development Programme (Iraq), Consultant on Reintegration of ISIL Affiliates	2020
UN Migration Agency in Iraq (IOM), Consultant on Reintegration of ISIL Affiliates	2019
UN University, Lead Researcher on Iraq for "Limits of Punishment" Project	2017-2018
UN University, Lead Researcher on Iraq/Syria, "Children and Extreme Violence" Project	2016
Shearman & Sterling LLP (Paris, France), Summer Associate in International Arbitration	2014
Human Rights Watch, (Cairo, Egypt), Summer Legal Intern	2013
The Atlantic Council, Washington, D.C., Assistant Director of the Middle East Center	2011-2012
The Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, D.C., Junior Fellow	2010-2011

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York State Bar, Third Department	2017-current
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