

# Todd S. Sechser

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## Current Positions

Assistant Professor of Politics, University of Virginia  
Stanton Nuclear Security Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

## Education

Ph.D., Political Science, Stanford University, 2007.

- *Dissertation*: Winning Without a Fight: Power, Reputation, and Compellent Threats in International Crises.
- Winner of the Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science, 2006–08.

B.A., Economics, Political Science, International Relations, Drake University, 1999.

- *Summa cum laude* with University Honors.

## Publications

### *Refereed Journal Articles*

#### **Crisis Bargaining and Nuclear Blackmail.**

*International Organization* (conditionally accepted). With Matthew Fuhrmann.

#### **The Illusion of Democratic Credibility.**

*International Organization* 66:3 (Summer 2012). With Alexander B. Downes.

#### **Militarized Compellent Threats, 1918–2001.**

*Conflict Management and Peace Science* 28:4 (Fall 2011), pp. 377–401.

#### **Goliath's Curse: Coercive Threats and Asymmetric Power.**

*International Organization* 64:4 (Fall 2010), pp. 627–60.

#### **The Army You Have: The Determinants of Military Mechanization, 1979–2001.**

*International Studies Quarterly* 54:2 (June 2010), pp. 481–511. With Elizabeth N. Saunders.

#### **Are Soldiers Less War-Prone than Statesmen?**

*Journal of Conflict Resolution* 48:5 (October 2004), pp. 746–74.

*Book Chapters*

**Should the United States or the International Community Aggressively Pursue Nuclear Nonproliferation Policies?** (Exchange with Scott D. Sagan and Josh Weddle.) In *Controversies in Globalization: Contending Approaches to International Relations*, edited by Peter M. Haas, John A. Hird, and Beth McBratney, pp. 164–74 (CQ Press, 2009).

- Second revised edition forthcoming, 2012.

**The Effects of September 11: A Rift between Europe and America?** In *Public Opinion and Polling Around the World*, edited by John G. Geer, pp. 327–38 (ABC-CLIO, 2004).

- Reprinted in *Paradoxes of Power: U.S. Foreign Policy in a Changing World*, edited by David Skidmore (Paradigm, 2007).

*Non-Refereed Publications*

Book review of *Shaping Strategy: The Civil-Military Politics of Strategic Assessment*, by Risa A. Brooks. *Perspectives on Politics* 8:3 (September 2010), pp. 982–84.

“Would a Nuclear Iran Really Be So Dangerous?” *Christian Science Monitor*, January 12, 2011. With Matthew Fuhrmann.

“Nuclear Stalemate in South Asia.” *Boston Globe*, March 23, 2000.

“Pakistan Coup Underscores Nuclear Dimension.” *Defense News*, November 15, 1999.

“How to Live With the Bomb.” *Wall Street Journal*, September 1, 1998.

“Biological Terrorism: Don’t Panic Yet.” *Des Moines Register*, November 25, 1997.

**Fellowships**

Council on Foreign Relations (Stanton nuclear security fellow), 2011–12

Harvard University, John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies (postdoctoral fellow), 2007–08.

University of Maryland, Center for International Security Studies (visiting scholar), 2005–06.

Harvard University, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs (predoctoral fellow), 2004–06.

Stanford University, Center for International Security and Cooperation (predoctoral fellow), 2003–04.

**Honors and Awards**

Walter Isard Award for the Best Dissertation in Peace Science, 2006–08. Awarded every two years by the Peace Science Society.

Phi Beta Kappa of Northern California, Graduate Fellowship, 2006.

Dwight D. Eisenhower Institute, Graduate Fellowship, 2005.

Stanford Center on Conflict and Negotiation, Richard S. Goldsmith Writing Prize in Dispute Resolution, 2004, 2005.

Harry S. Truman Scholarship, 1998.

## Invited Academic Talks

- University of Wisconsin (Department of Political Science), March 2012.
- George Washington University (Institute for Security and Conflict Studies), February 2012.
- University of California, Berkeley (Department of Political Science), October 2011.
- MIT (Security Studies Program), September 2011.
- University of Maryland (Department of Government), April 2011.
- Yale University (Department of Political Science), March 2011.
- George Washington University (Institute for Global and International Studies), January 2011.
- Princeton University (Department of Politics and Center for International Security Studies), April 2010.
- Northwestern University (Buffett Center for International and Comparative Studies), April 2010.
- Columbia University (Saltzman Institute for War and Peace Studies), March 2010.
- University of Virginia (Miller Center for Public Affairs), March 2009.
- Drake University (Center for Global Citizenship), December 2008.
- George Washington University (Institute for Global and International Studies), November 2008.
- Harvard University (Olin Institute for Strategic Studies), April 2008.
- University of Chicago (Program on International Security Policy), May 2007.
- Triangle Institute for Security Studies, September 2006.
- University of Maryland (Center for International Security Studies), March 2006.
- Harvard University (Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs), December 2005.
- Stanford University (Department of Political Science), November 2005.
- Harvard University (Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs), February 2005.
- California State Polytechnic University (Department of Political Science), May 2003.
- Stanford University (Center on Conflict and Negotiation), April 2003.

## Academic Workshop Presentations

- Workshop on “The Politics of Nuclear Weapons in the 21st Century,” sponsored by the University of California, San Diego, December 2011 and March 2012.
- Workshop on “Nuclear Security,” sponsored by the Stanton Foundation, October 2011.
- Workshop on “Concepts and Analysis of Nuclear Strategy,” sponsored by the U.S. Strategic Command, September 2011.
- Workshop on “Effects to Influence,” sponsored by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, June 2011.

## Conference Presentations

American Political Science Association, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, upcoming 2012.

International Studies Association, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012.

Midwest Political Science Association, 2005, 2011, 2012.

Peace Science Society, 2010.

Eurasian Peace Science Society, 2012.

International Security and Arms Control / International Security Studies, 2005.

Society for Military and Strategic Studies, 2003.

## Professional Activities

Member of the Program on Strategic Stability Evaluation, a nuclear strategy study group organized by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, *Non-Proliferation Review*, *Security Studies*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, National Science Foundation, Oxford University Press, Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order, Blackwell Publishing, Pearson Longman, and the Department of Defense's Minerva Project.