

KYLIE N. SMITH

kylie.smith@utexas.edu \+1 (972) 965-5035
kylieoesmith.com

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 2022–Present

Ph.D. Candidate, Government

Dissertation: *Now What? Patterns of Violence and Organizational Change in Post-Conflict Armed Groups*

Committee: Michael Findley (chair), Scott Wolford, Max Goplerud, Sabine Carey (external)

Subfields: International Relations, Political Methodology

University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX May 2024

M.A., Government

Thesis: *Pro-Government Militia Termination: Mitigating Agency Slack in the Principal-Agent Relationship*

Committee: Michael Findley (chair), Scott Wolford

Queen’s University Belfast, Belfast, UK December 2022

M.A., Violence, Terrorism, and Security

Advisor: Ronit Berger-Hobson

Thesis: *Mediated States as Resilient Statebuilding: Ethnic Armed Organizations in Myanmar following the 2021 Coup D’état*

Baylor University, Waco, TX December 2022

B.A., Political Science and International Relations

Advisor: David Corey

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Violent Non-State Actors; Post-Conflict State-Building; Demobilization, Disarmament, and Reintegration; Security Sector Reform; Organizational Theory; Brokerage Relationships

WORKING PAPER

Smith, Kylie N. “The End of Pro-Government Militia Relationships: Agency Slack and the Breakdown of Delegation” *Under Review*

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Smith, Kylie N. “From Coercion to Brokerage: Informal Access Institutions and Armed Group Restraint after Conflict”

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Clements Center for National Security Fall 2024 - Present
Graduate Fellow

Armed Conflict & Location Event Data Project (ACLED) June 2022 - Present
Researcher

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

University of Texas at Austin - Department of Government

Summer Fellowship (\$3,000), 2025

Fieldwork Grant (\$2,500), 2024

ICPSR Sponsorship (\$2,500), 2024

Dept. of Government Summer Fellowship (\$5,000), 2024

Dept. of Government Summer Research Fellowship (\$4,000), 2024

Dept. of Government Pre-Dissertation Fellowship (\$4,000), 2023

Dept. of Government Fellowship Supplement (\$5,000), 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025

University of Texas at Austin - External

Graduate School Continuing Excellence Fellowship (\$12,500), Spring 2026

British, Irish, & Empire Studies (BIES) Fellowship (\$3,000), Summer 2023

College of Liberal Arts Deans Office Academic Excellence in Research Fellowship, 2025-2026

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research

Scholarship for Political Science Research (\$2,600), 2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Texas at Austin

Instructor of Record

Nationalism and Violence, Fall 2025

Political Internship, Summer 2025

Guest Lecture

Terrorism and Counter-terrorism, Spring 2025

Ethnic Politics of China, Taiwan, and Asia, Spring 2025

Teaching Assistant

Terrorism and Counter-terrorism, Spring 2025

The Military and U.S. Politics, Fall 2024

Civil Wars and Ethnic Violence, Spring 2024

Comprehensive Notions of European Security, Fall 2023

Politics of Poverty, Spring 2023

Comparative Legal Systems, Fall 2022

Research Internship Supervisor

Supervised undergraduate researchers for Research Internship Program, Spring 2026

PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Texas Triangle Conference

The End of Pro-Government Militia Relationships: Agency Slack and the Breakdown of Delegation
University of Texas at Austin. January 2026.

Terrorism and Civil Wars Conference

Pro-Government Militia Termination: Mitigating Agency Slack in the Principal-Agent Relationship
University of Houston. February 2025.

Conflict Research Society Conference

The Mediated State: Multi-Layered Rebel Governance in Ethnic Armed Organizations in Myanmar
Queen's University Belfast. September 2022.

FIELDWORK & INTERVIEWS

Guatemala - Guatemala City & Quetzaltenango Summer 2025
Northern Ireland - Belfast Summer 2023

RELEVANT TRAINING & EXPERIENCE

Inter-university Consortium for Political & Social Research Summer 2024
Courses in Bayesian Modeling, Casual Inference, & Time Series and Panel Data

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

College of Liberal Arts Graduate Student Advisory Council AY 2025 - 2026
Department of Government Representative

Department of Government Graduate Student Organization AY 2024 - 2025
Co-President

UT Austin Graduate Student Assembly AY 2024 - 2025
Department of Government Alternate Representative

International Relations Job Search Committee Fall 2024
Graduate Student Representative

MEMBERSHIPS

Peace Science Society (*Member*) AY 2022 - Present
Conflict Research Society (*Member*) AY 2022 - Present
Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society (*Member*) AY 2019 - Present
Sigma Iota Rho - International Studies Honor Society (*Member*) AY 2017 - Present

SKILLS

Languages: Spanish *Intermediate*, Mandarin Chinese *Intermediate*
Programs/Technologies: Excel, Git, Markdown, Qualtrics, R, Stata, L^AT_EX