

## **JAMES D. FEARON**

Department of Political Science  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305-6044

tel: 650 725 1314  
fax: 650 723 1808  
email: jfearon@stanford.edu

### **Academic Employment**

Stanford University	Theodore and Frances Geballe Professor in the School of Humanities and Sciences, 2004-Senior Fellow, Freeman-Spogli Institute, Stanford University, 2012-Chair, Department of Political Science, 2007-2010 Professor, Department of Political Science, 2001-Professor by courtesy, Department of Economics, 2014-Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, 1998-2001
University of Chicago	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, 1997-1998 Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 1991-1996

### **Non-Academic Positions**

Senior Advisor, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense (Policy),  
U.S. Department of Defense. 9/2021-9/2022.

### **Education**

Ph.D.	University of California, Berkeley. Political Science. May 1992.
M.A.s	University of California, Berkeley. Political Science and Economics. May 1987 and May 1991.
A.B.	Harvard University. June 1985, <i>magna cum laude</i> .

### **Awards, Fellowships, Visiting Positions, Commissions**

Elected to the National Academy of Sciences, 2012.

Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Elected 2002.

Member, Council of Foreign Relations, 2017-

LSE-Oxford Commission on State Fragility, Growth, and Development, 2017-2018.

Fernand Braudel Senior Fellowship, European University Institute, 2016-17.

International Growth Centre, Research Affiliate, 2016-2021

Visiting Professor, Yangon School of Political Science, Yangon, Myanmar, July-August 2016.

2016 Harold Jacobson Lecture in International Law, University of Michigan, March 10, 2016.

Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching in the School of Humanities and Sciences in the area of Excellence in Graduate Education, Stanford University (awarded 2012).

Fourth Annual Kenneth Waltz Lecture in International Relations at the Saltzman Institute, Columbia University, November 15, 2011.

Fellow, Canadian Institution for Advanced Research, Program on Institutions, Organizations, and Growth. September 2004-2019.

Visiting lecturer, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals, July 2009.

Visiting Professor at the Juan March Institute, Madrid, September-December 2003.

Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, 1999-2000.

1999 Karl Deutsch Award (International Studies Association), "presented on an annual basis to a scholar under the age of forty or within ten years of the acquisition of his/her doctoral degree who is judged to have made, through a body of publications, the most significant contribution to the study of international relations and peace research."

1997 Heinz Eulau Award for best article published in the *American Political Science Review* in the previous year, for "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation" (co-authored with David Laitin).

1997 Gregory Luebbert Award for best article published in Comparative Politics in 1996, for "Explaining Interethnic Cooperation" (co-authored with David Laitin).

Chicago Humanities Institute Residential Faculty Fellowship, 1996-97.

1993 Helen Dwight Reid Award (APSA) for the best doctoral dissertation completed and accepted in 1991-92 in the field of international relations, law, and policy, for "Threats to Use Force: Costly Signals and Bargaining in International Crises."

## **Publications**

### *Books*

1. *The Costs of Violence* (co-authored with Anke Hoeffler). Princeton University Press, forthcoming, 2025.

### *Journal articles*

1. Climate as a Risk Factor for Armed Conflict (co-authored with principal authors Katharine J. Mach and Caroline M. Kraan, and 11 others). *Nature* 571 (11 July 2019), 193-197.
2. Cooperation, Conflict, and the Costs of Anarchy. *International Organization* 72, 3 (Summer 2018), 524-560.
3. Civil War and the Current States System. *Daedalus* 146, 4 (Fall 2017), 18-32.

4. How Does Development Assistance Affect Collective Action Capacity? Results from a Field Experiment in Post-Conflict Liberia (co-authored with Macartan Humphreys and Jeremy Weinstein). *American Political Science Review* 109, 3 (August 2015), 450-469.
5. Socially Relevant Ethnic Groups, Ethnic Structure, and AMAR (co-authored with Jóhanna Birnir et al.) *Journal of Peace Research* 52, 1 (January 2015), 110-115.
6. Civil War Non-Onsets: The Case of Japan (co-authored with David Laitin). *Journal of Civilization Studies* 1, 1 (January 2014), 67-90.
7. Self-Enforcing Democracy. *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 126, 4 (2011), 1661-1708.
8. Sons of the Soil, Migrants, and Civil War (co-authored with David Laitin). *World Development* 39, 2 (2011), 199-211.
9. Can Development Aid Contribute to Social Cohesion After Civil War? Evidence from a Field Experiment in Post-Conflict Liberia (co-authored with Macartan Humphreys and Jeremy Weinstein). *American Economic Review: Papers and Proceedings* 2009 99:2, 287-291.
10. Iraq's Civil War. *Foreign Affairs* 86, 2 (March/April 2007), 1-13.
11. Ethnic Minority Rule and Civil War Onset (co-authored with Kimuli Kasara and David Laitin). *American Political Science Review* 101, 1 (February 2007), 187-193.
12. Primary Commodity Exports and Civil War. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 49, 4 (August 2005), 483-507.
13. Separatist Wars, Partition, and World Order. *Security Studies* 13, 4 (Summer 2004), 394-415.
14. Neotrusteeship and the Problem of Weak States (co-authored with David Laitin). *International Security* 28, 4 (Spring 2004), 5-43.
15. Why Do Some Civil Wars Last So Much Longer Than Others? *Journal of Peace Research* 41, 3 (May 2004), 275-301.
16. Ethnic and Cultural Diversity by Country. *Journal of Economic Growth* 8, 2 (June 2003), 195-222.
17. Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War (co-authored with David Laitin). *American Political Science Review* 97, 1 (February 2003), 75-90. Additional documentation provided by "Additional Tables for "Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War," 7 February, 2003, <http://www.stanford.edu/~jfearon/>.
18. Selection Effects and Deterrence. *International Interactions* 28, 1 (January-March 2002), 5-29.
19. Violence and the Social Construction of Ethnic Identity (co-authored with David Laitin.) *International Organization* 54, 4 (Autumn 2000), 845-877.
20. Bargaining, Enforcement, and International Cooperation. *International Organization* 52, 2 (Spring 1998), 269-306.
21. Signaling Foreign Policy Interests: Tying Hands versus Sinking Costs. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 41, 1 (February 1997), 68-90.
22. Explaining Interethnic Cooperation. (Co-authored with David Laitin.) *American Political Science Review* 90, 4 (December 1996), 715-35. Winner of the 1997 Heinz Eulau Award for best article published in the *American Political Science Review* in the previous year.

23. Rationalist Explanations for War. *International Organization* 49 (Summer 1995), 379-414.
24. Domestic Political Audiences and the Escalation of International Disputes. *American Political Science Review* 88 (September 1994), 577-92.
25. Signaling versus the Balance of Power and Interests: An Empirical Test of a Crisis Bargaining Model. *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 38 (June 1994, Special Issue), 236-69.
26. Counterfactuals and Hypothesis Testing in Political Science. *World Politics* 43 (January 1991), 169-95.
27. International Financial Institutions and Economic Policy Reform in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Journal of Modern African Studies* 26 (March 1988), 113-137.

*Papers in edited volumes and other collections*

1. Game Theory and Explanations for Armed Conflict. In Robert Aumann, Kaushik Basu, Eric Maskin, Roger Myerson, and Éva Tardos, eds., *One Hundred Years of Game Theory: Future Applications and Challenges*, monograph of the Econometric Society, forthcoming.
2. Why are Women More Effective at Fostering Public Goods Provision When They Work in Women's Groups? (Co-authored with Macartan Humphreys.) In Siwan Anderson, Lori Beaman and Jean-Philippe Platteau, eds., *Towards Gender Equity in Development* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).
3. Strategic Dynamics of Social Mimicry. In Diego Gambetta, ed., *Fight, Flight, Mimic*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2024.
4. State Fragility, Governance Indicators, and the Risk of Civil Conflict. In Claudia Sepúlveda, Ann Harrison, and Justin Yifu Lin, eds., *Development Challenges in a Postcrisis World. Annual World Bank Conference on Economic Development, 2011*. Washington, DC: The World Bank, 2013. Also published as "Fragilité des États, indicateurs de gouvernance et risque de guerre civile," *Revue d'économie du développement* 4 (Décembre 2011), 153-186.
5. Governance and Civil War Onset. Prepared for the World Bank's 2011 *World Development Report* on "Conflict, Security, and Development." <http://wdr2011.worldbank.org/governance-and-civil-war-onset>.
6. Evaluating Community-Driven Reconstruction: Lessons from post-conflict Liberia. *Development Outreach* 11, 2 (October 2009), 50-52.
7. Integrating Quantitative and Qualitative Methods. (Co-authored with David D. Laitin.) In Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier, Henry E. Brady and David Collier, eds., *Oxford Handbook of Political Methodology* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008). Reprinted in Robert E. Goodin, ed., *Oxford Handbook of Political Science* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009).
8. Economic Development, Insurgency, and Civil War. In Elhanan Helpman, ed., *Institutions and Economic Performance* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008).
9. International Institutions and Collective Authorization of the Use of Force. In Alan Alexandroff, ed., *Can the World Be Governed? Possibilities for Effective Multilateralism* (Waterloo, Ontario: Wilfred Laurier University Press, 2008).
10. The Rise of Emergency Relief Aid. In Michael Barnett and Thomas G. Weiss, eds., *Humanitarianism in Question: Politics, Power, Ethics* (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2008).

11. Reforming International Institutions to Promote International Peace and Security. In *Peace and Security*, Expert Paper Series # 5 (Secretariat of the International Task Force on Global Public Goods, 2006).
12. Ethnic Mobilization and Ethnic Violence. In Barry R. Weingast and Donald Wittman, eds., *Oxford Handbook of Political Economy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006).
13. Rationalism and Constructivism in International Relations Theory (co-authored with Alex Wendt). In Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth Simmons, eds., *Handbook of International Relations Theory*. London: Sage Publications, 2002.
14. Electoral Accountability and the Control of Politicians: Selecting Good Types versus Sanctioning Poor Performance. In Bernard Manin, Adam Przeworski, and Susan Stokes, eds., *Democracy, Accountability, and Representation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.
15. Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy, and Theories of International Relations. *Annual Review of Political Science*, vol. 1. Palo Alto, CA: Annual Reviews, 1998.
16. Commitment Problems and the Spread of Ethnic Conflict. In David Lake and Donald Rothchild, eds., *The International Spread of Ethnic Conflict: Fear, Diffusion, and Escalation*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1998.
17. Deliberation as Discussion. In Jon Elster, ed., *Deliberative Democracy*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998. Reprinted in Jostein Gripsrud, Hallvard Moe, Anders Molander and Graham Murdock, *The Public Sphere* (Sage Publications, 2010).
18. Counterfactuals and Causation in Social Science: Exploring an Analogy between Cellular Automata and Historical Processes. In Philip Tetlock and Aaron Belkin, eds., *Counterfactual Thought Experiments in World Politics*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996.

#### **Published comments and contributions to symposia**

1. Robert Jervis and Perspectives on the Security Dilemma. *H-Diplo*, February 4, 2022.
2. Review of Oriana Mastro, The Costs of Conversation: Obstacles to Peace Talks in Wartime, Roundtable 12-6 in *H-Diplo*, January 21, 2021.
3. Nuclear Weapons and Nuclear Risk on the Korean Peninsula. In *Game Theory and Nuclear Stability in North-east Asia*, edited by Lauren Ice, James Scouras, Kelly Rooker, Robert Leonhard, and David McGarvey, Johns Hopkins University-Applied Physics Lab, 2019.
4. Taking the Gamble (Reply to Alex Downes, “Regime Change Doesn’t Work”). *Boston Review*, September/October 2011.
5. Two States, Two Types, Two Actions: Comments on Charles Glaser’s *Rational Theory of International Politics*. *Security Studies* 20, 3 (August 2011), 431-440.
6. Comments on R. Harrison Wagner’s *War and the State: The Theory of International Politics*. *International Theory* 2, 2 (July 2010), 333-342.
7. Review Symposium on “State Failure and Challenges to Democratization in Africa,” comments on Robert Bates’ *When Things Fell Apart: State Failure in Late-Century Africa*. *Perspectives on Politics* 7, 2 (June 2009), 361-363.

8. Comments of the Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change. In Ernesto Zedillo, ed., *Reforming the United Nations for Peace and Security, Proceedings of a Workshop to Analyze the Report of the High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change*. New Haven, CT: Yale Center for the Study of Globalization, 2005.
9. Two Questions about Ethnicity and Nationalism: Explaining Motivations versus Explaining Variation. A comment on Leonard Binder's essay in Edward Mansfield and Richard Sisson, eds., *The Evolution of Political Knowledge: Democracy, Autonomy, and Conflict in Comparative and International Politics*. Columbus, OH: Ohio State University Press, 2004.

### Working Papers and Work in Progress

1. *Why are Things Messed Up? Political Economy Basics*. Book manuscript.
2. Relative Power and the Risk of Conflict.
3. Civil War Violence and Refugee Outflows (co-authored with Andrew Shaver).
4. Coups, Police Shootings, and Nuclear War. Paper presented at the 2019 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington DC, August 29-September 1.
5. A Theory of Elite-Initiated Democratization, Illustrated with the Case of Myanmar (co-authored with Patrick Francois). Paper prepared for presentation at the 2018 Annual Meetings of the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, March 28-31.
6. International Alignments, the Arms Trade, and International Conflict (co-authored with Bertel T. Hansen). Paper prepared for the 2017 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, August 31-September 3.
7. Does Contemporary Armed Conflict have "Deep Historical Roots"? (co-authored with David Laitin). Paper prepared for the 2014 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association.
8. Beyond Civil War: The Costs of Interpersonal Violence and the Next Round of MDGs (co-authored with Anke Hoefler). Paper prepared for the Copenhagen Consensus, July 2014.
9. Arming and Arms Races. Presented at the 2010 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington, DC, September 2-5, 2010.
10. Biological Institutions: The Political Science of Animal Cooperation (co-authored with Erol Akçay, Joan Roughgarden, John Ferejohn, Barry Weingast). Stanford University, 2010.
11. A Simple Political Economy of Relations between Democracies and Autocracies. Presented at the 2008 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Boston, August 27-31, 2008.
12. An International Organization for Democracies? Accreditation versus a League. Stanford University, 2008
13. Fighting rather than Bargaining. Paper presented at the 2007 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, August 30-September 2, 2007.
14. Civil War Termination (co-authored with David Laitin). Paper presented at the 2007 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, August 30-September 2, 2007.

15. Civil War and Economic Growth. Paper presented at the 2005 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., September 1-4, 2005.
16. Ordinary Language and External Validity: Specifying Concepts in the Study of Ethnicity (co-authored with David Laitin). Paper presented at the 2000 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., August 31-September 4.
17. Weak States, Rough Terrain, and Large-scale Ethnic Violence. Paper presented at the 1999 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Atlanta, GA, September 1999.
18. *Ethnicity, Insurgency, and Civil War*. Book manuscript in preparation (with David Laitin).
19. What is Identity (as We Now Use the Word)? Mimeo, Stanford University, November 1999.
20. Why Ethnic Politics and “Pork” Tend to Go Together. Presented at an SSRC-MacArthur sponsored conference on “Ethnic Politics and Democratic Stability,” University of Chicago, May 21-23, 1999.
21. The Politicization of Cultural and Economic Differences: A Return to the Theory of Regional Autonomy Movements. Co-authored with Pieter Van Houten. Presented at the 1998 Annual Meetings of the American Political Science Association, Sept. 2-5, Boston, MA.
22. Chunky Shoes: A Model of Style Choice and Fashion Trends with Implications for Understanding “Image” Advertising. Mimeo, June 1998.
23. A Cross-sectional Study of Large-Scale Ethnic Violence in the Post-War Period. Co-authored with David Laitin. Mimeo, September 1997.
24. Bargaining over Objects that Influence Future Bargaining Power. Chicago Center on Democracy Working Paper, University of Chicago, 1995.
25. The Offense-Defense Balance and War since 1648. Presented at the Annual Meetings of International Studies Association, Chicago, February 21-25, 1995.
26. Ethnic War as a Commitment Problem. Presented the 1993 APSA Annual Meetings, New York.

## Grants

- Stanford King Center on Global Development, Planning Award of \$100,000 for an initiative on Gender-based Violence in the Developing World, with Professors Lisa Blaydes and Beatriz Magaloni. 2/2021-8/2022.
- Faculty Funding received from Carnegie Corporation Grant “Research, Training, and Outreach for a More Secure World,” 10/1/12-9/30/14. \$10,000.
- International Growth Centre (at London School of Economics) grant for “Peasants into Democrats? The Impact of Civic Education on Local Government in Mali,” with Jessica Gottlieb. 1/15/11 - 3/15/12. \$36,978.
- Freeman-Spogli Institute, Stanford University, Global Underdevelopment Action Fund award for the research project “Peasants into Democrats: Evaluating the Impact of Information on Local Governance in Mali,” with Jessica Gottlieb. 10/1/2010-12/31/2011. \$40,576.
- National Science Foundation SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science, “Reformed or Reconfigured? Explaining Why Militant Groups Participate in Elections,” awarded to Aila Matanock under the direction of James D. Fearon. 7/2010 - 6/2011. \$11,998.

National Science Foundation SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science, “Accountability in Developing Democracies – Within-Country Evidence from Mali,” awarded to Jessica Gottlieb under the direction of James D. Fearon. 7/2010 - 6/2011. \$12,000.

National Science Foundation SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science, “Government Concessions to Irregular Politics, Violence, and Insurgency,” awarded to Bethany Lacina under the direction of James D. Fearon. 7/2008 - 6/2009. \$11,950.

Woods Institute for the Environment, Environmental Venture Project Grant for “The Politics of Cooperation in the Evolution of Animal Social Behavior,” with Erol Ackay, John Ferejohn, Joan Roughgarden, and Barry Weingast. 9/2008 - 9/2009. \$80,000.

National Science Foundation SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science, “Government Concessions to Irregular Politics, Violence, and Insurgency,” awarded to Bethany Lacina under the direction of James D. Fearon. 7/2008 - 6/2009. \$11,950.

National Science Foundation SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Political Science, “Explaining Sexual Violence During Civil War,” awarded to Dara Cohen under the direction of James D. Fearon. 7/2007 - 7/2008. \$11,950.

Presidential Fund for Innovation in International Studies Award, Freeman-Spogli Institute of International Studies, Stanford University, announced February 2006.

National Science Foundation grant SES-0215461, “Laboratory in Comparative Ethnic Processes (LiCEP): Formal and Empirical Approaches to Ethnic Mobilization – series of workshops.” July 1, 2002.

Principal Investigator for a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, supporting “Research and Training in Conflict Prevention and Resolution” at the Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, for 9/01 - 8/03.

Carnegie Corporation Grant B7079, supporting the project “Ethnicization of Civil Wars as a Problem for an International Gendarmerie,” 2000-01.

NSF Grant SBR-9876477, 4/99-3/00, “Collaborative Project: The Minorities at Risk Database and Explaining Ethnic Violence.” An NSF grant to revise, improve, and reanalyze the Minorities at Risk data.

MacArthur CASPIC Collaborative Research Grant, University of Chicago, 1996.

### **Teaching Fields**

International Politics, International Conflict, International Relations Theory  
Civil War and Ethnic Conflict  
Political Economy  
Game Theory for Social Science

### **Editorial, Advisory, and Foundation Board Memberships**

Invited editor, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*



JSTOR Security Studies Advisory Group, 2017-  
Scientific Committee, Institute of Political Economy and Governance, Universitat Pompeu Fabra  
*American Political Science Review* (1997-2001)  
*American Journal of Political Science* (1998-2002, 2006-2009)  
*Annual Review of Political Science* (2007-2015)  
*International Organization* (1998-2003, 2005-09, 2012-)  
*International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*  
*International Theory* (2009-2015)  
*Journal of Conflict Resolution* (2010-)  
*Rationality and Society* (1996-2014)

### **Selected Professional Service**

National Academy of Sciences, Class Membership Committee, 2020-21, 2023-24.  
Empirical Studies of Conflict Program, Mentor, 2019-  
Visiting Committee, University of California, Berkeley, 2015  
Chair, APSA Nominating Committee, 2014  
International Studies Association representative to AAAS, 2013-15  
Visiting Committee, MIT Department of Political Science, 2009-12  
Visiting Committee Chair, Harvard University Department of Government, 2010  
Heinz Eulau Award Committee, American Political Science Association, 2007  
Midwest Political Science Association Executive Council, 2006-  
International Studies Association, Karl Deutsch Award Committee (Chair), 2003-05 (Chair), 2008-10 (Member)  
APSA Annual Meetings, Division Chair, International Collaboration, 2001  
Visiting Committee, Princeton University Department of Politics, 1998

### **Selected Consulting**

International Growth Centre (Myanmar Office)  
Asia Foundation (project on subnational conflict areas in South East Asia)  
Political Instability Task Force  
World Bank, regarding conflict and economic development, and post-conflict reconstruction.  
Various U.S. government agencies  
Severson and Werson (law firm, regarding definition of “civil war”)

### **Professional Associations:**

American Political Science Association  
American Economics Association  
International Studies Association

### **Referee for:**

*American Economic Review*, *American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics*, *American Journal of Political Science*,  
*American Journal of Sociology*, *American Political Science Review*, *American Sociological Review*, *British Journal*

*of Political Science, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Conflict Management and Peace Science, Econometrica, European Journal of Political Economy, European Science Foundation, Games and Economic Behavior, Historical Methods, International Interactions, International Organization, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Theoretical Politics, Journal of Development Economics, MacArthur Foundation, National Science Foundation, Nature, Perspectives on Politics, Political Psychology, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Quarterly Journal of Political Science, Rationality and Society, Review of Economic Studies, Review of Economics and Statistics, Science, Social Choice and Welfare, Studies in Comparative International Development, World Politics*

[Vita date: April 26, 2024]