

Elisa D'Amico

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Climate · Conflict & Peace · Migration · Political Economy · Methods · Computational Social Science · Policy

EMPLOYMENT

- 2024–Present **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, *University of St Andrews, School of International Relations, PeaceRep*
Mediation Event and Negotiators Database (MEND); Research on the environment and conflict resolution
- 2024 **Visiting Fellow**, *Institute for European Global Studies, Universität Basel*
"Natural Resources as Objects of Conflict" Research & Teaching Appointment
- 2023–2024 **Data & Modeling Research Consultant**, *University of Denver and World Wildlife Fund*
Forecasting future fisheries conflict; Leveraging big data and running prediction models
- 2023 **Data Scientist**, *Chicago Public Schools, School Counseling and Postsecondary Advising*
Data science, empirical modeling, Google AppScript, SQL, SAS, etc.
- 2023 **Automation Research Consultant**, *University of St Andrews, School of International Relations*
Global Fragmentation and Peacemaking PeaceRep Consultancy and Database Building

EDUCATION

- PhD, **Political Science, Global Politics**, *Loyola University Chicago*, Chicago, IL, USA
2018–2023 Dissertation: The Climate-Conflict Nexus: Urban Migration and Data Innovations, *Passed with distinction*
- MA, **Political Science and Public Policy**, *Iowa State University*, Ames, IA, USA
2017–2018 Thesis: Xenophobia and its Implications for Refugee Integration Policy: A Cross-National Analysis
- BA, **Political Science and International Relations**, *Iowa State University*, Ames, IA, USA
2014–2016 Minors: Spanish, Advocacy; *Graduated Cum Laude*
- 2016 **Political Science and Law**, *The University of Edinburgh*, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Study Abroad & Internship with Scottish Parliament
- 2015 **Spanish Language**, *La Universitat de València*, Valencia, Spain
Study Abroad

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Spring 2025 **Reproducible Research Fundamentals**, *Sponsored by the World Bank Institute for Economic Development and DIME Analytics*
- Summer 2024 **Computational Text Analysis Methods and an Application for Theory Building; Review of most popular Topic Modelling techniques**, *Sponsored by CARMA 2024 - Internet and Big Data in Economics and Social Sciences*
- Fall 2023 **Data with R: A Dynamic 3-Day Data Analysis Course**, *Sponsored by the Center for Data Science and Consulting (CDSC)*
- Fall 2023 **Workshop on Advanced Research Methods (WARM)**, *Machine Learning for SS, Ian Lundberg; Sequence Analysis: Past, Present, and Future, Tim Liao; Text Analysis for SSS, Ana Macanovic*
- Fall 2023 **Preparing Effective Grant Applications**, *Sponsored by Women in Conflict Studies Seminar*
- Summer 2023 **International School on Climate Migration**, *Sponsored by Earth Refuge*
- Summer 2023, **Machine Learning Scientist with R: Sentiment Analysis & Intermediate Python Courses**, *Sponsored by*
- Spring 2023 *DataCamp - Polarity scoring; tidytext; Visualization; lists; Numpy; Matplotlib; Dictionaries; Loops; Logical operators*
- Spring 2023, **Nonprofit Grant Writing Workshop Series & Grant Writing Workshop Series**, *Sponsored by the Graduate*
- Fall 2022 *Studies Coordinating Board, Loyola University Chicago*
- Spring 2023 **Qualtrics XM Professional Coursework**
- Fall 2022, **APSA Dissertation Workshop on Migration and Citizenship**, *Sponsored by the American Political Science*
- 2023 *Association – Migration and Citizenship Section*

- Fall 2022 **ISSS & ISA Pay It Forward Program for Early Career Women**, *Sponsored by the International Security Studies Section of the International Studies Association*
- Summer 2022 **Inter-university Consortium for Political & Social Research (ICPSR)**, *Mathematics for Social Scientists; Advanced Empirical Modeling of Social Science Theory; Causal Inference for the Social Sciences; Introduction to the R Statistical Computing Environment*
- Spring 2022 **Responsible Conduct In Research and Scholarship Course**, *Sponsored by TGS*
- 2021-2023 **Graduate Professionalization Workshops**, *Sponsored by Dr. Molly Melin*
- Fall 2020 **Teaching Effectiveness Seminar (TES)**, *Sponsored by TGS*
- Summer 2020 **Indiana University Language Workshop**, *Turkish I: Intensive 8-week course*
- Summer 2019 **PhD Summer School in Istanbul - Migrant Integration & Social Cohesion**, *Sponsored by IMISCOE and the University of Gothenburg & Government-Assisted Refugees (GAR) Program*

PUBLICATIONS

- Article **Maboudi, T., & D'Amico, E. (2024).** Vulnerability, climate laws, and adaptation in the Middle East and North Africa. *Environmental Policy and Governance*.

FORTHCOMING

- Article **D'Amico, E. (R&R).** Unrest in Urbanity: Unraveling the Impact of Economic Shocks on Migration and Urban Dynamics. *Review of International Political Economy*.
- Article **D'Amico, E. (R&R).** Resilient by Design: An Investigation of Climate Adaptation Laws in New England. *Nature Climate Action*.
- Article **D'Amico, E., & Houghton, K. (forthcoming).** Financial Dependencies and Conflict Resolution: The Role of Militarized Mediators in Modern Insurgencies. *Civil Wars*.
- Article **D'Amico, E., Melin, M., & Sosa, S. (forthcoming).** No Ex-Combatant Left Behind: Economic Reintegration & the Durability of Peace. *Journal of Peace Research*.
- Book Chapter **D'Amico, E.** Chapter 4: The National Framework for Peace: Cross-national Instances of Economic Reincorporation in Treaties and their Outcomes. In M. Melin & S. Sosa (Eds.), *The Missing Peace: Understanding Private Enterprises in Conflict Prevention and Resolution*. *Oxford University Press*.
- Book Chapter **Clausen, M. & D'Amico, E.** Chapter 7: Reducing Urban Violence: The Case of Chicago. In M. Melin & S. Sosa (Eds.), *The Missing Peace: Understanding Private Enterprises in Conflict Prevention and Resolution*. *Oxford University Press*.

UNDER REVIEW

- Article **D'Amico, E.** Balancing the Power: A Comparative Analysis of Hydropower Development and Conflict in the Global Renewable Energy Transition. *Global Environmental Politics*.
- Article **D'Amico, E. & Maboudi, T.** Timing Matters: Analyzing Climate Policies and Adaptive Resilience. *Climate Policy*.
- Article **Maboudi, T. & D'Amico, E.** Life, Liberty, and Litigation: The Impact of Environmental Laws and Constitutional Rights on Climate Change Litigation. *Climatic Change*.

NEAR SUBMISSION

- Article **D'Amico, E.** The Geography of Conflict Mediation: Spatial Autocorrelation, Proximity, and Success in Armed Conflict Resolutions. *Near submission for Journal of Peace Research*.
- Article **Hendrix, C., D'Amico, E., & Glaser, S.** From Ocean Changes to Conflict: Predicting Fishery-Related Militarized Disputes in a Warming World.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Book **D'Amico, Elisa.** *Turbulent Tides: Climate, Migration, Conflict, & the Quest for Economic Stability*. Oxford University Press, "Studies in Comparative Energy & Environmental Politics" Series. Planned.
- Article **D'Amico, E., Nutley, K., & Sharma, A.** The Impact of Environmental Protest on Legislative Response: A Comparative LDA Analysis of Liberal Democracies.
- Article **D'Amico, E. & Peter, M.** Conflict Management in a Multipolar World: Identifying the turning point.
- Article **D'Amico, E.** Harnessing Machine Learning and Geospatial Tools for Climate Displacement Measurement.

ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATIONS

- Report **D'Amico, E.** (2024). Semi-automated coding for conflict mediation research: Database development. In *Global Transitions Series*. PeaceRep.
- Policy Brief **D'Amico, E.** (2024). How Climate Shocks Impact Rebel Demands and Peace Agreement Outcomes. In *Peace Analytics Series*. PeaceRep.
- Conference Paper **D'Amico, E.** (2024). Enhancing Conflict Mediation Research: Introducing the Innovative Global Peace Actors Database (GLO-PAD). CARMA 2024. Valencia, June 2024.
- IOM Blog Post **D'Amico, E.** (2024). "Stitching a Sustainable Future: Policy for Youth Migration, and Climate in Bangladesh's Textile Industry" in Blog Series: Youth, Migration, Environment, Climate Change, And Disaster Risk Reduction. IOM UN Migration.
- Legal Case **D'Amico, E.** (2023). Montenegro v. Ashcroft Case Summary. Earth Refuge Legal Database.
- Op-Ed **D'Amico, E.** (2023). Rising Tides and Sudden Surprises: The Two Faces of Climate Displacement. Medium.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018–2023 **Research Assistant**, *Loyola University Chicago*, Chicago, IL, USA
Worked with Dr. Eric Hansen, Dr. Kara Ross Camarena, Dr. Patrick Boyle, Dr. Sarah Maxey, Dr. Tofigh Maboudi, Dr. Molly Melin, Dr. Sooyeon Kang, and Dr. Jay Kao on various projects in political science.
- 2023 **Graduate Student Associate**, *Institute for Racial Justice, Loyola University*
Transcribed and coded focus group recordings, synthesizing data on equity in gifted programming.
- 2017 **Special Interest Groups Data Analyst**, *Project VoteSmart*
Web-scraping and cleaning of special interest groups data in R
- 2016 **Research Intern**, *The Scottish Parliament*, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Served under Alex Rowley, Member of the Scottish Parliament; Focus on devolution of powers, taxation, and public well-being

AD HOC PROJECTS

- Created Stata templates for causation and quasi-experimental graduate-level projects
- Used Python console to import, polygonize, spatially merge, and export data in QGIS
- Used R to scrape, code, and semi-automate text analysis from peace agreement documents
- Used R and APIs to query Chicago crime and census data and geospatially merge
- Used SQL BigQuery on a number of conflict-related projects to extract data
- Developed an interactive infographic mapping climate disasters and migration patterns over time
- Created quizzes in Qualtrics for complex grading schemes
- Used Excel VBA and Stata to merge large climate law and litigation data

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 **Universität Basel, Institute for European Global Studies**
Lecturer [Instructor of record for a block seminar for graduate students], Climate Change, Conflict, and Economic Adaptation: Perspectives on Migration and Sustainable Development
- 2018–2023 **Loyola University Chicago, Department of Political Science**
Lecturer [Full instructor of record for 40 student class], Political Science 102: International Relations in an Age of Globalization
- 2022 *Teaching Assistant [Organized/guided students through a short-term study abroad course]*, Political Science 300D: Faculty-Led Program in Colombia
- 2017–2018 **Iowa State University, Department of Political Science**
Teaching Assistant [Assisted with writing R scripts for regression courses; proctored and graded exams; held office hours for homework assistance; lectured; provided individual assistance to students on statistics assignments, etc.], Intro to Ethics and Politics; Intro to Comparative Government and Politics; Intro to Empirical PLSC Research; Political Behavior; American Institutions: Congress

MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

- 2025 **Masters Thesis Supervision**, *Shreyas Rajagopal, MLitt in Global Social & Political Thought, University of St Andrews*

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2024 **Causal Data Science Meeting (CDSM)**, Conflict in a Warming World: How Climate Shocks Impact Rebel Demands and Peace Agreement Outcomes
- 2024 **Conference on Advanced Research Methods and Analytics (CARMA), 6th Meeting on Internet & Big Data in Economics & Social Sciences**, Enhancing Conflict Mediation Research: Introducing the Innovative Global Peace Actors Database (GLO-PAD)
- American Political Science Association (APSA)**
- 2024 Resilient by Design: An Investigation of Climate Adaptation Laws in New England
- Virtual, 2024 Climate Quandary: Investigating Causality from Climate Displacement to Unrest
- 2023 Unrest in Urbanity: Unraveling the Impact of Economic Shocks on Migration and Urban Dynamics
- 2022 Vulnerability, Climate Change Laws, and Adaptation in the MENA Region
- European Political Science Association (EPSA)**
- 2025 Financial Dependencies and Conflict Resolution: The Role of Militarized Mediators in Modern Insurgencies; The Impact of Environmental Protest on Legislative Response: A Comparative Analysis of Liberal Democracies
- 2024 Environmental Laws, Constitutionalism, and Climate Change Litigation; Vulnerability, Climate Laws, and Adaptation in the Middle East and North Africa; Beyond Borders: Humanitarian-Based Mediation in African Conflicts through Refugee Shocks - Panelist and Discussant
- 2023 **Empirical Studies of Conflict (ESOC) – Annual Meeting**, Climate Quandary: Investigating Causality from Climate Displacement to Unrest.
- International Studies Association**
- 2025 From Ocean Changes to Conflict: Predicting Fishery-Related Militarized Disputes in a Warming World; Conflict management in a multipolar world: Identifying the turning point. *Chicago*
- 2024 Timing Matters: A Change Point Analysis of Climate Policies and Their Impact on Adaptation and Mitigation; From Conflict to Collaboration: Examining the Impact of Climate Change as a Leviathan in Mediation Strategies. *Rijeka*
- 2022 Economic Reincorporation in Civil War Peace Treaties and Peace Outcomes. *Montreal*
- 2018 Xenophobia and Its Implications for Refugee Policies: A Cross-National Study. *San Francisco*
- Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago**
- 2023 Climate Migration, Economic Drivers, and Urban Unrest: A quasi-experimental analysis in Bangladesh.
- 2022 The Climate-Conflict Nexus: Urban Migration and Data Innovations.
- 2020 How Integration Policy Moderates the Relationship Between Migration and Crime: A Cross- National Analysis.
- 2018 The Implications of Poverty on the Severity of Human Trafficking.

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

- 2023-2025 **Invited Talks**, Harvard Law School, Brown University, University of Pennsylvania, Northwestern University, University of California Berkeley, University of Edinburgh, University of St Andrews, Trinity College Dublin, University of Oregon, University of Strathclyde, Lafayette College
- Spring 2025 **Junior Scholars in Quantitative Conflict Workshop series**, Invited Talk, “*Geography of Peace: Proximity and Success in Conflict Resolution*”
- Spring 2025 **Rebel Financing and Rebels’ Use of Economic Instruments for Rebel Governance Pre-Conference Workshop**, Presenter, “*The Role of Militarized Mediators in Modern Insurgencies*”
- Fall 2024 “**Anthropocene**” **Ringvorlesung Lecture Series**, Organized by Dr. Corey Ross, Universität Basel, *Invited Lecture on Anthropocenic Mobilities*
- Summer 2024 **Violence, Instability, and Peace (VIP) Workshop**, Invited workshop of project on humanitarian-based conflict mediation post-displacement shocks
- Spring 2024 **Progress, Pitfalls, and Promises of Political Science in Migration and Citizenship Research**, Inaugural APSA Virtual Research Meeting

- Spring 2024 **PGR Methods Café**, Roundtable Discussant for Quantitative Methods, *University of St Andrews*
- Fall 2023 **Public Policy and Foreign Policy Decision-Making**, Invited Lecturer
- 2023 **Solutions to Environmental Problems (STEP): Climate Action**, Invited Speaker, “*Migration-Preventative Adaptation Responses*”
- 2023 **Back in Business: Bringing firms into Global Local Networks of Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding**, Invitation-only session, *ISA Annual Convention, Montréal*
- 2022 **Ideas, Interests, Institutions, & Nation-state Climate Politics: Mitigators, Adapters, & Mitigator-Adapters Workshop**, *Tulane University*
- Fall 2021 **PLSC 374: Democracy**, Invited Lecturer, “*The Intersection of Democracy and Refugee Rights*”

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2025 **APSA First-generation Scholar Award**, Diversity and Inclusion Program
- 2024 **APSA Best Dissertation Prize**, Migration & Citizenship Section, *Honorable Mention*
- 2024 **Foreign Commonwealth Development Office of the United Kingdom**, Conflict Data and Research Grant
- 2023 **World Wildlife Fund**, Fishery, conflict, and climatological data and research, *Award: \$20,000*
- 2023 **Equity in Quantitative Research Fellow**, Institute for Racial Justice (IRJ)
- 2023 **Gannon Graduate Leadership Fellow**
- 2023 **ISA Pay It Forward is a Travel Grant & Mentoring Program**, *Award: \$500*
- 2023 **ISA Research Workshop Award (Collaborator on Proposal)**, *Award: \$2,500*
- 2023 **Fulbright U.S. Scholarship Program (Istanbul, Turkey)**, *Selected as alternate*
- 2023 **Box-Steffensmeier Scholarship**, *Award: Fully funded ICPSR methods courses for both sessions*
- 2022 **ISSS Pay It Forward mentoring program for early career women**
- 2022, 2023 **MPSA Mentorship Reception**
- 2023 **Loyola Rule of Law Institute – Graduate Student Fellow**, *Award: \$3,500*
- 2023 **Institute of Turkish Studies Language Grant Awardee**, *Award: \$3,000*
- 2018 **IMISCOE/Association of Migration (GAR) Doctoral Research Award on Integration & Adaptation Strategies for Refugees**, *Award: Funded PhD Summer School*
- 2017 **Dwight Ink Scholar**, Iowa State University, *Award: \$1,000*
- 2023 **International Studies Sponsorship**, Iowa State University, *Award: \$1,500*

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2024-Present **Network for Climate, Energy, Environment, and Sustainability (STACEES)**, University of St Andrews
- 2023-Present **Fellow at the Centre for Global Law and Governance**, University of St Andrews
- 2023-Present **Private Enterprise and Peace (PEP) Lab Research Affiliate**
- 2023 **Council of Graduate School Programs (CGSP)**
- 2023 **Graduate Studies Coordinating Board (GSCB)**
- 2022-Present **American Political Science Association (APSA)**, Migration & Citizenship; Conflict Processes
- 2022-Present **International Studies Association (ISA)**, Environmental Studies; Peace Studies
- 2022-Present **National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD)**
- 2020-2023 **Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC)**, President (2022), Secretary (2021), Political Science Department Delegate (2020)
- 2018-2023 **Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)**
- 2016-Present **Pi Sigma Alpha – The National Political Science Honor Society**
- 2012-2014 **National Honor Society (NHS)**

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2020-Present **Reviewer**, Journal of Politics, Review of International Political Economy, International Migration
- 2023-2024 **Junior Scholars in International Security, Etc. (JSISE)**, Organizer
- Summer 2023 **Loyola Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution**, Graduate Intern

2022-2023 **Symposium Co-Organizer and Moderator**, Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Symposium
Summer 2022 **Loyola Undergraduate Research Mentoring Program**
Spring 2022 **Loyola Undergraduate Research & Engagement Symposium**, Evaluator
2019-2023 **RefugeeOne, English Tutor**, Chicago, IL
Summer 2019 **Project Elea Refugee Camp, Teacher**, Athens, Greece
2015-2018 **Court-Appointed Special Advocate**, Child Advocate, Ames, IA

CERTIFICATIONS

2023 DataCamp Data Scientist Professional, R; SQL, Python
2023 Qualtrics XM Professional Certification
2022 Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) Certification

COMPUTER AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data Skills: Querying (e.g. SQL/Python/Google BigQuery); Excel VBA; Geospatial Data (e.g. QGIS/R); Data mining and scraping; Machine Learning (e.g. RF, K-Means); Text Analysis

Software Proficiency: R, QGIS, SQL, STATA, JMP, Python, Google App Script, SAS, SPSS, Excel VBA, LaTeX

Statistical Methods: Difference-in-Differences; Survey Experiments; Granger Causality; OLS; Multilevel Models; Logistic Regression; Survival Analysis (Weibull, Cox-PH); Random Forest; Generalized Additive Models; Change Point Analysis; Principal Component Analysis, etc.

Created Dynamic Visualizations: *Drivers of Fishery-Related Militarized Disputes ShinyApp* Shows dynamic global annual map of temperature anomalies, fish stock and fishery-related MID dyads.

Created R Packages and Apps: *BreakFinder*: Enables comprehensive change point analysis by iterating through all variables in data, in newly specified ways, revealing abrupt transitions in aggregate.

LANGUAGES

Spanish: Intermediate Listener and Speaker, Advanced Reading and Writing

Turkish: Intermediate-Mid (ACTFL)

Arabic: Intermediate-Low (coursework in Arabic 101-104)

RIGHT TO WORK

United States: Citizenship

Italy (EU): Citizenship

United Kingdom: Skilled Worker visa

**Available for flyouts from any of these locations, whether within the United States, within Europe, or within the United Kingdom, upon request.*

DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

Tofigh Maboudi (Chair)
Loyola Chicago, Assoc. Prof.
tmaboudi@luc.edu

Molly Melin
Loyola Chicago, Full Prof.
mmelin@luc.edu

Kara Ross Camarena
Department of Defense
kara@rosscamarena.com

POSTDOCTORAL PIS

Mateja Peter
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Sanja Badanjak
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SENIOR DATA STRATEGIST

Anna Friedman
Chicago Public Schools
affriedman1@cps.edu