

# Max Abrahms

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## Research Focus

International Relations and Comparative Politics

- Empirical: asymmetric conflict, civil war, revolution, social movements, terrorism
- Conceptual: bargaining theory, coercion theory, political psychology, rationality, signaling

## Education

Ph.D. in Political Science, University of California-Los Angeles, 2004-2010

- International Relations and Comparative Politics

M.Phil. in International Relations, Oxford University, St. Antony's College, 2000-2002

- Middle East Politics and U.S. Foreign Policy

B.A. in Political Science and History (PBK/Summa), University of Pennsylvania, 1997-2000

## Fellowships/Research Positions (non-UCLA)

Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science, Johns Hopkins University, 2011/12

Fellow, Dickey Center for International Understanding, Dartmouth College, 2010/11

Fellow, Empirical Studies of Conflict, Princeton University & Stanford University, 2010/11

Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, 2008-10

Fellow, West Point Military Academy, summer 2009

Research Associate, Belfer Center, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2005/06

Visiting Fellow, Moshe Dayan Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Tel Aviv University, 2004

Fellow, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington, D.C., 2003/04

## Publications (\*peer reviewed journal articles)

“The Political Effectiveness of Terrorism Revisited,” *Comparative Political Studies* (March 2012).\*

“Does Terrorism Really Work? Evolution in the Conventional Wisdom since 9/11,” *Defense and Peace Economics* (November 2011).\*

“Terrorism and Counterterrorism” in Robert A. Denemark, ed., *The International Studies Association Compendium Project* (Oxford, UK: Blackwell, 2010), with Frank Foley.

“Dying for Nothing? The Political Ineffectiveness of Suicide Terrorism” in Stuart Gottlieb, ed., *Debating Terrorism and Counterterrorism* (Washington, D.C.: Congressional Quarterly, 2010).

“Correspondence: What Makes Terrorists Tick?” *International Security*, Vol. 33, No. 4 (Spring 2009).

[Reprinted in Michael E. Brown, Owen R. Cote, Jr., Sean Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller, eds., *Contending with Terrorism: Roots, Strategies, and Responses* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010)].

“The Strategic Influence Deficit of Terrorism,” in James Forest, ed., *Influence Warfare: How Terrorists and Governments Fight to Shape Perceptions in the War of Ideas* (Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger Security International, 2009).

“What Terrorists Really Want: Terrorist Motives and Counterterrorism Strategy,” *International Security*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (Spring 2008).\*

[Reprinted in Michael E. Brown, Owen R. Cote, Jr., Sean Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller, eds., *Contending with Terrorism: Roots, Strategies, and Responses* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010); and

“Updesh Kumar and Manas K. Mandal, eds., *Countering Terrorism: Psycho-Social Strategies* (New York: Sage, 2011)].

“Correspondence: Does Terrorism Ever Work? The 2004 Madrid Train Bombings,” *International Security*, Vol. 32, No. 1 (Summer 2007).

[Reprinted in Michael E. Brown, Owen R. Cote, Jr., Sean Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller, eds., *Contending with Terrorism: Roots, Strategies, and Responses* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010)].

“Why Democracies Make Superior Counterterrorists,” *Security Studies*, Vol. 16, No. 2 (Spring 2007).\*

“Why Terrorism Does Not Work,” *International Security*, Vol. 31, No. 2 (Fall 2006).\*

[Reprinted in Jack Snyder and Karen Mingst, eds., *Essential Readings in World Politics* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2007); and

Michael E. Brown, Owen R. Cote, Jr., Sean Lynn-Jones, and Steven E. Miller, eds., *Contending with Terrorism: Roots, Strategies, and Responses* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2010)].

“Al-Qaeda’s Scorecard: A Progress Report on Al-Qaeda’s Objectives,” *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, Vol. 29, No. 5 (July-August 2006).\*

“Al-Qaeda’s Miscommunication War: The Terrorism Paradox,” *Terrorism and Political Violence*, Vol. 17, No. 4 (Autumn 2005).\*

“Are Terrorists Really Rational? The Palestinian Example,” *Orbis*, Vol. 48, No. 3 (Summer 2004), pp. 533-549.

“When Rogues Defy Reason: Bashar’s Syria,” *Middle East Quarterly*, Vol. 10, No. 4 (Fall 2003), pp. 45-56.\*

## **Working Papers and Book Manuscript**

Available upon request

## **Original Courses Taught on Civil War, Insurgency, and Terrorism**

Johns Hopkins University, Department of Political Science, Fall 2011

Dartmouth College, Department of Government, Spring 2011

Johns Hopkins University, Masters in Global Security Studies, Summer 2009/10

## **Journal Referee**

*American Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Oxford University Press, Political Research Quarterly, Public Management Review, Security Studies, Terrorism and Political Violence, University of Chicago Press, World Politics*

## **Media Coverage**

*ABC News, Al-Arabiyya, Al-Hurra, Al-Jazeera, Associated Press, Baltimore Sun, BBC, Boston Globe, CBS Evening News, Chicago Tribune, CNN, CNN Financial, Epoch Times, Fox News, Jerusalem Post, Jerusalem Report, Los Angeles Times, National Public Radio, New York Times, PBS, Radio Free Europe, Roll Call, Slate, Voice of America, Wall Street Journal, Washington Times, Wired*

## **Invited Talks**

School of International Service, American University, TBD 2011

Mershon Center, Ohio State University, May 2011

International Security Forum, Geneva Centre for Security Policy, Switzerland, May 2011

Program on Terrorism and Insurgency Research, Wesleyan College, May 2011

Program on Terrorism and Insurgency Research, Wesleyan College, February 2011

War and Peace University Seminar, Dartmouth College, November 2010

Triangle Institute for Security Studies, Duke University, October 2010

National Counterterrorism Center, Warrenton, VA, July 2010

School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences, University of Texas at Dallas, February 2010

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, October 2009

Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy, June 2009

Program on International Security Policy (PISP), University of Chicago, May 2009

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, May 2009

Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC), Stanford University, January 2009

CATO Institute, Washington, D.C., January 2009

National Counterterrorism Center, University of Texas at Austin, September 2008

CATO Institute, Washington, D.C., September 2008

Institute of Global Conflict and Cooperation, University of California-San Diego, May 2007