

# ALEXANDER THOMPSON

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## Previous Position

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, 2001-2009

## Research and Teaching Interests

International Relations  
International Organization  
International Environmental Politics  
International Political Economy  
U.S. Foreign Policy

## Education

- Ph.D. 2001, University of Chicago, Department of Political Science  
Dissertation: "Channeling Power: International Organizations and the Politics of Coercion"  
Committee: Duncan Snidal (Chair), Charles Lipson, Charles Glaser, Lloyd Gruber
- M.A. 1997, University of Chicago, Department of Political Science
- B.A. 1994, Connecticut College, International Relations, *summa cum laude*  
Reid Hall (Columbia University) and Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Paris, spring 1993

## Book

*Channels of Power: The UN Security Council and U.S. Statecraft in Iraq* (Cornell University Press, 2009)

## Peer-Reviewed Articles and Chapters

- Forthcoming. "Rational Design in Motion: Uncertainty and Flexibility in the Global Climate Regime."  
*European Journal of International Relations*.
2009. "The Rational Enforcement of International Law: Solving the Sanctioners' Dilemma."  
*International Theory* 1(2): 307-21.
2009. "Mitigation through Resource Transfers to Developing Countries: Expanding Greenhouse Gas Offsets." In *Climate Change Policy Beyond Kyoto*, edited by Robert N. Stavins and Joseph E. Aldy. Cambridge University Press, pp. 439-68. (with Andrew Keeler)
2006. "Coercion through IOs: The Security Council and the Logic of Information Transmission."  
*International Organization* 61(1): 1-34.  
-winner of the Robert O. Keohane Award  
-reprinted in Lisa L. Martin, ed., *Global Governance*. Ashgate, 2008, pp. 135-69.

2006. "The Independence of International Organizations: Concept and Applications." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 60(2): 253-75. (with Yoram Haftel)
2006. "Screening Power: International Organizations as Informative Agents." In *Delegation and Agency in International Organizations*, edited by Darren G. Hawkins, David A. Lake, Daniel L. Nielson & Michael M. Tierney. Cambridge University Press, pp. 229-54.
2006. "Management under Anarchy: The International Politics of Climate Change." *Climatic Change* 78(1): 7-29.
2003. "International Commitments and Domestic Politics: Institutions and Actors at Two Levels." In *Locating the Proper Authorities: The Interaction of Domestic and International Institutions*, edited by Daniel Drezner. University of Michigan Press, pp. 197-230. (with Duncan Snidal)
2002. "Applying Rational Choice Theory to International Law: The Promise and Pitfalls." *Journal of Legal Studies* 31(1, Pt. 2): 285-306.
2000. "Canadian Foreign Policy and Straddling Stocks: Sustainability in an Interdependent World." *Policy Studies Journal* 28(1): 219-35.
2000. "International Organization." In *Encyclopedia of Law and Economics, Vol. 5*: 692-722. Edward Elgar Press. (with Duncan Snidal).

### **Papers under Review and in Progress**

- "Principal Problems: UN Weapons Inspections in Iraq and Beyond."
- "Understanding IO Legitimation" (Part of *The Politics of International Organizations: Bridging the Rationalist-Constructivist Divide*, edited by Michael Tierney and Catherine Weaver)
- "Multi-Lateralisms: Explaining Variation in Regime Instruments" (with Daniel Verdier)
- "Guarding the Equilibrium: Regime Management and the WTO" (with Duncan Snidal)
- "The Two-Level Politics of International Delegation: The United States and WTO Dispute Settlement"
- "Scaling Up: Applying Lower-Level Theories to International Relations"
- "Treaty Politics: Signature, Ratification, and Bilateral Investment Agreements" (with Yoram Haftel)
- "Explaining IO Performance" (with Tamar Gutner)

### **Book Reviews**

*The UN Security Council and the Politics of International Authority*, edited by Bruce Cronin and Ian Hurd (Routledge, 2008), and *The United States and the Security Council: Collective Security since the Cold War*, by Brian Frederking (Routledge, 2007). *Perspectives on Politics*, March 2009.

*Council Unbound: The Growth of UN Decision Making on Conflict and Postconflict Issues after the Cold War*, by Michael J. Matheson (USIP Press, 2006), and *UN Peacekeeping: Myth and Reality*, by Andrzej Sitkowski (Praeger, 2006). *Political Science Quarterly*, Winter 2007-08.

*Democracy from Above: Regional Organizations and Democratization*, by Jon C. Pevehouse (Cambridge, 2005). *Review of International Organizations*, September 2006.

*Governance in a Global Economy: Political Authority in Transition*, edited by Miles Kahler and David A. Lake (Princeton, 2003). *Perspectives on Politics*, December 2004.

## Other Publications

“Industrialized-Country Mitigation Policy and Resource Transfers to Developing Countries: Improving and Expanding Greenhouse Gas Offsets.” Discussion Paper 08-05, September 2008. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard Project on International Climate Agreements. (with Andrew Keeler)

“Kyoto Protocol.” *Encyclopedia of Environment and Society*, edited by Paul Robbins. Thousand Oaks, Cal.: Sage Publications, 2007.

Guest Editor of “Economy, Politics and Institutions: From Adaptation to Adaptive Management in Climate Change.” Special Issue of *Climatic Change*, Vol. 78, No. 1. Co-author of framework and concluding articles (both peer-reviewed):

- “Economy, Politics and Institutions: From Adaptation to Adaptive Management in Climate Change,” pp. 1-5 (with Paul Robbins, Brent Sohngen, Joseph Arvai and Tomas Koontz).
- “Adaptive Management of the Global Climate Problem: Bridging the Gap between Climate Research and Climate Policy,” pp. 217-25 (with 11 co-authors).

“A Climate for Change: Uncertainty and Flexibility in the Kyoto Regime.” In *Proceedings for the 2002 Workshop on the Human Dimensions of Climate Change, December 16-17, 2002*. Mershon Center, Ohio State University.

“The Political Economy of Smoot-Hawley: Explaining the Tariff Act of 1930.” *Oeconomica*, Autumn 1999.

“Extreme-Right Discourse and Anti-Immigrant Violence in Europe: Implications of the French Case.” *Center for German & European Studies Working Paper Series*, Georgetown University, May 1999.

## Invited Talks and Workshops

University of Pittsburgh, Department of Political Science, October 2009

Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, September 2009

Columbia University International Politics Seminar, October 2008

Northwestern University, IR Theory Colloquium, May 2008

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Department of Political Science, April 2008

University of Texas, Austin, Department of Political Science, April 2008

McGill University, Research Group in International Security, November 2007

University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy, October 2007

Northwestern University, Center for International and Comparative Studies, September 2005

University of Chicago, Program on International Politics, Economics and Security, October 2004

Georgetown University, Workshop on Intervention, October 2003  
UC San Diego, Workshop on Delegation to International Organizations, September 2003  
Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI), Geneva, May 2003  
Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, April 2003  
Boston College, Department of Political Science, November 2001  
University of Notre Dame, Department of Government and International Affairs, October 2001  
Indiana University, Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis, November 1998

## Conference Papers

- “The Rational Enforcement of International Law: Sanctions as a Source of Compliance.” European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) General Conference, Potsdam, 10-12 September 2009.
- “Ratification Matters: The Domestic Fate of Bilateral Investment Treaties” (with Yoram Haftel). Annual Conference of the International Political Economy Society (IPES), University of Pennsylvania, 14-15 November 2008.
- “Multi-Lateralisms: Explaining Variation in Regime Instruments” (with Daniel Verdier). Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), Boston, 28-31 August 2008.
- “Treaty Politics: Signature, Ratification, and Bilateral Investment Agreements” (with Yoram Haftel). Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Chicago, 3-6 April 2008.
- “Explaining IO Performance” (with Tamar Gutner). ISA Venture Research Workshop, co-hosted by Alexander Thompson and Tamar Gutner, San Francisco, 25 March 2008.
- “The Two-Level Politics of International Delegation: The United States and WTO Dispute Settlement.” Annual Convention of the International Studies Association (ISA), San Francisco, 26-29 March 2008.
- “The Autonomous Role of the WTO as an Institution” (with Duncan Snidal). Program on Political Institutions, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, 24, October 2007.
- “Principal Problems: UN Weapons Inspections in Iraq and Beyond.” 6<sup>th</sup> Pan-European Conference on International Relations, ECPR, Turin, Italy, 12-15 September 2007. Earlier version presented at ISA, San Diego, 22-25 March 2006.
- “The Power of Legalization: Explaining U.S. Support of WTO Dispute Settlement.” ISA, Chicago, 28 February – 3 March 2007. Earlier version presented at IPES, Princeton University, 17-18 November 2006.
- “Designing an Effective Climate Regime.” Berlin Conference on the Human Dimension of Global Environmental Change, Potsdam, Germany, 2-3 December 2005.
- “Guarding the Equilibrium: The WTO as a Regime Manager” (with Duncan Snidal). APSA, Chicago, 1-4 September 2005.

- “Assessing the Global Climate Regime: Moving Forward through Flexibility.” Academic Council on the United Nations System Annual Meeting, Ottawa, 16-18 June 2005.
- “The Rational *Choice* of International Institutions: Uncertainty and Flexibility in the Climate Regime.” MPSA, Chicago, 7-10 April 2005.
- “Understanding IO Legitimation.” ISA, Honolulu, 1-5 March 2005. Earlier versions presented at the Conference on Theoretical Synthesis in the Study of International Organizations, Carnegie Endowment, Washington, DC, 6-7 February 2004.
- “International Organizations and the Legitimation of State Behavior.” CEEISA/ISA International Convention, Central European University, Budapest, 26-28 June 2003.
- “Unilateralism versus Multilateralism in U.S. Foreign Policy.” Columbus Council on World Affairs, Columbus, OH, 31 March and 9 October 2003.
- “Theorizing and Operationalizing IO Independence.” (with Yoram Haftel). ISA, Portland, OR, 25 February – 1 March 2003.
- “Designing Institutions for Global Climate Change.” Climate Change and Environmental Research Initiative lecture, Ohio State University, 16 August 2002.
- “Scaling Up: Applying Lower-Level Theories to International Relations.” Research in International Politics workshop, Department of Political Science, Ohio State University, 20 May 2002.
- “Foreign Policy Strategies and Domestic Publics Abroad.” ISA, New Orleans, 24-27 March 2002.
- “Managing Enforcement: Decentralized Sanctioning in the Shadow of Institutions.” MPSA, Chicago, IL, 24-28 April 2002.
- “Power and Legalization: Explaining U.S. Support of WTO Dispute Settlement.” APSA, San Francisco, 29 August – 2 September 2001.
- “Unilateralism versus the WTO in U.S. Trade Dispute Policy: Explaining the Choice.” MPSA, Chicago, 19-22 April 2001.
- “Explaining Legalization: Why the Weak *and* the Powerful Support WTO Dispute Settlement.” ISA, Chicago, 20-24 February 2001.
- “Framing Foreign Policy: Statecraft and International Organizations.” APSA, Washington, DC, 31 August – 3 September 2000.
- “Coercion and International Organizations: The United States and the United Nations in the Persian Gulf War.” APSA, Atlanta, 2-5 September 1999. Earlier version presented at the conference on International Institutions: Global Processes/Domestic Consequences, Duke University, 9-11 April 1999.
- “Institutional Design and Compliance in International Commons Management.” APSA, Boston, 3-6 September 1998.

## Honors and Awards

- 2008 Mershon Center Faculty Research Grant, "The Performance of International Organizations"
- 2007 Robert O. Keohane Award for best article by an untenured scholar in *International Organization* during the previous year
- 2007 International Studies Association, Venture Research Workshop Grant (co-PI with Tamar Gutner)
- 2004-05 Mershon Center Faculty Research Grant, "IO Legitimation and the Use of Force"
- 2005 Finalist, Colleges of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, Ohio State
- 2002-03 Mershon Center Faculty Research Grant, "Channeling Statecraft: Economic Coercion through International Organizations"
- 2002-03 Faculty Seed Grant Award, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ohio State University
- 2002-03 Mershon Center Faculty Research Grant, "Human Elements of Global Warming in the International Context" (co-PI)
- 2000-2001 Mellon Foundation Final-Year Dissertation Fellowship
- 2000 Grodzins Prize Lectureship, University of Chicago (turned down)
- 1999-2000 MacArthur Fellowship, through the Center for Advanced Studies in Peace and International Cooperation, University of Chicago
- 1999 Program on International Security Policy research grant, University of Chicago
- 1998 Summer Research Grant, Center for Advanced Studies in Peace and International Cooperation
- 1994 Phi Beta Kappa
- 1990-1994 American Foreign Service Association Academic Scholarship

## Teaching

Undergraduate courses at Ohio State:

Introduction to International Relations, The United Nations System, International Environmental Politics

Graduate courses at Ohio State:

Theories of International Relations, International Organization, International Political Economy, Institutions and International Political Economy

## Professional Activities

Referee (past five years)

*American Political Science Review, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Politics, European Journal of International Relations, Review of International Political Economy, Political Science Quarterly, Journal of Peace Research, Review of International Organizations, Climate Policy, Global Society, Geoforum, National Science Foundation, Cambridge University Press, Lynne Rienner, Prentice Hall, Broadview Press, W.W. Norton*

Conferences and Workshops

- 2009 Panel Chair, "Explaining IO Performance," ISA  
Panel Chair and Discussant, "Institutions and Peace," ECPR
- 2008 Co-Convener (with Tamar Gutner), ISA Venture Research Workshop on International Organization Performance, San Francisco, March 25.

- 2007 Panel Chair, "Rethinking Multilateralism: Why Cooperate? Why Delegate?" ISA  
Panel Discussant, "The Rational Design of International Institutions," ISA  
Panel Chair and Discussant, "International Organization and Violence," MPSA
- 2005 Discussant and Commentator, Project on "The UN Security Council and International Authority," Center for International and Comparative Studies, Northwestern University  
Panel Chair and Discussant, "Institutional Approaches to the Study of International Organizations," ISA
- 2003 Panel Chair and Discussant, "The Next Phase of Globalization," APSA  
Panel Discussant, "Expanding Universal Jurisdiction," CEEISA-ISA Budapest  
Discussant, Workshop on Delegation to International Organizations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, April 26.
- 2002 Co-Convener, Conference on Adaptive Research and Governance in Climate Change, Mershon Center, Ohio State, November 23.

#### Department Committees

- 2006-present Undergraduate Studies Committee  
2006-present Undergraduate Student Awards Committee  
2006-07 International Relations Search Committee  
2004-06 Financial Aid Committee  
2003-04 International Relations Search Committee  
2001-03 Graduate Studies Committee  
2001-03 Graduate Student Awards Committee  
1998 International Relations Search Committee (Department of Political Science, University of Chicago)

#### University Committees

- 2005-present Environmental Citizenship Minor Committee

#### Other Positions

- Co-director (with Sarah Brooks), Workshop on Globalization, Institutions and Economic Security (GIES), Political Science and Mershon Center, Ohio State
- Affiliated Faculty, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, Ohio State
- Affiliated Faculty, John Glenn School for Public Affairs, Ohio State
- Coordinator, Program on International Politics, Economics and Security (PIPES), University of Chicago (1998-1999)