

Aidan Milliff

CONTACT INFORMATION

Derby Hall 2052
154 N. Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

Email: milliff.1@osu.edu
BlueSky: [@aidanmilliff.com](https://bsky.app/profile/@aidanmilliff.com)
Website: www.aidanmilliff.com

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
Assistant Professor, Political Science Department 2026–PRES.

Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
Assistant Professor, Political Science Department 2023–2026

Stanford University, Stanford, CA
Shorenstein Postdoctoral Fellow, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center 2022–2023

EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 2022
Ph.D., Political Science
- Committee: Fotini Christia, Vipin Narang, Rich Nielsen, Roger Petersen (chair)
- 2023 Lucian Pye Award for Outstanding PhD Thesis (MIT)
- Honorable Mention, 2024 Mark Jurgensmeyer Best Dissertation Award (ISA)

The University of Chicago, Chicago, IL 2015
M.A., Committee on International Relations (with honors)
B.A., Political Science

BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

Moments of Decision: The Cognitive Foundations of Civilian Behavior During Violence
(Under Review) [Proposal](#)

1. **Aidan Milliff** and Paul Staniland. 2026. *Indian Public Opinion toward the Major Powers*. Cambridge Elements in Indo-Pacific Security. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. [Link](#)

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

8. Paolo Bertolotti, **Aidan Milliff**, Ali Jadbabaie, and Fotini Christia. 2025. "Estimating the Impact of Drone Strikes on Civilians Using Call Detail Records." *British Journal of Political Science* 55(e150). [Link](#)
7. **Aidan Milliff**. 2024. "Making Sense, Making Choices: How Civilians Choose Survival Strategies During Violence." *American Political Science Review* 118(3):1379–1397. [Link](#)
 - 2026 Rajni Kothari Award, APSA South Asian Politics Section
 - 2023 Award for Best Paper, APSA Conflict Processes Section
6. **Aidan Milliff** and Drew Stommes. 2023. "Descriptive Representation and Conflict Reduction: Evidence from India's Maoist Rebellion." *Journal of Peace Research* 60 (5): 807–822. [Link](#)
 - Runner Up, Nils Peter Gleditsch Award (Best article of 2023 in *JPR*)
5. **Aidan Milliff**. 2023. "Facts Shape Feelings: Information, Emotions, and the Political Consequences of Violence." *Political Behavior* 45(3): 1169–1190. [Link](#)
4. **Aidan Milliff**. 2022. "Data Security in Human Subjects Research: New Tools for Qualitative and Mixed-Methods Scholars." *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research* 19-20 (2-1): 31–39. [Link](#)

3. Fotini Christia, Michael Curry, Constantinos Daskalakis, Erik Demaine, John P. Dickerson, Mohammad Taghi Hajiaghayi, Adam Hesterberg, Marina Knittel, and **Aidan Milliff**. 2021. "Scalable Equilibrium Computation in Multi-agent Influence Games on Networks." *Proceedings of the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-21)* 35(6): 5277–5285. [Link](#)
2. Peter Krause and Ora Szekely (eds.), Mia Bloom, Fotini Christia, Sarah Zukerman Daly, Chappell Lawson, Zoe Marks, **Aidan Milliff**, Kacie Miura, Richard Nielsen, Emil Aslan Souleimanov, William Reno and Aliyu Zakayo. 2021. "COVID-19 and Fieldwork: Challenges and Solutions." *PS: Political Science & Politics* 54 (2): 264–269. [Link](#)
1. Milan Vaishnav, Saksham Khosla, **Aidan Milliff**, and Rachel Osnos. 2019. "Digital India? An Email Experiment with Indian Legislators." *India Review* 18 (3): 243–263. [Link](#)

WORKING PAPERS "Who Flees Conflict? A Big-Data Approach to the Determinants of Refugee Migration" (with Fotini Christia)
[Current version](#) (Revise & Resubmit, *Nature Communications*)

"The Organizational Infrastructure of Vigilante Violence: Evidence from India" (with Blair Read)
[Available on request](#) (*Under Review*)

"The Connected Representative: Party Networks, Communications Infrastructure, and Insurgent Violence" (with Varun Karekurve-Ramachandra and Drew Stommes)
[Current version](#) (*Under Review*)

"Incidental Perceptions Shape Strategies for Responding to Violence: Evidence from a Lab-in-the-field Experiment in Kenya"
[Available on request](#)

- Award for Best Faculty Poster, PolMeth XL

"Subjective Perceptions Shape Displacement Decisions during Civil Wars: Evidence from Afghanistan"
[Available on request](#)

"Situational Appraisals and Foreign Policy Crises: Survey Evidence from the United States"
[Current version](#)

"Religious Belief and the Experience of Violence: Survivor Testimony from the United States and India"
[Current Version](#)

"Dis-Endorsement Messages Attract Public Approval of Extralegal Violence: Evidence from India" (with Shaka Li, Blair Read, and Caroline Robbins)
[Available on request](#)

IN PROGRESS "Civilian Perceptions of Violence" (with Jessica Sun)

"The Causes of Civilian Victimization in the Punjab Crisis" (with Drew Stommes)

"The Effect of Insurgent Violence on Parliamentary Oversight: Evidence from India" (with Drew Stommes)

"Reading at Scale: Automating Quantitative Reviews of Large Literatures, with an Application to Political Violence" (with Dotan Haim)

"Oral Histories as Mixed-Methods Data"

"Avoiding Collider Bias when Measuring Emotions"

OTHER "The Hidden Costs of Precision: What Drone Strikes Actually Do to Civilians" *Irregular Warfare Initiative*, June 2026. (with Paolo Bertolotti, Fotini Christia, and Ali Jadbabaie) [Link](#)

WRITING/MEDIA "What do Indians Think About The World?" *Grand Tamasha Podcast*, June 2026. (with Paul Staniland and host Milan Vaishnav) [Link](#)

"How do Civilians Respond to Political Violence?" *Lawfare*, November 2023. [Link](#)

“What Indians think about China, and the border clashes.” *The Washington Post (Monkey Cage Blog)*, December, 2022. (with Paul Staniland) [Link](#)

“From 1984 to 2020, Delhi’s Response.” *The Hindustan Times*, September, 2021. [Link](#)

“India’s Farm Protests Turned Violent Last Week. But Why are Farmers Protesting in the First Place?” *The Washington Post (Monkey Cage Blog)*, February, 2021. (with Saksham Khosla) [Link](#)

“Tension High, Altitude Higher: Logistical and Physiological Constraints on the Indo-Chinese Border.” *War on the Rocks*, June, 2020. [Link](#)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Rajni Kothari Award , <i>APSA South Asian Politics Section</i>	2026
Mark Jurgensmeyer Dissertation Award (Runner Up) , <i>International Studies Association</i>	2024
Lucien Pye Dissertation Award , <i>MIT Political Science Department</i>	2023
Nils Peter Gleditsch Award (Runner Up) , <i>Journal of Peace Research</i>	2023
Best Poster Award (Faculty) , <i>PolMeth XL</i>	2023
Best Paper Award , <i>APSA Conflict Processes Section</i>	2023
Predoctoral Fellow , <i>George Washington Univ. Institute for Security and Conflict Studies</i>	2021-2022
Peace Scholar Fellow , <i>U.S Institute of Peace / Minerva Research Initiative</i>	2021-2022
Graduate Student Associate , <i>Harvard Univ. Lakshmi Mittal South Asia Institute</i>	2019-2022
Presidential Fellow , <i>Massachusetts Institute of Technology</i>	2016-2017
James C. Gaither Junior Fellow , <i>Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</i>	2015-2016
Undergraduate Fellow , <i>University of Chicago Program on Int’l Security Policy</i>	2014-2015
Phi Beta Kappa , <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2014
University Scholar , <i>The University of Chicago</i>	2011-2015

GRANTS

2025 - *DeWitt Endowment Research Grant* (\$20,000)
2024 - *FSU First Year Assistant Professor Grant* (\$20,000)
2022-3 - *J-PAL Crime & Violence Initiative Proposal Development Grant* (\$10,000)
2020 - *MIT Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant* (\$3,500)
2020 - *MIT Chris Cassimus Fund* (\$1,750)
2020 - *Gov/Lab + Busara Center “Behavioral Science in the Field” Course Fellowship* (in kind)
2019 - *MIT Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant* (\$3,500)
2018-9 - *MIT Political Methodology Lab Research Grants* (\$1,300)
2017 - *MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives, India* (\$3,500)

SELECTED CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS & INVITED TALKS

2026: Identity & Conflict Lab @ Yale (New Haven, CT); ESOC Annual Meeting (Scheduled)
2025: Florida State University Geography Speaker Series (Tallahassee, FL); Pennsylvania State University (State College, PA); American University (Washington, DC); ESOC Annual Meeting (Washington, DC); ESOC Research & Policy Conference (Taipei); Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Washington, DC); United States Military Academy Social Sciences Seminar (West Point, NY)
2024: Yale University (New Haven, CT); HKS Politics of Victimization Workshop (Cambridge, MA); ESOC Annual Meeting (Los Angeles, CA); Washington University (St. Louis, MO); Harvard-Brown-MIT South Asia Seminar (Cambridge, MA)
2023: PolMeth XL (Stanford, CA); UC Davis Statistics Department (Davis, CA); UPenn CASI Political Economy Workshop (Philadelphia, PA); WZB Institutions and Political Inequality Unit (Virtual)
2022: Northwestern University (Evanston, IL); University of Louisville Center for Asian Democracy (Louisville, KY); ESOC Annual Meeting (Berkeley, CA); Sandia National Laboratory (Albuquerque, NM); Cornell Reppy Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies (Ithaca, NY)
2021: ESOC Annual Meeting (Virtual); PolMeth XXXVIII (Virtual)
2020: Harvard-Yale-Tufts-MIT Political Violence Conference (Virtual); Busara Center for Behavioral Economics (Delhi, India); Busara Center for Behavioral Economics (Nairobi, Kenya)
2018: DARPA SI3-CMD Program Meeting (Durham, NC); Scientific Systems Corporation Inc. (Waltham, MA)
2017: Harvard Working Group on Political Psychology (Cambridge, MA)

TEACHING

At OSU:

At FSU:

<i>POS 5736: Research Design (G)</i>	2024, 2025
<i>INR 5934: Political Psychology of Conflict (G)</i>	2024
<i>INR 2002: Introduction to International Relations (UG)</i>	2023–6
<i>CPO 4057: Political Violence (UG)</i>	2023, 2025

At MIT:

<i>Political Methodology Lab Workshop: Intro to Text Analysis (G, co-Instructor)</i>	2021
<i>17.269: Race, Ethnicity and American Politics (UG, Grader)</i>	2019
<i>17.473: The Politics of WMD Proliferation (UG, Grader)</i>	2019
<i>17.800: Quantitative Research Methods I (G, TA)</i>	2018
<i>J-PAL Executive Education Course (TA)</i>	2017

SERVICE

Reviewer for *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Organization*, *International Security*, *Political Analysis*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Security Studies*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Civil Wars*, *International Studies Review*, *International Interactions* the National Science Foundation (panelist + reviewer), United States Institute of Peace[†], and Department of Defense Minerva Research Initiative[†]

John Sprague Award Committee, APSA Political Networks Section	2026
Department Executive Committee, Political Science Department, FSU	2025–2026
Undergraduate Studies Committee, Political Science Department, FSU	2023–2026
International Relations Search Committee, Political Science Department, FSU	2023–2024

Updated June 2026