

# MICHELLE JURKOVICH

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## ACADEMIC POSITIONS/AFFILIATIONS

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### University of Massachusetts Boston

Assistant Professor of Political Science September 2015-present  
Affiliated Faculty, McCormack Graduate School of Policy  
and Global Studies

### Johns Hopkins School of Advanced and International Studies (SAIS)

Visiting Scholar, Global Food Ethics and Policy Program January-May 2023 (expected)

### Harvard University

Visiting Fellow, Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics January-December 2020

### Brown University

Postdoctoral Fellow in International Studies  
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs July 2016-2017;  
July 2014-2015

## EDUCATION

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### The George Washington University

Ph.D. Political Science, 2014  
Major field: International Relations  
Minor field: Comparative Politics  
Ph.D. Dissertation: *Boomerang or Buckshot? Blame Diffusion in International Anti-hunger  
Advocacy*

### California State University, Los Angeles

M.A. Political Science, 2008  
MA Thesis: *Political Dimensions of Hunger:  
The Accountability of National Governments*

### California State University, Fresno

Smittcamp Family Honors College  
B.A. English; Minor: Spanish, 2005  
*Summa cum laude*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book

Jurkovich, M. (2020). *Feeding the Hungry: Advocacy and Blame in the Global Fight Against Hunger*. Cornell University Press.

- International Studies Association, Northeast Book Circle Honoree, 2016

- Subject of HDiplo/ISSF Roundtable (May 2021); Reviewed in the *Times Literary Supplement* (June 2021)
- World Food Policy Center’s Leading Voices in Food podcast discussion of the book (February 24, 2021): <https://wfpcc.sanford.duke.edu/podcasts/society-hunger-conundrum-who-blame-and-who-responsible-now>
- New Books Network podcast discussion of the book (February 7, 2022): <https://newbooksnetwork.com/feeding-the-hungry>

### *Refereed Journal Articles*

Bishara, D., Jurkovich, M. & Berman, C. (forthcoming) “Citizens' Understanding of the Social Contract: Lessons from Tunisia.” *World Development*.

Finnemore, M. & Jurkovich, M. (2020) “The Politics of Aspiration.” *International Studies Quarterly*, 64(4): 759–769. Advance Access (online) publication date August 2020.  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/isq/sqaa052>

- 2021 Best Post-PhD Paper Award, ISA International Theory Section

Jurkovich, M. (2020) “What Isn’t a Norm? Redefining the Conceptual Boundaries of “Norms” in the Human Rights Literature.” *International Studies Review*, 22(3): 693–711. Advance Access (online) publication date August 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1093/isr/viz040>

- 2018 Best Post-PhD Paper Award, ISA International Law Section
- 2020 & 2021 Designated “high-impact article” by *International Studies Review*

Finnemore, M. & Jurkovich, M. (2014) “Getting a Seat at the Table: The Origins of Universal Participation and Modern Multilateral Conferences,” *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 20(3): 361-373.

### *Additional publications and policy engagement:*

Mendoza, M.A., Guliford, M., Holmes, C., & Jurkovich, M. (2022). “Just telling it like it is: Descriptive work and social science research.” *International History and Politics Newsletter*, 8 (2): 5-7. Published online September 2022 (Fall edition).

Jurkovich, M. (2021) “Who’s responsible for feeding hungry people?” (January 5, 2021). *New Security Beat* (Wilson Center blog). <https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2021/01/whos-responsible-feeding-hungry-people/>

Jurkovich, M. (2019) “What is...and isn’t...a norm?” (September 17, 2019). *Duck of Minerva* blog post. <https://duckofminerva.com/2019/09/what-is-and-isnt-a-norm.html>.

Jurkovich, M. (2019) “Taking ‘Professionalization in the Discipline’ with Lee Ann Fujii.” *Qualitative and Multi-Method Research*, 16 (1). Published online Spring 2019.  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2562290>.

Jurkovich, M. (2016) “Venezuela has solved its hunger problem? Don’t believe the U.N.’s

numbers.” (September 21) *The Washington Post* (Monkey Cage).  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2016/09/21/venezuela-has-solved-its-hunger-problem-dont-believe-the-u-n-s-numbers>.

Jurkovich, M. (2015) “Food is a Human Right” (October 15) *Duck of Minerva* blog post in honor of World Food Day. <https://duckofminerva.com/2015/10/food-is-a-human-right.html>.

## **SELECTED WORKS-IN-PROGRESS**

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*Under contract/Under review*

Finnemore, M. & Jurkovich, M. *Aspiration in World Politics*. Book Manuscript.

- Under advance contract with *Cornell University Press*.

Berman, C., Bishara, D. & Jurkovich, M. “Retrospective Understandings of Grievance in Post-Revolutionary Societies: Evidence from Tunisia.”

- Invited to revise and resubmit.

Jurkovich, M. “Development Aid and Economic and Social Rights” (chapter for the *Oxford Handbook on Economic and Social Rights* edited by K. Young and M. Langford).

- Under contract

*In progress*

Jurkovich, M. *Good Enough for Them? Ethics and Politics in the Construction of the Food Ration* (book project, data collection stage)

## **SELECTED AWARDS, HONORS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

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### **Special Project Fund**

Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs

Spring 2022

*Co-PI (with Carolyn Holmes, Mary Ann Mendoza, and Meg Guliford). Grant awarded to host a second round multi-day research workshop at UMass Boston in Fall 2022 entitled “Telling It Like It Is: Descriptive Work and Political Science (Part 2)” (\$25,000)*

### **Pedagogical Innovation Award**

University of Massachusetts, Boston

Spring 2022

*Awarded by the College of Liberal Arts for my Politics of Food Security undergraduate course. (\$1000)*

### **Dean’s Research Funding**

University of Massachusetts, Boston

2018-2024

*Awarded research funding from the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Research Fund. Repurposed and awarded again after pandemic disruption (approx. \$7000)*

### **Best Conference Post-PhD Paper Award**

International Theory Section, International Studies Association

Fall 2021

*Award “seeks to honor excellent work in theorizing international politics across the plurality of theoretical approaches.” Awarded for paper “The Politics of Aspiration” co-authored with Martha Finnemore.*

### **Centennial Center Research Grant**

Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs Fall 2021  
*Co-PI (with Carolyn Holmes, Mary Ann Mendoza, and Meg Guliford). Grant awarded to host a multi-day research workshop at UMass Boston in Spring 2022 entitled “Telling It Like It Is: Descriptive Work and Political Science.” Funding provided through the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Fund. (\$10,000)*

### **Kluge Fellowship**

Library of Congress 2020-2021  
*Fellowship to work on project examining variation in food ration composition and distribution. Fellowship date postponed to April-August 2021 due to COVID-19. (\$25,000)*

### **Centennial Center Research Grant**

Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs Fall 2020  
*Grant awarded for project “State Food Assistance Policies during COVID-19.” Funding provided from the William A. Steiger Fund for Legislative Studies to support two UMB student research assistants. (\$2500)*

### **Policy Engagement Fellowship**

Bridging The Gap Initiative 2019-2020  
*Fellowship provided to fund research projects in the 2019-2020 year to facilitate bridging the gap between academia and policy and practitioner communities (\$4000)*

### **TMC Workshop Participation Grant**

Washington Post/The Monkey Cage Summer 2018  
*Awarded funding to participate in a pre-APSA workshop to increase public engagement with research on the topics of hunger, health, and poverty. (\$1500)*

### **Best Post-PhD Paper Award**

International Law Section, International Studies Association Spring 2018  
*Award “recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of international law” for a paper presented in 2017. Awarded for paper “What isn’t a norm? Redefining the conceptual boundaries of ‘norms’ in the human rights literature.”*

### **Science & Technology Policy Fellowship**

American Association For The Advancement Of Science Fall 2017-Summer 2018  
*Awarded a one year fellowship from AAAS with a placement in the Office of Food for Peace, Policy and Technical Division at USAID. This national fellowship program selects scientists with expertise of use to the US Government and embeds them in Executive Branch agencies for one year to share their expertise as well as learn from the policy community. Fellowship included professional development funds. (approx. \$97,000)*

### **Watson Collaborative Grant**

Brown University Fall 2016 (awarded)  
*Co-PI with Dina Bishara. Grant awarded to support running a nationally representative survey in Tunisia for the project “Economic and Social Rights and the Arab Spring: Precursors to Popular Mobilization in Tunisia.” (\$10,000)*

**Venture Research Grant**

International Studies Association

Fall 2016 (awarded)

*Co-PI with Melissa Lee. Grant awarded as a part of the ISA's Venture Grant program to "provide support to innovative and pioneering research." Grant will fund a workshop which will bring together scholars from around the world focusing on cutting edge research on economic and social rights norms and sovereignty norms. Workshop held in March 2017 at Brown University. (\$15,330)*

**Workshop Grant**United Nations Academic Impact Office  
& the International Studies Association

Summer 2016 (awarded)

*Co-organized (with Anjali Dayal, Kerry Crawford, and David Andersen-Rodgers) a human security workshop selected for the "ISA at UNAI" program. With the help of UNAI/ISA staff, workshop brought together academics and UN practitioners to discuss contemporary human security challenges (including food security, peacekeeping, and sexual violence), problem definitions, and proposed solutions. Workshop took place at the UN Headquarters in New York City in July 2017. Small grant defrayed co-organizer travel expenses.*

**Northeast Circle Honoree**

International Studies Association, Northeast

Fall 2016

*One honoree is selected by the International Studies Association, Northeast each year from an individual who is working on a first book project in international studies. ISA NE hosts a book manuscript workshop at the annual conference for the honoree.*

**Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Brown University

Summer 2014-2015;

Summer 2016-2017

*Two-year fellowship awarded at The Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs at Brown University. (approx. \$114,000)*

**Summer Dissertation Fellowship**

The George Washington University

Summer 2013

**Loughran Foundation Endowment**

Dissertation Research Grant (GW)

Summer 2012

**Hoffman Conference Travel Grant**

Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies (GW)

Spring 2012

**ISA Travel Grant**

International Studies Association

Spring 2012

**Pre-Dissertation Grant**

American Consortium On EU Studies

Summer 2011

**Millar Student Summer Travel**

Institute For European, Russian, And Eurasian Studies (GW)

Summer 2011

**Department Fellowship**

The George Washington University

2008-2014

**AAUW Scholarship Recipient**

Spring 2006

American Association Of University Women, Fresno Branch

**President's Scholar**

Fall 2001-Spring 2005

Smittcamp Family Honors College at California State University, Fresno

*Four year, full scholarship (tuition, housing, book allowance)*

**SELECTED INVITED TALKS, WORKSHOPS & LECTURES**

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Descriptive Research Workshop: Just Telling it Like it Is <i>Co-organizer with Carolyn Holmes, Meg Guliford and Mary Anne Mendoza.</i>	October 2022; April 2022
International Policy Summer Institute, American University <i>Invited panelist for Bridging the Gap program</i>	June 2022
Illinois Institute of Technology <i>Invited book presentation for the "Great Problems, Great Minds" series</i>	April 2022
University of Cambridge Center for Development Studies <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	February 2022
Johns Hopkins University Berman Institute for Bioethics <i>Invited presentation on ethics and food policy</i>	February 2022
University of Georgia <i>Invited presentation for IR speaker series</i>	February 2022
Northwestern University <i>Book discussion for the IR Speaker Series</i>	November 2021
University of Maryland, College Park <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	October 2021
Rutgers University, Newark <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	October 2021
California State University, Sacramento <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	April 2021
Boston University <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	April 2021
Temple University <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	March 2021
Project on Middle East Political Science <i>Invited paper presentation for POMEPS workshop</i> <i>Presented with co-authors Dina Bishara and Chantal Berman</i>	March 2021
Harvard University <i>Invited presentation (with Martha Finnemore) at the</i> <i>Center for Ethics Faculty Seminar</i>	November 2020
University of Massachusetts Amherst <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	November 2020
University of Massachusetts Boston <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	November 2020
Occidental College <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	November 2020
California State University, Fresno <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	October 2020
University of Cincinnati <i>Virtual book discussion</i>	September 2020

Responsible Public Engagement Institute, University of Denver <i>Invited workshop participant</i>	September 2020 (postponed due to COVID)
International Policy Summer Institute, American University <i>Invited panelist for Bridging the Gap program on policy engagement</i>	June 2020
Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, Boston College <i>Invited participant for the workshop "Theories of Economic and Social Rights"</i>	September 2019
International Policy Summer Institute, American University <i>Invited panelist for "Peacebuilding and Development: Engaging with NGOs, Governments, and IOs"</i>	June 2019
Tufts University <i>Invited presentation to Tufts student organization Pi Sigma Alpha</i>	April 2019
United States Agency for International Development (USAID) <i>Co-organizer for a joint academic-practitioner workshop on new monitoring methods for sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) in humanitarian operations. Workshop funded by USAID.</i>	November 2018
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced and International Studies (SAIS) <i>Invited speaker for a SAIS graduate student conference on the Future of Conflict to discuss the ethics of food assistance in emergency and refugee camp settings</i>	November 2018
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced and International Studies (SAIS) <i>Paper presentation (with Martha Finnemore) for the Politics and Political Economy speaker series</i>	October 2018
United States Agency for International Development (USAID) <i>Presentation (with Jennifer Baca) to the Office of Food for Peace on food security research findings from focus groups and interviews with food aid recipients in three refugee camps</i>	August 2018
Northwestern University/American Bar Foundation <i>Invited participant for the IO/IL workshop "Global order: Same as it ever was?"</i>	June 2017
The University of Alabama <i>Paper presentation for the Department of Political Science</i>	November 2016
The Ohio State University <i>Paper presentation for the Department of Political Science Research in International Politics series.</i>	October 2016
Harvard University <i>Presentation for the Weatherhead Center of International Affairs Workshop on the Sustainability of the World's Food and Farming Systems</i>	March 2016
University of California Riverside <i>Paper presentation in the Political Science department</i>	February 2016
Occidental College <i>Paper presentation sponsored by the U.N. Fund and the Department of Politics</i>	February 2016
Social Justice and Human Rights Symposium Amnesty International <i>Invited participant for a one-day workshop on economic and social rights advocacy held at the Amnesty International Secretariat office in London, UK.</i>	August 2015

Transnational Advocacy Networks:  
 Reflecting on 15 years of Evolving Theory and Practice May 2015  
*Invited participant to two-day workshop on transnational advocacy, hosted by Peter Evans and Cesar Rodriguez-Garavito and held at Brown University*

University of Southern California April 2015  
*One of four junior international relations scholars invited to participate in the USC Junior Scholars Research Symposium sponsored by the Center for International Studies*

Reed College February 2015  
*Public lecture co-sponsored by the Department of Sociology and the Department of Political Science*

Amnesty International (Brown Chapter) Film Series November 2014  
*Invited guest speaker*

Brown University October 2014  
*Invited presentation at the Watson Institute's Works-in-Progress Seminar*

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

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### **Bridging The Gap**

International Summer Policy Institute June 2015  
*Invited participant for a week long training to help scholars bridge the gap between the policy and academic worlds with their research. Hosted by American University.*

### **Institute For Qualitative And Multi-Method Research**

June 2011  
*Participant in a two-week training sequence on qualitative methods hosted by the Consortium For Qualitative And Multi-Method Research at Syracuse University.*

### **Summer Institute On Conducting Archival Research**

May 2011  
*Invited participant for a training sequence in conducting archival research. Hosted by the George Washington University.*

## **POLICY EXPERIENCE**

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### **AAAS Science And Technology Fellow**

Sept. 2017-Aug. 2018  
 Office Of Food For Peace  
 United States Agency For International Development (USAID)

### **Food Security, Technical Team Visit**

June 2018  
 Malawi  
 United States Agency For International Development (USAID)  
*Met with government officials, INGOs, and conducted focus groups and individual interviews with women and youth for USAID's Office Of Food For Peace.*

### **Emergency Programming, Technical Team Visit**

April 2018  
 Djibouti  
 United States Agency for International Development (USAID)



*Conducted focus groups and individual interviews with women and youth in three refugee camps to inform gender and youth considerations in emergency food security programming at USAID's Office of Food for Peace.*

**Development Programing, Technical Team Visit**

November 2017

Zimbabwe

*United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*

*Assisted the gender and youth technical team for USAID's Office of Food for Peace in conducting interviews and focus groups with development program participants in various regions of Zimbabwe.*

**Refine And Implement Workshop**

October 2017

Democratic Republic Of Congo

*United States Agency For International Development (USAID)*

*Assisted the gender and youth technical team for USAID's Office Of Food For Peace in a workshop refining multi-year assistance projects in DRC.*

**Selected Participant, Young Leaders Conference**

November 2010

*U.S. Department Of State and the Institute For International Education*

*Fully funded participant—one of 48 American "future leaders" selected to attend a week-long conference with 150 central and eastern European future leaders in Prague, Czech Republic*

**White House Intern**

Sept. 2005-Dec. 2005

*Executive Office of the President of the United States of America*

*Intern working in the Office of Presidential Scheduling in the White House.*

**Scholar Intern**

*Kenneth L. Maddy Institute for Public Affairs*

Spring-Summer 2005

*Intern for Congressman George Radanovich in his Fresno, CA and Washington, DC offices.*

**SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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International Studies Association, Annual Meeting	2022; 2021; 2019; 2018; 2017; 2016; 2015; 2014; 2013; 2012; 2011
American Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	2021; 2019; 2017; 2011; 2010
International Meeting on Law and Society (Mexico City)	2017
International Studies Association, Northeast	2022; 2021; 2020; 2019; 2018; 2016; 2015; 2014; 2013
American Sociological Association, Sociology of Development Section Annual Conference	2015
Joint ISSS-ISAC Conference: Bridging the Academic/Policy Divide	2013
Annual Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching	2013
Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting	2016, 2013

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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*Courses Taught*

**University of Massachusetts Boston**

Human Security (graduate)

The Politics of Food Security (undergraduate)  
International Relations: Theories & Concepts (graduate)  
Theories of International Relations (undergraduate)  
Introduction to International Relations (undergraduate)

**Brown University**

The Politics of Food Security (undergraduate)

**The George Washington University**

Human Rights (undergraduate)

**California State University, Los Angeles**

American Government & Society (undergraduate)

*Teaching Award*

**Honorable Mention,**

**Philip Amsterdam Graduate Teaching Assistant Award For Outstanding Teaching**

The George Washington University

Spring 2010

*Additional Experience*

**Future Faculty Program**

Sept-December 2013

*The George Washington University*

*Selected participant in a weekly workshop series designed to prepare future professors to engage in active learning techniques, effective student assessment, and course design.*

**Writing In The Discipline:**

**Workshop Series On The Teaching Of Writing**

Sept 2012-May 2013

*The George Washington University*

*Selected participant in a six seminar workshop series designed to prepare future professors to teach writing to undergraduate students in the discipline*

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**

Fall 2008-Spring 2013

Introduction to International Relations &

Introduction to Comparative Politics

*The George Washington University and the Women's Leadership Program*

**English Tutor**

Oct. 2006-April 2008

*Los Angeles Unified School District*

*Weekly tutor in South Central, Los Angeles*

**SERVICE**

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**Community**

Participant, Boston Food Access Council (formerly the  
City of Boston Food Access Council)

Fall 2019-present

**University of Massachusetts Boston**

Model United Nations Faculty Advisor

Fall 2022

College of Liberal Arts	
Ad Hoc Senate Committee on Sabbaticals and CLRs	Spring 2022-present
College of Liberal Arts Faculty Senator	Fall 2019-present
Department Grants Committee, Chair	Fall 2020-present
Undergraduate Student Major Advisor	Fall 2015-present
Undergraduate, Masters, & Doctoral Thesis/Dissertation Committees	Fall 2015-present
Undergraduate Program Director, International Relations Major	Fall 2021
College of Liberal Arts Standards and Credits Committee	Fall 2020-Spring 2021
Faculty Board for the MA in International Relations	Spring 2016-2021
Department Personnel Committee	Fall 2018-Spring 2020
Alamgir Lecture and Award Committee	Fall 2018-Spring 2019
Department Curriculum Committee	Fall 2015-Spring 2016
Political Science Forum Committee	Fall 2015-Spring 2016

**International Studies Association, International Law Section**

Best Paper Award Committee Chair	Fall 2018-Spring 2019
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**American Association for the Advancement of Science**

Application Reviewer, AAAS Science and Technology Fellowship	Fall 2020
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**Brown University**

Undergraduate Thesis Committees	2014-2017
BIARI Alumni Grant Committee	Fall 2016

**The George Washington University**

Co-Chair of the Graduate Student Caucus (Political Science Dept.)	Winter 2010-Spring 2012
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**Reviewer**

*International Studies Review; International Studies Quarterly; International Organization; International Theory; International Affairs; Global Policy; Global Studies Quarterly; Journal of International Relations and Development; Journal of Asian and African Studies; Review of International Political Economy; Cambridge Review of International Affairs; Review of International Studies; University of Georgia Press; National Endowment for the Humanities; Carnegie Corporation*

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