PAUL POAST

October 15, 2026

Department Address
Department of Political Science
University of Chicago
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Contact Information
Email: paulpoast@uchicago.edu
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EDUCATION

University of Michigan
Ph.D. Political Science, 2011

London School of Economics and Political Science
M.Sc. Politics of the World Economy, 2001

Miami University
B.A. Economics, Political Science, English Literature (minor), 2000

EMPLOYMENT

University of Chicago
Associate Professor (w/ tenure), Department of Political Science, 2019 - present
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2015 - 2019

Rutgers University - New Brunswick
Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2011 - 2015

University of Michigan
Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Political Science, 2007 - 2010

The Ohio State University
Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, 2003 - 2006
Lecturer, Department of Economics, 2001 - 2003

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Deputy Dean for Doctoral Education, Social Science Division, University of Chicago, 2024-present

Director, Summer Institute for Social Research Methods, University of Chicago, 2019-present

Chair, Board of the University of Chicago Library, University of Chicago, 2023-present

Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Political Science, University of Chicago, 2019-2024

AFFILIATIONS

Senior Nonresident Fellow, Chicago Council on Global Affairs, 2025 - present.

Nonresident Fellow, Chicago Council on Global Affairs, 2019 - 2025.

Core Faculty, Committee on International Relations, University of Chicago, 2017 - present.

NOTABLE HONORS

Lepgold Prize, Best Book on International Relations for 2019 (co-winner with Marina Henke)

Bruce Russett Award, (w/ David Carter) Best Paper in *Journal of Conflict Resolution* for 2017

Walter Isard Award, Peace Science Society (International), Best Dissertation for 2010-2011

BOOKS

Poast, Paul. ***Man, Russia, and War: Russia's Outsized Role in Our Understanding of Global Conflict***. Columbia University Press. Under Contract.

Rosella Capella Zielinski and Paul Poast. 2025. ***Wheat at War: Allied Economic Cooperation in the Great War***. Oxford University Press.

Honorable Mention, 2026 Chadwick Alger Prize, International Studies Association

Featured in a *H-Diplo* roundtable.

Poast, Paul. 2019. ***Arguing About Alliances: The Art of Agreement in Military-Pact Negotiations***. Cornell University Press.

Winner of 2020 Lepgold Prize for best book on International Relations in 2019

Reviewed in *Defense Studies* and *International Studies Review*

Featured in a *Perspectives on Politics* Critical Dialogue.

Featured in a *H-Diplo* roundtable.

Poast, Paul and Johannes Urpelainen. 2018. ***Organizing Democracy: How International Organizations Assist New Democracies***. University of Chicago Press.

In the Chicago Series on International and Domestic Institutions.

Reviewed in *Review of International Organizations*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Democratization*, and *International Studies Review*.

Featured in a *Perspectives on Politics* Critical Dialogue.

Poast, Paul. 2006. ***The Economics of War***. McGraw Hill-Irwin.

Translated into Japanese (Spring 2008), French (Spring 2008), and Chinese (Summer 2009)

PUBLISHED RESEARCH PAPERS

Refereed Journal Articles:

Carson, Austin, Rachel Metz, and Paul Poast. "Allies and access: Implications of an American turn away from alliances." ***International Organization***. Supplemental Issue on "The Future of Global Governance and World Order". December 2025: S103 - S116.

Becker, Jordan; Tim Haesebrouck, and Paul Poast. "Setting Targets: Abatement Cost, Vulnerability, and the Agreement of NATO's Wales Pledge on Defense Investment." ***Journal of Peace Research***. July 2025: 863–881.

Becker, Jordan; Sarah Kreps, Paul Poast, and Rochelle Terman. "Transatlantic Shakedown: Presidential Shaming and NATO Burden Sharing." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. February-March 2024: 195-229.

Reiter, Dan and Paul Poast. "The Truth About Tripwires: Why Small Force Deployments Do Not Deter Aggression." ***Texas National Security Review***. Summer 2021: 33-54.

Shea, Patrick and Paul Poast. "Leaders and Default." ***International Studies Quarterly***. June 2020: 406–418.

Carter, David and Paul Poast. "Barriers to Trade: How Border Walls Affect Trade Relations." ***International Organization***. Winter 2020: 165-185.

Bennett, Scott; Paul Poast, and Allan Stam. "NewGene: An Introduction to Users." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. July 2019: 1579-1592.

DiGiuseppe, Matthew and Paul Poast. "Arms versus Democratic Allies." ***British Journal of Political Science***. October 2018: 953-1003.

Shea, Patrick and Paul Poast. "War and Default." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. October 2018: 1876-1904.

Horowitz, Michael, Paul Poast, and Allan Stam. "Domestic Signaling of Commitment Credibility: Military Recruitment and Alliance Formation." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. September 2017: 1682-1710.

Carter, David and Paul Poast. "Why Do States Build Walls?" ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. February 2017: 239-270.

Kaoutzanis, Chris; Poast, Paul, and Johannes Urpelainen. "Not Letting 'Bad Apples' Spoil the Bunch: Democratization and Strict International Organization Accession Rules." ***Review of International Organization***. December 2016. 11: 399-418

Fordham, Benjamin and Paul Poast. "All Alliances are Multilateral: Rethinking Alliance Formation." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. August 2016: 840-865.

Levy, Jack S.; Michael K. McKoy, Paul Poast, and Geoffrey P.R. Wallace. "Backing Out or Backing In? Commitment and Consistency in Audience Costs Theory." ***American Journal of Political Science***. October 2015: 988-1001.

Poast, Paul. "Lincoln's Gamble: European Recognition and the Onset of the American Civil War." ***Security Studies***. September 2015: 502-527.

Poast, Paul and Johannes Urpelainen. "How International Organizations Support Democratization." ***World Politics***. January 2015: 72-113.

Poast, Paul. "Central Banks at War." ***International Organization***. Winter 2015: 63-95.

Wiens, David; Paul Poast, and William Roberts Clark. "The Political Resource Curse: An Empirical Re-Evaluation" ***Political Research Quarterly***. December 2014: 783-794.

Poast, Paul and Johannes Urpelainen. "Fit and Feasible: Why Democratizing States Form, not Join, International Organizations." ***International Studies Quarterly***. December 2013: 831-841.

Clark, William Roberts; Sona N. Golder, and Paul Poast. "Monetary Institutions and the Survival of Democratic Leaders." ***International Studies Quarterly***. September 2013: 556-567.

Poast, Paul. "Can Issue Linkage Improve Treaty Credibility? Buffer State Alliances as a 'Hard Case'." ***Journal of Conflict Resolution***. October 2013: 739-764.

Mebane, Walter and Paul Poast. "Causal Inference without Ignorability: Identification with Nonrandom Assignment and Missing Treatment Data." ***Political Analysis***. Spring 2013: 233-251.

Poast, Paul. "Does Issue Linkage Work? Evidence from European Alliance Negotiations, 1860 to 1945." ***International Organization***. Spring 2012: 277-310.

Poast, Paul. "(Mis)Using Dyadic Data to Analyze Multilateral Events." ***Political Analysis***. Autumn 2010: 403-425.

Poast, Paul. "Winning the Bid: Analyzing the International Olympic Committee's Host City Selections." ***International Interactions***. January-March 2007: 75-95.

Poast, Paul. "The Wall and Maastricht: The Role of Exogenous Shocks on the Initiation of the EMU and EPU Intergovernmental Conferences." ***Journal of European Integration***. September 2004: 281-307.

Contributions to Special Issues, Symposia, and Edited Volumes:

Dancy, Hope and Paul Poast. "Alliance Treaties: Writing the Terms of Military Cooperation"in Philip Terrence Hopmann and Sinisa Vukovic (eds). ***Handbook on the Politics of International Agreements***. Elger Publishing. 2026: 36-48.

Poast, Paul. "Seeking NATO's Protection Against a Revanchist Russia." ***International Studies Perspectives*** [in Symposium: Russia's Invasion of Ukraine: Accounting for the Domestic alongside the International]. Forthcoming.

Poast, Paul. "Cooperation, Contestation, and Context: The Study of International Relations and the War in Ukraine". ***International Studies Review*** [in ISA Presidential Forum Real Struggles, High Stakes in Contemporary and Emerging Conflict]. September 2024.

Poast, Paul. "Prediction in International Relations is Hard, Sometimes: Commentary on Tetlock et al. (2023)." ***Futures & Foresight Science***. March 2024.

Poast, Paul. "The Economics of National Security" in Dan Reiter (ed) ***Understanding War and Peace***. Cambridge University Press. 2023: 175-203.

Gottemoeller, Rose; Kathryn Hedgecock, Justin Magula, and Paul Poast. "Engaging with Emerged and Emerging Domains: Cyber, Space, and Technology in the 2022 NATO Strategic Concept." ***Defense Studies*** [Special Issue on NATO's Strategic Concept]. Winter 2022: 516-524.

Driver, Darrell; Linde Desmaele, Seth Johnston, and Paul Poast. "Return to Realism? NATO and Global Competition." ***Defense Studies*** [Special Issue on NATO's Strategic Concept] Winter 2022: 497-501.:.

Gonzalez, Elsy and Paul Poast. "What kind of data are appropriate for my question? Choosing a Unit of Analysis." in Joseph Huddleston and Patrick James (eds) ***Handbook of Research Methods in International Relations***. Edward Elgar: 257-270.

Cappella Zielinski, Rosella and Paul Poast. "Supplying Allies: Political Economy of Coalition Warfare." in Rosella Cappella Zielinski and Norrin Ripsman. Special Issue on Political Economy of Global Security. ***Journal of Global Security Studies***. March 2021.

Cappella Zielinski, Rosella and Paul Poast. "War Finance and Sovereign Debt." in Sara McLaughlin Mitchell and John Vasquez (eds). ***What Do We Know About War?***, Third Edition. Rowman and Littlefield. 2021 pp. 260-271.

Norrlof, Carla and Paul Poast. "Introduction" in Carla Norrlof, Paul Poast, Benjamin J. Cohen, Sabreena Croteau, Aaasha Khanna, Daniel McDowell, Hongying Wang, and W. Kindred Winecoff. Symposium: Global Monetary Order and the Liberal Order Debate. ***International Studies Perspectives***. May 2020: 109-153.

Croteau, Sabreena and Paul Poast."Dollars for Oil" in Carla Norrlof, Paul Poast, Benjamin J. Cohen, Sabreena Croteau, Aaasha Khanna, Daniel McDowell, Hongying Wang, and W. Kindred Winecoff. Symposium: Global Monetary Order and the Liberal Order Debate. ***International Studies Perspectives***. May 2020: 109-153.

Chinchilla, Alexandra and Paul Poast. "Good for Democracy? Evidence from the 2004 Expansion of NATO." in Joshua Itzkowitz Shifrinson and James Goldgeier. Special Issue on Legacy of NATO Expansion. ***International Politics***. June 2020: 471-490. Republished in James Goldgeier and Joshua R. Itzkowitz Shifrinson (eds). ***Evaluating NATO Enlargement***. Palgrave. 2023: 341-371

Lupu, Yonatan and Paul Poast. "Team of Former Rivals: A Multilateral Theory of Nonaggression Pacts." ***Journal of Peace Research***. May 2016: 344-358. In Special Issue on "Network Analysis in International Relations."

Editor-Reviewed Articles:

Poast, Paul. "No Free Lunch: Evaluating the Value of U.S. Alliances." ***Security Studies***. June-July 2022: 510-532.

Robert Kelly and Paul Poast. "The Allies are Alright." ***Foreign Affairs***. March/April 2022: 131-143.

Tanisha Fazal and Paul Poast. "War is Not Over." ***Foreign Affairs***. Nov/Dec 2019: 74-83.

Poast, Paul. "Beyond the Sinews of War: The Political Economy of Security as a Subfield." ***Annual Review of Political Science***. Vol. 22. 2019: 223–239.

Gartzke, Erik and Paul Poast. "Empirically Assessing the Bargaining Theory of War: Potential and Challenges." in William Thompson (ed). ***Encyclopedia of Empirical International Relations Theory***. (New York, NY: Oxford University Press). Vol I. 2018: 755-768.

Chinchilla, Alexandra C., and Paul Poast. "Defense Institution Building from Above? Lessons from the Baltic Experience." ***Connections*** 17, no. 3. 2018: 61-71.

Poast, Paul. "Dyads are Dead, Long Live Dyads! The Limits (but not Rejection) of Dyadic Designs in International Relations Research." ***International Studies Quarterly***. June 2016: 369-374

Poast, Paul. "Issue Linkage and International Cooperation: An Empirical Investigation." ***Conflict Management and Peace Science***. July 2013: 286-303.

MAJOR GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS RECEIVED

Chicago Project on Security and Threats, *Forward Deployed Troops and US National Security Policy: Do Elites and Public think about Tripwires in the same way?* (Co-PI w/ Dan Reiter and Alexandra Chinchilla). 2023 through 2025. $150,000

National Science Foundation Award, *Management of Complex Data Structures: Upgrades to EUGene data software* (Co-PI w/ Allan Stam and Scott Bennett). 2011 through 2014. $500,000

National Science Foundation IDEAS IGERT Fellowship, 2011. $20,000

ACADEMIC HONORS

Excellence in Op-Ed Writing, University of Chicago Academic Communicator Network Awards, 2026
Honorable Mention for Chadwick Alger Book Prize (w/ Rosella Cappella Zielinksi), International Studies Association, 2026
Excellence in Reviewing Award, British Journal of Political Science, 2026
Online Achievement in International Studies Award, International Studies Association Online Media Caucus, 2022
Lepgold Prize, Best Book in International Relations for 2019 (co-winner w/ Marina Henke)
Foreign Affairs Best of 2019, for article (w/ Tanisha Fazal) "War is Not Over", 2019
Bruce Russett Award, Best Paper Published in the Journal of Conflict Resolution for article (w/ David Carter) "Why Do States Build Walls?", 2018
Walter Isard Award, Best Doctoral Dissertation in the Field of Peace Science, 2012 given by the Peace Science Society (International)
New Faces of Political Methodology, 2010
Rackham Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, University of Michigan, 2010
Kingdon Award for Excellence as a Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan, 2009
Order of Omega Recognition for Dedication to Undergraduate Education, Ohio State University, 2006
Sigma Phi Epsilon Faculty Fellow, Ohio State University, 2005 - 2006
Magna Cum Laude, Miami University, 2000
Departmental Honors, Department of Economics, Miami University, 2000
Paul M. Veil Award, Department of Economics, Miami University, 2000
Phi Beta Kappa, Miami University, 1999
Mid-American Conference Commissioner's Award, 1998 and 1999

GRADUATE (PhD) DISSERTATION ADVISING (Year of Defense)

Patrick Shea, Rutgers University, Committe Member (2012)
Suzanne Levi-Sanchez, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2013)
Terence Teo, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2014)
Raymond Kuo, Princeton University, Committee Member (2014)
Kira Jumet, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2015)
Caitlin Schruderi, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2015)
Teflah Alajmi, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2015)
Amanda Marziliano, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2015)
Karen Rhone, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2016)
Hector Bahamonde, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2017)
Farah Jan, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2017)
Tatsiana Kulakevich, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2018)
Asfandyar Mir, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2018)
David Hunter Walsh, Rutgers University, Committee Member (2018)
Do Young Lee, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2019)
Maryia Grinberg, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2019)
Andrea Bartoletti, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2020)
Gentry Jenkins, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2020)
Anjali Anand, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2020)
Genevieve Bates, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2020)
Alexandra Chinchilla, University of Chicago, Committee Chair (2021)
Joshua Byun, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2022)
Sean Morrow, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2023)
Justin Haner, Northeaster University, Committee Member (2023)
Ji Xue, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2023)
Elsy Gonzalez, University of Chicago, Committee Chair (2024)
Sabreena Croteau, University of Chicago, Committee Chair (2025)
Matthew Conklin, University of Chicago, Committee Member (2025)
Diana Wueger, University of Chicago, Committee Chair (2025)
Hope Dancy, University of Chicago, Committee Chair (2026)

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Chicago (Tenure Track Faculty)

Courses Currently Taught:
Introduction to International Relations (undergraduate: Each Fall since 2017)
Quantitative Security (graduate: Each Winter since 2017)
Social Science Inquiry – Statistical Inference (undergraduate: Each Winter since 2018)

Courses Taught in the Past:
The Problem of World Government (undergraduate: Spring 2016; Fall 2016)
Inference in Diplomatic History and International Relations (graduate: Fall 2018)
Political Economy of International Security (graduate: Spring 2016; Fall 2017)
Politics, Identity, and Revolution – Adam Smith and Karl Marx (undergraduate: Winter 2017)
Politics, Identity, and Revolution – Hobbes, Locke, and Rousseau (undergraduate: Winter 2016)

CEU San Pablo, Madrid (Visiting Faculty)

Political Risk Analysis (undergraduate: Summer 2017 Summer 2018)

Konstanz University (Visiting Faculty)

Political Economy of International Security (graduate: Summer 2015)

Rutgers University (Tenure Track Faculty)

International Politics of the American Civil War (undergraduate: Spring 2014)
Formal Models in International Relations (graduate: Fall 2012)
Introduction to International Relations (undergraduate: 2012-2014)
International Political Economy (graduate: Fall 2011, Fall 2013)
International Security in the Global Economy (undergraduate: 2011-2012)

University of Michigan (Graduate Student with Full Teaching Responsibilities)

Introduction to Mathematics and Logic (a.k.a Math Camp) (graduate: 2009, 2010)
International Security in the Global Economy (undergraduate: 2009)

University of Michigan (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

Graduate Intermediate Game Theory (w/ Arthur "Skip" Lupia) (graduate: 2009-2010)
Graduate Introductory Game Theory (w/ William Roberts Clark) (graduate: 2008-2010)
Modeling Political Processes (w/ William Roberts Clark) (undergraduate: 2007-2008)
Introduction to World Politics (w/ James D. Morrow) (undergraduate: 2008)

The Ohio State University (Non-Tenure Track Faculty)

Economics of War (undergraduate: 2003-2006)
Global Macroeconomics (MBA: 2005-2006)
Japanese Firms and Markets (undergraduate: 2005-2006)
Financial Aspects of International Trade (undergraduate: 2004-2006)
International Commodity Flows: Theory and Policy (undergraduate: 2005-2006)
Cooperation and Conflict in the Global Economy (undergraduate: 2003-2006)
Money and Banking (undergraduate: 2003)
Current US Economic Issues (undergraduate: 2001-2005)
Principles of Macroeconomics (undergraduate: 2001-2003)

SERVICE

Midwest Political Science Association

Council Member, 2026-

Peace Science Society (International)

Correlates of War Project, War Data Host, 2026-present
Correlates of War Project, Advisory Board Member, 2024-present

International Studies Association

International Studies Quarterly, Editorial Board Member, 2019-present

American Political Science Association

APSA Educate Advisory Board, Member, 2023-present
International Collaboration Section, Best Article Award Committee, 2024
Conflict Processes Section, Governing Council Member, 2016-18
Conflict Processes Section, Co-Program Chair (w/ Krista Wiegand), 2016
Helen Dwight Reid Dissertation Award Selection Committee Member, 2016

Chicago (ongoing and not associated with administrative appointments)

Chair, University of Chicago Committee on the Future of Doctoral Education, 2026
Course Organizer, Pathways in World Politics, 2019-present

Chicago (completed and not associated with administrative appointments)

Chair, Board of the University of Chicago Library, 2023-2026
Member, Board of the University of Chicago Library, 2022-2026
Member, Council of the College, 2023-2026
Placement Director, University of Chicago Department of Political Science, 2025-2026
Member, Working Group of Information Literacy (with College and Library), 2025-present
Co-Chair (w/ Anton Ford), Cross-Divisional Workshop Reform Committee, 2024-2025
Member, Center for International Social Science Research Advisory Board, 2016-2024
Chair, Alumni Database Faculty Advisory Committee, 2023-2024
Member, Chicago Project on Security and Threats Relaunch Committee, 2022-2023
Member, SSCD Ad hoc Committee on Course and Core Innovation, 2020
Organizer, "Crisis or Crossroads?: Replication and Transparency in Social Science."
Full day conference with internal and external speakers.
CISSR, Social Science Division, IOP, and CPOST, January 2018
Organizer, "A Safer or a More Dangerous World?: Nuclear weapons in today's global community."
Roundtable as part of events commemorating the 75th anniversary of the first nuclear reaction. Social Science Division, IOP, and CPOST, January 2018
Organizer/Host, "Talking Trump: Conversation, Context, Controversy" Social Sciene Division Roundtable, January 2017
Political Science Association, State of the Discipline Panel Participant, Autumn 2016, Autumn 2017
Rhodes Scholarship Practice Interview Committee Member, Autumn 2016
Center for International Social Science Research, Advisory Board Member, 2016-18
Political Science Placement Committee, 2016-17
Political Science PhD Admissions Committee, 2017-18
Social Science Computing Services Strategic Review faculty committee, 2018
Midwest Faculty Seminar, Presenter and Discussion Leader, 2016

Rutgers

Math Camp and Computing Committee, Member 2012-2013
Ronald McNair Scholars Program, Advisor 2013
Aresty Undergraduate Reseach Program, Advisor 2013
German Embassy "Think Trans-Atlantic" Undergraduate Debate Competition, Judge 2012
Rutgers Model UN Key Note Speaker, 2012, 2013

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request