

Erin A. Snider

Contact Information

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Academic Appointments

Assistant Professor of International Affairs
The George H.W. Bush School of Government and Public Service
Texas A&M University (From August 2013)
College Station, Texas

Carnegie Fellow, New America Foundation
September 2016-August 2017

Postdoctoral Fellow in Regional Political Economy (Middle East)
Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance,
Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and
International Affairs, 2012-2013

Education

University of Cambridge, Trinity College
Department of Politics and International Studies, Ph.D. 2011
Dissertation: *Technocrats, Bureaucrats, and Democrats: The Political Economy of U.S. Assistance for Democracy in Egypt and Morocco since 1990*

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London
M.Sc in Middle East Politics. Awarded 1st class, Distinction, 2003.
Masters Dissertation: *Obstacles of Reform: An Examination of Economic Change and the Influence of Iran's Revolutionary Organizations.*

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, USA. 1999
B.A., *summa cum laude*, International Relations (Concentration: Middle East and Africa), and English
Minor in French
Phi Beta Kappa Award for Outstanding University Honors Thesis: *Considering the Kurdish Question: An Examination of Turkey's Dilemma.*

Research Interests

International Relations, Comparative Politics, Foreign Assistance and International Security, Democratization, Political Economy of Development, International Relations of the Middle East, U.S. Foreign Policy, Globalization and Democracy, Non-State Actors in International Relations

Fellowships,
Grants & Awards

Texas A&M University, Division of Research, PESCA Grant, 2016.
\$9,800.00

Faculty Research Grant, Middle East Initiative, Bush School, Texas
A&M University. 2015. \$10,000.00 Mapping Democracy Aid
Networks in the Middle East

Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs, Faculty Research
Grant, Bush School, Texas A&M University. 2015. Field work
support, Morocco. \$2,480.00

Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs, Faculty Research
Grant, Bush School, Texas A&M University. 2014. Field work
support, Tunisia. \$2,480.00

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Regional Political Economy, Princeton
University, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance,
Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, 2012-
2013

George Washington University, Project on Middle East Political
Science (POMEPS) Research Grant for fieldwork in Morocco.
Summer 2012

Transatlantic Postdoctoral Fellowship for International Relations
and Security, 2011-12. Placement at the U.S. Institute of Peace,
German Institute for International and Security Affairs, and
Chatham House (declined).

Gates Scholar, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, University of
Cambridge, 2005-2010

Fulbright Fellow, Fulbright Commission, Egypt. 2007-2008.

American University in Cairo, Affiliated Research Fellow
Department of Political Science. Spring 2007

Overseas Research Student Award, United Kingdom 2005-2009

International Development Fellow, Catholic Relief Services, 2005
Community Services Project, Serbia (declined)

Publications

“International Political Economy and the Middle East,”
Symposium on IR Theory and Middle East Studies, *PS Political
Science and Politics*, Forthcoming (July 2017)

“States, Markets, and Power: International Political Economy and
the New Middle East,” *International Relations Theory and the New
Middle East*, Project on Middle East Political Science, Symposium
Series, George Washington University, September 2015

[Book Review] Sheila Carapico. *Political Aid and Arab Activism*
Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. *Middle East Journal*
Spring 2015

“Supporting the Arab Spring: The Future of U.S. Democracy Promotion in Egypt” (with David M. Faris) *Middle East Policy*, Fall 2011, Volume XVIII, Number 3

Book Project

Marketing Democracy: The Political Economy of Democracy Aid in the Middle East

Working Papers

“US Democracy Aid and the Authoritarian State: Evidence from Egypt and Morocco” *Revise and Resubmit*

“The Ethics of International Democracy Assistance” *Under Review*

“Engineering Transition: The New Political Economy of Aid and Security in the Middle East”

“Ideational Capture: Social Networks and the Limits of Discourse in Middle East policy-making” with David Faris, Roosevelt University.

Presentations
and Invited Talks

“Ideational Capture: Social Networks and the Limits of Discourse in Middle East policy-making,” (with David Faris, Roosevelt University), Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, Boston, November 2016.

[Project on Middle East Political Science \(POMEPS\) Conversation Series: The Political Economy of Foreign Aid in the Middle East, April 2016](#)

“The Ethics of International Democracy Aid,” Invited Talk, Workshop on Ethics and Political Science, Department of Political Science, Texas A&M University, September 15, 2015

“The New Political Economy of Aid and Transition in the Middle East,” APSA, San Francisco, September 4, 2015

“Ordering Change: International Political Economy and the Arab Uprisings,” Invited paper by the Project for Middle East Political Science, George Washington University, and Aarhus University for workshop on “IR Theory and a new Middle East.” Aarhus, Denmark. May 8, 2015

“The Ethics of International Democracy Assistance,” ISA, February 2015, New Orleans. Panel on “New Perspectives and Research in Democracy Assistance.”

“The Ethics of International Democracy Assistance,” APSA, August 2014, Washington, D.C. Panel on the Political Economy of Regime Change

“Engineering Transition: The New Political Economy of Aid and Transition in the Middle East.” Paper presented at the annual

meeting of the International Studies Association, panel on foreign aid and international cooperation. March 24, 2014, Toronto.

"The Political Economy of Aid and Transition in the Middle East," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association, panel on 'The Political Economy of the Arab Spring: Pre and Post Uprising Analyses.' October 12, 2013, New Orleans.

"Marketing Democracy." Presentation, International Relations Faculty Colloquium, Department of Politics, Princeton University. May 13, 2013.

"A Critical Engagement with the Study of Middle Eastern Cities." Conference. Princeton University May 10, 2013. Discussant, Panel on "Governing the City."

"Aiding the Revolution or the Status Quo? Reconsidering Western Aid for Democracy after the Arab Spring," Paper presented at the Middle East Institute-National University of Singapore 2012 Conference, "Arab Uprisings, Examining the Possibilities and Risks," May 24-25 2012. Singapore.

"The Political Economy of Democracy Assistance in the Middle East" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, panel on U.S. Foreign Policy in the Middle East. San Diego, CA, November 2010

"The Political Economy of Democracy Assistance in the Middle East: U.S. Assistance for Democracy in Morocco and Egypt since 1990," paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA), panel on the political economy and legitimacy of democracy aid. Washington, D.C. September 2010

Panelist, The Role of External and Domestic Actors in Democracy Promotion, 13th DGAP-Friedrich Ebert Stiftung New Faces Conference, "Democratization and Security in the Middle East and North Africa" March 17-20, 2010, Istanbul, Turkey

"United States Assistance for Democracy in Egypt: A Critical Analysis of USAID Efforts in Egypt since 1990." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America, Washington, D.C. November 2008.

"Reinforcing the Status Quo? Evaluating the Political Economy of Economic Reform in the Middle East." Panelist, Roundtable discussion on the challenges to democratization in the Middle East and North Africa, American University in Cairo's Annual Research Conference, April 2008.

Fulbright Association, Middle East Fellows Research Conference, Tunis, Tunisia, April 2008. Invited to present a talk on democratization and economic reform in Egypt.

“USAID and Democracy Assistance in Egypt.” Paper presented at the Third Annual British Society for Middle Eastern Studies Graduate Conference, University of Oxford. July 2007.

“Democracy: Indigenous Movements or Imposed by the West?” Awarded graduate bursary to attend panel at the Keynes Forum on Britain and the Broader Middle East in London. November 2006.

“Reconstructing Afghanistan: Economy and Society.” Panelist at the Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center (MEMEAC) at the City University of New York. February 2002.

Courses Taught

The Political Economy of the Middle East
 The Politics and History of the Arab Uprisings
 The Politics and Practice of Democracy Promotion
 The Politics of Modern Egypt
 Issues in Modern Egyptian Politics [Graduate Study Abroad in Cairo, December 2015]

University Service

Lecture, “Political Transitions in the Middle East,” Mays Business School Honors Program. October 23, 2014

Committee Member, Texas A&M University Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee. April 2014

Keynote speaker, Presentation on U.S. Policy and Egyptian Politics, 59th Annual MSC Student Conference on National Affairs (SCONA) on the Middle East [*Caught in the Sandstorm: From Persia to the Sahara*], February 22, 2014

“Syria’s Refugee Crisis: Regional and International Implications,” Invited Panel Presentation. The MSC Wiley Lecture Series on “The Syrian Enigma: A Continuing Crisis.” November 14, 2013

“Egypt’s Revolution” Invited Lecture by the Department of International Studies, November 11, 2013

“Egypt in Transition: Opportunities and Challenges After Morsi,” Invited lecture by the Dialogue Institute of the Southwest. October 24, 2013.

Languages

Modern Standard and Egyptian Arabic (proficient)
 French (proficient)
 Persian (Basic)

Fieldwork Experience

Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Djibouti, Egypt, Morocco, Pakistan, and Tunisia.

Selected Media Interviews

“After 40 years, U.S. rights report wins respect, but doesn’t change policy,” McClatchy DC, April 14, 2016.

Guest Appearance from Cairo on “Connect the World with Becky Anderson,” CNN International. July 4, 2013

“Salafist party asserts role in Egypt as Brotherhood Teeters.” Bloomberg News. July 8, 2013.

“Bread riots or bankruptcy: Egypt faces stark economic choices.” Christian Science Monitor. April 3, 2013

“Foreign funding of Egyptian rights groups causes stir in political discourse.” Egypt Independent. Friday, July 22, 2011

Advanced Language Training

American University in Cairo, Arabic Language Institute
Fall 2007-Summer 2008: Certificate in Advanced Egyptian and Modern Standard Arabic

American University in Cairo, Arabic Language Institute
Summer 2006: Intermediate Egyptian and Modern Standard Arabic

American University in Beirut, Center for Arab and Middle East Studies. *Summer 2005: Intermediate Modern Standard and Lebanese Arabic*

American University in Cairo, Arabic Language Institute,
Summer 2004: Beginning Modern Standard and Egyptian Arabic

Arabic Language Institute in Fès, Morocco *Summer 2002*
Beginning courses in Modern Standard Arabic and Moroccan Darija

Other Professional Experience

United Nations Association of the USA (UNA-USA)

Program Manager, Adopt-A-Minefield Campaign, June 2000-2002

- Managed landmine removal programs in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Mozambique, and Vietnam.
- Conducted field evaluation missions in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Slovenia.
- Monitored and managed the Campaign’s grants with the U.S. Department of State and the United Nations Foundation.

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs

Fellow, Frasure, Drew, Kruzel Memorial Fellowship, Office of Humanitarian Demining Programs. June 1999-2000

- Accompanied a policy assessment team to Djibouti for the country’s evaluation of entry into the U.S. demining program.
- Compiled financial data for entry into the United Nations’ Mine Action Investment database.

Travel	Afghanistan, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Morocco, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.
Nationality	United States of America
Professional Memberships	American Political Science Association, Middle East Studies Association of North America, International Studies Association
Reviewer	<i>Political Science Quarterly, Economy and Society, Middle East Journal, Democratization, International Studies Quarterly, Cambridge University Press, University of Edinburgh Press</i>
References	Available on Request