

## Simon Frankel Pratt

School of Sociology, Politics, and International Studies      Email: simon.pratt@bristol.ac.uk  
University of Bristol,  
11 Priory Road, Bristol, United Kingdom. BS8 1TU

### EDUCATION:

2017. PhD, University of Toronto;

Dissertation: Normative Reconfiguration and Practitioner Innovation: Explaining the rise of targeted killing, coercive interrogation, and private military contracting.

Committee: Emanuel Adler (chair), Matthew Hoffmann, Robert Brym, Steven Bernstein (internal), Christian Bueger (external).

Key themes: US foreign policy, international security, norms, terrorism and counter-terrorism, social theory.

2011. MA, King's College London;

2010. BA, Simon Fraser University.

### POSITIONS HELD:

2019-present: Lecturer in Politics and International Studies, School of Sociology, Politics, and International Studies, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom.

2017-2019: Visiting Researcher (SSHRC postdoctoral fellow), Mortara Center for International Studies, Georgetown University, Washington DC

2015-2018. Course Instructor

Department of Political Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario

2015-2016. Scholar in Residence

School of International Service, American University, Washington DC

### REFEREED PUBLICATIONS:

#### Books

Under contract. *Normative transformation and the War on Terror: the evolution of targeted killing, torture, and private military contracting*. Cambridge University Press.

#### Journal articles

2021. 'Pragmatism in IR: The Prospects for Substantive Theorizing', *International Studies Review*, advance access, pp. 1-26. Includes 'To Be a Pragmatist in Explaining International Politics', pp. 2-5. (Forum Editor with Sebastian Schmidt)

2020. 'Reification, practice, and the ontological status of social facts'. *International Theory*, 12(2), 231-237.

2020. 'From Norms to Normative Configurations: A pragmatist and relational approach to theorising normativity in IR'. *International Theory*, 12(1), 59-82.

2019. 'Norm transformation and the institutionalisation of targeted killing in the United States.' *European Journal of International Relation* 25(3): 723-747.

2018. 'Kenneth Waltz is Not a Neorealist (and why that matters).' *European Journal of International Relations* 24(1): 153-176. (with Christopher David LaRoche).

2017. 'A Relational View of Ontological Security in International Relations'. *International Studies Quarterly* 61(1): 78-85.

2016. 'Pragmatism as Ontology, Not (Just) as Epistemology: Exploring the full horizon of pragmatism as an approach to IR theory. *International Studies Review* 18(3): 508-527.
2015. 'Crossing Off Names: the Logic of Military Assassination.' *Small Wars and Insurgencies*, 26(1).
2013. 'Anyone Who Hurts Us': How the Logic of Israel's "Assassination Policy" Developed during the Aqsa Intifada. *Terrorism and Political Violence*, 25(2).

### Book Chapters

- Forthcoming. 'Epistemology: Logic, Causality and Explanation', In eds. R. Joseph Huddleston, Tom Jamieson, and Patrick James, *Handbook of Research Methods in International Relations*. Edward Elgar.
- Forthcoming. 'The Phenomenology of Cognitive Evolution', In eds. Piki Ish-Shalom, Markus Kornprobst, and Vincent Pouliot, *Theorizing World Orders: Cognitive Evolution and Beyond*. Cambridge University Press.

### Conference Proceedings:

2013. "Detecting unfolding crises with Visual Analytics and Conceptual Maps: Emerging phenomena and big data." *Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI), 2013 IEEE International Conference*. [First author. With PJ Giabbanelli and JS Mercier]
2012. "Rebel with Many Causes: A Computational Model of Insurgency". *Intelligence and Security Informatics (ISI), 2012 IEEE International Conference*. [First author. With PJ Giabbanelli, P Jackson, and VK Mago]

### NON-REFEREED:

2021. "U.S. Republicans Are Dangerously Close to Paramilitary Groups". *Foreign Policy*, 10 March. Available online at <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/03/10/fascism-republicans-paramilitary-trump-far-right-violence/> (with Lucas Dolan)
2021. "How Social Media Monopolies Broke the Public Sphere". *Foreign Policy*, 22 January. Available online at <https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/01/22/social-media-broke-liberal-democracy-capitol-mob/> (with Joshua Foust)
2020. "Canada can't rely on other countries to supply our vaccines." *The Globe and Mail*, 20 November. Available online at <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-canada-had-better-prepare-to-go-it-alone-on-vaccines/> (with Jamie Levin)
2018. "US killing by drone: continuity and escalation." *The Interpreter*, 11 December. Available online at <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/us-killing-drone-continuity-and-escalation>
2018. "What's behind the rise in American political violence?". *Toronto Star*, 29 October. Available online at <https://www.thestar.com/opinion/contributors/2018/10/29/whats-behind-the-rise-in-american-political-violence.html>
2018. "What Should We Make of Elite American Mercenaries in Yemen?". *War on the Rocks*, 23 October. Available online at <https://warontherocks.com/2018/10/what-should-we-make-of-elite-american-mercenaries-in-yemen/>
2017. "Banning refugees harms U.S. national security". *Toronto Star*, 31 January. Available online at <https://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2017/01/31/banning-refugees-harms-us-national-security.html> (with Craig Damian Smith)
2016. "We must confront Omar Mateen's Homophobia". *Toronto Star*, 15 June. Available online at <https://www.thestar.com/opinion/commentary/2016/06/15/we-must-confront-omar-mateens-homophobia.html>.

### GRANTS:

- 2017-2019. SSHRC Post-Doctoral Fellowship (\$87,750 CAD)  
 2014–2017. Joseph-Armand Bombardier CGS Doctoral Award (\$105,000 CAD)  
 2014–2017. [declined] SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship (\$60,000 CAD)  
 2015. Michael-Smith Foreign Study Supplement (\$6000 CAD)  
 2012-2013. University of Toronto Doctoral Fellowship (\$47500 CAD)

#### **INVITED TALKS and WORKSHOPS:**

2021. ‘Modular sovereignty and the case of the private intelligence industry’. Department of Political Science, University of Chicago. 4 February.  
 2020. ‘How the Private Intelligence Industry Changed Sovereignty’. Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Cardiff. 4 February.  
 2019. ‘International Relations: Stop using the term “material power”’. Department of International Relations, Central European University, Budapest. 27 September.  
 2018. ‘The Phenomenology of Cognitive Evolution’. Workshop on Perspectives of Cognitive Evolution, Vienna, 25-26 May.  
 2018. ‘The Evolution of Terrorism’. Canadian Forces College, guest lecture for the Advanced Joint Warfighting Studies Programme, Toronto, 21 February.  
 2018. ‘Annotation for Transparent Inquiry Working Group.’ Syracuse University, New York, 22-23 February.  
 2017. ‘The Evolution of Terrorism’. Canadian Forces College, guest lecture for the Advanced Joint Warfighting Studies Programme, Toronto, 22 March.

#### **RECENT CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION:**

2021. Panelist. ‘Experiments of Mass Destruction: the nature of nuclear devices and the origins of nuclear strategy. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, 6-9 April. (with Sebastian M. Schmidt)  
 2021. Panelist. Folk Theories of International Politics. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, 6-9 April.  
 2020. \*\*Papers accepted at ISA in Honolulu and EISA in Malta cancelled due to pandemic.  
 2019. Panelist. ‘The Stakes of Stratification’. European International Studies Association, Pan-European Conference, Sofia, 11-14 September.  
 2019. Panelist. Pragmatism in IR: The Prospects for Substantive Theorizing. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Toronto, 27-30 March.  
 2018. Panelist. ‘How the Private Intelligence Industry Changed Sovereignty: A story of epistemic needs and market wants’. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, San Francisco, 7-10 March.  
 2017. Panelist. ‘Dereifying the Norm: Rule-following in a world without “Rules”’, International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Baltimore, 22-25 February.  
 2016. Panelist. ‘Cartography and Navigation: Metaphors for Polity Relevance in IR’. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Atlanta, 17-19 March.  
 2016. Panelist. ‘Why IR Scholars Should Start Reading Waltz.’ International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Atlanta, 17-19 March. (with CD LaRoche)  
 2015. Panelist. ‘A Pragmatist View of Power.’ American Sociological Association, Annual Meeting, Chicago, 22-25 August.  
 2015. Panelist. ‘A Pragmatist View of Ontological Security’. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, New Orleans, 18-22 February.  
 2015. Panelist. ‘I’m an Ontology, Damn It, Not an Epistemology. International Studies Association, Annual Conference, New Orleans, 18-22 February.

2014. Panelist. 'Making It Up as We Go Along: The Pragmatist Micro-Foundations of Macro-Historical Explanations.' Social Science History Association, Annual Meeting, Toronto, 6-9 November.
2014. Panelist. 'A Game of Drones: Institutional Infighting, Innovation, and the Development of the US's Targeted Killing Programme'. APSA Annual Meeting, DC, 27-31 August.
2014. Panelist. 'A Pragmatist View of Power in International Relations.' International Studies Association, Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario, 26-29 March.

### **TEACHING:**

- Global Transformation (Core module for MRes in Global Political Economy, 2020)
- International Relations Theory (Postgraduate/Masters 2019-20; Undergraduate: 2021)
- International Security (300-level, Fall 2017; Winter 2018)
- Introduction to International Relations (200-level, Summer, Fall 2017)
- Terrorism and Counterterrorism. (300-level, Summer 2015)

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES**

Programme director: MSc degrees in International Relations, International Security, European and Global Governance, Gender and International Relations, Social Science Research Methods (Politics), and International Law and International Relations (LLM). MRes degree in Global Political Economy.

Athena SWAN Bronze Award application committee member (staff and student data).

### **SERVICE AS PEER REVIEWER:**

*International Studies Quarterly.*  
*European Journal of International Relations*  
*Security Studies*  
*Journal of Global Security Studies*  
*Journal of International Relations and Development.*  
*International Theory.*  
*International Studies Review.*  
*Terrorism and Political Violence.*  
*University of Toronto Journal of Political Science.*

### **TEACHING AREAS:**

International relations, war and security studies, social and political theory, historical and relational sociology, qualitative methodology, philosophy of social science, Israel studies.

### **LANGUAGES:**

English. Native.  
 Hebrew. Intermediate (reading, speaking, writing).

**REFERENCES:**

Emanuel Adler  
Andrea and Charles Bronfman Chair of Israeli Studies, Emeritus  
Professor of Political Science at the University of Toronto, Emeritus  
Munk School of Global Affairs  
University of Toronto  
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University of Toronto Scarborough  
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