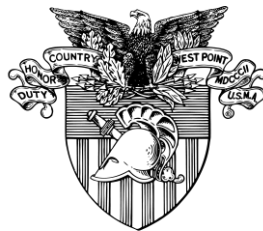


West Point Journal of Politics and Security



WEST POINT
PRESS

Volume 1, Issue 2: Spring 2023

The views expressed in this journal are those of the authors and not of the U.S. Military Academy, the Department of the Army, or any other agency of the U.S. Government.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Charlotte Hulme

Deputy Editor-in-Chief

MAJ Josh Woodaz

Cadet Editors

CDT Eugene Lee

CDT Nicholas Kramer

CDT Daniel Vrablic

CDT Javier Fernandez

Faculty Reviewers

MAJ Nathan Riehl

MAJ Berto Santos

MAJ Daniel Beatty

MAJ Hunter Cantrell

MAJ Jon Thompson

CONTACT

Department of Social Sciences

U.S. Military Academy

607 Cullum Road, Lincoln Hall

West Point, NY 10996

wpjps.editors@gmail.com

westpointpress.com/politics-and-security

The views expressed in this journal are those of the authors and not of the United States Military Academy, the Department of the Army, or any other agency of the U.S. Government.

Letter from the Editors

We are delighted to introduce the first special edition of the *West Point Journal of Politics and Security*, showcasing articles produced in the context of West Point's Conference on the Ethics of War and Peace, held in 2021. This year, as we mark the 20-year anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, amid hard-won lessons about the costs of interventionism, it is an opportune moment to revisit the ethics of resorting to war. We are pleased to present innovative undergraduate research from West Point and non-West Point undergraduates addressing important topics concerning the use of force, Just War Theory, and more.

Our second issue begins with an article by Caleb Anderson, Charles Batkin, and Lizette Van der Walt (United States Military Academy), which addresses potentially paradoxical elements embedded in *jus ex bello*, an emerging frontier in Just War Theory. Later in the issue, Jim Kelly adds to the conversation about Just War Theory, exploring the debate over whether non-combatants supporting an unjust war could justifiably be targeted by the victims of that war.

Izza Malik (Lahore University of Management Studies) examines, from the perspective of 2021—prior to the 2022 U.S. withdrawal of forces—the potential for gender-based violence in Afghanistan following a U.S. withdrawal, contending that the United States had a special obligation to prevent such a grim outcome. Later, Marcus Ellinas (University of Chicago) urges a reexamination of the conventional wisdom that all political violence threatens democracy and argues that governments have a moral obligation to prioritize threats to transitions of power, which genuinely endanger democracy.

Lastly, Mercedes Fernandez (United States Military Academy) offers a moral assessment of multinational rubber manufacturer Firestone in the context of its operations in Liberia during the Liberian civil war. With corporations playing a more active role in the international security landscape, her work contributes a fresh perspective about an increasingly important issue.

We are delighted to share these examples of excellent undergraduate research. We appreciate the ongoing support of our contributors and readers, and we encourage you to reach out to share your ideas and recommendations as we continue to expand our readership and improve the quality of this journal. Finally, we want to specially recognize the leadership of Dr. Amira Jadoon and Dr. Jason Warner, our colleagues who preceded us as editors. Beyond their role in establishing the journal, they crafted the vision, curated the articles, and guided the editorial process for this special edition. We are so grateful for all they have done to make this journal a reality.

Go Army!

Dr. Charlotte Hulme

MAJ Josh Woodaz

Table Of Contents

<i>Jus Ex Bello</i> And Just War As A Non-Zero-Sum Game Caleb Anderson, Charles Batkin, And Lizette Van Der Walt (U.S. Military Academy)	1
The War Against Women In Afghanistan: Is A Surge In Gender-Based Violence An Inevitable Consequence Of The U.S. Withdrawal From Afghanistan? Izza Malik (Lahore University Of Management Studies)	7
The Dissipation Of Liability: Rescuing The Theory Of Intervening Agency Jim Kelly	14
Democracy In Danger? Political Violence, Peaceful Transition, And Threats To Democracy Marcus Ellinas (University Of Chicago)	19
Tires & Tribulations: A Moral Evaluation Of Firestone's Actions In Liberia's Civil War Mercedes Fernandez (U.S. Military Academy)	28

Submissions

WPJPS accepts submissions from current or recent undergraduate students based at West Point and outside of West Point. While WPJPS prioritizes publishing the work of current undergraduates, we will consider the publication of work by those who have already graduated, assuming that the work was produced while the author was an undergraduate. Authors should not have completed their undergraduate degrees more than two years prior to submission.

All submissions should include:

- A brief cover letter summarizing the article background, overarching research question, and main contribution to existing knowledge. The cover letter should also confirm that the submitted manuscript is original work, and has not been published or submitted elsewhere for publication.
- The proposed manuscript in Word (not PDF) format, which should be between 3,500 and 5,000 words, including a 200-word opening abstract. For citations, please use footnotes in Chicago style.
- A copy of the author's CV.

Submissions should be sent to the editors at wpjps.editors@gmail.com