

Denis Tchaouchev

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Education

Ph.D. Political Science, Stanford University	2020 - 2025
Fields: International Relations and Historical Political Economy	
Committee: James Fearon (chair), Gary Cox, Kenneth Schultz	
M.S. Computational and Mathematical Engineering, Stanford University	2022 - 2024
B.A. Computer Science and Political Science, Columbia University	2015 - 2019

Working Papers

- “Competitive Diffusion on Connected Graphs”
- “Offensive Advantage and War: A Structural Approach”
- “Technological Change and Conflict: Evidence from Medieval Europe”
- “Technological Change and Mutual Optimism”
- “World War I Fatalities and Demands for Redistribution in the UK”

Awards and Fellowships

Hans J. Morgenthau Fellow, University of Notre Dame International Security Center	2025 - 2026
Dissertation Fellow, Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences	2025
Junior Fellow, Carnegie International Policy Scholars Consortium and Network	2024 - 2025
Centennial Teaching Assistant Award, Stanford University	2024
University-wide prize for outstanding graduate student teaching	
Charles A. Beard Prize, Columbia University	2019
Best undergraduate thesis in political science	

Grants

Expense Support Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (\$1,100)	2025
Research Grant, Stanford Europe Center (\$1,000)	2023

Teaching

War and Peace in American Foreign Policy (TA for Kenneth Schultz)	2023, 2024
America and the World Economy (TA for Judith Goldstein)	2022, 2023
Political Science Ph.D. Math Camp (TA for Alain Schläpfer), Graduate	2022, 2023
Formal Theory I (TA for Avidit Acharya), Graduate	2022

Conferences and Workshops

Annual Meetings

American Political Science Association	2024, 2025 (scheduled)
Midwest Political Science Association	2025
Society for Political Methodology	2024

Workshops

University College London Conflict and Change PhD Workshop	2025
Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models Summer Institute, Emory University	2024

Service

At Stanford

Co-Organizer, International Security Internal Workshop	2024 - Present
Co-Organizer, International Political Economy Internal Workshop	2024 - Present
Co-President, Political Science Graduate Student Association	2023 - 2024
Mentor for First-Year Graduate Students,	2022 - 2024
Instructor and Organizer, Political Science Teaching Assistant Training	2023
Organizer, Formal Theory Reading Group	2022

To the discipline

Discussant, MPSA Annual Meeting	2025
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Professional Experience

Summer Associate, RAND Corporation	2025
Associate Data Scientist, Fraud Detection, Mastercard Inc.	2019 - 2020
Intelligence Analyst Intern, US Department of Defense	2019
Intern, Office of Foreign Assets Control, US Department of the Treasury	2016 - 2017

Patents

Systems and methods for detection of fraud attacks using merchants to test payment accounts.	2023
Patent No.: US 11,775,974 B2; Assignee: Mastercard Inc.	

Other

Citizenship: Bulgaria, United States of America

Language Skills: Bulgarian (intermediate), Russian (basic), Spanish (basic)

Technical Skills: C/C++, Julia, Mathematica, Python, QGIS, R, SQL