

Denis Tchaouchev

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Employment

Postdoctoral Fellow, Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania 2025 - Present

Education

PhD, Political Science, Stanford University 2020 - 2025

Fields: International Relations and Historical Political Economy

Committee: James Fearon (chair), Gary Cox, Kenneth Schultz

MS, Computational and Mathematical Engineering, Stanford University 2022 - 2024

BA, Computer Science and Political Science, Columbia University 2015 - 2019

Working Papers

“Learning When to Fight: Technological Diffusion and Frequency of Conflict in Medieval Europe”

“Technological Change and Mutual Optimism”

“The Costs of War: World War I Fatalities and Demands for Progressive Taxation in Interwar Britain”

Works in Progress

“Competitive Diffusion on Connected Graphs”

“Crisis Stability with Multiple Nuclear Peer Adversaries”

“Offensive Advantage and War: A Structural Approach”

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 (declined) 2025 - 2026

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 Schl pfer), 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 - 2025
Co-Organizer, International Political Economy Internal Workshop	2024 - 2025
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, Defense Intelligence Agency	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