

Michael R. Kenwick

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Political Science
Rutgers University
89 George Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901 USA

E-mail: michael.kenwick@rutgers.edu
Website: www.mkenwick.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Rutgers University, Department of Political Science
Associate Professor, 2025-Present
Assistant Professor, 2019-2025

VISITING POSITIONS

The University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House
Lightning Scholar, 2023-2024
Postdoctoral Research Fellow, 2017-2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Political Science
The Pennsylvania State University, 2017

M.A., Political Science
The Pennsylvania State University, 2013

B.A., Political Science and History
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2011

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. **Michael R. Kenwick**, Sumin Lee, and Burcu Kolcak. 2025. "Military Experience and Casualty Sensitivity in Elite Discourse: Evidence From the US Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* (Forthcoming).
2. **Michael R. Kenwick**, Junghyun Lim, Skyler Crane, Scott Wehrwein, Beth A. Simmons. 2025. "Estimating The Legibility of International Borders" *Proceedings of the National Academy of the Sciences* (Forthcoming).
3. **Michael R. Kenwick** and Sarah Maxey. 2025. "Explaining Public Support for Border Militarization." *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 69(6): 1005-1032.
4. **Michael R. Kenwick**, Richard McAlexander, and Beth A. Simmons. 2024. "Infrastructure and Authority at the State's Edge: The Border Crossings of the World Dataset." *Journal of Peace Research* 61(3): 500-510.
5. **Michael R. Kenwick** and Douglas Lemke. 2023. "International Influences on the Survival of Territorial Non-State Actors." *British Journal of Political Science*. 53(2): 479-497.
6. **Michael R. Kenwick** and Sarah Maxey. 2022. "You and Whose Army? How Civilian Leaders Leverage the Military's Prestige to Shape Public Opinion." *Journal of Politics*. 84(4):1963-1978.
7. Beth A. Simmons and **Michael R. Kenwick**. 2022. "Border Orientation in a Globalizing World." *American Journal of Political Science*. 66(4):853-870.
8. Palmer, Glenn, Roseanne W. McManus, Vito D'Orazio, **Michael R. Kenwick**, Mikaela Karstens, Chase Bloch, Nick Dietrich, Kayla Kahn, Kellan Ritter, Michael J. Soules. 2021. "The MID5 Dataset, 2011-2014: Procedures, Coding Rules, and Description." *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. 39(4) 470-482.
-Winner of APSA's J. David Singer Data Innovation Award

9. **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Beth A. Simmons. 2020. "Pandemic Response as Border Politics." *International Organization* 74(S1): E36-E58.
10. Fariss, Christopher J., **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Kevin Reuning. 2020. "A Robust Measurement Model of Human Rights Respect with Country-Year Count Processes." *Journal of Peace Research* 57(6) 801–814.
11. **Kenwick, Michael R.** 2020. "Self-Reinforcing Civilian Control: A Measurement-Based Analysis of Civil-Military Relations." *International Studies Quarterly* 64(1): 71-84.
12. Palmer, Glenn, Vito D'Orazio **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Roseanne McManus. 2020. "Updating the Militarized Interstate Dispute Data: A Response to Gibler, Miller, and Little." *International Studies Quarterly* 64(2):469–475
13. Reuning, Kevin, **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Christopher J. Fariss. 2019. "Exploring the Dynamics of Latent Variable Models." *Political Analysis* 27(4):503-517.
14. **Kenwick, Michael R.**, and John A. Vasquez. 2017. "Defense Pacts and Deterrence: Caveat Emptor." *Journal of Politics* 79(1): 329-334.
15. Bak, Daehee, **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Glenn Palmer. 2016. "Who's Careful: Regime Type and Target Selection." *European Journal of International Relations* 22(4): 872-896.
16. D'Orazio, Vito, **Michael R. Kenwick**, Matthew Lane, David Reitter, and Glenn Palmer. 2016. "Crowd-sourcing the Measurement of Interstate Conflict." *PLOS ONE* 11(6):e0156527.
17. **Kenwick, Michael R.**, John Vasquez, and Matthew Powers. 2015. "Do Alliances Really Deter?" *Journal of Politics* 77(4): 943-954.
18. Palmer, Glenn, Vito D'Orazio, **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Matthew Lane. 2015. "The MID4 Data Set, 2002-2010: Procedures, Coding Rules, and Description." *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 32(2): 222-242.

EDITOR-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. Beth Simmons, **Michael Kenwick**, and Dillon Horwitz. 2022. "Borders and Boundaries" *Designing Peace: Building a Better Future*, edited by Cynthia E. Smith, part of the "Designing Peace" Exhibition at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum.
2. **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Roseanne McManus. 2021. "Alliances, Extended Deterrence, and War." *What Do We Know About War? Third Edition*, edited by Sara Mitchell and John A. Vasquez. Rowman & Littlefield.
3. Palmer, Glenn, Vito D'Orazio **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Roseanne McManus. 2020. "The Militarized Interstate Dispute Dataset: Putting Things in Perspective" *International Studies Quarterly* 64(2):480–481.
4. Christopher Fariss, **Michael R. Kenwick**, and Kevin Reuning. 2020. "Measurement Models." *SAGE Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science & International Relations*, edited by Luigi Curini and Robert J. Franzese. Sage Press.

GRANTS

1. **Rutgers Research Council**. 2020. "Globalization Anxieties and Democratic Civil-Military Relations." Amount: \$3,800
2. **National Science Foundation**. 2019. "States and Security: Border Orientation in the Modern World." SES: 1917573. Co-Principal Investigator with Beth A. Simmons (University of Pennsylvania). Amount: \$476,137 (approx. \$171,178 to Rutgers).

- Supplemental Award. 2021. (Proposal: 2051244). Amount: \$16,215.00

PRESS & MEDIA

1. **Michael R. Kenwick** "Assessing the Cases Against Militarized Border Enforcement" *Perry World House, News and Insights*.
2. Beth A. Simmons and **Michael R. Kenwick**, "Border Barriers are on the Rise." *CNN (Opinion)*. (February 1, 2019).
3. **Kenwick, Michael R.** "Why Erdogan Struggles to Control the Armed Forces, and Why the Turkish Coup Failed." *The Washington Post, Monkey Cage Blog* (July 18, 2016).
4. Lionel Beehner, Peter White, and **Michael R. Kenwick** "Trump's Cabinet and Bringing Civil-Military Relations Back In." *Political Violence @ A Glance* (December 16, 2016).

SELECTED WORKING PAPERS

- "Border Walls as Cooperation Failures" (with Beth A. Simmons and Gino Pauselli). *Under review*.
- "Military Involvement in the Economy and the Erosion of Civilian Control" (with Roya Izadi). *Under review*.
- "Border Fortification and Trust in Political Institutions" (with David Carter, Annamaria Prati, and Beth Simmons).
- "Gender and Public Demands for Border Hardening" (with Jeffrey Coltman-Cormier and Summer Lindsey).

DOCTORAL ADVISING

- COMMITTEE CHAIR: Jeffrey Coltman-Cormier, Jennifer Alessio
- COMMITTEE MEMBER: Sumin Lee, Jayme Schlesinger, MJ Strawbridge, Tibet Gur, Sung Eun Choi, Kathryn Shapiro

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 University of Michigan, Center for Political Studies Speaker Series. Talk title: "The Civil-Military Divide in Congressional Speech."
- 2023 University of Michigan, Conflict and Peace; Research and Development Workshop Series. Talk title: "Border Walls as Cooperation Failures."
- 2023 Loyola University Chicago. Workshop on Democracy and the Military in Uncertain Times. Talk title: "Explaining Public Demand for Border Militarization."
- 2023 Columbia University, Social Science Research Council Workshop on Rethinking Democratic Distinctiveness in International Security. Talk title: "Horizontal and Vertical Governance: Border Orientation, Liberal Democracy, and the Anxieties of Globalization."
- 2020 Harvard University, Radcliffe Institute Seminar on Border Science. Talk title: "Border Control and Interstate Conflict."
- 2019 The University of Iowa, Workshop for What Do We Know About War? Volume III. Talk title: "Alliances, Extended Deterrence, and War."
- 2018 The University of Pennsylvania, Perry World House Speaker Series. Talk title: "Border Orientation in a Globalizing World."
- The Pennsylvania State University, Departmental Colloquium. Talk title: "Border Orientation in a Globalizing World."
- 2017 The University of Pennsylvania, Browne Center Speaker Series. Talk title: "Self-Reinforcing Civilian Control."
- 2016 University of North Carolina, Triangle Institute for Security Studies New Faces Conference. Talk title: "Self-reinforcing Civilian Control."

COURSES TAUGHT	POLITICAL SCIENCE 102: Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2025)
	POLITICAL SCIENCE 319: American Foreign Policy (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021)
	POLITICAL SCIENCE 395: International Border Politics (Spring 2021, Summer 2023, Fall 2024)
	POLITICAL SCIENCE 437: War in World Politics (Summer 2016)
	POLITICAL SCIENCE 604: Proseminar in International Relations (Spring 2023, Fall 2024)
	POLITICAL SCIENCE 678: Measurement (Fall 2021, Spring 2025)
AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS	2021 J. David Singer Data Innovation Award, awarded to the Militarized Interstate Dispute Project
	2015 Outstanding Graduate Student in Political Science, The Pennsylvania State University
	Quantitative Social Science Initiative Predoctoral Research Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University
	2014 Program in Empirical International Relations Predoctoral Research Fellowship, The Pennsylvania State University
	2011 Best Thesis Award, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Highest Distinction, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Magna Cum Laude Graduate, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
EVENTS ORGANIZED	2024 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science - Rutgers. Co-organized with Katherine McCabe, and Andrey Tomashevskiy.
	2024 "Civil-Military Relations in Social Context" workshop hosted at the University of Pennsylvania.
	2022 Workshop on The Politics of State Authority and Insecurity - Rutgers. Co-organized with Summer Lindsey
	2022 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science - Rutgers. Co-organized with Katherine McCabe, and Andrey Tomashevskiy.
	2021 Summer Institute in Computational Social Science - Rutgers. Co-organized with Katherine McCabe, Katya Ognyanova, and Andrey Tomashevskiy.
	2019 "International Borders in a Globalizing World" conference at the University of Pennsylvania. Co-organized with Beth Simmons, Robert Shaffer, and Benjamin Laughlin.
	2016 "Data and Measurement in Civil-Military Relations" workshop at the Annual Meeting of the Peace Science Society. Co-organized with Peter White.
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE	2024-2027 Correlates of War Advisory Board
	2020-2024 Rutgers Department of Political Science Advisory Committee
	2021-2022 Rutgers Department of Political Science Graduate Admissions Committee

REVIEWER	National Science Foundation (grant review), American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Journal of Politics, International Organization, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Political Science Research and Methods, Conflict Management and Peace Science, International Interactions, Security Studies, Journal of Global Security Studies, Journal of Human Rights, Foreign Policy Analysis
SOFTWARE	R; Stan; QGIS; L ^A T _E X; Stata
REFERENCES	Available upon Request

Last Updated: August 7, 2025