

Erik Skare

SENIOR RESEARCHER

Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Rosenkrantz' gate 22, 0160 Oslo, Norway

✉ erik.skare@nupi.no | 🏠 www.erikskare.no | 📧 @eriskar |

Education

University of Oslo

Oslo, Norway

PHD MODERN MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

2020

- Advisor: Dr. Dag Henrik Tuastad
- Co-Advisor: Dr. Thomas Hegghammer
- Evaluation committee: Dr. Katerina Dalacoura, Dr. Khaled Hroub & Dr. Jacob Høigilt

University of Oslo

Oslo, Norway

MA ARABIC

2013 - 2015

- Advisor: Dr. Albrecht Hofheinz
- Co-Advisor: Dr. Brynjar Lia

Birzeit University

Birzeit, Palestine

PALESTINE AND ARABIC STUDIES

2012-2013

- Integrated into BA degree
- Research advisor: Mr. Sa'd Nimr

University of Bergen

Bergen, Norway

BA ARABIC

2010-2013

- Undergrad research advisor: Dr. Shabo Tallay

Professional Experience

- 2025 - **Senior Researcher**, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)
- 2024-2025 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, University of Oslo
- 2022-2024 **Associate Senior Researcher**, Sciences Po
- 2022-2024 **Researcher**, University of Oslo
- 2020-2022 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, Sciences Po
- 2016-2020 **Doctoral Research Fellow**, University of Oslo
- 2015-2016 **Research Assistant**, University of Oslo
- 2015-2016 **Research Assistant**, Norwegian Defence Research Establishment

Publications

BOOKS

Skare, Erik. Under contract. *Palestine Has Never Been Secular. A History of Religion in Palestinian Politics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Skare, Erik. 2025. *Road to October 7. A Brief History of Palestinian Islamism*. New York: Verso Books.

- Bosnian translation: Erik Skare. 2025. *Put do 7. oktobra: Kratka historija palestinskog islamizma*. Translation by Resul Mehmedović. Sarajevo: Dialogos.
- Turkish translation: Erik Skare. 2025. *Yedi Ekim'e Giden Yol: Filistin'de İslami Hareketin Tarihi*. Translation by Fatih Şemsettin Işık. Istanbul: Kutadgu Yayınları.

Skare, Erik. 2021. *A History of Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Faith, Awareness, and Revolution in the Middle East*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Skare, Erik. 2021. *Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Islamist Writings on Resistance and Religion*. London: I.B. Tauris.

Skare, Erik. 2016. *Digital Jihad: Palestinian Resistance in the Digital Era*. London: Zed Books.

- Arabic translation: Erik Skare. 2018. *al-Jihad al-Raqmi: al-Muqawama al-Filastiniyya fi al-Asr al-Raqmi*. Translation by Mansur Omari. Milan: Manshurat al-Mutawassit.

ARTICLES/BOOK CHAPTERS

Skare, Erik. 2023. "Staying Safe by Being Good? The EU's Normative Decline as a Security Actor in the Middle East." *European Journal of International Security* 8(3): 337-353.

Powers, Colin, Erik Skare, Georges Fahmi, Nouran Ahmed, Ahmad Mhidi, Myriam Ababsa & Olivier Roy. 2023. "Why Individuals and Communities do not Turn to Violent Extremism." *Perspectives on Terrorism* 17(1): 1-17.

Skare, Erik & Stéphane Lacroix. 2022. "Les quatre «R» de la déradicalisation dans le monde arabe (1990-2020)." In *Politiques de lutte contre la radicalisation*, 87-104. Edited by Juliette Galonnier, Stéphane Lacroix & Nadia Marzouki. Paris: Presses de Sciences Po.

Skare, Erik. 2022. "Affluent and Well-Educated? Analyzing the Socio-Economic Backgrounds of Fallen Palestinian Islamist Militants." *The Middle East Journal* 76(1): 72-92.

Skare, Erik. 2022. "Insulated Eruptions of Discontent: Palestinian Protests in the Absence of Trusted Organisations." *Contemporary Levant* 7(2): 106-117.

Skare, Erik. 2021. "Controlling the State in the Political Theory of Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad." *Religions* 12(1010): 1-12.

- Spanish translation: Erik Skare. 2025. "El control del Estado en la Teoría Política de Hamás y de la Yihad Islámica Palestina". Translation by Julio Monterroza. *Asiática: Miscelánea de orientes* 2(1): 117-140.

Skare, Erik. 2018. "Digital Surveillance/Militant Resistance: Categorizing the "Proto-state Hacker." *Television and New Media* 20(7): 670-685.

Skare, Erik. 2015. "Du har blitt hacket av Gaza Hacker Team". *Babylon - Nordisk tidsskrift for Midtøstenstudier* 13(1/2): 46-56.

POLICY BRIEFS

Skare, Erik, Ahmad Mhidi, Georges Fahmi, Nouran Ahmed, Kamaran Palani, Myriam Ababsa, Olivier Roy & Dlawer Ala'Aldeen. 2022. *D7.5 Policy brief summarizing lessons learnt on the EU's measures to prevent violent extremism in the Middle East*.

Skare, Erik, Kamaran Palani, Georges Fahmi, Stéphane Lacroix, Tine Gade, Dlawer Ala'Aldeen, Kjetil Selvik & Olivier Roy. 2020. *D.7.1 Policy brief summarizing the EU and other local stakeholders' prevention strategy towards violent extremism in the region, Middle East*.

ACADEMIC ESSAYS AND NON-REVIEWED ARTICLES

Skare, Erik. 2023. "Texts or Praxes: How Do We Best Understand Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad after October 7?" *CTC Sentinel* 16(10): 46-56.

Skare, Erik. 2023. "La Palestine s'est-elle islamisée?" In *Araborama. Ce que la Palestine apporte au monde*, 229-234. Edited by Bertrand Badie, Christophe Ayad & Leyla Dakhli. Paris: Éditions du Seuil.

SHORT ARTICLES AND OP-EDS

Skare, Erik. 2025. "Hamas er en massebevegelse med et hav av stemmer." *Aftenposten*, May 25.

Skare, Erik. 2024. "Israel-Palestina: Ideen om en tostatsløsning har gått ut på dato." *Morgenbladet*, August 2.

Skare, Erik. 2024. "Tiden jobber for Hamas." *Morgenbladet*, May 24.

Skare, Erik. 2024. "Hamas' forsvarsskrift viser at 7. oktober var en PR-katastrofe for bevegelsen." *Morgenbladet*, January 26.

Skare, Erik. 2023. "Iran, Hamas, and Islamic Jihad: A marriage of convenience." *European Council on Foreign Relations*, December 18.

Skare, Erik. 2023. "Ideologi, handling og gråsoner: Hvordan skal vi forstå Hamas?" *Morgenbladet*, December 1.

Skare, Erik. 2023. "Hamas' vei til krig" *Morgenbladet*, October 13.

SELECTED DATASETS, DIGITAL REPOSITORIES & RESOURCES

Skare, Erik. 2023. *A quick guide for High Performance Computing (HPC) and Slurm*. Oslo: Digital IKOS Resources.

Skare, Erik. 2023. *Persian text preprocessing pipeline with Hazm*. Oslo: Digital IKOS Resources.

Skare, Erik. 2022. *Norwegian text preprocessing pipeline with SpaCy*. Oslo: Digital IKOS Resources.

Skare, Erik. 2020. *Taliban Sources Repository*. Oslo: Norwegian Defence Research Establishment/University of Oslo.

Skare, Erik. 2016. *Jihadi Document Repository*. Oslo: Norwegian Defence Research Establishment/University of Oslo.

IN PREPARATION

Skare, Erik. "Palestinian Islamic Jihad: The ideological evolution of armed struggle and the theoretical underpinnings of jihad". In *Brill Handbook on Jihad Movements*, ed. Joas Wagemakers [book chapter].

Skare, Erik. "Presenting the Palestinian Martyr Dataset (1964-2022): Palestinian Geographic Clusters and Divisions of Labor". [research article].

Skare, Erik. "Exploring Homogeneity in Climate Change Coverage: A Case Study of Norwegian and Kuwaiti Newspapers (2007-2022)". [research article].

Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

AWARDS

2021 **Palestine Book Awards**, MEMO (for *A History of Palestinian Islamic Jihad*)

GRANTS

2023 **Development grant**, UiO Texthub

NOK 75 000

Language skills

LANGUAGES

Norwegian (native) | **English** (fluent) | **Arabic** (proficient) | **German** (proficient)

PROGRAMMING

R (intermediate) | **Python** (basic) | **HTML/CSS** (basic)

UTILITIES

LaTeX (intermediate) | **Markdown** (fluent)

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

3 June 2025 *Hamas in Context*. Invited talk. Foreign Service Institute — US Department of State.

8 March 2024. *Presenting the Updated Palestinian Martyr Dataset (1985-2022)*. Invited talk. T. E. Lawrence Speaker on Conflict and Violence, University of Oxford.

24 November 2023. *Hamas after October 7*. Invited talk. BI Norwegian Business School.

20 September 2022. *Palestinian Islamic Jihad: Quo vadis?* Invited talk. The Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, Doha Institute.

12 May 2022. *A History of Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Four Hypotheses* Invited talk. CIMS seminar, University of Oslo.

Teaching Experience

- 2025 **Coding in the Humanities: Theory and Practice (KOS4070)**, Course coordinator
- 2025 **Religion and Politics (KOS4050)**, Guest lecturer
- 2019-2020 & 2025 **Master Thesis in Middle East Studies (MES4590)**, Course instructor
- 2019-2020 **Readings in Middle Eastern Texts (MES4110)**, Course instructor
- 2019 **Culture and Society in the Middle East (MØNA2504)**, Course instructor

Mentoring

- 2024-2025 **Muhammad Sial**, Supervisor master's thesis, University of Oslo
- 2024 **Ramyar Hassani**, Supervisor research assistant, University of Oslo

Professional Roles & Service

KEY MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2025 "What's left of Hamas after nearly two years of fighting Israel in the Gaza war?", *ABC News*, September 11.
- 2024 "Where does Hamas go from here?", *The Washington Post*, July 31.
- 2024 "Drone footage raises questions about Israeli justification for deadly strike on Gaza journalists", *The Washington Post*, March 19.
- 2024 "Gaza journalists' families reject Israeli military's 'terrorist' claims", *BBC News*, January 11.
- 2023 "Hundreds feared dead at Gaza hospital", *BBC Newsday*, October 18.
- 2022 "Gaza: A precarious ceasefire and a persistent political impasse", *Le Monde Diplomatique*, August 8.

EDITORIAL ROLES

- 2022 - **Great Norwegian Encyclopedia**, Editor "Islamism" & "Violent Islamism"
- 2017-2019 **Babylon — Nordic Journal of Middle East Studies**, Editor

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 2022-2024 **Digital IKOS (DIKOS)**, Organizer *Oslo, Norway*
- 2020-2022 **Preventing Violent Extremism in the Balkans and the MENA (PREVEX)**, Work Package 7, Leader *Paris, France*

HIRING COMMITTEES

- July 2024 **ERC Synergy-Plague Project**, Postdoctoral research fellowship *Oslo, Norway*

PEER REVIEW

International Studies Quarterly | *International Relations* | *Middle East Critique* | *Civil Wars* | *Humanity* | *Perspectives on Terrorism* | *Internasjonal Politikk* | *Routledge* | *Verso Books* | *Contemporary Levant* |