

SAM HARSHBARGER

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Education

Balliol College, Oxford (Oxford, U.K.)

Anticipated graduation: 6/2026

- Reading for an MPhil in the Faculty of History on a Rhodes Scholarship
- Fellow at the 2025 Monterey Summer Symposium on Russia, a program for early-career academics, policymakers, and journalists working on Russia and the former Soviet Union
- Recipient of Balliol Interdisciplinary Institute grant for “Homeland after Genocide: Examining Armenian and Jewish Nationalism in Conversation”
- Guest lecturer at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem

Princeton University (Princeton, N.J.)

8/2020-5/2024

- A.B. in History with certificates in History and the Practice of Diplomacy, Near Eastern Studies, and Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies
- Graduated *summa cum laude*, elected Phi Beta Kappa (2023), GPA: 4.0
- Recipient of Shapiro Prize for Academic Excellence (2022), the Stone-Davis Thesis Prize Fellowship (2023), the William Koren, Jr., Memorial Prize in History (2023), the Liechtenstein Institute Best Thesis Award (2024), and the Laurence Hutton Prize in History (2024)
- Fellow with the Center for International Security Studies, the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions, and the Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination

Employment

European Studies Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford – Research Assistant

7/2025-present

- Researched and edited manuscript for Dimitar Bechev’s book *The Scramble for Europe* (2026)

The Associated Press – Overseas Press Club Foundation Fellow

7/2024-8/2024

- Reported on pro-cannabis protests in Bangkok, Thailand and the civil war in Burma/Myanmar

Bechtel – International Affairs Research Analyst

6/2023-8/2023

- Delivered briefings on politics, energy, and infrastructure in Poland and Ukraine for executives
- Represented Bechtel at roundtable events with senior officials and business partners
- Performed research tasks related to Bechtel’s business across the globe

New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy – Research Assistant

6/2022-5/2023

- Authored original works of analysis, including a piece on U.S.-Uzbekistan relations and an assessment of post-withdrawal security conditions in Kharkiv and Kherson
- Compiled a daily roll-up from international media sources on Russia’s war in Ukraine

Foreign Policy Research Institute – Research Assistant

3/2022-3/2025

- Researched and edited manuscript for Selim Koru’s book *New Turkey and the Far Right* (2024)
- Edited and wrote for Kultürkampf Substack email newsletter

Evergreen Strategy Group – Intern

9/2019-12/2021

- Researched media and congressional statements on policy areas relevant to corporate clients
- Assembled 10 memos for Hillary Clinton for her podcast, *You and Me Both*, in preparation for her interviews with Secretary of State Blinken and Rappler founder Maria Ressa, among others

Publications

- “Russian or ‘of Russia?’ Turkish or ‘of Turkey?’ Turkish nationalism has become more like its Russian counterpart,” Kultürkampf, January 27, 2026,
<https://kulturkampftr.substack.com/p/russian-or-of-russia-turkish-or-of>
- “Q&A: Author Clare Hammond reveals how railways made and broke Myanmar,” The Associated Press, September 2, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/clare-hammond-author-qamyanmar-railways-4c18a0a2352a5337b99232b7bff9e9ea>
- “Myanmar’s civil war has seen a devastating increase in attacks on schools, researchers say,” The Associated Press, July 20, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/myanmar-school-attacksincrease-report-education-948442a05e07be006a4e79461f3551b6>
- “Cannabis advocates in Thailand protest a proposal to ban again its general use,” The Associated Press, July 9, 2024, <https://apnews.com/article/thailand-cannabis-outlaw-protest4e83a54adac4c4556db354f6b591d178>
- “Challenges after Russian Withdrawals in Ukraine,” The New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy, August 10, 2023, <https://newlinesinstitute.org/state-resilience-fragility/challengesafterrussian-withdrawals-in-ukraine/>
- “Azerbaijan’s wannabe Erdogan,” Kultürkampf, July 10, 2023,
<https://kulturkampftr.substack.com/p/azerbaijans-wannabe-erdogan>
- “Between Israel and Palestine: the evolution of expressions of Azerbaijani-Palestinian solidarity,” Baku Research Institute, April 17, 2023,
<https://bakuresearchinstitute.org/en/between-israel-and-palestine-the-evolution-ofexpressions-of-azerbaijani-palestinian-solidarity/>
- “The Potential for a U.S.-Uzbekistan Partnership,” The New Lines Institute for Strategy and Policy, November 2, 2022, <https://newlinesinstitute.org/russia/the-potential-for-a-usuzbekistan-partnership/>
- “In Georgia’s moment of vulnerability, the US should step up engagement,” *The Daily Princetonian*, October 25, 2022,
<https://www.dailyprincetonian.com/article/2022/10/princeton-georgia-ukraine-war-caresupport-vulnerability>

Podcasts

- “Permanent Refuge,” Shifting Borders podcast, June 2021,
<https://commons.princeton.edu/shiftingborders/episode-5/> (co-hosted)

Commentary

- “AQSh-O’zbekiston hamkorligining istiqbollari. Amerikalik yosh olim bilan suhbat,” Odil Ro’zaliyev, *Amerika Ovozi*, December 29, 2022,
<https://www.amerikaovozi.com/a/potentialfor-us-uzbekistan-partnership/6895377.html>

Languages

- Fluency in English and Turkish, advanced proficiency in Azerbaijani, Russian, and Spanish, elementary proficiency in Levantine Arabic, French, and Uzbek