

Andrew L. Halterman

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EDUCATION

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA
PhD Student, Political Science
Sept. 2015–present

Amherst College, Amherst, MA
Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, Political Science
Sept. 2007–May 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Analyst *Caerus Associates* July 2013–present
Washington, DC

Member of Caerus's data science team, working on automated extraction of political information from news sources, including securing new source material, building models and visualizations using event data, and improving the data production process. Built and applied open source software for extracting meaning from very large datasets as part of a DARPA flagship big data program.

Research Intern (paid) *Center for Strategic and International Studies* Sept. 2012–May 2013
Washington, DC

Assisted in the development, construction, coding, and analysis of a dataset of 396 potential regime transition events from 1989–2010. Analyzed the role of private sector development and investment in fragile states and frontier markets. Researched and wrote on aid effectiveness, absorptive capacity, and U.S. civilian stabilization efforts. Wrote weekly country-specific memos tracking violence, state fragility, and U.S. interests in Yemen.

Fulbright Fellow *Kosovar Institute for Policy Research and Development* Sept. 2011–June 2012
Prishtina, Kosovo

Researched the effects of U.S. aid on the structure and incentives of local organizations through interviews and literature on the political economy of aid. Studied the successful transition of Vetëvendosje, an Albanian nationalist organization, from social movement to political party. Presented findings at KIPRED and at a three day Fulbright Enrichment Seminar in Thessaloniki. Intensively studied Albanian, focusing on the oral Kosovar Gheg dialect.

SKILLS

Data Analysis: fluent in R and Python, large datasets (500 GB+), machine learning for forecasting, R package creation, visualization (ggplot2, ggvis, Shiny), reproducible research, NLP and data extraction from text, database creation and management

Languages: German (full proficiency), Gheg Albanian (conversational)

Software: R, Python, SQL, MongoDB, Elasticsearch, Unix/Linux/shell, LaTeX, Gephi, CoreNLP, git

AWARDS and HONORS

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Presidential Fellowship, MIT

Fulbright Research Fellow, Kosovo, 2011–2012

Amherst College Dean of Faculty Student Research Grant

Amherst College Center for Community Engagement Student Research Grant

Amherst College Alpha Delta Phi grant for thesis research

Robert C. Byrd Scholarship

National Merit Scholarship

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

1. “Generating Political Event Data in Near Real Time: Opportunities and Challenges,” (with John Beiler, Patrick Brandt, Erin Simpson, and Philip Schrodt), *Computational Social Science: Discovery and Prediction*, ed. R. Michael Alvarez, Cambridge University Press, 2016.
2. “Bounded Altruism: INGO Opportunities and Constraints during Humanitarian Crises and US Intervention,” (with Jill Irvine), *Journal of East European Politics*, August 2014.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

1. “Forecasting Anti-Regime Mobilization Using Structural Variables and Event Data,” International Studies Association Annual Meeting (February 2015).
2. “A New, Near-Real-Time Event Dataset and the Role of Versioning,” European Network for Conflict Research (ENCoRe) Fall Conference, Uppsala, Sweden (October 2014). [[Paper](#), [Code](#)]
3. “Measuring Political Mobilization: Insights from Massive Machine-Coded Datasets,” (with Jill Irvine), International Studies Association Conference Paper (March 2014). [[Paper](#), [Code](#)]
4. “Bounded Altruism: INGO Opportunities and Constraints during Humanitarian Crises and US Intervention in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kosovo,” “Economic Development and Political Transition in Kosovo,” American University in Kosovo (October 2012).

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Chair and organizer for an International Studies Association panel, “Forecasting about the Future: Novel Forecasting Techniques and New Predictions” (February 2015).

Chair and organizer for an International Studies Association roundtable, “Assessing Forecasts of (Rare) International Events” (February 2015).

Founding member of the Open Event Data Alliance, a non-profit organization of scholars and researchers engaged in work on generating, using, and evaluating event data automatically extracted from text data. Responsible for all updates to the coding dictionaries.

Co-organizer of the GDELT DC Hackathon, hosted by Gallup in Washington, DC (December 2013).

FUNDING

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

Minerva Initiative project W911NF-13-0332.

Key personnel on an NSF RIDIR grant: “Extending Automated Event Data Coding Across Language, Location, and Source.” Other team members/PIs consist of Patrick Brandt (project lead), Benjamin Bagozzi, John Freeman, Jennifer Holmes, Jill Irvine, Javier Osorio, and Philip Schrodt. SBE-SMA-1539302

Conference travel funding from Caerus Associates for the European Network for Conflict Research Fall 2014 Meeting, Uppsala, Sweden (October 2014).

Conference travel funding from the American University of Kosovo for “Economic Development and Political Transition in Kosovo,” Prishtina, Kosovo (October 2012).