Migration, Diaspora Politics and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)

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Roadmap

- Motivation and Research Question
- Literature review
- Approach and Methodology
- Research Gaps/Questions
Motivation – Political Rhetoric

- Increased political rhetoric linking migration with terrorism and security concerns
- Rhetoric threatens to “securitize” migration, creating public perceptions that migration is a threat
- Global migration management relies on political will of states and their populations
- Negative consequences of anti-migration politics
  - humanitarian and security concerns (refugee protection, migrant deaths)
  - global economic concerns (loss of labor mobility and barriers to remittance flows)
  - public order (anti-immigrant sentiment, xenophobia)
Motivation – Migration-Security Links

- Rhetoric of revolutionary/anti-systemic organizations such as ISIL and al-Qaeda
- Disparate incidents of terrorism or crime that can be placed in a larger narrative or frame
- Studies that find evidence of link between migration/diaspora and terrorism
- Incidents of “conflict spillover” or transnationalization of conflict
  - Transnational recruitment (foreign fighters)
  - Diffusion of conflict to new settings (e.g. urban street gangs, refugee camps)
- Contentious Politics
Research Question

- What are the determinants of violent extremism and how can migrants (including diaspora) and migration contribute to mitigating violent extremism?

- At least three main aspects to research question
  - Defining “Violent Extremism” (scope)
  - Defining migrant, diaspora and migration (mobility and transnationalism)
  - Hypotheses on links between two
Roadmap

- Motivation and Research Question

- Literature review

- Methodology

- Expected results
Literature – Migration and Security

- **Historical Examples**
  - Late 19th Century, WWI (Germans in US) WWII (Internment Camps, Refugees)

- **Migration and National Security** (eg Adamson, Hollifield, Rudolph, Weiner)
  - State capacity
  - Balance of Power
  - Nature of Violent Conflict

- **Refugee movements and conflict diffusion** (eg Gleditsch, Salehyan, Lischer)
Literature - Diaspora and Violent Conflict

- Diasporas as Actors in Post-Cold War “New Wars” (eg Anderson, Byman et al, Collier and Hoeffler, Demmers, Hoeckenos, Kaldor)

- Diaspora Politics and Identification of Mechanisms and Processes (eg Adamson, Koinova)
  - Resource-Mobilization, Framing, Lobbying, Brokerage, Ethnic Outbidding, etc.

- Debate About “Peace-Wreckers” vs. “Peace-Makers” (eg Baser and Swain, Brinkerhoff, Shain, Smith and Stares, Turner, Zunzer)
Literature – Diaspora, Development and Peacebuilding

- Diaspora and Development (Remittances, Entrepreneurship, Social Remittances)

- Diaspora and Transnational Political Participation – Formal (Voting, State Engagement Policies) and Informal (Transnational Civil Society)

- Diaspora Politics and Transitional Justice (e.g., Sri Lanka and Rwanda -- Haider, Clark, Orjuela)
Literature – Migration/Diaspora and Terrorism or Violent Extremism

- Move from Civil War Focus to Ideology/Religion or Orientation-Focused “Radicalization” or “Extremism”

- Networks and Recruitment in Europe (eg Luttwak, Neumann, Sageman, Hoffman/2007 RAND Conference, ESRC Radicalization Program, etc.)

- From Conflict Resolution to Counter-Terrorism and CVE

- Linking Civil War/Foreign Conflict and Terrorism – Foreign Fighters and “Return” (eg Bakke, Heghammer, Malet, etc.)
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Approach and Methodology – Hypothesis, Evidence, Case Study and Policy

- Hypothesis – Strategic Utilization of Migration Flows as Causal Link
- Evidence – Synthesis of Existing Empirical Data
- Case Study – Political opportunities and “Brokerage Organizations” e.g. faith-based NGOs and initiatives
- Policy Recommendations
  - Political and security importance of refugee protection and migration
  - Dangers of securitization
  - Supporting Brokerage and Networks
Approach and Methodology – Hypothesis on Strategic Use of Migration

- **Anti-systemic/Extremist Organizations**
  - Political mobilization/diaspora formation-engagement
  - Use of migration systems
  - Politicization of migration issues (contradictions in liberal norms)

- **Traffickers and Organized Crime**
  - Fill gap in supply vs. demand
  - Empower illicit networks – dependencies and parallel authority structures
  - Weakens state legitimacy

- **Right-Wing Extremist Parties + Media**
  - Fear-based politics
  - Mobilize popular support
Approach and Methodology – Evidence: Data vs Discourse

- Evidence from Existing Databases on Terrorism, Extremism, Refugee Flows
  - Contextualize anecdotal evidence with statistical evidence

- Analysis of Media Coverage
  - Coverage of deaths from terrorism and ISIL claims vs. transit and migration death, deaths in conflicts

- Cost-benefit and Risk Analysis
  - Politics of CT and Screening
Approach and Methodology – Case Study – Brokerage Organizations

- Brokerage Organizations
  - Logic from Network Theory
  - Types of Brokerage
  - Network Linkages to Counteract Extremism

- Examples
  - Transnational NGOs
  - Solidarity Organizations
  - Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs)

- Challenges
  - Connection to Local Contexts (e.g. Migration-Receiving Societies)
  - Hybrid Organizations and Political and Legal Challenges
Approach and Methodology – Policy Recommendations

- Policies to Address Strategic Manipulation of Migration
  - Screening
  - Managed Migration
  - De-Securitization

- Policies to Address Evidence-Discourse Gap
  - Positive Security Impacts of Migration
  - Politics of Migration – e.g. importance of “Grey Zone”
  - Media and Outreach

- Policies to Foster Brokerage
  - Networks of Networks
  - Local – Transnational Connections
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Research Gaps and Questions

- Definitions and Scope of CVE?
- Appropriate Literature Review, Approach and Methods?
- Securitization concerns -- focus on political dynamics, processes and policies rather than migrants as actors?
- Case Study of Brokerage Organizations?
- Policy Recommendations – For Whom/Which Actors?