**Joseph Torigian**  email: jptori@gmail.com

**EDUCATION** Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PhD in International Relations Theory and Comparative Politics

Dissertation - Prestige, Manipulation, and Coercion: Elite Power Struggles and the Fate of Three Revolutions

Committee: Richard Samuels, Kathleen Thelen, Taylor Fravel, Barry Posen

Defended August 2016

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI (Highest Distinction)

Major in Political Science (04/2006) and Minor in Asian Studies (04/2006)

William Jennings Bryan Prize (Departmental Political Science Award for graduating seniors)

**RESEARCH** Authoritarian regimes, grand strategy, qualitative methods, Chinese, Russian, and North Korean politics

**EXPERIENCE** *American University*

School of International Service August 2018- Present

Assistant Professor

*Council on Foreign Relations*

David Rockefeller Studies Program September 2019- August 2020

Stanton Fellow

*Wilson Center*

History and Public Policy Program October 2018- Present

Global Fellow

*Princeton and Harvard University*

China and the World Program September 2017- June 2018

Conducted research and participated in CWP events

*Stanford University*

CISAC Visiting Scholar October 2015- June 2017

Conducted research and participated in CISAC events as Predoctoral and Postdoctoral Fellow

*George Washington University*

Institute for Security and Conflict Studies Predoctoral Fellow September 2014- June 2015

Conducted dissertation research and participated in ISCS events

*Higher School of Economics, Moscow*

IREX Scholar November 2013- July 2014

Conducted dissertation research in Soviet archives

*Fudan University, Shanghai*

Fulbright Scholar September 2008- June 2009

Conducted research on Chinese foreign policy norms and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Audited and participated in graduate-level Chinese language courses on Sino-American relations Presented research findings to other scholars

*Council on Foreign Relations*

Research Associate December 2006- June 2008

Assisted Senior Fellow Adam Segal in research by writing over 100 memos

Prepared more than $250,000 budget for Dr. Segal’s programs and planned roundtables

Conducted conference for peers and presented paper on Chinese and Russian foreign policy

**LANGUAGES** Chinese: Fluent reading and speaking

Russian: Fluent reading and speaking

*Critical Language Scholarship* (US State Department) June 2010- July 2010

Spent two months in Ufa, Russia, studying Russian

*Rep. of China Chinese Language Fellowship (*FLAS*)* September 2004- August 2005

Spent full year at ICLP at National Taiwan University studying Chinese

**CONFERENCES** *International Studies Association* April 2021

Presented “Echoes of June 1941 in March 1969: Intelligence and Escalation on the (Far) Eastern Front”

*Association for Asian Studies* March 2021

Presented “Echoes of June 1941 in March 1969: Intelligence and Escalation on the (Far) Eastern Front”

*Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies* November 2020

Presented “Echoes of June 1941 in March 1969: Intelligence and Escalation on the (Far) Eastern Front”

Penn Center for the Study of Contemporary China September 2020

Commentator on panel at (Virtual) Conference on the Party at 100

*Hong Kong and Elsewhere Symposium* (*Hong Kong Studies* Journal) July 2020

Presented “Fathers and Sons—Hong Kong and Xi Jinping's Father Xi Zhongxun”

*CSIS*  January 2020

Delegation to Taiwan following January 2020 elections

*Stanton Foundation* October 2019

Presented on “The 1969 Sino-Soviet Nuclear Crisis”

*International Studies Association* March 2019

Presented on “A State of Fever: The Civil-Military Relations of the Nuclear (and Rocket) Revolution in the USSR”

*Princeton-Humboldt* March 2019

Presented on post-Stalin and Mao transitions at Conference “Comparing Dictatorships in Transition”

*Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at American University* March 2019

Presented on “China with a special focus on the Xi family”

*Harvard University Weatherhead Center* November 2018

Participant in Harvard International Security Cluster

*Wilson Center* October 2018

Presented on “Xi Zhongxun” at Conference “China Since the Cultural Revolution”

*APSA* August 2018

Presented paper: “The Civil-Military Relations of Tiananmen Square”

*The Society of Historians for American Foreign Relations* June 2018

Presented paper: “Khrushchev and the Bomb”

*Tianwen lianhe xuehui wenge bowuguan chouwei hui* [Tianwen Lianhe Society Cultural Revolution Museum Preparatory Committee] June 2018

Presentation: “Did the Gang of Four Have Their Own Ideology?” (In Chinese)

*Association for Asian Studies* March 2018

Presented paper: “Problems with Factions in Chinese Politics: The Case of Chen Yun”

*Brookings-Carnegie-Tobin* January 2018

Presented at Workshop on Policy Implications of New Research in Politics and International History

*Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies* November 2017

Participated in panel “New Opportunities in the Russian Archives”

*Stanford Dialogue* August 2016- ongoing

Note-taker for meetings between American, Chinese, and Russian retired military officers on strategic stability

*Tobin Project*  March 2017- September 2018

Participating in Tobin Project on Nuclear Threat Assessment

*Stanford Nuclear Youth Forum with MEPhI* May 2016

Participated in conference in Moscow with Russian nuclear experts

*Clements Center, UT Austin* July 2015

Participant in Summer Seminar in History and Statecraft

*International Studies Association* March 2015

Presented paper: “Scientific Realism and Qualitative Methods”

*SICAR (Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research)* Summer 2012

Spent one week at seminar on archives at George Washington University

*International Studies Association* March 2012

Presented paper: “Chinese Civil-Military Relations and the Roots of Political Change”

*International Studies Association* March 2011

Chaired panel: “Reassessing Power Transitions”

Presented paper: “The Rhetoric of Rise”

*New Era Foreign Policy Conference*  March 2010

Participated in two day workshop for young scholars interested in policy issues

**INVITED TALKS** Global Affairs Canada February 2021

Presented on hundredth anniversary of Chinese Communist Party on panel with Professor Timothy Cheek

Paul Tsai China Center, Yale University November 2020

Presented “Elite Politics in the Chinese Communist Party: Deng Xiaoping, the Xi Family, and the Limits of Collective Leadership”

*SIS Continuity Workshop* October 2020

Presented on use of digital archives in COVID era

*Global Insights* September 2020

Presented on panel “China and the World: the Road Ahead”

*CSIS China Policy Workshop Series* August 2020

Presented on how to analyze Chinese elite politics

*SICAR (Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research)* August 2020

Participated in panel on doing research overseas

*Faculty of Social Science, Oslo University* December 2019

“The Scholar as Detective”

“State of Fever: The Civil-Military Relations of the Nuclear Revolution in the USSR”

*Center for Security Studies, ETH, Zurich* December 2019

“State of Fever: The Civil-Military Relations of the Nuclear Revolution in the USSR”

*SIS Historical International Studies Faculty Research Cluster* October 2019

“Xi Jinping’s Father Xi Zhongxun and Chinese Communist Party Policies in Tibet and Xinjiang in the 1980s”

*East China Normal University, Shanghai* May 2019

Two talks (in Chinese): “Hua Guofeng” and “Chen Yun in the 1980s”

*Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at AU* March 2019

“China with a Special Focus on the Xi Family”

*Commemoration of the 30th Parinirvana Ann. of 10th Panchen Rinpoche* January 2019

“The Relationship between the 10th Panchen Lama and Xi Zhongxun”

*American University Centr. for Asian Studies and Complex Gov. Cluster* October 2018

“Xi Jinping’s Father and the Chinese Revolution”

*Asia-Pacific Nuclear History Institute (Wilson Center)* March 2018

“Khrushchev and the Bomb”

*University of Southern California Center for International Studies* February 2018

“Explaining North Korean Regime Resiliency: Kim Il Sung and the Partisan Legacy”

*Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program* November 2017

“China’s History of Failed Interventions in North Korean Elite Politics”

*Hoover Institution Workshop on Authoritarian Regimes* July 2016

“Prestige, Manipulation, and Coercion: Elite Power Struggles and the Fate of Three Revolutions”

*Stanford Russian History Kruzhok* March 2016

“Elite Power Struggles in the Soviet Union: The Cases of Beria and the Anti-Party Group”

*Stanford University CISAC* February 2016

“Communist Coups: Authoritarianism and the Fate of Three Revolutions”

*SICAR (Summer Institute on Conducting Archival Research)* May 2015

“How to Conduct Archival Research”

*George Washington University ISCS* March 2015

“Cleaning Up the Revolution: The Rise of Deng Xiaoping 1977-1981”

**MEDIA** Research referred to in “Ai Weiwei y Xi Jinping: cara y ceca de la China contemporánea,” March 19, 2021, *Libertad Digital*

Quote included in “Why Are There No Biographies of Xi Jinping?, *The Atlantic*, January 30, 2021

Quote included in “The Red Capitalist,” *The Wire: China*, January 10, 2021

Quote included in “How the U.S. Misread China’s Xi: Hoping for a Globalist, It Got an Autocrat,” *Wall Street Journal*, December 23, 2020

Interviewed on podcast “Xi Dada and Daddy: Power, the Party and the President,” Little Red Podcast, November 1, 2020

Quote included in “Zhongguo renyi jubu weixie ri zeng haiwai meiguo gongmin fenfen huiguo bi xian,” Chinese Voice of America, October 23, 2020

Quote included in “Dreams of a Red Emperor: The Relentless Rise of Xi Jinping,” *Los Angeles Times*, October 22, 2020

Quote included in “In City Where China Welcomed the World, Xi Prepares for a Colder One,” *New York Times*, October 14, 2020

Quote included in “China’s Xi Lays Out Plan to Build Shenzhen into Global Rival to Troubled Hong Kong,” *Washington Post,* October 14, 2020

Quote included in “China’s Mealtime Appeal Amid Food Supply Worries: Don’t Take More than You Can Eat, *Washington Post,* October 5, 2020

Interview on Voice of America (in Chinese), July 2, 2020 (on Hong Kong)

Quote included in “In China-U.S. Showdown, Beijing’s Steely Propagandist Sharpens Her Attack,” *Washington Post*, May 21, 2020

Quote included in “In China’s Crisis, Xi Sees a Crucible to Strengthen His Rule,” *New York Times*, May 20, 2020

Quote included in “China Investigates Property Tycoon Who Criticised Government Over Coronavirus Outbreak,” *The Telegraph*, April 8, 2020

Quote included in “Chinese Mogul Faces Probe for Essay Critical of President Xi’s Coronavirus Handling,” *Wall Street Journal,* April 7, 2020

Interview on *Mingjing* television (in Chinese), February 28, 2020 (on Xi Jinping’s father)

Interview on *Mingjing* television (in Chinese), February 27, 2020 (on Deng Xiaoping)

Interview on *Mingjing* television (in Chinese), December 4, 2019 (on Xi Jinping’s father and Xinjiang)

Quote included in “For China’s Xi, the Hong Kong Crisis is Personal,” *Wall Street Journal*, September 27, 2019

Quote included in “Why Taiwan is Unfinished Business for Xi Jinping,” *Financial Times*, September 22, 2019

Research referenced in “As Protests Rock Hong Kong, Xi Jinping’s View of History Shows He Will Dig In,” *New York Times,* July 3, 2019

Interviewed on podcast “The Little Red Podcast,” June 2, 2019

Quoted included in “Deng Xiaoping’s Son Urges China to ‘Know its Place’ in Counterpoint to Xi's Expansionist Foreign Policy,” *The Telegraph*, October 30, 2018

**WORKING PAPERS** “How Should We Explain Single Cases? Scientific Realism and Qualitative Methods” (R&R)

*The Party’s Interests Come First: The Life of Xi Jinping’s Father Xi Zhongxun* (book manuscript proposal under review)

**AWARDS** *Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars Asia Program* March 2021 to March 2022

China Fellow

*Dean of Academic Affairs International Travel Award* March, 2019

Spent one month in China collecting material and conducting interviews

*Stanford Center on International Conflict and Negotiation* February- June 2016

Fellow and winner of Goldsmith Research Award (April 2016)

*MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives China Seed Fund* June and July 2013

Spent two months in Beijing and Hong Kong interviewing party historians and collecting dissertation material

*MIT**Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant* June 2012

Spent one month in Beijing interviewing party historians and collecting dissertation material

**TEACHING**  SIS “Teaching Triangle” Spring 2021

Teaching featured in “How Graphic Novels Can Inform Military Readiness,” Kelly Gardner, School of International Service News, August 22, 2019

Teaching featured in “Sources Say,” Andrew Erickson, *American University Magazine*, March 2019

*School of International Service, American University* Spring 2019

“The Revisionists: Chinese and Russian Politics and Foreign Policy (for juniors and seniors)”

“The Scholar as Detective: How to Find and Analyze the Best Sources (sophomore methods course)”

*School of International Service, American University* Fall 2018

“Conflict and the Graphic Novel (first year seminar)”

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology* Fall 2012

Teaching assistant for “American Foreign Policy”

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology*  Spring 2013

Teaching assistant for “Graphic Novels and Political Violence”

**PUBLICATIONS** *Prestige, Manipulation, and Coercion: Elite Power Struggles after Stalin and Mao*, forthcoming at Yale University Press

“You Don’t Know Khrushchev Well”: The Fall of Khrushchev as a Challenge to “Exchange” and “Institutionalist” Explanations of Authoritarian Politics,” forthcoming at *Journal of Cold War Studies*

Review of “The War Scare That Wasn’t: Able Archer 83 and the Myths of the Second Cold War” by Simon Miles in H-Diplo, March 2021

“China’s Nuclear Program Baffled Soviet Intelligence,” in *Foreign Policy*, October 21, 2020

“Xi Jinping’s Tiananmen Family Lessons,” in *Foreign Policy*, June 4, 2020

Review of *Russian Nuclear Orthodoxy: Religion, Politics, and Strategy* by Dmitry Adamsky in H-Diplo, April 2020

“What Xi Jinping Learned—And Didn’t Learn—From His Father About Xinjiang,” in *The Diplomat*, November 26, 2019

“Chinese Society amid Mao's Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution: The Roots and Nature of the Tragedy: Commentary by Joseph Torigian,” in *Journal of Cold War Studies*, 21:2, Spring 2019

“Elite Politics and Foreign Policy in China from Mao to Xi,” in *Revolution or Evolution? Xi Jinping and the Future of China’s Foreign Policy*, Brookings Institution, January 22, 2019.

“Historical Legacies and Leaders’ Worldviews: Communist Party History and Xi’s Learned (And Unlearned) Lessons” in *China Perspectives,* 2018/1-2

“Don’t count on China to rein in North Korea. Here’s why” in *Washington Post’*s Monkey Cage, February 17, 2017

“The Shadow of Deng Xiaoping on Chinese Elite Politics” in *War on the Rocks*, January 30, 2017

“Khrushchev’s Fate and China’s Future” in *The Diplomat*, November 24, 2016

“Mass Atrocity Monday: Tiananmen Square” on Justice in Conflict blog, June 6, 2016

**DEPART. SERVICE** *American University* Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Head of Political Violence and Security Cluster

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology* Fall 2011 and Fall 2012

Job Search Committee

*Massachusetts Institute of Technology* Fall 2011 and Spring 2012

Graduate Student Working Group Coordinator

**PROF. SERVICE** *Journal of Cold War Studies, International Security, Journal of Historical Sociology, China Review, Security Studies, Journal of Strategic Studies, History of Political Thought*

Reviewer