

# MAX Z. MARGULIES

October 2025

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United States Military Academy  
Dept. of History and War Studies  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

### Dept. of History and War Studies, U.S. Military Academy at West Point

2025– Associate Professor, War Studies  
2025– Director of Research, Resnick Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies

### Dept. of Social Sciences, U.S. Military Academy at West Point

2024–2025 Associate Professor, International Affairs  
2023–2024 Assistant Professor, International Affairs  
2018–2020 Assistant Professor, International Affairs  
2018–2020 Executive Director, Grand Strategy Program

### The Modern War Institute at West Point

2020–2025 Director of Research  
2020–2023 Assistant Professor, Defense and Strategic Studies

## EDUCATION

2018 Ph.D. in Political Science, University of Pennsylvania  
2011 M.A. in Political Science, Columbia University  
2010 B.A. in Political Science (Honors), McGill University

## PUBLICATIONS

### Edited Volumes

2026 Jaron S. Wharton, Keith Carter, Kate Kuzminski, **Max Margulies**, Carrie Lee, and Jason Dempsey, eds. *Bend but do not Break: Shaping the Future of the All-Volunteer Force*. Oxford University Press (expected January 2026).  
2025 **Max Margulies** and Patrick Sullivan, eds. *Expecting the Unexpected: Identifying Blind Spots and Preparing for Strategic Surprise in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. [West Point Press](#), September 2025.

### Peer-Reviewed Articles

2025 **Max. Z. Margulies**. “Drafting Restraint: Are Military Recruitment Policies Associated with Interstate Conflict Initiation,” [Journal of Peace Research](#) 62(4): 815–829. DOI: 10.1177/00223433241255.

- 2025 Paul L. Johnson and **Max Z. Margulies**. “Divided Loyalty: Are Conscript Militaries Less Likely to Repress Antigovernment Protests?” [\*Journal of Peace Research\*](#) 62(4): 830–846. DOI: 10.1177/00223433241256274.
- 2024 **Max Z. Margulies** and Rachel Metz. “Issue Linkage in Security Assistance: A Pathway to Recipient Security Sector Reform,” [\*Journal of Strategic Studies\*](#). DOI: 10.1080/01402390.2024.2376541.
- 2021 **Max Z. Margulies**. “Patrons and Personnel: The Foreign Determinants of Military Recruitment Policies,” [\*Security Studies\*](#) 30(3): 354–384. DOI: 10.1080/09636412.2021.1951832.
- 2021 **Max Z. Margulies** and Leah E. Foodman. “Suboptimal Selective Service: An Analysis of the Obstacles to Selective Service Reform in American Political Institutions,” [\*Journal of Strategic Security\*](#) 14(2): 74–88. DOI: 10.5038/1944-0472.14.2.1903.

### Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- 2026 Keith L. Carter, **Max Z. Margulies**, and Isaiah Wilson III. “Military Adventurism and the Future All-Volunteer Force,” in *Bend but do not Break: Shaping the Future of the All-Volunteer Force*, eds. Jaron S. Wharton, Keith Carter, Kate Kuzminski, Max Margulies, Carrie Lee, and Jason Dempsey. Oxford University Press (expected January 2026).
- 2020 Michael A. Robinson, Lindsay P. Cohn, and **Max Z. Margulies**. “Dissents and Sensibility: Conflicting Loyalties, Democracy, and Civil-Military Relations,” in *Reconsidering American Civil-Military Relations: The Military, Society, Politics and Modern War*, eds. Lionel Behner, Risa Brooks, and Dan Maurer, 63–83. Oxford University Press.

### Invited or Editor-Reviewed Articles & Chapters

- 2025 Patrick J. Sullivan, **Max Z. Margulies**, and Vito J. D’Orazio. “Introduction: Policy Priorities and Prediction.” In *Expecting the Unexpected: Identifying Blind Spots and Preparing for Strategic Surprise in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, eds. Max Z. Margulies and Patrick J. Sullivan. [West Point Press](#), September 2025.
- 2025 **Max Z. Margulies** and Andrew Webster. “Turning a Pond into the Sea: Updating the Army’s Understanding of the Information Environment to Expand the Pool of Potential Recruits,” [\*Military Review\*](#) (Online Exclusive), April 14.
- 2024 Zachary Griffiths and **Max Z. Margulies**. “Appendix - Human Capital Development.” In *States, Societies & Security in the 21st Century: Third Annual West Point Social Sciences Seminar*, ed. Jordan Becker, 173–177. West Point Press.
- 2022 **Max Z. Margulies** and Jessica Blankshain. “Specific Sources of Trust in Generals: Individual-Level Trust in the US Military,” [\*Daedalus\*](#) 151(4): 280–301.

### Public Scholarship & Commentary

- 2025 Max Z. Margulies and Patrick Sullivan. “The Logics of Military Force: Or, How India and Pakistan Fought Each Other and Didn’t Use the Bomb,” [The Modern War Institute](#), May 14.
- 2023 Zachary Griffiths and Max Z. Margulies. “Running an essay competition: Behind the MWI-TRADOC Recruiting Essay Competition,” [Harding Project Substack](#), December 20.

- 2023 Zachary Griffiths, Laura Keenan, and Max Z. Margulies. “Taking an Azimuth on the US Military’s Recruiting Crisis: What We Learned from MWI and TRADOC’s Essay Competition,” [The Modern War Institute](#), December 20.
- 2023 Max Z. Margulies and Laura R. Samotin. “Ukraine’s Post-War Military: The Case for Professionalism,” [The National Interest](#), December 15.
- 2023 Carrie Lee and Max Z. Margulies. “Rethinking Civil-Military Relations for Modern Strategy.” [The Modern War Institute](#), August 14.
- 2022 Max Z. Margulies and Laura Resnick Samotin. “Why Russian Conscripts Can’t Subdue Ukraine,” [The Wall Street Journal](#), May 5.
- 2021 Renanah Miles Joyce, Max Z. Margulies, and Tucker Chase. “The Future of US Security Force Assistance,” [The Modern War Institute](#), November 23.
- 2021 Jessica Blankshain and Max Z. Margulies. “The Downside of High Trust in the Military,” [The New York Times](#), Section A, Page 23, September 16.
- 2021 Max Z. Margulies. “Essay by Max Margulies in Teaching Roundtable on the Cold War in IR,” [H-Diplo Roundtable](#) XXII-50: 11–14, July 17..
- 2021 Max Z. Margulies and Amy Rutenberg. “Congress considers future of the military draft, while Supreme Court holds off,” [The Conversation](#), June 7.
- 2020 Jessica Blankshain, Danielle Lupton, and Max Z. Margulies. “Shifting Norms About Secretary of Defense Has Long-Term Consequences: On the Austin Nomination,” [Just Security](#), December 22.
- 2020 Max Z. Margulies. “Coercion and Competition: Evaluating American Options for Overcoming Adversaries and Avoiding War,” [The Modern War Institute](#), December 10.
- 2020 Danielle Lupton and Max Z. Margulies. “Trump’s election fraud allegations suggest military voters uniformly supported him. It’s not so,” [The Washington Post \(The Monkey Cage\)](#), November 18.
- 2020 Max Z. Margulies. “The National Commission on Public Service is Right to Endorse Women’s Draft Registration,” [Lawfare](#), March 27.
- 2019 Lindsay Cohn, Max Z. Margulies, and Michael A. Robinson. “What Discord Follows: The Divisive Debate on Military Disobedience,” [War on the Rocks](#), August 2.
- 2018 Max Z. Margulies. “The Greatest Sacrifice: Why Military Service Should Not Be an Obligation of Citizenship,” [War on the Rocks](#), May 31.

### **Book Reviews**

- 2021 Max Z. Margulies. Review of Kate Imy, *Faithful Fighters: Identity and Power in the British Indian Army* (Stanford University Press, 2019), [Armed Forces & Society](#) 50(4): 1248–1250. DOI: 10.1177/0095327X211043148.
- 2021 Max Z. Margulies. Review of Amy Rutenberg, *Rough Draft: Cold War Military Manpower Policies and the Origins of Vietnam-Era Draft Resistance* (Cornell University Press, 2019), [Political Science Quarterly](#) 136(2): 377–379. DOI: 10.1002/polq.13188
- 2021 Max Z. Margulies. Review of Jason Lyall, *Divided Armies: Inequality and Battlefield Performance in Modern War* (Princeton University Press, 2020), [Political Science Quarterly](#) 136(1): 197–198. DOI: 10.1002/polq.13153.

## RESEARCH IN-PROGRESS

### Under Review or in Revision

- “The Political Geography of the US Army Recruitment Crisis.” With Brandon Colas.
- “Conclusion: Learning from Conscription in the Twentieth Century.” In *Conscription in the Global Twentieth Century*, ed. Amy Rutenberg (contract with University of Kansas Press).
- “Warriors, Military Missions, and Public Confidence in the US Military.” With Danielle Lupton and Jessica Blankshain.
- “Selecting Service: The Continuum of Volunteerism with the US Military.” With Keith Carter.
- “Military Innovation in People Management.” With Lee Robinson, Heather Jebb, and Ryan Pallas.
- “Special Operations Forces.” In *A More Perfect Union: Maximizing America’s Warfighting Potential*, eds. Chuck Allen and John Nagl. With Isaiah Wilson III and Robert Zackery.

### Working Papers and Projects

- “American Youth Attitudes toward the Military and the Use of Force Abroad.”
- “Trust in the Military and Enlistment Decisions.” With Brandon Colas.
- “What Explains who Joins the Military?” With Brandon Colas.
- “Calls of Duty: Disaggregating Perceptions of American Military Structures.” With Keith Carter.
- “How far does military expertise extend?” With Danielle Lupton and Jessica Blankshain.
- “Military Training and Combatant Socialization.” With Andrew Bell.
- “Imagining Regime Security: Ideology and Security Force Design.” With Drew Kinney.
- “Deployment Frequency and Decision-making in Special Operations Forces.”

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2025 Co-investigator, Fast Forward: Forecasting Global Emerging Threats, Finalist (\$25,000)
- 2021 Faculty Research Fund Grant, United States Military Academy (\$300)
- 2020 Charles Koch Foundation Research Grant (\$15,000)
- 2018 Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania
- 2016 Teece Dissertation Research Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (\$5,000)
- 2016 APSA Centennial Center Second Century Fund Supplementary Research Grant (\$1,000)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AWARDS

- 2025– Term Member, Council on Foreign Relations
- 2025– Non-Resident Fellow, Center for Security Studies, Georgetown University
- 2025 Army Civilian Service Commendation Medal
- 2023 Non-Resident Fellow, Institute for Global Affairs
- 2023 Army Basic Instructor Badge
- 2020 Army Civilian Service Commendation Medal
- 2015 Center for Teaching and Learning Certificate, University of Pennsylvania

## INVITED TALKS (EXTERNAL)

- 2024 The National WWI Museum and Memorial 2024 Symposium: War and Morality Digital Summit, “Jus in Bello for Those Without Uniform,” November 15. Presenter.

- 2024 D&H Canal Historical Society, Makers of History Lecture Series, “Contemporary Challenges Facing the US Military,” June 14. Presenter.
- 2023 US Army War College Civil-Military Relations Center Fall Workshop, “American Youth Attitudes toward the Military and the Use of Force Abroad,” October 26. Presenter.
- 2023 Pritzker Military Museum & Library, On War Military Symposium, “Partner Perspectives: How America’s Allies Man Their Militaries,” April 14. Panelist.
- 2023 Colgate University, International Relations and Foreign Policy Speaker Series, “Call of Duty? How Public Opinion Perceptions of Military Recruitment Affects Support for the Use of Force Abroad,” February 22. Presenter.
- 2023 Colgate University, US Foreign Policy Guest Lecture on Civil-Military Relations, February 22. Presenter.
- 2022 Wofford College, International Affairs Seminar Senior Seminar Guest Lecture on Historical and Archival Research, April 11. Presenter.
- 2021 The Chairman’s Action Group, Joint Chiefs of Staff, October 15. Presenter.
- 2021 Fifth Annual All-Volunteer Force Forum, “Is America’s All-Volunteer Force Sustainable,” Catholic University, March 31. Moderator.
- 2020 ClimateSAN, Canada and the Arctic: Climate Change and Security, Impacts of Climate Change on Human Security Online Conference, May 18. Moderator.

**INVITED WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION (EXTERNAL)**

- 2025 Center for a New American Security, “Military Recruitment Challenges,” February 19.
- 2024 Perry World House, University of Pennsylvania, Workshop on Civil-Military Relations in Social Context, “American Youth Attitudes toward the Military” May 9.
- 2023 Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, Future of Civil-Military Relations Workshop, October 15.
- 2024 Center for a New American Security, “Back to the Drafting Board Tabletop Exercise,” February 5.
- 2022 Center for a New American Security, All-Volunteer Force at 50 Task Force, 2022–23. New America, The Military and Democracy: The U.S. in Comparative Perspective Conference, September 9.
- 2022 Professional Military Education: Irregular Warfare in Strategic Competition Seminar, Hosted Joint Staff J-7 at National Defense University, June 10.
- 2019 Summer Workshop for the Analysis of Military Operations and Strategy, July.
- 2019 Young Scholars/Future of Civil-Military Relations Workshop, Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society, November 10.
- 2017 Designing Security Institutions in Developing Countries Workshop, Peace Science Society International North American Annual Meeting, November 2.
- 2014 Who Actually Guards the Guardians Workshop, Peace Science Society International North American Annual Meeting, October 9.

**INVITED TALKS (INTERNAL)**

- 2025 West Point Social Sciences Seminar, “Patterns of the past, shape of futures, determining factors in the future of regional security” (Discussant) and “People Management in Modern Militaries (Chair/Discussant), February 5–6.

- 2024 States, Societies, and Security in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Seminar, “Acquisition and Retention of Human Capital” Panel, February 8.
- 2023 Graduate Scholarship Program, “Social Science and Humanities Research Panel,” February 27.
- 2021 Conference on the Ethics of War and Peace, “The Unintended Consequences of Counterterrorism and Counterinsurgency” Panel, October 13.
- 2021 International Affairs Forum, “The Future of US Security Force Assistance,” Panel, November 9.
- 2020 International Affairs Forum, “How to Prevent Coups d’Etat,” November 17.
- 2020 Graduate Scholarship Program, “The Army in Strategy Panel,” February 20.
- 2019 Modern War Institute, “Oxford Handbook of Grand Strategy Book Workshop,” May 19.

## **SELECT ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

- American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2017, 2019–2021, 2024)
- International Studies Association Annual Convention (2017–2019, 2023, 2024)
- International Studies Association ISSS Annual Convention (2023, 2025)
- Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (2021, 2023)
- Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (2014, 2016)
- Peace Science Society International Annual North American Meeting (2016, 2017, 2024)
- Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference (2016, 2023)
- US Army War College Civil-Military Relations Center Conference (2023, 2024)

## **MEDIA COVERAGE AND APPEARANCES**

### **Radio and Podcast Interviews**

- 2024 Guest, [Army War College Podcast](#), “Foreign Policy versus Public Opinion,” January 19.
- 2021 Guest on *The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen*, WNHN FM 94.7, September 14.
- 2021 Conversation Six, Max Margulies and Stephen Saideman, June 24.
- 2020 Podcast guest on *Say More on That*, Podcast by Hilary A. Matfess, “Episode Two: Max Margulies and Conscription's Effect on Conflict Initiation,” December 23.

### **Print Interviews, Quotations, and Other Media Coverage**

- 2022 Featured in *RealClearDefense*, “Individual-Level Trust in the US Military,” November 19.
- 2021 Quoted in Shannon Vavra, “Josh Hawley Will Be Damned if He Allows Women to Get Drafted,” [The Daily Beast](#), November 10.
- 2021 Interviewed for “The military draft is making a comeback,” [The Economist](#), October 2.
- 2021 Publication featured in *Politico*, “What to Read,” September 16.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **United States Military Academy**

- American Grand Strategy in East Asia (Summer 2020)
- Grand Strategy Field Study: The Rise and Fall of Great Powers (Summer 2019)
- History of Modern Military Art: 1900–Present (Fall 2025)

Introduction to International Relations (Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025)  
Introduction to Grand Strategy (Spring 2019, Spring 2020)  
Research Methods in Strategic Studies (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)  
Strategic Studies Field Study: War in Ukraine and Deterrence in Europe (Summer 2023)  
Strategic Studies Thesis (Year-long sequence, AY2021, AY2022, AY2023, AY2024, AY2025)  
Topics in Grand Strategy: Sources of Strategy and Power (Fall 2020)  
Special Topics in Strategic Studies: Winning on the Battlefield (Fall 2023)

### **School of Liberal and Professional Studies, University of Pennsylvania**

Introduction to International Relations (Summer 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018)

### **La Salle University**

Introduction to International Relations (co-taught with Emma Boyle)  
Rise and Fall of Dictators (co-taught with Emma Boyle)

### **UNDERGRADUATE THESIS SUPERVISION**

- 2025 Blaine Jones, United States Military Academy, A Systems Approach to Modeling the Effects of Security Assistance in Ukraine.
- 2025 Jade Wyatt, United States Military Academy, “Special Operations Forces and Moral Drift.” Defense and Strategic Studies Program.
- 2023 John Linton, United States Military Academy, “How Strategies of External Support Contribute to Victory.” Defense and Strategic Studies Program.
- 2023 Nicholas Kramer, United States Military Academy, “The Lion’s Arena: State Border Lengths and Insurgency Intensity.” Defense and Strategic Studies Program.
- 2022 Konrad Babraj, United States Military Academy, “Command Uncontrolled: US Civil-Military Relation and Counterinsurgencies.” Defense and Strategic Studies Program.
- 2021 Liz Fursova, United States Military Academy, “The Effect of Gender-Neutral Physical Standards on Integration of Women in Combat.” Defense and Strategic Studies Program.
- 2021 Ted Wages, United States Military Academy, “Variation in Pandemic Responses Among Democracies.” International Affairs Program (co-chaired with Tania Chacho).
- 2021 Nathan Kreher, United States Military Academy, “Subnational Determinants of Violence: Conflict Distribution in the West Bank.” International Affairs Program.

### **DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE (WEST POINT)**

#### **Program Leadership**

- 2025– War Studies Community of Practice Program Manager
- 2023–2025 SGT Kyle Osborn Scholarship AIAD Program Manager
- 2020–2025 Defense and Strategic Studies Thesis Program Director
- 2020–2025 Modern War Institute Research Fellows Program Manager
- 2020–2025 Modern War Institute Affiliated Faculty Program Manager
- 2020–2025 Modern War Institute Research Report series editor
- 2023 Modern War Institute Essay Contest Judge, Solving the Military Recruiting Crisis

2021 Modern War Institute Essay Contest Judge, Polar Special Operations  
2020–2021 Defense and Strategic Studies Capstone Program Director  
2018–2020 Academic Advisor for Grand Strategy Minors, Department of Social Sciences

### **Event Organizer**

2020–2024 Modern War Institute Class of 2006 War Studies Conference  
2020–2023 Modern War Institute Class of 2006 War Council Series  
2020–2021 Modern War Institute Strength and Wisdom Network Series  
2019 Department of Social Sciences Grand Strategy Book Workshop

### **INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE (WEST POINT)**

2024– Superintendent’s Civilian Faculty Advisor Committee representative  
2022–2023 Collaborative Academic Institutional Review Board  
2021– Officer Representative/Faculty Advisor, Women’s Army Tennis  
2021 Dean’s Interdepartmental Awards Committee  
2020– Faculty Associate, Graduate Scholarship Program  
2019– Assistant Officer-in-Charge, Big Brothers Big Sisters Club at West Point

### **DISCIPLINARY/OTHER SERVICE**

2025– Editorial Board Member, *International Studies Perspectives*  
2023–2025 Member of the Army Women’s Initiatives Team  
2022 Dissertation Examiner for Laura Samotin (Ph.D. Political Science, Columbia University)  
2021 Waltz Dissertation Award Committee, APSA International Security Section  
2020 Interviewed by the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service  
2019 Two-week assignment to US Army Mission Command Element, Poznan, Poland,  
2014–2017 Organizer, International Relations Grad. Workshop, University of Pennsylvania  
2014 Graduate Student Organization Co-Chair, Department of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania

#### Panel Chair and/or Discussant:

2024 APSA  
2022 APSA; ISA  
2020 APSA  
2018 ISA

#### Reviewer for:

*American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, European Journal of International Relations, Expeditions with Marine Corps University Press, International Organization, International Security, International Studies Quarterly, International Studies Perspectives, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Peace Research, Journal of Politics, Research in Globalization, Security and Defence Quarterly, Texas National Security Review; Rowman and Littlefield, World Politics.*