

Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Political and Social Sciences
Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna

E-mail: andrea.knapp2@unibo.it

Web: <https://www.unibo.it/sitoweb/andrea.knapp2/en>

CURRENT POSITION

Ph.D. Candidate in Political and Social Sciences 2021-
University of Bologna
▪ Thesis title: *Beyond the vote: State influence, power politics and decision-making at the United Nations Security Council, 1990-2019* (supervisor: Prof. Francesco N. Moro)

EDUCATION

Visiting Researcher 2025
Columbia University, Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies
▪ Hosted by Prof. Michael Doyle

Visiting Researcher 2024
Uppsala University, Department of Peace and Conflict Research
▪ Hosted by Prof. Lisa Hultman

MA in International Relations (Crime, Justice and Security) 2019-21
University of Bologna

BA in Communication Sciences 2016-19
University of Bologna

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Decision-making, innovation and learning in International Organizations (NATO and UN)
- Peacekeeping, conflict resolution and foreign intervention
- Norm theory (particularly contestation)
- Automated text analysis and quantitative methods (R and Stata)

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed articles

- Knapp, A. (2025). “Introducing the UNSCRA dataset: Authoring Security Council resolutions, 1990-2023”. *Journal of Peace Research*, 1-12.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/00223433251315634>
- Knapp, A. (2024). “Protection trinity: Assessing the three-tier framework in United Nations resolutions”. *International Peacekeeping*, 30(4), 415-441.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13533312.2024.2333740>
- Knapp, A. (2024). “Speaking of civilians: Automated text analysis of the United Nations’ framing of complex humanitarian emergencies”. *International Interactions*, 50(2), 300-331.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/03050629.2024.2318559>

Book chapters

- Knapp, A. & J. Fritzler (2025). “Soft contestation of the Responsibility to Protect? Assessing Canada and Sweden’s norm diplomacy” in *Norms in Prism. Patterns of Norm Evolution, Consolidation and Decay* (eds. C. Ducci, F. Lucenti, C. Wunderlich and J. Lantis), Springer.
- Fernandes-Neto, A., A. Knapp & E. Morbin (2024). “Latin American migrants as offenders and victims. Rethinking the binomial” in *Ideal and Real Victims. Political Discourse and Media Representation in Contemporary Societies* (eds. S. Vezzadini), Bologna University Press.

Public engagement

- Knapp, A. 2023. “Definitions matter: Navigating gray areas in the United Nations’ protection of civilians”, E-IR. <https://www.e-ir.info/2023/03/12/definitions-matter-navigating-gray-areas-in-united-nations-civilian-protection/>

CURRENT WORKING PAPERS

- Knapp, A. “Speech is silver, resolutions are gold: State influence on UNSC resolutions (1990-2019)?” (under review).
- Costantini, I., M. Dian, A. Knapp & F.N. Moro. “(Il)Liberal peace: P5 approaches to conflict management and resolutions” (R&R).
- Knapp, A. “Twin diplomacy: Strategic authorship selection and resolution outcomes at the UNSC” (under review).
- Carrara, P., A. Knapp, L. Pinto & F.N. Moro. “The politics of banditry: Political change and criminal violence in post-unification Italy (1861-1865)” (working paper).
- Knapp, A. & M. Moschella. “The temporal dimension of policy diffusion: Timing, stickiness and symbolism in climate policy framing” (working paper).
- Knapp, A., F. Maina, F. Salvati & V. Vignoli. “The Alliance is speaking. The role of NATO Secretaries-General” (working paper).
- Knapp, A. & M. Sguazzini. “Una crisi senza risoluzione: La Siria nell’agenda del Consiglio di Sicurezza delle Nazioni Unite” (chapter submitted for publication).
- Agostinis, G. & A. Knapp. “International Organization design and shaming of the Russian invasion of Ukraine” (working paper).
- Knapp, A., F.N. Moro, C. Passalacqua & M. Sguazzini. “Divergent stars: a machine-learning enhanced text analysis of European Cybersecurity Strategies” (working paper).

CONSULTANCY

NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence (NATO SP CoE) 2024-25
“Stability policing as a NATO capability to foster readiness and resilience against hybrid and irregular warfare. New perspectives for NATO missions”

INVOLVEMENT IN NATIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

University of Bologna-University of Genoa-University of Rome (PRIN) 2024-
“Recasting the national interest in Europe. Institutions, politics and policies for the defence of critical infrastructures and supply chains”

University of Bologna-University of Florence-University of Naples (PRIN) 2023-25

“Conflict management and resolution in the wider Mediterranean: Comparing practices between Western and non-Western actors”

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

“ <i>Technology and Change in Global Politics</i> ” (100 hours) University of Bologna (Dep. of Electronical Engineering), MA level	2024-25
“ <i>Introduction to International Relations</i> ” (50 hours) University of Bologna (Dep. of Political and Social Sciences), BA level	2023-25
“ <i>Political Behavior and Institutions</i> ” (40 hours) University of Bologna (Dep. of Economics), BA level	2023-24

INVITED LECTURES

<i>Johns Hopkins University</i> (Europe Campus) on United Nations peacekeeping	2025
<i>Geneva Graduate Institute</i> (Geneva) on text-as-data at the United Nations	2025
<i>University of Bologna</i> on United Nations Security Council negotiations (simulation)	2025
<i>University of Bologna</i> on the Israel-Hamas war	2024
<i>American University of Florence</i> on United Nations peacekeeping	2024
<i>NATO SP CoE Diamond Event</i> (Vicenza) on stability policing	2024
<i>Johns Hopkins University</i> (Europe Campus) on the Responsibility to Protect	2024
<i>University of Bologna</i> on the Israel-Hamas war	2023
<i>Johns Hopkins University</i> (Europe Campus) on the Responsibility to Protect	2023

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

<i>EISA Conference</i> (Bologna, supported with 600€): “The temporal dimension of policy diffusion: Timing, stickiness and symbolism in climate policy framing”, “Unleashing the E10: Why states do (not) draft resolutions at the UNSC”	2025
<i>SGRI Conference</i> (Milan): “The temporal dimension of policy diffusion: Timing, stickiness and symbolism in climate policy framing”	2025
<i>PRIN Workshop</i> (Naples, supported with 250€): “(Il)Liberal peace: P5 approaches to conflict interventions”	2025
<i>ISA Conference</i> (Chicago, supported with 600\$): “Twin diplomacy: Strategic authorship selection and resolution outcomes at the UNSC”, “(Il)Liberal peace: Western and non-Western approaches to conflict management and resolutions”	2025
<i>SISP Conference</i> (Trieste): “Twin diplomacy: Explaining state collaboration based on co-authorship data”	2024
<i>ECPR General Conference</i> (Dublin): “Sponsoring UNSC resolutions? Role, motivation and agency of initial drafters”	2024
<i>International Studies Workshop</i> (Parma): “State influence on Security Council decision-making (1990-2019)”	2024
<i>SGRI Conference</i> (Parma): “Introducing the UNSCRA dataset: Authors of United Nations Security Council resolutions, 1990-2023”	2024

PRIN Workshop (Florence): “(Il)Liberal peace: Western and non-Western approach to conflict interventions”	2024
Junior IO Scholars Workshop (online): “Negotiating civilian protection: Who shapes the language of UNSC resolutions? (1990-2019)”	2023
SISP Conference (Genoa): “Negotiating civilian protection: Who shapes the language of United Nations Security Council resolutions? (1990-2019)” and “The politics of banditry: Political change and criminal violence in post-unification Italy (1861-1865)”	2023
ECPR General Conference (Prague, supported with 900€): “Speeches are silver, but resolutions are gold: Reassessing member state agency in United Nations decision-making (1990-2019)”	2023
NEPS Conference (Bologna): “What’s in a name: Deconstructing ambiguity in the United Nations’ protection of civilians” (Bologna)	2023
IR2P Conference (Leeds, supported with 150£): “Contesting the Responsibility to Protect in the UNSC: Insights from computational text analysis”	2022
B4Peace Conference (Parma): “Speaking of conflict: An automated text analysis on the United Nations’ framing of war”	2022
EISA-PEC Conference (Athens, supported with 300€): “When practice does (not) make perfect: Contestation of R2P inside the Security Council”	2022
ECPR General Conference (Innsbruck): “To protect or not to protect: Analysis of the United Nations’ language in peacekeeping mandates”	2022
SGRI Conference (Perugia): “Words on war matter: On the potentials of automated text analysis in research on the United Nations”	2022

ORGANIZATION OF CONFERENCES AND PANELS

Panel chair SISP conference (Trieste, Naples): “Text-as-data in International Relations” (with Valerio Vignoli)	2024-25
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ADDITIONAL TRAINING

NATO training in Counter-terrorism (Brussels)	2023
NATO training in Children and armed conflict (Brussels)	2023
NATO training in Women, Peace and Security (Brussels)	2023
NATO training in Counter-intelligence (Brussels)	2023
Summer school in Computational Social Sciences (Bologna)	2022
Summer school in Ethics and Fieldwork (Bologna)	2022
Summer school in Mass Atrocity Prevention (Dubrovnik)	2022
Winter school in Leaders and Agenda-Setters in the EU (Brussels)	2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NATO Defense Policy and Planning Unit (DPP), Enablement and Resilience Brussels	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy drafting on civilian preparedness, resilience, critical infrastructure ▪ Attendance of bilateral meetings (including Swedish accession negotiation) 	

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- Coverage of the Defense Minister’s Meeting and Vilnius Summit
 - Notes for Secretary-General and Deputy-Secretary General
 - Data analysis and reporting on defense spending
 - Collaboration with EU, OCHA, IRC

Autonomous Province of Bolzano, Presidential Department 2021-22
Bolzano

- Elaboration of public orders and provincial decrees
- Correspondence of the President (memoranda, research notes, letters)
- Organization of political high-stakeholder event (500+ participants)

European Region “Euregio” (South Tyrol-North Tyrol-Trentino) 2020
Brussels

- Networking with European institutions (mainly EP and EC), regional/national representations, associations and stakeholders
- Weekly press release (www.alpeuregio.org)
- Reporting of EU developments (German/Italian/English/French)

South Tyrolean People’s Party (SVP) 2020
Bolzano

- Consultancy and organization on communal elections
- Management of electoral campaign (slogans, social media, training of candidates, press conferences)

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Short-listed for the SISP Elinor Ostrom Prize for early career scholars	2023
Full Ph.D. scholarship (4 years) by the Italian Ministry of Education (64,972€)	2021
Grant for meritorious students by the University of Bologna (1,500€)	2020
Grant for meritorious students by the Province of South Tyrol (1,160€)	2020
Erasmus+ Traineeship grant (1,200€)	2020
Erasmus+ Study grant (1,470€)	2017

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Reviewer: Conflict Management and Peace Science, Journal of Peace Research (2x)	2024-
Organizer of the IR seminars at the University of Bologna	2023-25
Organizer of the IR graduate roundtables at the University of Bologna	2022-25

LANGUAGE SKILLS

German: bilingual/C2	Italian: bilingual/C2	English: C1 (IELTS certified)	French: B2 (Unibo certified)
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