

Hannah Elyse Sworn

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EDUCATION	PhD – Political Science, George Washington University 2022 – Present Dissertation: “Ask and You Might Receive: Borrower Agency and US-China Competition in Development Finance” Committee: Stephen B. Kaplan (Chair), Michael Barnett, Michael Miller Fields: International Relations, Political Methodology Columbian Distinguished Fellow (2022 – Present) PhD Student in Residence, Institute for Security and Conflict Studies (2025–2027) MSc – International Relations, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 2019 – 2020 Student Research Assistant Scholarship Bachelor of Arts & Social Sciences, Monash University (Malaysia Campus) 2012 – 2015 Major: International Studies; Minor: Gender Studies High Achiever’s Award Scholarship (2014) Dean’s List 2012–2014
RESEARCH INTERESTS	International political economy, official development finance, state capitalism, small state agency, great power competition, intellectual property, access to medicines.
PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS	Dean, Adam, Kenneth C. Shadlen, and Hannah Sworn. 2026. “Opening Markets, One Threat at a Time: How US Pressure Shapes Global Trade.” <i>Review of International Political Economy</i>. Online first. 1–29. Hoo, Tiang Boon and Hannah Sworn. 2020. “Strategic Ambiguity and the Trumpian Approach to China–Taiwan Relations.” <i>International Affairs</i> 96(6): 1487–1508. <i>RSIS Award for Policy Relevant Journal Article</i>
WORKING PAPERS	“What Borrowers Want: Borrower Agency, Economic Ideology and Institutional Adaptation under Development Finance Competition.” (Job Market Paper) “Regionalism and Regulatory Resistance: ASEAN’s Governance of Falsified Pharmaceuticals.”
WORKS IN PROGRESS	“Riel Politik: The Political Economy of De-Dollarization in Cambodia and Honduras.” “Chinese Aid and Democracy in Recipient States.”

“Does Chinese Development Finance Undermine Western Aid Conditionality? The Role of Regional Norms and Southeast Asia.”
 “China’s Unilateralism and the ‘Alliance Allergy’ of Rising Powers” (with Evan Resnick).

BOOK CHAPTERS	Bukit, Mathew L and Hannah Sworn . 2021. “ Brunei Darussalam as ASEAN’s 2021 Chair .” In <i>Cambodia’s ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022: Priorities and Challenges</i> , edited by Leng Thearith, Cheunboran Chanborey, Lim Menghour, Kimly Nguon, Maurizio Paciello, and Lim Chhay. Phnom Penh: KAS & AVI.	
GRANTS & AWARDS	Sigur Center for Asian Studies Summer Research Grant, George Washington University (\$5,987)	Summer 2026
	Mercatus Fellowship, George Mason University (\$2,500)	2026 – 2027
	Bradley Foundation Summer Research Grant (\$10,000)	Summer 2025
	Institute for Humane Studies Travel Grant, George Mason University (\$1,700)	Spring 2025
	George and May Shiers Memorial Fund Fellowship (\$1,500)	2024 – 2025
	Writing in the Disciplines TA Award, George Washington University	Spring 2024
	Don Lavoie Fellowship, Mercatus Center, George Mason University (\$1,000)	2024 – 2025
PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS	American Political Science Association	2025, 2026 (Accepted)
	International Studies Association	2024, 2026
	International Political Economy Society	2023, 2026 (Accepted)
	Brown Bag Series Lecture, Universitas Islam Internasional Indonesia (Jakarta)	2026
	Southern Political Science Association	2025, 2026
	Political Economy of Trade Graduate Papers Workshop, Institute for Humane Studies, George Mason University	2026
	Bridging the Gap New Era Workshop, University of Denver	2025
	Graduate Students in IPE Pre-APSA Conference	2025
	APSA-SMU Publishing Workshop for Southeast Asian Politics Research	2023
	Authoritarianism Studies Workshop, George Washington University	2023
TEACHING	IBUS 6202/PPPA 6085/IAFF 6198 (Master’s Class): Business and the State, Guest Lecture ‘State Capitalism and Development Finance’	May 2026
	PSC 1003: Introduction to International Politics (Teaching Assistant)	Fall 2022, 2025; Spring 2023
	PSC 1012W: Introduction to Politics II (Teaching Assistant)	Spring 2024, 2025
	<i>Best Teaching Assistant Award, Writing in the Disciplines (Political Science), 2024</i>	
	PSC 2994: Global Governance (Teaching Assistant)	Fall 2023

POLICY PUBLICATIONS	“China and the Alliance Allergy of Rising Powers.” <i>War on the Rocks</i>, May 30, 2023 (with Evan Resnick). “US–China Economic Competition Rests on Intellectual Property.” <i>East Asia Forum</i>, June 29, 2022 (with Manoj Harjani). “Global Power Shift with the Prick of a Needle.” <i>360info</i>, December 8, 2021. “COVID-19 is Reshaping Global Pharmaceutical Competition—to Asia’s Benefit.” <i>The Diplomat</i>, October 8, 2021. “How will the Biden Administration Handle China-Taiwan Relations?” <i>International Affairs Blog</i>, November 27, 2020 (with Hoo Tiang Boon).
SERVICE	Reviewer: <i>International Politics</i> Phi Sigma Alpha undergraduate conference discussant 2026 International Studies Association Theory Section, Graduate 2025 – 2027 Student Representative GWU Political Science Graduate Caucus, 2023 – 2024, 2025 – 2026 Secretary of Programming
OTHER EXPERIENCE	Senior Analyst, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore 2021 – 2022 Research Assistant, “How Generals Decide: Strategic Intuition and Military Effectiveness” (Professor Pascal Vennesson), RSIS, NTU Singapore 2020 Data Analysis & Research Manager, Enduring Consultancy Cambodia 2016 – 2019 Communications Officer, USAID-funded Cambodia Countering Trafficking-in-Persons (CTIP) Project, Winrock International 2016 – 2017 Intern, Political, Press, and Information Section, EU Delegation to Cambodia 2013 – 2014
SKILLS & FIELDWORK	Languages: English (native), French (intermediate), Khmer (intermediate), Chinese (beginner). Computing: R, L^AT_EX, Stata, SPSS, Atlas.ti. Fieldwork: Indonesia (2025, 2026), Cambodia (2025, 2026), the Philippines (2026), Thailand (2025), Singapore (2023).
REFERENCES	Available upon request.