

Ahmed Hamza  
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**Authorized to work in the U.S.; no sponsorship required**

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## Education

**Ph.D. Candidate, Political Science**—University of North Texas (Expected completion: June 2026)

Dissertation: *The Causes and Consequences of Party Ethnicization*

Committee Chair: John Ishiyama

**M.A., International Affairs** – Missouri State University, 2020

**B.A., International Relations** – American University of Iraq-Sulaimani, 2018

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## Research and Teaching Interests

**Research:** Ethnic politics, democratization, political violence

**Teaching:** Comparative politics, political violence, democratization, African and Middle East politics, and research methods.

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## Publications

### Peer-Reviewed

Hamza, Ahmed, and Ko Maeda. 2025 (OnlineFirst). “Beyond Binary: A New Measure of Party Ethnicization.” *Party Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13540688251376485>.

### Book Chapters

Hamza, Ahmed. 2020. “A Contemporary Political History of the Kurds in Iran.” In *The Kurds in the Middle East: Enduring Problems and New Dynamics*, eds. David Romano and Muhmet Gurses, 207–227. Lexington Books.

### Policy and Public Scholarship

Hamza, Ahmed, and Afolabi Toyé. 2025. “The Secret Peace in Turkey: How Aging Leaders Are Ending a War.” *War on the Rocks*, July 1.

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## Working Papers

### **Determinants of Party Ethnicization: Evidence from Afrobarometer Data**

Employs cross-national panel data from African countries to identify party- and country-level determinants of party ethnicization.

### **Party Ethnicization and Electoral Violence: Evidence from CSES, Latinobarometer, and Afrobarometer**

Analyzes how the ethnicization of mainstream parties shapes risks of electoral violence across regions.

### **Teaching Violent Pasts and Racial Attitudes: Evidence from a Survey Experiment**

Tests how exposure to teaching about violent pasts (e.g., slavery, genocide) affects racial and ethnic attitudes.

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## Academic Appointments

### **University of North Texas** — Teaching & Research Assistant (2022–Present)

Instructor of Record, *Introduction to Comparative Politics* (Fall 2025).

Designed policy memo assignments and cross-national data exercises to build analytical skills. Conducted collaborative research on ethnic and immigration politics, including survey design, quantitative analysis, and data visualization.

Competencies: Comparative and ethnic politics, peacebuilding, civil war, Middle East politics.

Methods: Quantitative and qualitative analysis, survey experiments, and causal inference.

### **Missouri State University** — Graduate Research Assistant (2018–2020)

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## Policy and Professional Experience

### **Consultant – Effective Peacebuilding Initiative (EPI)** (2025–Present)

Conduct structured literature reviews on five conflict cases (Burundi, South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, India) for the *What Works* project.

Produce annotated bibliographies, synthesis matrices, and narrative summaries assessing intervention effectiveness.

Support Phase I of the EVIDA (Evidence for Violence De-escalation and Action) pilot integrating human-coded and AI-validated data.

### **Expert TA – Educational Content Developer (Political Science)** (2024–Present)

Designed undergraduate political science assignments on U.S. political behavior and comparative politics for a nonprofit educational organization.

Integrated interdisciplinary global examples to reinforce theoretical concepts.

## **Political Journalist (2012–2018)**

Reported on Middle Eastern politics with a focus on Iranian and Kurdish affairs; published extensively on human rights and political developments.

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## **Skills**

**Methods:** Regression analysis, causal inference, survey experiments, mixed methods

**Software:** R, Stata, SPSS, Qualtrics, Data Visualization

**Languages:** Kurdish (native), Persian (fluent), English (fluent)

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## **Conferences and Workshops**

### **Conference Presentations**

Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting — Presented “Beyond Binary: A New Measure of Party Ethnicization,” April 17–19, 2025.

International Studies Association–Midwest Conference — Presented “Beyond Binary: A New Measure of Party Ethnicization,” St. Louis, MO, November 20–24, 2024.

### **Workshops and Training**

Wheatley Institute Research Seminar on Religion and Politics (BYU) — Invited participant; one of 16 Ph.D. students nationwide selected for a week-long seminar on the social and political impact of Christian nationalism, June 16–21, 2025.

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## **References**

John Ishiyama, Professor of Political Science, [John.Ishiyama@unt.edu](mailto:John.Ishiyama@unt.edu)

Ko Maeda, Professor of Political Science, [Ko.Maeda@unt.edu](mailto:Ko.Maeda@unt.edu)

Roman Hlatky, Assistant Professor of Political Science, [Roman.Hlatky@unt.edu](mailto:Roman.Hlatky@unt.edu)

Brian Hamel, Assistant Professor of Political Science, [Brian.Hamel@unt.edu](mailto:Brian.Hamel@unt.edu)