Faramarz Tamanna, PhD

Research Associate, Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), University of Ottawa (2023-)
Postdoctoral fellow, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA), University of Ottawa (2024-2026)
Part-time Professor, Saint Paul University, Ottawa (2025 -)
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
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CURRICULUM VITAE

Scholar of international security and defence studies. My research examines (1) security, conflict and terrorism in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and Central Asia; (2) external intervention, statebuilding and political settlements; and (3) the foreign policy and geoeconomics of regional order. At the University of Ottawa I was a Postdoctoral Fellow at GSPIA (2024–2026), co-taught API 6360 Multilateralism and International Institutions (Summer 2025) and gave guest lectures in three GSPIA graduate courses. My Canada-focused policy work includes the CIPS policy series "Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy" (2026), "Afghanistan at a Crossroads: Policy Recommendations for Canada and the International Community" (2025) and "Terrorist Threats to Canada Originating in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and Central Asia" (2026). Previously I led the senior team that drafted Afghanistan's Foreign Policy and National Security Doctrine as Director General of the Centre for Strategic Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan (2012–2018); taught the Ministry of National Defence's strategic course for senior intelligence and military officers (2013–2018); and served as Professor (2012–2023) at the University of Afghanistan

RESEARCH FIELDS

International security and defence studies / Terrorism and transnational threats / Intervention, statebuilding and political settlements / Security and conflict in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran and Central Asia / Foreign policy analysis and the geoeconomics of regional order / Non-Western and Global South approaches to international relations

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Canadian Academic Experiences:

2023–present: University of Ottawa, Research Associate, Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA).

2025–present: Saint Paul University, Ottawa. Part-time Professor, School of Conflict Studies & School of Ethics and International Development (graduate).

Summer 2025: University of Ottawa, GSPIA. Visiting Professor. Co-taught Multilateralism and International Institutions with Prof. Alexandra Gheciu.

2024–2026: University of Ottawa, GSPIA. Postdoctoral Fellow.

Other Academic Experiences:

2013–2018: Ministry of National Defence, Special Strategic Course for Senior Intelligence and Military Officers, Kabul. Lecturer.

2012–2023: University of Afghanistan, Kabul. Professor, School of Diplomacy and International Studies.

2012–2021: University of Afghanistan, Kabul. President.

2010–2019: Dawat University, Kabul. Lecturer.

2012–2018: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, Centre for Strategic Studies, Kabul. Director General. The ministry's research and policy institution;

2011–2012: Gawharshad University, Kabul. Lecturer.

2010–2016: Kateb University, Kabul. Lecturer.

2010–2015: Institute of Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul. Lecturer.

2010–2010: Mashal University, Kabul. Lecturer.

2008–2009: University of Herat. Herat, Lecturer.

EDUCATION

2011-2014: Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi: **PhD in International Studies**. Title of the thesis: "Security Problem in Afghanistan: A Study of Domestic Factors, 1973–2014." Supervisor: Professor K. Warikoo. (Evaluated by WES Canada)

2002-2006: Shahid Beheshti University, Tehran: MA in International Relations. Title of the thesis: "United States Strategy Towards Afghanistan after 2001."

1997-2001: Shahid Beheshti University: BA in Political Science.

RESEARCH FUNDING AND FELLOWSHIPS (AS AWARD HOLDER)

FELLOWSHIP AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

2024-2026: Grant awarded by Afghanistan Young Leaders Organization (USA) for the Postdoctoral research fellowship "***International Engagement for State-Building: Lessons from Malaysia, Iraq and Afghanistan***".

2026: Grant awarded by CIPS, University of Ottawa for the research policy paper series **"*Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy*".**

2025: Grant awarded by EETN, Carleton University, for the research policy paper **"*Security in the Heartland: Navigating Russia, China, and Central Asia's Interaction with the Taliban 2.0*"**

2020: Grant awarded by Ministry of Economy, Kabul (funded by WB), for the research project **"Afghanistan: *Political Development or Political Stability?*"**

2019: Grant awarded by Ministry of National Defence, Kabul (funded by NATO), for the research project **"*The Dilemma of Peace and Security in Afghanistan and the Region*"**

2018: Grant awarded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul (funded by WB), for the research project ***"Ontology of Afghanistan's Foreign Policy towards the Great Powers"***

2014: Grant awarded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, for the research project ***"Regional Cooperation in the Heart of Asia"***

CONFERENCE FUNDING

2014: Grant awarded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, for organizing an International Conference on "***Afghanistan and Regional Cooperation: Ongoing Efforts and Upcoming Challenges***".

2013: Grant awarded by Ministry of Energy and Water, Kabul, for organizing an International Conference on "***Afghanistan and Energy Security in the Region***".

2013: Grant awarded by Ministry of Women Affairs, Kabul, for organizing an International Conference on "***Women, Peace and Security***".

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Tamanna, F. (2021), 'Afghanistan's Foreign Policy: Dynamism, Scope, Actions.' Kabul: Amiri Publications.

Tamanna, F. (2020), 'The Dilemma of Peace and Security in Afghanistan.' Kabul: Amiri Publications.

Tamanna, F. (2019), 'Political Development in Afghanistan.' Kabul: Amiri Publications.

Tamanna, F. (2014), (ed), 'Afghanistan's Foreign Policy: on regional cooperation.' Kabul: Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Tamanna, F. (2008), 'US Foreign Policy in Afghanistan.' Tehran: Research Institute of Strategic Studies.

Policy Papers and Research Reports

2026: Policy Series (Four volumes), Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), University of Ottawa, Available at: https://www.cips-cepi.ca/recalibrating-canadas-trade-and-economic-foreign-policy-a-three-circle-framework-in-the-era-of-tariff-wars/

1. Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy 1: "Concept and Rationale."
2. Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy 2: "Australia and Japan."
3. Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy 3: "The Persian Gulf States and ASEAN."
4. Recalibrating Canada's Trade and Economic Foreign Policy 4: "China: One China, Four China Approach."

2026: "Terrorist Threats to Canada Originating in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, and Central Asia", CIPS, University of Ottawa. (Under review).

2025: "Afghanistan at a Crossroads: Policy Recommendations for Canada and the International Community," Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS), University of Ottawa. Available at: https://www.cips-cepi.ca/afghanistan-at-a-crossroads-policy-recommendations-for-canada-and-the-international-community/

2025: "Security in the Heartland: Navigating Russia, China, and Central Asia's Interaction with the Taliban 2.0," Carleton University, with the Department of National Defence. Available at: https://carleton.ca/eetn/2025/security-in-the-heartland-navigating-russia-china-and-central-asias-interaction/

2008: "Afghanistan's Security Threats and Iranian Foreign Policy," Research Centre of the Iranian Parliament, July 2008. (Hard copy only).

2008: "Factors in Indo-Iranian Strategic Relations," Research Centre of the Iranian Parliament, July 2008. (Hard copy only).

2008: "The New Afghanistan and Afghan–Iranian Relations," Research Institute of Strategic Studies, Tehran, 2009. (Hard copy only).

Selected Papers in journals

2021: "New Technologies and the Geopolitics of the Global Oil Economy in the Age of Energy Transition" (co-authored), *Petroleum Business Review* 5, no. 1 (Winter 2021): 27–38.

2016: "Afghanistan's Foreign Policy Towards the Second Circle: The Islamic World," *Andisha-e-Moaser Scientific Quarterly* (Kabul, Summer 2016).

2011: "Human Security in Afghanistan," *Strategic Studies Quarterly* (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, Winter 2011).

2007: "The Concept of Security in the Constructivist School," *Strategic Studies Quarterly* (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, summer 2007).

2007: "Realism Theory in International Relations," *Strategic Studies Quarterly* (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, Winter Fall 2007).

2006: "Globalization and Its Effect on the Theorizing of Opposing Theories in International Relations," *Strategic Studies Quarterly* (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kabul, Winter 2006).

Chapters in books

2011: "The Conceptual Change in the Concept of the Actor in International Relations," in Homeira Moshirzadeh and Nabiollah Ebrahimi, eds., *Conceptual Changes in International Relations* (Tehran: Research Institute of Strategic Studies, 2011).

2012: "The Role of Afghanistan in Iran–Pakistan Relations," in Tayebeh Vaezi, ed., *Iran–Pakistan Strategic Relations* (Tehran: Research Institute of Strategic Studies, 2012).

Articles Translated (English to Persian/Dari)

Theo Farrell, "Constructivist Security Studies: Portrait of a Research Program," *International Studies Review* (Blackwell, 2002): 49–72.

David Held, "Violence, Law and Justice in a Global Age," in Mark Leonard, ed., *Re-Ordering the World* (London: Foreign Policy Centre): 56–72.

Paul Wapner, "The Normative Promise of Nonstate Actors: A Theoretical Account of Global Civil Society," in P. Wapner and L. Ruiz, eds., *Principled World Politics* (Lanham: Rowman and Littlefield): 261–274.

Selected Op-eds and public commentary

2017: "Afghanistan's Place in the Foreign Policy of Donald Trump: Missing Link or Strategic Partner," 8am Newspaper, 20–21 February 2017.

2010: "A Review of the London International Conference 2010 on Afghanistan," Farda News, 23 February 2010.

2010: "The Gaza Crisis and the Future of UN Peacemaking Policy," Ettela'at Newspaper, 3–4 January 2010.

2008: "The Eight Years of US and NATO Presence in Afghanistan," Ettela'at Newspaper, 3 January 2008.

2008: "The Development of the Actor Concept in International Relations," Peiman-e Melli Newspaper, Kabul, September 2008.

2007: "The Regional Peace Jirga and Confidence-Building in Afghan–Pakistan Relations," E'temad Newspaper, August 2007.

2007: "United States Strategy in Afghanistan after 11 September," Ettela'at Newspaper, 2007.

2002: "From the Carpet of Knowledge to the Distinction of Livelihood," Hari Quarterly, 2002.

Works to be published

***2026**: "**International Engagement in State-Building: Lessons from Malaysia, Iraq and Afghanistan**"*, monograph developed from postdoctoral research, under the supervision of Prof. Alexandra Gheciu, at the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa. A three-case comparison using a political-settlements framework, holding external sponsorship constant while varying the locus of domestic authority, tested against four rival explanations.

Status: under preparation for submission to the publisher.

2026: "**Assessing the Iran–United States War**" – article in preparation for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

TEACHING

Canada (Taught in English)

2027: Saint Paul University, Advanced Topics in Conflict Studies (graduate). Appointed as Part-time Professor.

2026: University of Ottawa, Human Security in Iraq and Afghanistan after US intervention: A comparative Studies (MA) –GSPIA, Feb. 2026. Guest lecturer.

2025: Saint Paul University, Ethics and International Development (graduate) – Winter 2025, Part-time Professor.

2025: University of Ottawa, Multilateralism and International Institutions (API 6360, MA) –GSPIA, Summer 2025. Co-instructor with Prof. Alexandra Gheciu.

2024–2025: University of Ottawa, Contemporary Studies of Peace and Security: The Cases of Afghanistan and Pakistan (MA) – GSPIA, November 2024 and April 2025. Guest lecturer.

2024: University of Ottawa, Non-Western Theories of International Relations (MA) –GSPIA, November 2024. Guest lecturer.

2024: Carleton University, Security in the Heartland: China, Central Asia and Russia's Interaction with Taliban 2.0 (MA) –November 2024. Guest lecturer.

Afghanistan (Taught in Persian/Dari and Pashto) (different universities)

2008 – 2023: Security in Fragile and post conflict states . Intervention and State-building in Post-conflict countries . Politics and International Security . Ethics and International Development . Terrorism Studies . Islamic Fundamentalism and the Future of International Security . Multilateralism and International Institutions . Regionalism and Regional Studies . Research Design and Methodology in International Relations · Theories of International Relations · Management of International Crisis · Afghanistan's Crisis and Regional Issues · Foreign Policy of the Great Powers in South Asia and Afghanistan· China, Iran and Russia in the region · Peacebuilding in Contemporary International Relations . Immigration and International Security

2013-2018

Ministry of National Defence, Strategic Course Instructor for senior intelligence and military Officers, *Kabul*

- Designed and taught modules on strategic policy thinking, regional security dynamics, and international defense cooperation.
- Delivered specialized instruction on how to formulate National Security Strategies and align them with Foreign Policy Strategies and National Security Strategy.
- Facilitated scenario-based policy simulations on national security decision-making, diplomatic crisis response, and defense planning.
- Advised senior leadership on the integration of defense and foreign policy in fragile state contexts.
- Taught senior officials to apply strategic-studies concepts to the formulation of national security strategy and counter-terrorism policy.
- Strengthened civil-military understanding of regional security policies, counterterrorism coordination, and multilateral defense engagement.

OTHER ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

2014–2021: Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Diplomacy and International Studies*, University of Afghanistan.

2012–2018: Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Strategic Studies*, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

2014: Senior Evaluator, Allama Tarzi Annual Book Festival, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.

2012 – 2018: Leading the senior team for drafting "Afghanistan's Foreign Policy," and "National Security Doctrine of Afghanistan." Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Security Council.

INVITED AND KEYNOTE LECTURES

Selected from presentations given in ***Canada, India, China, Germany, the United States, Singapore, Nepal, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Mongolia, Türkiye, Russia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Belgium.***

2026: Saint Paul University, "Assessing the Iran–United States War" –Ottawa, 1 October 2026.

2024: University of Tehran, "Regional Integration in Contemporary International Relations" –21 October 2024.

2024: University of Ottawa, "Regional Powers and the Taliban in Afghanistan: Strategic Partnership or Fragile Interaction" – CIPS, 1 May 2024.

2024: Kabul, "Consequences of Urban–Rural Conflict in Afghanistan" – Kabul Research Institute for Peace and Development, 10 March 2024.

2024: Women Online University, "The Role of Soft Power in Tension among the Great Powers" –9 February 2024.

2021: University of Tehran, "The Afghan Peace Process and Its Lessons for Peace Studies" –19 October 2021.

2017: National University of Singapore, "South Asia and Development in West Asia: an Afghan Perspective" –3 March 2017.

2017: Nepal, "Youth Radicalization in South Asia" – Kathmandu, 27 February 2017.

2016: New Delhi, "Afghanistan and Its Region: An Emerging Foreign Policy" – Indian Council of World Affairs, 10 November 2016.

2016: Tehran "New Developments in the Region and Afghanistan–Iran Relations" – Institute for Political and International Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Summer 2016.

2013: Heidelberg University, "Regionalism as Foreign Policy: Building an Economic-Based Security Community in South Asia", Germany, 16 September 2013.

2013: Nepal "Afghanistan and the SAARC Region: Opportunities and Threats for Cooperation" – ISAS, Kathmandu, 14 May 2013.

2010: Kabul, "The New International System and Its Requirements for Afghanistan's Foreign Policy" – Ministry of Foreign Affairs, October 2010.

2008: Herat, "Evaluation of the Principles of Afghanistan's Foreign Policy" – Herat University, November 2008.

2008: Tehran, "NATO's Role in the Security and Stability of Afghanistan" – Andishe-sazan-e Noor Research Institute, 2008.

POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP

2012 – 2018: Director General, Centre for Strategic Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan,

Directed the ministry's research and policy institution. Led the senior working team that drafted Afghanistan's Foreign Policy and National Security Doctrines. Prepared briefing notes, analytical reports and options papers for the Foreign Minister, the President's office and senior advisers.

Convened international conferences and delegation visits, including the RECCA Academic Forum and the regional energy-security and women-peace-and-security conferences listed above. Designed and delivered capacity-building programmes for diplomats and officials in international relations, negotiation and regional cooperation.

- **Collaboration with Government and international organizations**: Worked closely with senior officials and governmental agencies to prepare policy papers that addressed pressing security and defence challenges and informed high-level decision-making.
- **Capacity Building**: Developed training programs and workshops for diplomats, military officers, and government officials on international relations, security and defence, intelligence, negotiation techniques, and regional cooperation.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

2017: Best Book Award, Musa Shafiq International Conference, Afghanistan Academy of Science and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, for the edited volume *Afghanistan's Foreign Policy (on Regional Cooperation)*.

2016: Best Researcher in International Relations in Afghanistan, Peshgam International Academic Award.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

2024–present: Senior Member, Ottawa Consultative Process (OCP), Ottawa.

2017–present: Founder and President, Afghanistan Association of Political Science and International Relations (AAPSIR).

MEDIA EXPERIENCE

Regular commentary on Afghan and regional affairs for BBC, Voice of America, Radio Azadi, Tolo TV, Ariana News, Afghan Diplomacy, in English and Persian/Dari.

GRADUATE SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION

2009–2023: Supervisor, 56 MA theses in International Relations.

2012–2023: Examiner, 95 MA theses in International Relations, University of Afghanistan.

Advisor, doctoral thesis: Mohammad Taghi Jahanbakhsh, "Strategic Culture and Iranian Foreign Policy towards Afghanistan, 1979–2019," Allameh Tabatabaei University.

RESEARCH METHODS AND TOOLS

Data and analysis tools – SPSS, Stata, R and advanced Excel for quantitative analysis; Power BI and Tableau for data visualisation.

Certificate: "Bilingualism at the Core of the University of Ottawa," workshop, University of Ottawa, 27 September 2024.