

October, 2007

Michael Spagat

Professor of Economics
Curriculum Vitae

Office

Department of Economics
Royal Holloway
University of London
Egham
Surrey, TW20 0EX
United Kingdom

+44 1784 414001 (W)
M.Spagat@rhul.ac.uk

+44 1784 439534 (F)
website <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhte/014/>

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Harvard University, March, 1988.
B.A. (honors), Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences and Economics,
Northwestern University, June, 1982.

Professional Positions

Professor of Economics, Royal Holloway College, University of London, September, 1999 to present.

Reader in Economics, Royal Holloway College, University of London, January 1998 to September 1999.

Visiting Research Fellow, Institute of Economics, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, January-May 1998.

Senior Lecturer in Economics, Royal Holloway College, University of London, July 1997 to December 1997.

Visiting Professor of Economics, New Economic School, Moscow, Spring Term 1997.

Assistant Professor of Economics and Faculty Advisor at the Center for Foreign Policy Development at Brown University, July 1990 to July 1997.

Assistant Professor of Economics at University of Illinois, August 1987 to August 1990.

Visiting Scholar at Moscow State University, January-June 1989

Teaching Fellow at Harvard, 1984-85.

Commodities Broker, International Monetary Market in Chicago, summers of 1980 and 1981.

Grants

Radiance Technologies, 2006-2007, "Continued Violence Database Development for Colombia and Mexico," subcontract, \$102,000.

Small Arms Survey, 2006-2007, Core support for CERAC: Colombia, \$25,000.

Institute for Social Research and William Davidson Institute Grant, 2006-2007, "The Impact on Financial Markets of Conflict Events in Afghanistan," \$10,000.

Royal Holloway Economics Department Grant, 2005-2006, "Afghanistan Conflict Database," £2,500.

Radiance Technologies, 2005-2006, "Violence Databases for Colombia and Mexico," subcontract, \$139,281.

Royal Holloway Social Science Faculty Award, 2005-2006, "Backdating Colombian Conflict data to 1972," £5,000.

Royal Holloway Economics Department Grant, 2005-2006, "Colombian Conflict Data Clearinghouse," £5,000.

Small Arms Survey, 2004-2005, "Proposal to Support the SAS Colombia Study," \$21,833.

Nuffield Foundation, 2004-2005, "Armed Conflict in Peru: New Data and Analysis," £7,310.

Radiance Technologies, 2004-2005, "Colombia Violence Database," subcontract, \$92,854.

University of London Central Research Fund, 2003-2004, "The Armed Conflict in Colombia," £815.

Leverhulme Fellow, 2002-2003, "Economic growth in transition economies," £19,935. National Council for Eurasian and East European Research Grant, 2002-2004.

"Taking Stock of Human Capital in the Post-Communist World", with Michael Kaganovich, \$32,151.

Royal Holloway Research Strategy Fund, 2002-2003, "The Dynamics of Internal Conflict, £1120.

Taiwan National Science Council Grant, 1998, "Political Instability, Foreign Investment and Growth in Proprietary Economies", with Jody Overland, \$17,000.

The National Council for Soviet and East European Research Grant, 1996-97, "Human Capital and the Future of Russia," \$40,000.

Visiting Team Leader for "Education and Science in the Transitional Period: Russia in the World Context," under the Transforming Governments in Economies in Transition (GET) Program at the New Economic School in Moscow, 1996-97, approximately \$25,000.

The National Council for Soviet and East European Research Grant, 1995-96, "Human Resources and the Transition to a Market Economy in Russia," \$55,000.

International Research and Exchanges Board Special Projects Grant, 1994-1996, "Human Resources and the Transition to a Market Economy in Russia," \$15,000.

Social Science Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Study of the Soviet Union and its Successor States, 1993-95, \$27,000.

International Research and Exchanges Board Long-Term Fellowship spent in the Soviet Union, spring semester, 1989, approximately \$24,000.

Social Science Research Council Dissertation Fellowship in Russian and Soviet Studies, 1986-87, \$15,000

The Brookings Institution Pre-doctoral Fellowship in Soviet and East European Economics, 1986-87, \$10,000.

Honors and Achievements

Senior Affiliate, Households in Conflict Network, 2006 to present.

2005, Co-founder of CERAC (<http://www.cerac.org.co/>). This research institute is already playing an important role in international academic conflict research and in American and Colombian policy debates. It is a key institution in Colombia, where CERAC's policy and statistical analyses are referred to in political, media and academic discussions.

Executive Committee, Association for Comparative Economic Studies, 2002 to 2005.

Senior Lecturer, ZEI-CEPR Conference "Labour Markets, Work and Welfare During the Transition and Integration Process", Riga, Latvia, 2001.

Board of Editors, *Comparative Economic Studies*, 2001-2004.

Board of Editors, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2000-2003.

Board of Editors, *Economic Systems*, 2001-2005.

Research Fellow, CEPR, February 1999 to present.

Research Fellow, Davidson Institute, University of Michigan, 1997 to present.

Winner of paper competition for the Association of Comparative Economic Studies paper "Human Capital, Growth and Inequality in Russia", with Jody Overland and C. Simon Fan, 1997.

Published Academic Papers

"Human Capital and the Future of Transition Economies," *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 34 (1), March 2006, pp. 44-56.

"The Severity of the Colombian Conflict: Cross-Country Datasets vs. New Micro Data," with Jorge Restrepo and Juan Fernando Vargas, *Journal of Peace Research*, 43 (1), January 2006, pp. 99-115.

"Political Instability and Growth in Dictatorships," with Kenneth Simons and Jody Overland, *Public Choice*, vol. 25 (3-4), December 2005, pp. 445-470.

"El conflicto en Colombia: ¿quién hizo qué a quién? Un enfoque cuantitativo," with Jorge Restrepo and Juan Fernando Vargas, 2006, Francisco Gutiérrez (ed.), *Nuestra guerra sin nombre*, Norma.

"The Dynamics of the Colombian Civil Conflict: A New Dataset," with Jorge Restrepo and Juan Fernando Vargas, *Homo Oeconomicus*, 21(2), 2004, pp. 396-428.

"The Evolution of Modern Education Systems: Technical vs. General Education, Distributional Conflict and Growth," with Graziella Bertocchi, *Journal of Development Economics*, Vol. 73, no. 2, March 2004, pp. 559-582.

"Human Capital, Growth and Inequality in Transition Economies," in Nauro Campos and Jan Fidrmuc (eds.), "Political Economy of Transition and Development: Institutions, Politics and Policies." ZEI Studies in European Economics and Law, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Boston/Dordrecht/London, 2003, pp. 259-276.

"The Politics of Co-optation," with Graziella Bertocchi, *Journal of Comparative Economics*. Vol. 29, no. 4, December 2001, pp. 591-607.

"Human Capital, Growth and Inequality in Russia," with C. Simon Fan and Jody Overland, *Journal of Comparative Economics*. Vol. 27, no. 4, December 1999, pp. 618-643.

"Growth Under Uncertainty With Experimentation," with Graziella Bertocchi, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*. Vol. 23, no. 2, November 1998, pp.209-31.

"Structural Uncertainty and Subsidy Removal for Economies in Transition," with Graziella Bertocchi, *European Economic Review*. vol. 41, no. 9, Dec. 1997, pp. 1709-33.

"Il ruolo dei licei e delle scuole tecnico-professionali tra progresso tecnologico, conflitto sociale e sviluppo economico," (In Italian) with Graziella Bertocchi, in "L'istruzione in Italia: solo un pezzo di carta?", edited by Nicola Rossi, Il Mulino, Bologna, 1997.

"Optimal Learning With Costly Adjustment," with Mark Feldman, *Economic Theory*, vol. 6, 1995, 439-451.

"Leaving Some Stones Unturned: A Reassessment of Iterative Planning Theory," *Journal of Public Economics*, vol. 58, 1995.

"A General Model of the Soviet Consumer," with Arnab Acharya, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, vol. 20, no. 3, June, 1995.

"Human Capital, Economic Instability and Foreign Investment in Transition Economies," *Economics of Planning*, vol. 28, nos. 2-3, 1995.

"Individual Savings and Monetary Overhang: A Model With Empty Shelves and Parallel Markets," with Arnab Acharya, *Economic Systems*, vol. 17, no. 3, September 1993.

"Learning, Experimentation, and Monetary Policy," with Graziella Bertocchi, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, vol. 32, no. 1, August, 1993.

"Can Rational Individuals Keep Money Under Their Mattresses Forever?," *Economic Theory*, vol. 3, pp. 373-377, 1993.

"Validated Equilibrium in Sequential Spatial Competition Games." *Mathematical Social Sciences*, vol. 24, pp. 49-57, 1992.

"Shortages Amid Plenty Under Soviet-Type Planning: A Theory of Unreliable Supplies," with Abhijit Banerjee, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, vol. 16, no. 2, pp. 302-308, June 1992.

"Incentives and Shortages in the Soviet Economy: A Model of a Three-level Hierarchy," with Abhijit Banerjee, *Ekonomika i matematicheskie metody* (in Russian) vol. 28, no. 2, pp. 229-241, March-April, 1992.

Productivity Paralysis and the Complexity Problem: Why do Centrally Planned Economies Become Prematurely Gray?" with Abhijit Banerjee, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, vol. 15, no. 4, pp. 646-660, December 1991.

"Contract Enforcement in Seller's Markets," *Journal of Comparative Economics*, vol. 15, no. 4, pp. 681-697, December 1991.

Working Papers (Most available at <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhte/014/>)

"Bias in Epidemiological Studies of Conflict Mortality," with Neil Johnson, Sean Gourley, Jukka-Pekka Onnela and Gesine Reinert, 2006, revised 2007, HiCN Research Design Note 2. With much supporting material on <http://www.rhul.ac.uk/Economics/Research/conflict-analysis/iraq-mortality/index.html>

- This is the write-up of one of the most widely cited critiques of the recent study of Iraq mortality published in the *Lancet* claiming roughly 600,000 excess conflict-related deaths. This idea has been cited in *Science*, *Nature*, *Slate*, *The New Scientist*, *The Times* of London, *The Guardian*, *the BBC* and *The Huffington Post* among many other places. Links to these articles and others mentioned below can be found at <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhte/014/Research.htm>.

"Universal Patterns Underlying Ongoing Wars and Terrorism," with Neil Johnson, Jorge Restrepo, Óscar Becerra, Juan Camilo Bohórquez, Nicolás Suárez, Elvira María Restrepo and Roberto Zarama, 2006.

- The work was written up in *Science* and prompted an editorial on physorg.com, a prestigious physics web site, "The Mathematical Structure of Terrorism": <http://www.physorg.com/news67524254.html>, resulting in many citations and discussions on the web.

"Paramilitary DDR [Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration] in Colombia: Quiet but Tentative Success," 2006.

- The *Economist* and *World Politics Watch* cited this work.

"From Old Wars to New Wars and Global Terrorism," with Neil Johnson, Jorge Restrepo, Juan Camilo Bohórquez, Nicolás Suárez, Elvira María Restrepo and Roberto Zarama, 2005.

- Featured in the *Economist*, *Nature Online* and the *Guardian* (and spread to many other newspapers and web sites).
- Presented at Oxford, Tufts, Brown, Columbia, Yale, George Mason and Essex, National Bureau of Economic Research and various conferences.

"Natural Disasters, Casualties and Power Laws" with Óscar Becerra, Neil Johnson, Patrick Meier and Jorge Restrepo, 2006.

"The Work of Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch: Evidence from Colombia," with Andres Ballesteros, Jorge Restrepo and Juan Fernando Vargas, CERAC Working Paper number 4, 2006.

"Human Rights Conditions on Foreign Aid Can Backfire," with Michael Mandler, 2005.

"Violence Against Civilians in the Colombian Conflict: A New Approach to Human Security," with Jorge Restrepo, 2004.

"Government Armies, Paramilitary Organizations and Guerilla Warfare," with Jorge Restrepo, 2004.

"Government Aid Designed to Diminish Terrorist Atrocities can Increase Them," with Michael Mandler, CEPR Discussion Paper 4004, 2003.

"The Dynamics of Repressive Dictatorships," with Jorge Restrepo, 2002.

"Structural Uncertainty and Central Bank Conservatism: The Ignorant Should Shut their Eyes," with Mauricio Rosal," CEPR Discussion Paper 3568, 2002, revise and resubmit, *Journal of Monetary Economics*.

"Education and the Transition from Communism," with Ksenia Iliasova, 2004, revised 2006.

Policy Papers (Most available at <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhte/014/>)

"Colombia's Hydra: The Many Faces of Gun Violence, with Katherine Aguirre, Robert Muggah, Jorge Restrepo and Juan Vargas, in *Small Arms Survey 2006*, Oxford, 2006, chapter 9.

- Release covered in the *Financial Times*:
http://www.cerac.org.co/pdf/FT_com_Americas_Latin%20America_Colombia_suffers.mht

"Colombia's Tipping Point?" with Jorge Restrepo, *Survival*, vol. 47, issue 5, 2005, pp. 131-152.

"The Colombia Conflict: Where is it Heading?" with Jorge Restrepo, 2005,
http://www.cerac.org.co/pdf/CSISPresentationwithtext-V10_High.pdf.

"Briefing on the Colombian Conflict," (for the incoming British Ambassador to Colombia), 2005,
http://www.cerac.org.co/pdf/Briefing_Colombian_Conflict.pdf.

["La desmovilización y el desarme paramilitar en Colombia: éxito provisional y silencioso."](#) in Hechos Del callejón, UNDP Colombia, 17, August 2006.

"Colombia's Chimaera: Reflections on Human Security and Armed Violence, with Robert Muggah, Jorge Restrepo and Keith Krause, *Human Security Bulletin*, December, 2005.

"Kate Moss Should Support Reparations for Colombia's Victims," *Human Security Bulletin*, December, 2005.

"Major Developments in the Colombian Conflict," with Jorge Restrepo, *Human Security Bulletin*, December, 2005.

"Repensar el conflicto interno," *El Herald*o, March 19, 2005 (In Spanish).

"Rethinking the Colombian Conflict," *TRC War Report*, December 15, 2004.

"Ser leal con Colombia," *El Tiempo*, June 29, 2004 (In Spanish).

"U.S. Must Stand by Colombia," *Miami Herald*, June 23, 2004.

"Human Capital, Education and the Future Catching up in Transition Countries," chapter 9.1 in Vladimír Benáček and János Gács (eds.) "Catching Up and EU Accession - Conditions for Fast Real Convergence in the Candidate Countries," Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Interim Report IR-02-068/October, 2002.

"Human Capital and the Economic Transformation of Russia," with Jody Overland, *Transition*, vol. 2, no. 13, 28 June 1996, pp. 12-15.

"Russian Economic Transformation and International Security: Rethinking Western Policy," *The Brown Journal of World Affairs*, vol. 2, no. 2, Summer, 1995.

"The Disintegration of the Russian Economy," in Douglas W. Blum (ed.), *Russia's Future: Consolidation or Disintegration*, Westview Press, 1994.

"USSR Fundamental Principles of Denationalization and Privatization of Enterprises," *Soviet and East European Law*, Parker School of Columbia University, vol. 2, no. 6, 1991.

"Where the Jobless Become Entrepreneurs," with Gareth Cook, *World Business Advisory*, vol. 2, no. 8, 1991.

"Russian Enterprise Law Discards Soviet Ideology," *Soviet and East European Law*, Parker School of Columbia University, vol. 2, no. 1, 1990.

"Council of Ministers' Regulations on Small Enterprises Typify Soviets' Poor Understanding of Markets," *Soviet and East European Law*, Parker School of Columbia University, vol. 1, no. 7, 1990.

Book Reviews

Book Review of *Americas's Other War* by Doug Stokes, *Journal of Peace Research*, 43 (5), September, 2006.

A Review of *Knowledge, Information, and Expectations in Modern Macroeconomics: In Honor of Edmund S. Phelps*, edited by Philippe Aghion, Roman Frydman, Joseph Stiglitz, and Michael Woodford, *Economic Journal*, vol. 114, pp. F341-F343, June 2004.

Book Review of *Incentives and Institutions: The Transition to a Market Economy in Russia*. By Serguey Braguinsky and Grigory Yavlinsky, *Journal of Economic Literature*, vol. XL, no. 1, March 2002.

A Review Article of Christopher Clague and Gordon C. Rausser (eds.) *The Emergence of Market Economies in Eastern Europe*, *Journal of Comparative Economics* vol. 19, no. 3, December, 1994
"Russia's Human Potential: Foundation for the Future," with C. Simon, in newspapers nationwide, 1993.

A Review Article of Stanislaw Gomulka's *The Theory of Technological Change and Economic Growth*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*. vol. 16, no. 3, pp. 536-538, September, 1992.

"Did Economic Theory Fail Along with Soviet-Type Economies? A Review Article of: Peter Murrell, *The Nature of Socialist Economies.*" *Journal of International and Comparative Economics*, vol. 1, no. 1, March, 1992.

Professional Activities

Refereeing:

Econometrica, *American Economic Review*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *National Science Foundation*, *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, *European Economic Review*, *Economic Journal*, *Economic and Social Research Council*, *Oxford Economics Papers*, *International Economic Review*, *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, *Mathematical Social Sciences*, *Economics Letters*,

Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Public Choice, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Economic Systems, Economics of Planning, Comparative Economic Studies, and others.

Consulting:

The World Bank, USAID, IREX, Eurasia Foundation, Civic Education Project

Teaching:

Courses: 'The Economics of Conflict', 'Political Economy', 'Development Economics', 'Microeconomics', 'Macroeconomics', 'Dynamic Programming', 'Comparative Economics', 'East-West Trade', and 'Soviet and East European Economies'.

- **I am currently writing a book provisionally entitled "Conflict Analysis" with Palgrave-Macmillan based on the curriculum for my 'Economics of Conflict' course.** This text will be a resource for conflict researchers and a much-needed textbook for undergraduate and master's courses in the growing field of armed conflict studies.
- Teaching material posted on <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/uhte/014/Teaching.htm>

Supervision and Mentoring:

I am currently giving direction to a large number of Ph.D. students and young scholars working on conflict analysis in a variety of fields including political science, anthropology, physics, engineering and economics.

Completed PhDs

Juan Fernando Vargas (UCLA), Jorge Restrepo (Javeriana University and CERAC), James Maloy (University of Pittsburgh), Joseph Bamidele (Notre Dame), Arif al-Mahmood (Independent University of Bangladesh), Arnab Acharya (London School of Tropical Medicine), Toshihiro Okada (Asian Development Bank), Titilola Giwa (British Civil Service), Eriyattukuzhiyil Ummer (University of Calicut, Kerala, India), João Maurício Rosal (The New University of Lisbon).

Major Administration

Postgraduate Director, Royal Holloway College, May 1998 - October 2001.

Acting Head of Department, Royal Holloway College, September 2001 – December 2001.

Foreign Languages

Russian (now rusty) and Spanish (reading).