

MATT KOVAC

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EDUCATION

PhD **University of California, Berkeley**
History, 2020-2027

Advisor: James Vernon

Fields: Late Modern Europe; Revolutionary Politics in the Middle East;
Global Decolonization; Internationalism Between Law and Revolution

MSt **University of Oxford**
Modern British and European History, 2018

BSc **Northwestern University**
Journalism and History, 2014

PUBLICATIONS

“Between Lenin and Fanon in Ireland.” *Red Against Empire: Bolshevik Historians and the Anticolonial Critique*, edited by Alexei Golubev and Joseph Kellner (forthcoming).

“‘Continuing the Mission’: The First World War and the Roots of Red Scare Violence, 1919-21.” *Communication and the First World War*, edited by John Griffiths. Routledge, 2020.

“‘Red Amazons’? Gendering Violence and Revolution in the Long First World War, 1914-23.” *The Journal of International Women’s Studies* 20, no. 4, April 2019, 69-82.

HONORS & GRANTS

External	2023	George Watt Graduate Essay Prize, Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives
	2022	Saki Ruth Dockrill Memorial Prize, UCSB-LSE-GWU Cold War Conference
	2019	Cold War Essay Award, Second Prize, Adams Center for Military History
	2018	Best Essay Shortlist, Feminist Studies Association, UK and Ireland
	2017	University Research Grant, Society for Army Historical Research
Internal	2025	George H. Guttridge English and American Colonial History Prize
	2024	R. Kirk Underhill Fellowship, UCB Center for British Studies
	2024	Simpson ABD Research Fellowship, UCB Institute of International Studies
	2024	Hildebrand Research Fellowship, UCB Canadian Studies Program
	2023	Simpson Research Fellowship, UCB Global, International & Area Studies

- 2023 Simpson ABD Research Fellowship, UCB Institute of International Studies
- 2021 Pre-Dissertation Research Grant, UCB Institute of International Studies
- 2018 Graduate Study Award, Keble College, Oxford
- 2018 Clark Fund Award, Oxford History Faculty
- 2017 Griffiths Award, Keble Association

INVITED TALKS

“Deniable Comrades: The IRA, the ANC, and the Geopolitics of Solidarity, 1961-1998.”
University of the Witwatersrand. History Workshop. 6 August 2025.

CONFERENCE TALKS

“Race for Allies: The IRA, Third World Liberation, and Global Counterrevolution, 1976-1982.”
North American Conference on British Studies. Montréal. 15 November 2025. Organizer.

“Troubling Neoliberalism: Death Squads, Decolonization, and Development in the North of Ireland, 1968-1998.” UC Berkeley. Neoliberalism, Race, and Empire. 2 May 2025.

“Globalizing the Troubles: Northern Ireland as Cold War Battleground, 1956-1987.”

- UC Berkeley. Irish History Symposium. 18 April 2023.
- UC Santa Barbara. New Scholars International Cold War Conference. 29 April 2022.

“The Brest Charter After Brexit: From a ‘Europe of Peoples’ to the ‘Peoples of Europe’?”
Queen’s University Belfast. Contested Europe Conference. 3 November 2022.

“The Limits of Loyalty: Race, Resistance, and Collaboration in the Colonial World, 1840-1975.”
American Historical Association. Chicago. 3 January 2019. Organizer.

“Traitors to the Crown: British Military Veterans in the IRA, 1918-1923.”

- Harvard University. Situating Empire Workshop. 15 November 2018.
- Free University Berlin. Global Histories Conference. 10 June 2018.
- University of Zurich. Global War, Global Moments, Global Connections. 1 Feb. 2018.

“‘That Shell Bursting in Your Head’: Great War Trauma in the IRA, 1914-1934.”

- King’s College London. KCL-Oxford History of War Conference. 23 April 2018.
- McGill University. Violence and the Mind Conference. 2 March 2018.

“‘Continuing the Mission’: WWI and the Roots of Red Scare Violence, 1919-1921.”

- Princeton University. War Frenzy: Exploring Violence in Propaganda. 13 May 2017.
- Meredith College. World War I Symposium. 8 April 2017.
- University of Edinburgh. What Tommy Did Next Conference. 18 March 2017.