

# ALEXANDER WENDT

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## EMPLOYMENT

2004-present: Professor of Political Science and Mershon Professor of International Security, The Ohio State University

1999-2004: Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Chicago

1997-1999: Associate Professor of Government, Dartmouth College

1995-1997: Associate Professor of Political Science, Yale University

1989-1995: Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale University

## EDUCATION

1989 Ph.D., Political Science, University of Minnesota

1982 B.A., Political Science major, Philosophy minor, Macalester College, St. Paul, MN

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

2015 Quantum Mind and Social Science: Unifying Physical and Social Ontology, Cambridge University Press

Translations: Chinese (2021); Japanese and Korean under contract

1999 Social Theory of International Politics, Cambridge University Press

“Best Book of the Decade” Award (2006) from the International Studies Association (primary professional affiliation)

Translations (10?): Chinese (2000), Farsi (2005), Lithuanian (2005), Korean (2006), Arabic (2007), Italian (2007); Romanian (2011), Turkish (2012), Serbian (2014), Slovenian (2022), Japanese, Polish, and Portuguese forthcoming.

### Edited Books

2022 Quantum International Relations: A Human Science for World Politics, edited by James Der Derian and Alexander Wendt, Oxford University Press

2010 New Systems Theories of World Politics, edited by Mathias Albert, Lars-Erik Cederman, and Alexander Wendt, Palgrave

### Articles and Refereed Chapters

2024 “When ‘Old’ Constructivism Was New: Reflections on Classical Constructivism” (co-authored with Martha Finnemore), Perspectives on Politics, 22(4), 1248-1268 (Skytte Prize Lecture, editor reviewed)

2022 “Why IR Scholars Should Care about Quantum Theory, Part I: Burdens of Proof and Uncomfortable Facts,” International Theory, 14(1), 119-129

“Why IR Scholars Should Care about Quantum Theory, Part II: Critics in the PITs,” International Theory, 14(1), 193-209 (response to symposium on my 2015 book, Quantum Mind and Social Science)

“Quantum International Relations: The Case for a New Human Science of World Politics” (with James Der Derian), in Der Derian and Wendt, eds., Quantum International Relations, Oxford University Press, pp. 3-23

2020 “Quantizing IR: The Case for Quantum Approaches to International Theory and Security Practice” (with James Der Derian), Security Dialogue, 51(5), 399-413 (introduction to a special issue on quantum IR that we edited)

2018 “The Mind-Body Problem and Social Science: Motivating a Quantum Social Theory,” Journal for the Theory of Social Behaviour, 48, 188-204

- 2010 "Flatland: Quantum Mind and the International Hologram," in Mathias Albert, Lars-Erik Cederman, and Alexander Wendt, eds., New Systems Theories of World Politics, Palgrave, pp. 279-310
- 2009 "Why There Is International Theory Now" (with Duncan Snidal), International Theory, 1(1), 1-14
- 2008 "Sovereignty and the UFO" (with Raymond Duvall), Political Theory, 36(4), 607-633
- 2006 "*Social Theory* as Cartesian Science: An Auto-Critique from a Quantum Perspective," in Stefano Guzzini and Anna Leander, eds., Constructivism and International Relations: Alexander Wendt and his Critics, Routledge, pp. 181-219
- 2005 "Agency, Teleology, and the World State: A Reply to Shannon," European Journal of International Relations, 11(4), 589-598
- "How Not to Argue Against State Personhood," Review of International Studies, 31(2), 357-60
- 2004 "The State as Person in International Theory," Review of International Studies, 30(2), 289-316
- 2003 "Why a World State is Inevitable," European Journal of International Relations, 9(4), 491-542
- 2001 "Driving with the Rearview Mirror: On the Rational Science of Institutional Design," International Organization, 55(4), 1019-1049
- "Rationalism *v.* Constructivism? A Skeptical View" (with James Fearon), in Walter Carlsnaes, Thomas Risse, and Beth Simmons, eds., Handbook of International Relations, Sage Publications, pp. 52-72
- 2000 "What is IR For? Notes Toward a Post-Critical View," in Richard Wyn Jones, ed., Critical Theory and World Politics, Boulder: Lynne Rienner, pp. 205-224
- "On the Via Media: A Response to the Critics," Review of International Studies, 26(1), 165-180.
- 1999 "A Comment on Held's Cosmopolitanism," in Ian Shapiro and Casiano Hacker-Cordon, eds., Democracy's Edges, Cambridge: Cambridge

- University Press, pp. 127-133
- 1998 "On Constitution and Causation in International Relations," Review of International Studies, 24 (special issue), 101-117
- 1997 "The Misunderstood Promise of Realist Social Theory" (with Ian Shapiro), in Kristen Monroe, ed., Contemporary Empirical Political Theory, Berkeley: University of California Press, pp. 166-187
- 1996 "Norms, Identity and Culture in National Security" (with Ronald Jepperson and Peter Katzenstein), in P. Katzenstein, ed., The Culture of National Security, New York: Columbia University Press, pp. 33-75
- 1995 "Hierarchy Under Anarchy: Informal Empire and the East German State" (with Daniel Friedheim), International Organization, 49, 689-721; earlier version in T. Biersteker and C. Weber, eds. (1996), State Sovereignty as Social Construct, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 240-277
- "Constructing International Politics," International Security, 19, 71-81
- 1994 "Collective Identity Formation and the International State," American Political Science Review, 88, 384-396; revised as "Identity and Structural Change in International Politics," in Yosef Lapid and Friedrich Kratochwil, eds. (1996), The Return of Culture and Identity to International Theory, Boulder: Lynne Rienner, pp. 47-66
- 1993 "Dependent State Formation and Third World Militarization" (co-authored with Michael Barnett), Review of International Studies, 19, 321-347
- 1992 "Anarchy is What States Make of It: The Social Construction of Power Politics," International Organization, 46(2), 391-425
- "The Difference that Realism Makes: Social Science and the Politics of Consent" (with Ian Shapiro), Politics and Society, 20(2), 197-223
- "Systemic Sources of Dependent Militarization" (with Michael Barnett), in Brian Job, ed., The Insecurity Dilemma: National Security of Third World States, Boulder: Lynne Rienner, pp. 97-119
- 1991 "Review essay: Bridging the Theory/Meta-Theory Gap in International Relations," Review of International Studies, 17, 383-392; combined with "Levels of Analysis vs. Agents and Structures: Part III," ibid., 18, 181-185
- 1989 "Institutions and International Order" (with Raymond Duvall), in Ernst-

Otto Czempiel and James Rosenau, eds., Global Changes and Theoretical Challenges, Lexington: Lexington Books, pp. 51-74

- 1987 “The Agent-Structure Problem in International Relations Theory,” International Organization, 41(3), 335-370

## “PIPELINE”

The Last Humans: UFOs and National Security, book manuscript, 95% complete and due August 15; under contract and forthcoming with Oxford University Press

The Politics of UAP: Science, Security, and Society, book manuscript co-edited with Jacob Haqq-Misra and James Wirtz, based on a workshop held at the Mershon Center in March 2023; 20 chapters, submitted for review to Oxford University Press on Dec 12, 2024

“Quantum Theory as Critical Theory: Entanglement and the Politics of Social Physics” (article manuscript, currently parked pending completion of the aforementioned books)

## OTHER NOTEWORTHY CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2020 “Wanted: A Science of UFOs,” TEDx Columbus talk aired in early February 2020, now with over 500K views and favorability rating of 30:1

- 2010 “Militant Agnosticism and the UFO Taboo” (co-authored with Raymond Duvall), in Leslie Kean, ed., UFOs: Generals, Pilots, and Government Officials Go on the Record, New York: Harmony Books, pp. 269-281

## JOURNAL EDITOR

With Duncan Snidal, in 2009 co-founded and until 2019 co-edited International Theory, published by Cambridge University Press. In 2017 IT had a 5-year Impact Factor of 2.594 (16<sup>th</sup> out of 86 IR journals)

## TEACHING AREAS

Quantum Social Science

International Theory  
Social Theory and Philosophy of Social Science  
International Security and Global Governance

## EXTERNAL RECOGNITION AND GRANTS

Elected in 2025 to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

The 2023 Skytte Prize in Political Science (co-winner with Martha Finnemore)

Over 50,000 Google Citations

Final Report of the 2017 TRIP Survey of IR scholars in the U.S. and Europe:

#1 answer to the question, “Name Four Scholars Who Have Had the Most Influence on the Field of IR in the Past 20 Years” was “Alex Wendt”

2021- PI for \$400,000 Carnegie Foundation grant for a (now) four-year “quantum boot camp for social scientists,” with co-PIs Joyce Wang and Michael Schnabel