

FATON (TONY) BISLIMI

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EDUCATION

- Present **University of Alberta** (Edmonton, AB, Canada)
PhD in Political Science (comp exams in Comparative Politics and International Relations completed). Dissertation (work in progress): *The Politics of International Intervention and State-building: Kosovo at Crossroads*
- 2010 **Dalhousie University** (Halifax, NS, Canada)
MA in Political Science (International Relations), Thesis: Kosovo - The Building of a European State or Just Another State in Europe?
- 2007 **Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government** (Cambridge, MA, USA)
Master in Public Administration in International Development, Thesis: The Spoil Effect - How Remittances Affect Developing Countries: The Case of Kosovo
- 2005 **Texas Lutheran University** (Seguin, TX, USA)
Honors BSc/BA in Computer Science / Mathematics (summa cum laude)

SPECIAL CERTIFICATIONS

- 2014 *Certified Tribunal Administrative Justice Advocate*, Foundation of Administrative Justice (Edmonton, AB, Canada)
- 2009 *PRINCE2 Certification in Project Management*, APMG International (London, UK)

TEACHING / ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

- 2016-Present **RIT Kosovo - American University in Kosovo** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Lecturer of Public Policy (part-time)
- 2013-2016 **University of Alberta** (Edmonton, AB, Canada)
Doctoral Fellow, EU Centre of Excellence
- 2014-2016 **TBG Foundation / Trinity Washington University** (Washington, DC, USA)
Lead Instructor / Program Director for the Washington School Program on International Development and Politics, a two-week academic program, taking place in Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall of each year.
- 2012-2016 **Gjilan Public University / TBG Foundation** (Gjilan, Kosovo)
Lead Instructor for the three-week, annual, Balkans Peace Program on International Development and Politics in Post-Conflict Societies: Kosovo and the Balkans, taking place each summer.
- Winter 2014 **Seton Hill University** (Greensburg, PA, USA)
Invited Instructor, Topics in Global Affairs: The European Union
- 2009-2012 **Dalhousie University** (Halifax, NS, Canada)
Instructor of Economics
- 2011-2012 **Mount Saint Vincent University** (Halifax, NS, Canada)

Sessional Instructor of Economics

Spring 2009 **American University in Kosovo** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Lecturer of Research Techniques

2007-2011 **Victory University College** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Director, International Education Programs
2007-2010 *Lecturer, Department of Economics and Politics*

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Sep 2016- Dec2018 **USAID Transformational Leadership Program, RIT Kosovo** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Instructor, Public Policy Development and Leadership Program

Dec 2015- Dec 2018 **Office of the Mayor, Municipality of Gjilan** (Gjilan, Kosovo)
Senior Policy & Regional Cooperation Advisor / Acting Chief of Staff

Feb 2011- Sep 2012 **Atlantic Institute for Market Studies** (Halifax, NS, Canada)
Policy Analyst / Policy Commentator

2009-2012 **United Nations Development Program** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Policy Analyst / Research Consultant
2007-2009 *Manager of Research and Policy Projects*

Mar-May 2006 **American University in Kosovo Foundation** (Maine, USA)
Assistant to the Executive Director

Summer 2006 **RTI International / USAID** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Consultant, Local Government Initiative

Summer 2005 **American Chamber of Commerce** (Prishtina, Kosovo)
Policy Analyst

Summer 2004 **US House of Representatives, Committee on Int'l Relations** (Washington, DC)
Intern / Balkans Policy Assistant

Summer 2003 **Albanian American Foundation** (New York, NY, USA)
Coordinator, Kosovo Democracy Campaign

Jun-Nov 2001 **Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe** (Gjilan, Kosovo)
Interpreter and Elections Assistant

Sep-Dec 2001 **Rexhep Elmazi Elementary School** (Gjilan, Kosovo)
English Teacher

Aug 1999- Mar 2001 **Brown and Root Services (Halliburton), NATO Camp Montieth** (Kosovo)
Health, Safety, and Environment Associate Coordinator

PUBLICATIONS / CONFERENCES / INVITED TALKS

Books

- Baskin, Mark and Faton Bislimi (Editors): *Principles of Public Policy-Making in Kosovo – A Reference Book for Practitioners*. RIT Kosovo / UASAIID, (upcoming Winter 2019)
- Bislimi, Faton and Eric Franco (Editors): *Reflections from Kosovo*. The Balkans Free Press, December 2014 (Edmonton/Houston)
- Bislimi, Faton (Editor): *My Kosovo Experience: Some Perspectives on Europe's Newest State*. The Balkans Free Press, March 2013 (Edmonton/Houston)

- Bislimi, Faton: *Kosovo: The State, Challenges, and Opportunities* (in Albanian: *Kosova - Shteti, Sfidat, dhe Mundesitë*), Prishtina: Victory University College Press, June 2011
- Bislimi, Faton: *Newborn Kosova: Some Development and Public Policy Challenges*, Jalifat Publishing Co & Victory University College Press, June 2008 (Houston / Prishtina)
- Bislimi, Faton: *My Kosovar Journey: Ups and Downs* (in Albanian), Jalifat Publishing Co, April 2006 (Houston)
- Bislimi, Faton: *Math Made Easy for 5th – 8th Graders* (in Albanian), ARS Publishing, December 1998 (Prishtina)

Articles/Papers/Book Chapters

- Bislimi, Faton: “EU Enlargement and Kosovo’s Europeanization: European Union and Shaping Kosovo’s Kosovo Representative or ‘Represented’ Democracy,” in Finn Laursen (Ed), *EU Enlargement: Current Challenges and Strategic Choices*, Peter Lang, 2013
- Bislimi, Faton: “The US and EU Roles in Creating Europe’s Newest State: Kosovo and International State Crafting” in Finn Laursen (Ed), *The EU and Transatlantic Relations: Security Issues*, Peter Lang, 2012
- Bislimi, Faton: “The EU’s Foreign Policy and the Balkans” in F. Gjana and C. Yenigun (Eds.) *Balkans: Foreign Policy, Politics, and Socio-Cultures*, Tirana, Albania: Epoka University Press, 2011
- Bislimi, Faton: “The EU’s Foreign Policy towards the Balkans: An Opportunity or a Challenge?” *The Western Balkans Policy Review* 1 (1), pp: 29-48, Fall 2010
- Bislimi, Faton: “Remittances and Human Development – Effects and Implications,” background paper for the *Global Human Development Report 2009*, UNDP New York, Fall 2009
- Bislimi, Faton: “The Role of Community-Driven Development in Shaping a New Kosovo,” *Civil Society and Development – Kosovo Human Development Report 2008*, UNDP Kosovo, April 2009
- Bislimi, Faton: “Migrants’ Contribution to Private Sector Development in Kosovo,” *Global Trend Journal*, Victory Research Institute, Prishtina, Kosovo, March 2009
- Bislimi, Faton: “Youth and Volunteerism,” *Kosovo Early Warning Report #22*, UNDP/USAID Kosovo, October 2008
- Bislimi, Faton: “Migration and Demographics: Kosovo’s Private Sector Development at Crossroads (Revised Edition),” *Canadian Ethnic Studies Journal*, Vol. 39, Issue 3, June 2008
- Bislimi, Faton: “Education and Employability,” *Kosovo Early Warning Report #19*, UNDP/USAID Kosovo, January 2008
- Bislimi, Faton: “Migration and Demographics: Kosovo’s Private Sector Development at Crossroads,” *Development and Transition Newsletter*, UNDP Kosovo, October 2007
- Bislimi, Faton: “Kosovo Emigration Trends,” *Kosovo Early Warning Report #18*, UNDP/USAID Kosovo, October 2007

Other Books / Commissioned Reports

- Bislimi, Faton (Editor and Contributor) *Kosovo Human Development Report 2010 on Social Inclusion and Development*, UNDP Kosovo, March 2011
- Bislimi, Faton (content editor): *Kosovo Remittance Study 2010*, UNDP / IMF, Kosovo, November 2010
- Bislimi, Faton (Lead Author and Editor): *Youth and Volunteerism in Kosovo*, UNDP / UNV Kosovo, March 2010
- Bislimi, Faton (Editor): *Civil Society and Development - Kosovo Human Development Report 2008*, UNDP Kosovo, April 2009

Selected Conference Papers / Invited Talks

- THINK20 Task Force on Migration Member / Participant, *Global Solutions Summit 2018*, G20 Argentina Presidency, Berlin, Germany, 27-29 May 2018.
- THINK20 Task Force on Migration Member / Participant, *Global Solutions Summit 2018*, G20 Germany Presidency, Berlin, Germany, 25-27 May 2017.
- THINK20 Task Force on Migration Member / Participant, "*Forced Migration and Development*", Amman, Jordan, 14-17 February 2017.
- "The Future of Kosovo at Your Hands," keynote address at the *6th Anniversary Event of the Kosovo Youth Assembly*, Prishtina, Kosovo, 18 May 2015.
- "EU and Democratic Development in the Western Balkans: Pressure, Persuasion, and Promise" paper presented at the *Post-Communist Democracy: Democratic Development After EU Conditionality* conference, Wirth Institute, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, 18-20 April 2013.
- "International Actors in International Development: Programs, Policies, and Practice – The Case of Kosovo" lecture delivered as Featured Speaker of the *Center for International Development Speaker Series*, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, 1 February 2013.
- "EU's Strategic Choices and Challenges in Building a Representative or "Represented" Democracy in Kosovo" paper presented at the *6th Annual EUCE Research Conference on Widening and Deepening of European Integration: Challenges and Strategic Choices Facing the European Union*, EU Centre of Excellence, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, 11-13 April 2012.
- "Identity and Europeanization in Western Balkans" lecture at the *International Conference on Identity and Politics in the Era of Globalization and Europeanization*, University of St. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, Macedonia, 3-4 November 2011.
- "Europeanization and International State-Building in Kosovo" paper presented at the *2nd annual Western Balkans Public Policy Conference on Managing Diversity in Post-conflict Western Balkans: Multiculturalism, Multiethnicity, and Europeanization*, Kosovo Public Policy Center and American University in Kosovo, Prishtina, Kosovo, 24-25 June 2011
- "The US and EU Roles in Creating Europe's Newest State: Kosovo and International State Crafting" paper presented at the *5th Annual EUCE Research Conference on Transatlantic Relations: Security and Political Economy Issues*, EU Centre of Excellence, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS, 10-12 April 2011
- "Pursuing Justice Abroad: Canada's Role in Kosovo" paper presented at the *Joint Annual Conference of the Canadian Ethnic Studies Association and Association for Canadian Studies on Ethnicity, Governance, and Social Justice: Linking Canada to the World*, Toronto, 5-6 November 2010
- "EU's Foreign Policy towards the Balkans" paper presented at the *Western Balkans: An Opportunity or a Challenge for the Future of the EU International Conference*, Kosovo Public Policy Center and American University in Kosovo and Victory College, Prishtina, Kosovo, June 26-27, 2010
- "Kosovo – The Building of a European State or Just Another State in Europe?" paper presented at the *Kosovo – From One Protectorate to Another International Conference*, UQAM and Centre for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies, Montreal, QC, Canada, February 11-12, 2010
- "Migration and Human Development through Education and Labor Force Participation – The Case of Kosovo," paper presented at the *International Conference on Effects of Migration on the European Population Structures*, Austrian Academy of Sciences and Vienna Institute of Demography, Vienna, Austria, December 1-2, 2008
- "Minority Inclusion and Governance," International Panelist, *Canadian Ethnic Studies Association 19th Biennial Conference*, Winnipeg, Canada, September 2007

- "Kosovo and Interethnic Reconciliation: Will peace be built upon the foundation of a Kosovar identity?" - *International Conference on Peace and Reconciliation: In Search of a Common Identity*, York St. John University, United Kingdom, August 2006
- "Differences of Cultures: Fitting in or Standing Out" paper presented at the *Albanian Diaspora Cultural Seminar*, Albanian Society of Houston, Texas, May 2006
- "Quality Education as Key to Building a Prosperous Nation" - *Dilemmas of the Post Communist Condition International Conference*, History and Governance Research Institute, Univ. of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom, June 2005
- "A No Name Caste System: The Case of Discrimination in Kosovo" - *Annual Lecture Series: Comparing Literature to Real Life Cases*, Albanian American Society, Houston, October 2004
- "Kosovo: From Darkness into Sunshine" - *World Youth Summit*, AEGEE-Europe, Brussels, December 2003

AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS / MEMBERSHIPS

- *Edmonton Consular Corps Scholarship for International Education*, Edmonton Consular Corps, April 2015
- *Marshall Memorial Fellow 2015-16*, German Marshall Fund of the United States, March 2015
- *Member* - Canadian Political Science Association, American Political Science Association, and European Political Science Association
- *Lifetime Membership* – Golden Key International Honor Society, 2013
- *President's Prize of Distinction*, University of Alberta, 2012-2013
- *The Joseph Armand-Bombardier Doctoral Award*– Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 2011-2014
- *President's Award* – Dalhousie University, 2011-2012
- *EU Centre of Excellence Doctoral Fellowship* – Dalhousie University, 2010-2013
- *Albanian American Foundation PhD Fellowship*, 2010-2011
- *Margaret Meagher Fellowship in Political Science* – Dalhousie University, 2009-2010
- *Centre for Foreign Policy Studies Fellowship* – Dalhousie University, 2009-2011
- *Kennedy Fellowship* - JFK School of Government, Harvard University, 2005-2007
- *Full Scholarship* (for duration of studies) – Texas Lutheran University, 2002-2005
- *Academic Excellence Award* – National Albanian American Organization, 2004-2005
- *International Leadership Scholarship* by the Civic Concepts International to participate in the 4th annual International Youth Leadership Conference in Prague, January 5-10, 2003
- *Lifetime Membership Award of Achievement* - U.S. National Scholars Honor Society, 2003
- *Outstanding Achievement in Poetry 2003 Award* - International Society of Poets
- *Alpha Lambda Delta Academic Honors Society Lifetime Membership*, 2004
- *Alpha Chi Academic and Scholarship Honors Society Lifetime Membership*, 2005
- Elected into *WHO'S WHO Among Students in American Colleges and Universities*, 2005
- *All-American Scholar* – US Academy of Achievement, 2005

LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors Member and Balkans Policy Coordinator – Albanian American Civic League (est. 1989), the only registered Albanian-American lobby in Washington, DC (2002-Present)

Founding Chair and President - The Bislimi Group Foundation (www.bislimi.org), a non-profit educational foundation that provides scholarships to deserving young Kosovars for study in the US and Canada and implements quality education programs, study tours, summer academies, and internships for both Kosovar and foreign students, Prishtina, Kosovo (Apr 2006-Present)

Senior Fellow and Managing Director - Kosovo Public Policy Center (www.kppcenter.org), a think-tank based in Prishtina, Kosovo (2009-present).

Founding Chair - Albanian Students International, New York, NY (Oct 2003-Jun 2007)

President - School Youth Association, Gjilan, Kosovo (Oct 1999 - Nov 2001)

Student Ambassador - Texas Lutheran University, Seguin, TX (Sep 2004 - May 2005)