

Updated 1/25

**Elena Kempf**  
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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

History Section, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
2024– Old Dominion Career Development Assistant Professor

Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law, UC Berkeley School of Law  
2023–2024 Miller Postdoctoral Fellow

Department of History, Stanford University  
2023–2024 Lecturer

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. 2021 Department of History  
University of California, Berkeley  
Dissertation: “Humanitarian Calculus: The Workings of Weapons  
Prohibitions in International Law, 1868–1925”  
Committee: Stefan-Ludwig Hoffmann, Thomas Laqueur, David  
Lieberman

M.A. 2015 Department of History  
University of California, Berkeley

B.A. 2014 Department of History  
University of California, Berkeley  
Highest honors in History, high distinction in General Scholarship

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles and Book Chapters

Elena Kempf and Katerina Linos, “An Ever-Stronger Union: Introduction to the Symposium”  
and “NGEU: A New Marshall Plan for Europe and a Template for Global Finance,” in  
Symposium on Next Generation EU, Crisis Budgeting, and the Empowerment of  
Supranational Institutions, *American Journal of International Law Unbound* 118 (2024):  
139-143, 151-156.

Richard Dunley and Elena Kempf, “Inhumane Warfare: Submarines and Underwater Weapons,”  
*Critical Military Studies* (forthcoming).

Melissa Carlson, Elena Kempf, and Katerina Linos, “Qualitative Methods in Comparative Human Rights Law,” in *Oxford Handbook on Comparative Human Rights Law*, edited by Neha Jain and Mila Versteeg (forthcoming, SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4421547>).

Seth Davis, Eric Biber, and Elena Kempf, “Persisting Sovereignities,” *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* 170 (2022): 549-636.

### **Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries**

Elena Kempf, “Central Peripheries: Jurists-in-Exile and the Martens Clause in Kerstin von Lingen’s *Crimes Against Humanity*,” *ZaÖRV/Heidelberg Journal of International Law* 80 (2020): 754-758.

Elena Kempf, “The Hague, 1899: The Prohibition of Dum-Dum Bullets in International Law,” *Online Atlas on the History of Humanitarianism and Human Rights*, 2019, edited by Fabian Klose, Marc Palen, Johannes Paulmann, Andrew Thompson, <https://hhr-atlas.ieg-mainz.de/toc>.

### **PRIZES AND FELLOWSHIPS**

Friends of Cal History Dissertation Prize, 2022.

Interim Postdoctoral Fellow, Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law, 2020–2021.

Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Study, 2014–2021.

Una’s Fellow, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities, 2019–2020.

Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Graduate Fellowship, 2018–2019.

IIS Simpson Fellowship in International and Comparative Studies, 2018–2019.

IES Gerald D. and Norma Feldman Graduate Student Dissertation Fellowship, 2018.

Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award, 2017.

German National Academic Foundation Fellowship, 2012–2015.

### **CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS**

“Decolonizing the Laws of War: Global South Mobilization for Weapons Prohibitions in the 1960s and 1970s,” American Society for Legal History Conference, San Francisco, October 2024.

“Shaming the Court: The German Constitutional Court’s NGEU Reversal (with Katerina Linos),” EU Law Scholars Workshop, UC Berkeley School of Law, April 2024; at the CSLS Speaker Series, UC Berkeley School of Law, January 2024; and at the ASIL International Law and Social Sciences Conference, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, September 2024.

“Humanitarian Calculus: The Origins of Weapons Prohibitions in Modern International Law,” European History Workshop, Stanford University, February 2024; and at the Colloquium on Law and Geopolitics, UC Berkeley School of Law, February 2024.

“The Laws of War in an Age of Crisis,” Is ‘Crisis’ the New Normal?, Workshop at UC Berkeley, April 2023.

“World Loss: Submarines and International Law in the Wake of War, 1919-1929,” Warfare, Weapons, Wounds – An Interdisciplinary Workshop, The University of Auckland, April 2021.

“Civilization as a Concept of Transgression in International Weapons Law in the 1920s,” Law and Society Association Junior Scholars Workshop, Washington, D.C., May 28–29, 2019.

“Beyond Violation: The Laws of War in German History, 1860s–1918,” German Historical Institute West Workshop, University of Southern California, April 6, 2019.

“(In)humane Bullets: The Prohibition of Dum-Dum Bullets from Tübingen to the Trenches,” Berkeley-Max Planck Institute Graduate Student Conference, Berlin, June 19–20, 2018.

“Grenzen der Grausamkeit: Waffenverbote im Kriegsvölkerrecht, 1868–Gegenwart,” Colloquium zur Zeitgeschichte, Free University Berlin, April 19, 2018.

## **TEACHING**

### **Courses taught at MIT**

The Making of Modern Europe, 1789–Present (Introductory subject, Fall 2024)

### **Courses taught at Stanford University**

The Laws of War in Global History (Upper-division seminar, Winter 2023)

The Problem of Modern Europe (Lower-division lecture course, Spring 2023)

### **Courses taught at UC Berkeley**

Global Society: International Organizations, NGOs, and Social Movements in the Twentieth Century (Reader, upper-division lecture course, Spring 2019)

In the Name of Humanity: The Laws of War in Global History, 1860s–Present (Lower-division college writing course, Fall 2018)

Death, Dying, and Modern Medicine (TA, upper-division lecture course, Spring 2017)

The History and Practice of Human Rights (TA, upper-division lecture course, Fall 2015 and Fall 2016)

Exploring the Liberal Arts (TA, online introductory course, Summer 2016)

Berlin and the Twentieth Century (Reader, upper-division lecture course, Spring 2015)

## **SERVICE**

Co-Chair, Der Kreis, a UC Berkeley Working Group for German History and Culture, 2014–2016.

Co-Chair, Speaker Series on Questions of European Migration, UC Berkeley Social Science Matrix, 2016–2017.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Historical Association; American Society for Legal History; Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; Society for the History of Technology

## **LANGUAGES**

German: native

French: reading