CHRISTOPHER O. MESEROLE

POSITIONS
Fellow, Center for Middle East Policy, Brookings Institution (2017 -)
Post-Doctoral Fellow in Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution (2016-2017)
Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution (2015-2016)

EDUCATION

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
A.B., highest honors in field, 2002
Hoopes Prize, outstanding undergraduate theses

Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT
M.Div., 2009; *S.T.M*, 2010.
Certificate, Concentration in Modern Middle Eastern Studies, 2010

University of Maryland, College Park, MD
Ph.D., Government and Politics, 2017
　　　Fields: Comparative Politics & Political Methodology (Distinction)
　　　Dissertation: "Essays in Modern Religious Conflict"

INTERESTS
Religious and sectarian conflict, counterterrorism and countering violent extremism, causes and consequences of political violence, big data and artificial intelligence, cryptography and decentralized networks

Nonparametric machine learning, hierarchical modeling, Bayesian inference, network analysis, data visualization

PAPERS
"Veiled Rhetoric: Syrian Foreign Fighters and the Global Veil Ban Wave," *Brookings Report*, forthcoming.

LATEST WRITING
"How the 1967 War changed armed conflict in the Middle East,"
　　　Brookings Markaz, May 30, 2017.
"CVE in the Age of Trump," *Lawfare*, December 11, 2016.
"National Security in a Data Age," *Lawfare*, June 5, 2016.
"The French Connection," *Foreign Affairs*, March 2016. (With William McCants.)
"Obama and the Morning Light," *Huffington Post*, January 11, 2016.

WORKING PAPERS	"Veil Bans and Machine Learning: Exploratory Analysis of Syrian Foreign Fighters"
	"Sacred Choice: Why Some Religious Groups Protest Peacefully While Others Resort to Violence"
	"Religion and Civilian Targeting in Civil War"
	"Religion and Causal Inference"

DATA & SOFTWARE	*Obsval*. R package to estimate marginal effects, discrete differences and predicted probabilities using observed covariate values.
	featureViz. R package to better visualize feature selection tests, variable importance plots, & Individual Conditional Expectation plots.
	Religious Claims & Recruitment (RCR) dataset. Data on religious claims and recruitment practices of all rebel groups in civil wars, 1989-2009.
	Global Veil Ban (GVB) dataset. Data on the extent to which each country debated, introduced, or implemented national restrictions on Islamic headdress between 2006-2011.

MEDIA	Contributor to *Huffington Post* since its launch in 2005.