

## ALISTAIR SOMERVILLE

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LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/alistair-somerville-07baa06b/>

Recent Writing: <https://globalsecurityreview.com/new-formula-united-nations-security-council/>

Podcast: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-europe-desk/id1474443374>

### RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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#### INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF DIPLOMACY

Washington, DC

##### Case Studies and Publications Editor

Apr. 2020 – Present

- Commission and edit pieces for ISD's online library of 250 diplomacy and international relations case studies.
- Co-authored and published materials for two new negotiation simulation exercises.
- Lead ISD's social media and digital marketing efforts during communications manager vacancy.
- Write materials and newsletters for working groups, as well as website and social media content.
- Preparing relaunch of ISD's blog, The Diplomatic Pouch, and planning new podcast series.
- Monitor news and prepare briefs for director and State Department senior fellows.
- Assisted senior fellow Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch with press and mail enquiries during impeachment hearings.
- Previously served as research assistant from May 2019 to Jan. 2020 and was a graduate research fellow for 2019-20 focusing on British soft power and public diplomacy.

#### UNITED NATIONS, Secretariat, Information Center

Washington, DC

##### Government Affairs and Information Intern

Jan. 2020 – Apr. 2020

- Reported on hearings and events on Capitol Hill for Secretary-General's weekly news briefing.
- Wrote press releases, social media content, and blogs to support strategic communications and public diplomacy.
- Wrote talking points for deputy director's speech to 230 delegates at National League of Cities Conference.
- Provided updates on criticism of UN's role in Syria to inform UN Department of Global Communications' response.

#### THE TRANSATLANTICIST BLOG

Washington, DC

##### Editor

Nov. 2019 – May 2020

- Commissioned and edited articles for Georgetown's European Horizons blog.

#### THE EUROPE DESK PODCAST, BMW Center for German and European Studies

Washington, DC

##### Founder and Producer

Nov. 2018 – May 2020

- Led team of 8 students to plan, produce and advertise podcast on transatlantic and European affairs.
- Pitched, developed and marketed podcast to reach 1000 monthly downloads, with listeners in 63 countries.

#### GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, School of Foreign Service

Washington, DC

##### Research Assistant to the Director of the M.A. in German and European Studies Program

Aug. 2018 – May 2020

- Supported Professor Anna von der Goltz with research into conservative movements in 1960s Germany.
- Edited draft chapters and translated primary source materials for forthcoming Oxford University Press title, *Other '68ers*.
- Edited essay "1968: The end of nationalism?" for new Cambridge University Press volume.

### EDUCATION

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#### GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, School of Foreign Service

Washington, DC

##### Master of Arts in German and European Studies | Certificate in Diplomatic Studies | *GPA: 3.98*

May 2020

School of Foreign Service Language Oral Proficiency Exam: **German** - *Excellent* | Reading Exam: **French**

- 2020 Jill A. Hopper Award for Academic Excellence; 2020 Ken Okoth Award for Service
- 2018 British Universities North America Club Scholar; 2018 Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Merit Scholar

#### UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, Worcester College

Oxford, UK

##### Bachelor of Arts in History and Modern Languages (German) | *First Class Honours*

July 2016

Third year abroad working for the British Council in Vienna, Austria

### SKILLS & AWARDS

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**Teaching and Leadership:** UK Qualified Teacher Status (2017); President of GU Big Buddies Mentoring (2019-20)

**Languages:** German (fluent), French (reading/writing), Russian (beginner)

**Computer Skills:** Adobe InDesign; Wordpress; Mailchimp; Quorum; Stata; TweetDeck; Microsoft Word; Microsoft Excel;

## **Editorial Work**

Case Studies and Publications Editor, [Institute for the Study of Diplomacy](#) (ISD)

Editor-in-Chief, *The Diplomatic Pouch*, a blog from the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (relaunching August 2020)

McFarland, Kelly M., and Somerville, A. (2020, forthcoming). “Institute for the Study of Diplomacy Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 Working Group Final Report: Curbing the Weapon of Choice – Technology and Information Operations Today.” ISD New Global Commons Working Group Report Series.

Heffern, Ambassador (ret.) John A. (2020, forthcoming) *NATO’s 2011 Intervention in Libya*. ISD Case Studies Library.

Leonard, E. (2020, forthcoming). *Universal Jurisdiction and the Rwandan Genocide: Global justice or vigilante politics?* ISD Case Studies Library.

ISD. (2020, June). *The Colombian Peace Process: An ISD International Negotiation Simulation*. ISD Case Studies Library.

ISD. (2020, May). Institute for the Study of Diplomacy (2020, May). *Curbing Iran’s Nuclear and Regional Ambitions: An ISD International Negotiation Simulation*. ISD Case Studies Library.

November 2019 – May 2020: Editor, [The Transatlanticist](#), a blog from European Horizons at Georgetown University

Heering, Jonas. (2020, April). “Trump’s Coronavirus Response: A Fatal Blow to Transatlantic Cooperation.”

Cleaveland, D. (2020, April). “If It’s Every Man for Himself, Where are the Women?”

Grosman Fernandez, J. (2020, February). “EU-China Energy Cooperation: Speeding Up or Slowing Down?”

## **Journalism, Interviews, and Commentary**

Somerville, A. (2020, June). “A New Formula for the UN Security Council.” *Global Security Review*.  
<https://globalsecurityreview.com/new-formula-united-nations-security-council/>

Mayrand, E. and Somerville, A. (2020, April). “Interview: Audrey Kurth Cronin on European Security, Counterterrorism and Emerging Technologies.” *Georgetown Security Studies Review*.  
<https://georgetownsecuritystudiesreview.org/2020/04/13/the-europe-desk-interview-audrey-kurth-cronin-on-counterterrorism-and-emerging-technologies/>

Somerville, A. (2020, April). “The Left Should Reject Populist Tactics.” *The Transatlanticist*.  
<https://medium.com/@GUEuropeanhorizons/head-to-head-should-the-european-left-take-on-the-populists-at-their-own-game-1ff77b808d13>

Somerville, A. (2020, March). “Our Institutions Need a Reboot, Not the Boot.” *Diplomatic Courier*.  
<https://www.diplomaticcourier.com/posts/our-institutions-need-a-reboot-not-the-boot>

Somerville, A. (2020, March). “U.S. Launch of World Migration Report Held in Washington.” *United Nations Information Center*. <https://unicwash.org/u-s-launch-of-world-migration-report-held-in-washington/>

Somerville, A. (2020, February). “Boris Johnson and the Weaponization of History.” *The Transatlanticist*.  
<https://medium.com/@GUEuropeanhorizons/boris-johnson-and-the-weaponization-of-history-99338dd76e>

Hanna, A. and Somerville, A. (2020, February). “The Mistake Trump Risks Repeating in the Middle East. Why the Suez Crisis serves as a warning to the president’s Iran policy.” *Washington Monthly*. <https://washingtonmonthly.com/2020/02/14/the-mistake-trump-risks-repeating-in-the-middle-east/>

The Europe Desk and the Georgetown Journal of International Affairs (2020, February). “Dialogues: Minister Helen McEntee on Brexit, the Good Friday Agreement, and Transatlantic Relations.” Georgetown Journal of International Affairs. <https://gija.georgetown.edu/2020/02/11/helen-mcentee-brexit-good-friday-and-transatlantic-relations/>

for United Nations Information Center, Washington (2020, January). “USG Rosemary DiCarlo Highlights Efforts to Prevent Conflict, Get Results.” United Nations Information Center. <https://unicwash.org/usg-rosemary-dicarlo-highlights-efforts-to-prevent-conflict-get-results/>

Somerville, A. (2019, November). “The Prime Minister Versus History.” Public Seminar. <https://publicseminar.org/essays/the-prime-minister-versus-history/>.

### **Academic Writing**

Somerville, A. (2020, July). “Steering HMS Global Britain: The Future of British Soft Power and Public Diplomacy.” Institute for the Study of Diplomacy. <https://isd.georgetown.edu/profile/alistair-somerville/>

Somerville, A. et al. (2020, May). “Strategic Re-Engagement: Advancing U.S. Leadership in Multilateral Diplomacy.” Institute for the Study of Diplomacy. <https://isd.georgetown.edu/2020/05/14/capstone-reports/>

Somerville, A. (2020, May). “The Underdog Imperialists: Brexiteers’ Use of History During and Since the Referendum.” Gnovis – Georgetown Journal of Communication, Culture and Technology. <http://www.gnovisjournal.org/2020/05/04/the-underdog-imperialists-the-brexiteers-uses-of-history-before-and-since-the-2016-referendum/>

Somerville, A. (2020, January). “The role of historians in public engagement and the media: a review of the Institute for the Study of Diplomacy’s 2019 workshop.” Passport—The Review of the Society of Historians for American Foreign Relations. <https://shafr.org/system/files/passport-01-2020-isd.pdf>.

### **Presentations and Panels**

Somerville, A. “Because Adenauer wants to continue Hitler’s Work.’ East German Propaganda, the Committee for German Unity, and the Nazi Past.” BMW Center for German and European Studies Master’s Colloquium, Georgetown University ([virtual panel, from 26:47](#)), May 1, 2020.

Somerville, A. “Steering HMS Global Britain: The Future of British Soft Power and Public Diplomacy.” Institute for the Study of Diplomacy Student Fellows Colloquium, Georgetown University (virtual), April 16, 2020. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wjPz5fgnXzXyx2IDPy5tCcUkLfTbXTTR/view>

Somerville, A. “Denn Adenauer will Hitlers Werk fortsetzen.’ Re-assessing the East German government’s attempts to discredit West German politicians.” GDR Today V Conference, Institute for German Studies at University of Birmingham (UK), September 13, 2019. <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/igs/events/2019/the-gdr-today-v.aspx>

Somerville, A. “The myth of a liberal Brexit: How Brexiteers (mis-)used history in their quest for British ‘freedom.’” 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Transatlantic Policy Symposium, School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, February 1, 2019. [http://tapsgeorgetown.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/TAPS-2019\\_Somerville.pdf](http://tapsgeorgetown.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/TAPS-2019_Somerville.pdf)

Somerville, A. “The myth of a liberal Brexit: How Brexiteers (mis-)used history in their quest for British ‘freedom.’” 7<sup>th</sup> International Euroacademia Conference, Bruges (Belgium), January 25, 2019. <http://euroacademia.eu/presentation/the-myth-of-a-liberal-brexit-how-brexiteers-misused-history-in-their-quest-for-british-%E2%80%99freedom%E2%80%99/>

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## **Podcast**

The Europe Desk is a podcast from the BMW Center for German and European Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. It brings together leading experts working on the most pertinent issues facing Europe and transatlantic relations today.

Founded and produced by Alistair Somerville, Laura Rodriguez, and Simon Close (2019-20)

Music by Sam Kyzivat and Breakmaster Cylinder

Design by Sarah Diebboll

<https://cges.georgetown.edu/podcast>

Twitter and Instagram: [@theeuropedesk](https://twitter.com/theeuropedesk)

[bit.ly/TheEuropeDesk](https://bit.ly/TheEuropeDesk)

Winner of the Georgetown University Library Showcase Voters' Choice Award, Fall 2019

Featured by [U.S. News and World Report](#), the [German Marshall Fund](#), the [Delegation of the European Union to the United States](#), and [LibSyn Podcasting](#)

