

# Saba Bazargan-Forward

Department of Philosophy  
University of California, San Diego  
9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla,  
CA 92093-0199  
sbazargan@ucsd.edu

## Areas of Specialization

Normative Ethics, Applied Ethics

## Areas of Competence

Political Theory, Legal Theory, Philosophy of Action

## Research Description

I work primarily in normative ethics, with a focus on the morality of defensive violence, the morality of war, and individual accountability for cooperatively committed harms. I also work on a variety of other issues in normative ethics, including: the moral analysis of coercion, the grounds for associative duties, and the morality of benefitting from injustice.

## Academic Positions

- 2016 – Affiliate Professor  
University of San Diego School of Law
- 2015 – Associate Professor  
UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA
- 2009 – 2015 Assistant Professor  
UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA
- 2005 – 2009 Teaching Assistant, Graduate Student  
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

## Education

- 2002 – 2009 PhD in Philosophy  
Rutgers University
- 1996 – 2001 BA in Philosophy (departmental honors),  
BA in Political Science  
UC Los Angeles

## Publications and Pre-Prints

### Authored Books

1. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. Authority, Cooperation, and Accountability. Oxford University Press (forthcoming).

### Papers

1. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. “Grounding the Beneficiary Pays Principle”, In Oxford Studies in Political Philosophy, Vol. 8, Eds. David Sobel, Steven Wall. Oxford University Press, 2021.
2. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. “Vesting Agent-Relative Permissions in a Proxy”, *Law and Philosophy*, 37(6), 2018, pp. 671-695.
3. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. “The Identity-Enactment Account of Associative Duties”, *Philosophical Studies*, 176, 2018, pp. 2351-2370
4. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. “Complicity.” In Routledge Handbook on Collective Intentionality, Eds. Marija Jankovic, Kirk Ludwig. Routledge University Press, 2017.
5. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. “Weighing Civilian Lives in War: Domestic Versus Foreign”. In

- Cambridge Handbook on the Just War, Ed. Larry May. Cambridge University Press, 2018.
6. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. "Standards of Risk in War and Civil Life". In The Nature of Peace and the Morality of Armed Conflict, Ed. Florian Demont. Palgrave, 2017.
  7. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. "Compensation and Proportionality in War". In Weighing Lives in War, Eds., Claire Finkelstein, Larry May, Jens David Ohlin. Oxford University Press, 2017.
  8. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. "Dignity, Self-Respect, and Bloodless Invasions". In Who Should Die? The Ethics of Killing in War, Eds., Ryan Jenkins, Bradley Strawser. Oxford University Press, 2017.
  9. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. "Accountability and Intervening Agency: An Asymmetry between Upstream and Downstream Actors", *Utilitas*, 29(1), 2017, pp. 110-124.
  10. Bazargan, Saba. "Defensive Wars and the Reprisal Dilemma", *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 93(3), 2014, pp. 583-601.
  11. Bazargan, Saba. "Non-Combatant Immunity and War-Profiteering". In The Oxford Handbook of the Ethics of War, Eds. Helen Frowe, Seth Lazar. Oxford University Press, 2017.
  12. Bazargan, Saba. "Defensive Liability Without Culpability". In The Ethics of Self- Defense, Eds. Christian Coons, Michael E. Weber. Oxford University Press, 2016.
  13. Bazargan, Saba. "Killing Minimally Responsible Threats", *Ethics*, 125(1), 2014, pp. 114-136.
  14. Bazargan, Saba. "Moral Coercion", *Philosophers' Imprint*, 14(11), 2014, pp. 1-18. [Winner in 2014 'Philosopher's Annual']
  15. Bazargan, Saba. "Morally Heterogeneous Wars", *Philosophia: Philosophical Quarterly of Israel*, 41(4), 2013, pp. 959-975.
  16. Bazargan, Saba. "Proportionality, Territorial Occupation, and Enabled Terrorism", *Law and Philosophy*, 32(4), 2013, pp. 435-457.
  17. Bazargan, Saba. "Complicitous Liability in War", *Philosophical Studies*, 165(1), 2013, pp. 175-195.
  18. Bazargan, Saba. "Varieties of Contingent Pacifism". In How We Fight, Eds. Helen Frowe; Gerald Lang. Oxford University Press, 2014.
  19. Bazargan, Saba. "The Permissibility of Aiding and Abetting Unjust Wars", *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, 8(4), 2011, pp. 513-529.

#### Book Reviews

1. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. Review of To Do, To Die, to Reason Why. Victor Tadros, in *Ethics*, 131(4), 2021, pp. 799-808.
2. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. Review of War by Agreement. Yitzhak Benbaji and Daniel Statman, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, June 28, 2020.
3. Bazargan-Forward, Saba. Review of Terrorism and the Right to Resist. Christopher Finlay, in *Ethics*, 127(2), 2017, 481-6.
4. Bazargan, Saba. Review of Defensive Killing. Helen Frowe, in *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 94(3), 2015, 608-11.
5. Bazargan, Saba. Review of Accountability for Killing: Moral Responsibility for Collateral Damage in America's Post-9/11 Wars. Neta C. Crawford, in *Ethics and International Affairs*, 29(1), 2015, pp. 116-119.
6. Bazargan, Saba. Review of Cosmopolitan War. Cecile Fabre, in *Mind*, 123(490), 2014, pp. 588-592.
7. Bazargan, Saba. Review of War and Moral Dissonance. Peter French, in *Journal of Moral Philosophy*, 10(1), 2013, pp. 116-119.
8. Bazargan, Saba. Review of Morality and War. David Fisher, in *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, November 9, 2011.
9. Bazargan, Saba. Review of Just and Unjust Warriors: The Moral and Legal Status of Soldiers. Eds. David Rodin and Henry Shue, in *Ethics* 119(3), 2009, pp. 602-606.

**Edited Work**

1. The Routledge Handbook of Collective Responsibility. Eds. Saba Bazargan-Forward; Deborah Tollefsen. Taylor & Francis, 2020.
2. Ethics of War. Eds. Saba Bazargan-Forward; Sam Rickless. Oxford University Press, 2017.

**Fellowships, Grants, and Awards**

1. Philosopher's Annual Top Ten Papers of 2014 Awardee (for "Moral Coercion")
2. Center for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship Awardee 2013
3. Hellman Fellowship Awardee 2012

**Organizational Work**

1. Director for the Summer Program for the Advancement of Women in Philosophy, 2021-2022
2. Organizer for Social Ontology, 2021, part of the biennial conference series sponsored by the International Social Ontology Society and the European Network for Social Ontology.

**Conferences, Symposia, & Workshop Presentations** (last 10 years)

- 2021* "Compensation for Collateral Damage in the 'War on Terror'"  
Ethics of War and Peace Conference (keynote speaker)  
West Point Military Academy
- "Cooperation and Authority-Based Accountability"  
The 75<sup>th</sup> Mountain Plains Conference  
(held virtually due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- "Cooperation and Authority-Based Accountability"  
Small Acts, Big Harms  
University of Helsinki, Finland (held virtually due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- 2020* "What do the Innocent Beneficiaries of Wrongdoing Owe?"  
The XII Biennial Collective Intentionality Conference  
Neuchâtel, Switzerland (held virtually due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- "On Alec Walen's 'The Mechanics of Claims & Permissible Killing in War'"  
Book Symposium (invited speaker)  
APA Central Division, Chicago
- 2019* "Grounding the Beneficiary-Pays Principle"  
Western Michigan University Graduate Student Philosophy Conference (keynote speaker)
- "Authority, Agency, and Practical Reasons"  
New Horizons in Action and Agency (invited speaker)  
University of Helsinki, Finland
- "Shared Action as a Division of Agential Labor"  
European Network for Social Ontology (ENSO IV)  
Tampere University, Finland
- "Proportionality and Ersatz Intentions: When Robots Kill the Wrong Target in War"  
Ethical AI for Defence Workshop (invited speaker)  
Australian Defense College, Canberra

“Cooperation and Responsibility”  
Society for Psychology and Philosophy (invited speaker)  
UC San Diego

“Moral Responsibility & Cooperation”  
Thirteenth Annual Northwestern Society for the Theory of Ethics and Politics  
Northwestern University, Illinois

“Shared Action and Guilt-Feelings in War”  
Humanistic Perspectives on Moral Injury (keynote speaker)  
Georgia State University; April 2019

“Shared Action and Responsibility”  
Departmental Colloquium (invited speaker)  
University of Memphis, Tennessee, Department of Philosophy

*2018* “Defense Contractors and Moral Liability for Benefiting from Unjust Wars”  
11th International Conference on Applied Ethics  
Kyoto University, Japan

“Agentive Functions and Individual Responsibility for Joint Action”  
International Social Ontology Society  
Tufts University, Boston

“Practical Identity and Familial Duties”  
Legal Theory Workshop (invited speaker)  
University of Virginia, Charlottesville

*2017* “Collectivism in the Morality of War”  
MANCEPT 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (convener)  
University of Manchester, UK

“Associative Duties as Fiduciary Duties”  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress 10  
University of Boulder, CO

“Joint Action in War”  
Workshop on Adil Haque’s ‘Law and Morality at War’ (invited speaker)  
Stockholm Centre for the Ethics of War and Peace

“Associative Duties as Fiduciary Duties”  
Society for Applied Philosophy  
University of Copenhagen

“Vicarious Liability”  
Invited Workshop on Defensive Violence  
University of Warwick, UK

On Christopher Wellman’s “Assisting Revolution”  
Workshop on Revolution, Oppression, & Political Violence  
YTL Law and Justice Forum, King’s College London

“Outsourcing Agent-Centered Prerogatives”

Departmental Colloquium (invited speaker)  
Arizona State University, Department of Philosophy

“Liability in the Aggregate”  
Workshop on Defensive Liability (invited speaker)  
University of Delaware

“Do I Really Make a Difference? Complicity and Collective Obligation”  
Symposium, APA Eastern Division (invited speaker)  
Baltimore, MD

*2016* “Responsibility and Intervening Agency”  
Gothenburg Biennial Responsibility Conference  
Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden

“Proportionality, Contingent Pacifism, and Risk in War”  
Seventh Annual ELAC Workshop on War  
European University Institute, Florence, Italy

“Outsourcing Agent-Relative Reasons”  
Bled Philosophical Conference - Ethical Issues (invited speaker)  
Bled, Slovenia

“Responsibility and Intervening Agency”  
APA, Central Division  
2016 Chicago, IL

*2015* “Political Subjugation, Respect, and Proportionality”  
The Future of Just War: Theoretical and Practical Challenges  
Monterey, CA

“Political Subjugation, Respect, and Proportionality”  
Workshop on Just War Theory (Just World Institute)  
University of Edinburgh

“Responsibility as Outsourced Agency”  
Collective Responsibility for the Future  
University College, Dublin

“Responsibility as Outsourced Agency”  
Society for Applied Philosophy  
University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

“Self-Defense and the Reprisal Dilemma”  
Workshop of the Ethics of Defensive Violence  
University of Southern California, CA

*2014* “Individual Responsibility in Cooperative Projects”  
Invited Colloquium  
University of British Columbia, Canada

“Individual Responsibility in Cooperative Projects”  
Workshop: Collectivity  
University of Bristol, United Kingdom

“Non-Combatant Immunity and War-Profiteering”  
Ninth Annual Int’l Conference on Philosophy (ATINER)

Athens, Greece

“Non-Combatant Immunity and War-Profitteering”  
International Society for Military Ethics  
University of Notre Dame, IN

“The Problem of Nominal Combatants”  
Workshop: Feasibility and the Ethics of War  
Australia National University, Canberra

“Proportionality and Partially Culpable Combatants”  
Australasian Association of Philosophy Conference  
Australia National University, Canberra

The Center for Ethics and the Rule of Law (CERL),  
University of Pennsylvania Law School, PA

“Contingent Pacifism and Just War Theory as Ideal Theory”  
Workshop on New Directions in Pacifism  
Vanderbilt University, TN

*2013*

“Agentially Mediated Harms”  
Rocky Mountain Ethics Congress Six  
University of Boulder, CO

“The Doctrine of Double Effect and Moral Puritanism”  
Workshop on *Ends of Harm* - Society for Applied Philosophy  
Rogoznica, Croatia

“The Liability of Minimally Responsible Threats ”  
Bowling Green Workshop in Applied Ethics and Policy  
Bowling Green, OH

“Evaluating Wars with Just and Unjust Aims”  
APA, Pacific Division,  
San Francisco, CA

*2012*

“Proportionality, Territorial Occupation, and Enabled Terrorism”  
Society for Applied Philosophy  
University of Oxford, United Kingdom

“Complicitous Liability in War”  
International Law and Ethics Conference Series  
University of Belgrade, Serbia