Introduction

Francisco Villamil

War, peace, and political violence

UC3M, Fall 2024

Walkie-talkie blasts: attacks on Hezbollah kill 20 as Israel says military focus shifting north

Twenty killed and at least 450 injured in cities across Lebanon a day after exploding pagers killed 12

Analysis: Pager and walkie-talkie attacks were audacious and carefully planned



Blasts linked to walkie-talkies reported across Lebanon – video report

Main focus

- Political violence: what is this?

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- Political violence: what is this?
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- ‘Grand events‘ vs isolated events
- Connecting logics
- What, why, how?

Is Russia Committing Genocide in Ukraine?

Ukrainian Prosecutor General Andriy Kostin says there is growing evidence of genocide being committed by Russian forces.

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 / BY: Ashish Kumar Sen

PUBLICATION TYPE: Analysis and Commentary

Print the Page

European Parliament declares Russia to be a state sponsor of terrorism

Press Releases PLENARY SESSION AFET 23-11-2022 - 12:31



MEPs say Russian forces are terrorising Ukrainian civilians @ UKRAINE_YASUYOSHI-CHIBA_AFP

Middle East conflicts



Hamas



Settlers in West Bank



Hezbollah



Syrian war

Course outline

Sept 19-20	Introduction
Sept 26-27	IR basics and interstate war
Oct 3-4	War throughout history
Oct 10-11	Civil wars I
Oct 17-18	Civil wars II
Oct 24-25	Wartime violence
Oct 31	Students' presentations 1
Nov 7-8	Non-state armed actors and civilians
Nov 14-15	Terrorism
Nov 21-22	Postwar politics and TJ
Dec 28-29	Legacies of war
Dec 5	Students' presentations 2
Dec 12-13	Wrap-up & extra presentations

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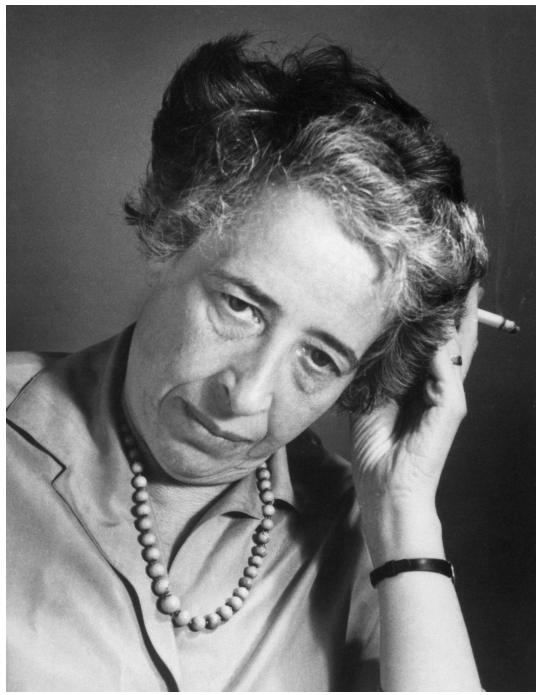
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The common thread: power and violence

- Conception of violence as the foundation of power
  - → Marx (the state as an instrument of oppression)
  - → Weber (the monopoly of violence)
  - → Mao ("political power grows out of the barrel of a gun")
- Arendt: power is not about violence, but about consensus, legitimacy
- "Power and violence are opposites ... Violence appears where power is in jeopardy" (56)



Hannah Arendt,
On Violence (1970)

Course logistics

- Lecture (Thu)
  - → Main concepts and debates
  - → Reading not mandatory
- Seminar (Fri)
  - → We'll discuss a lighter reading (*mandatory*) → syllabus
  - → Participation is valued: in class and/or send questions in advance
  - → **Reading memos**
- Group presentations

- All readings in *Aula Global*
- All slides in franvillamil.github.io/wp_polvio/

Evaluation

- Attendance & participation in seminars (10%)
- Presentation (15%)
- Reading memos (15%)
- Final exam (60%): 2 options

Group presentation

- Groups of 3-4 people
- Choose a presentation week and topic (first come, first served)
  - → ask about topic first
- 15-minute presentation

Reading memos

- Half-page comment on the seminar readings (no summary)
- Up to three, choose any week except the ones you present on
- Send it by email (or hand it in) before class on Fridays

Two options for the final exam

1. Take-home exam, 24h to complete it

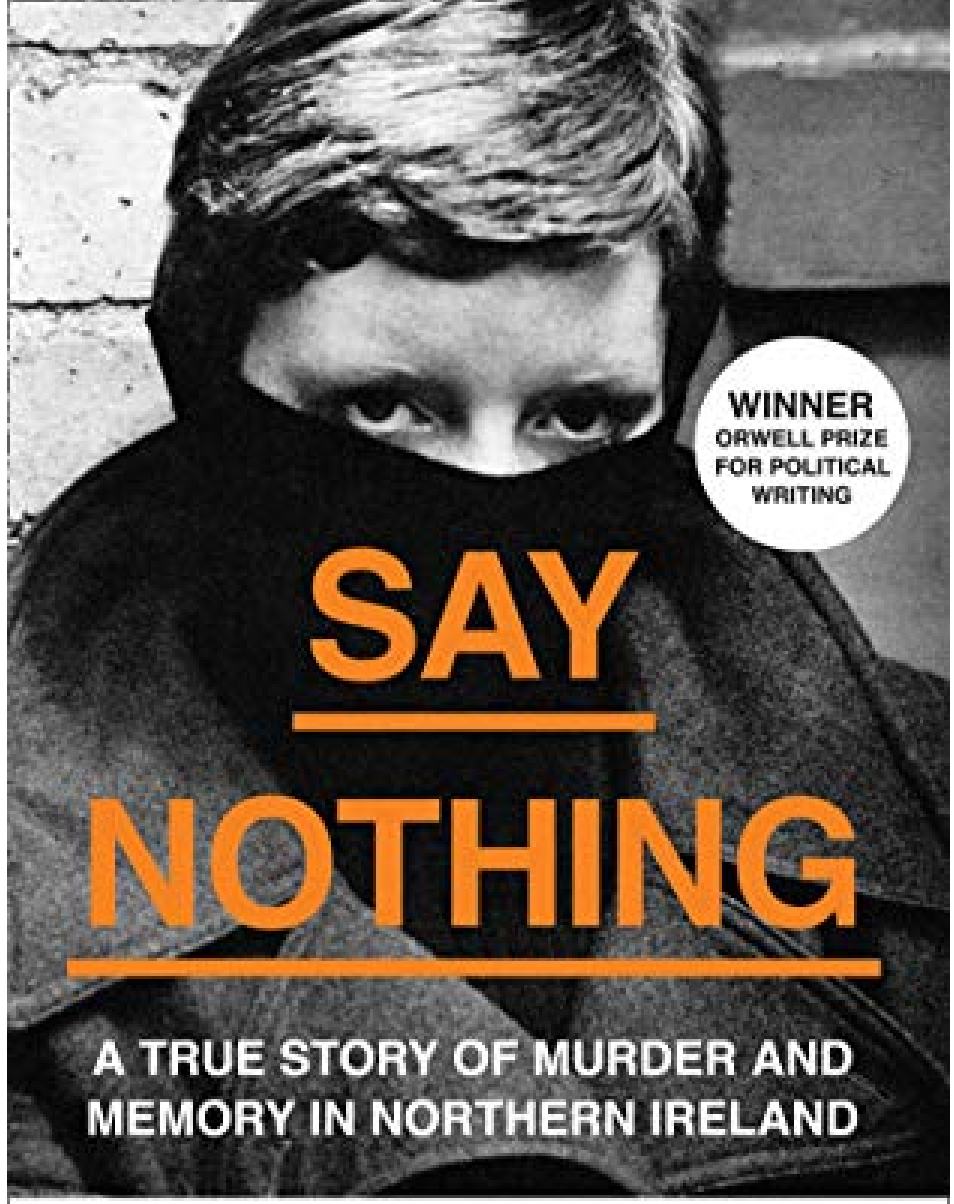
   2 open questions, one short and one long (500 and 1000 words max)

2. Read a book and write a review

   Max 2,500 words, due on exam day

   Not a summary, but a commentary linking it to what we discussed in class (including readings)

   A few pre-approved options

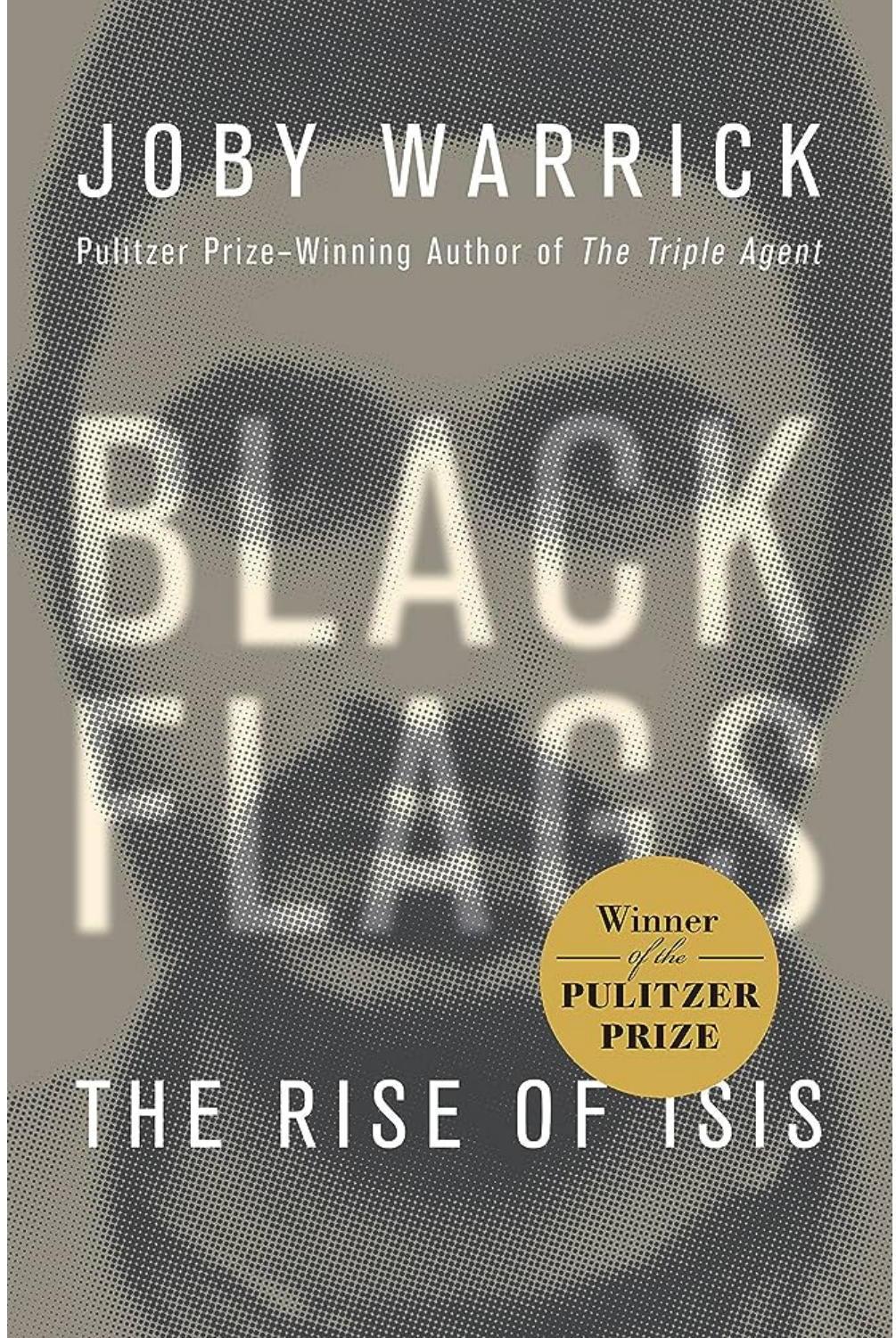


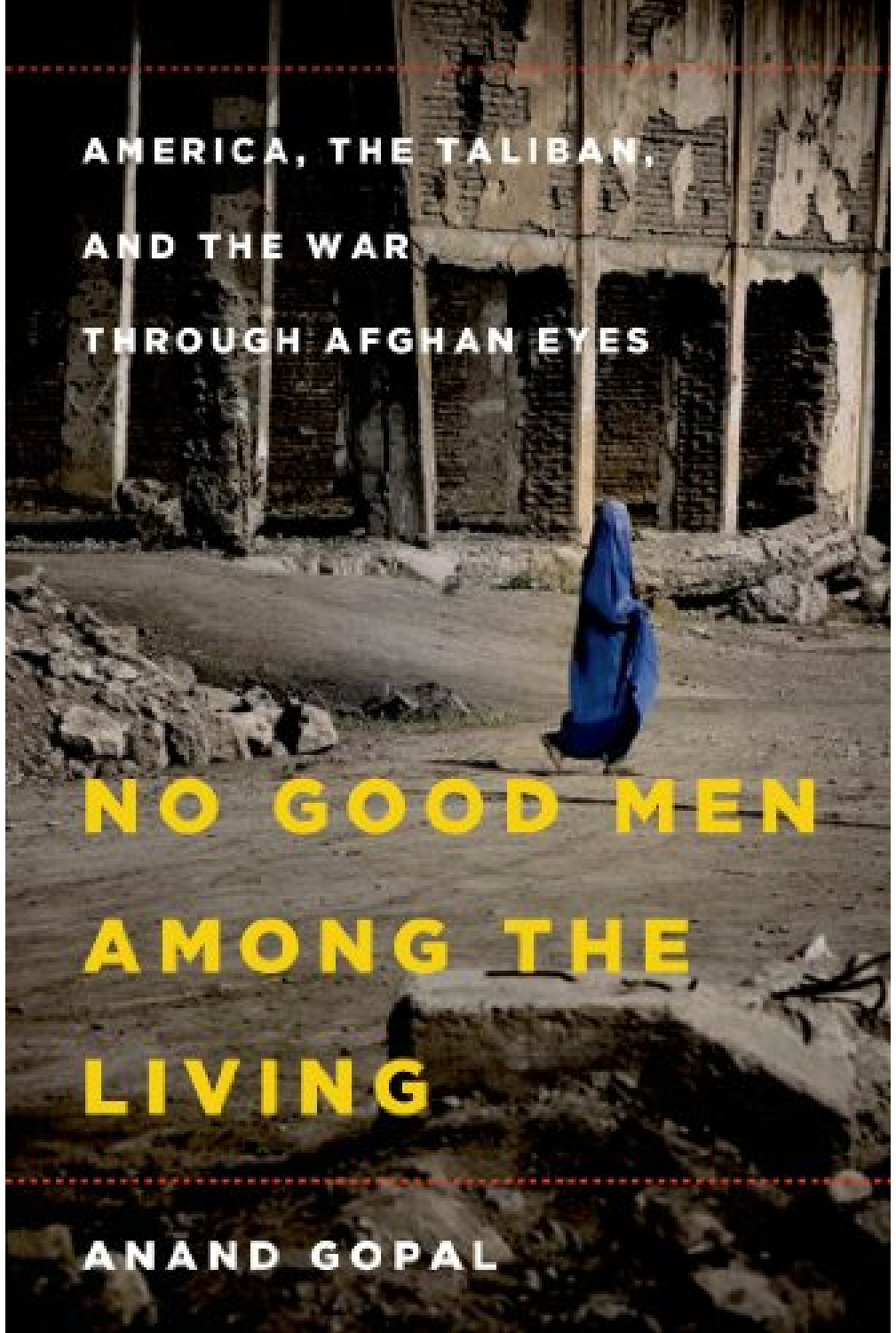
PATRICK RADDEN KEEFE

A *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLER

'This year's most gripping non-fiction title'

ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY


JOBY WARRICK
Pulitzer Prize–Winning Author of *The Triple Agent*
BLACK FLAGS
Winner of the PULITZER PRIZE
THE RISE OF ISIS


AMERICA, THE TALIBAN,
AND THE WAR
THROUGH AFGHAN EYES
NO GOOD MEN
AMONG THE
LIVING
ANAND GOPAL

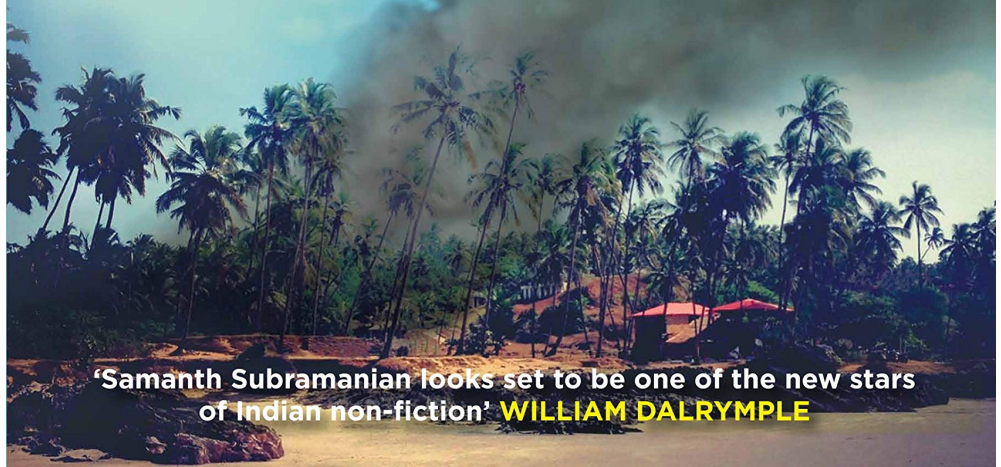
The Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction 2015
Shortlisted

All the best stories are true

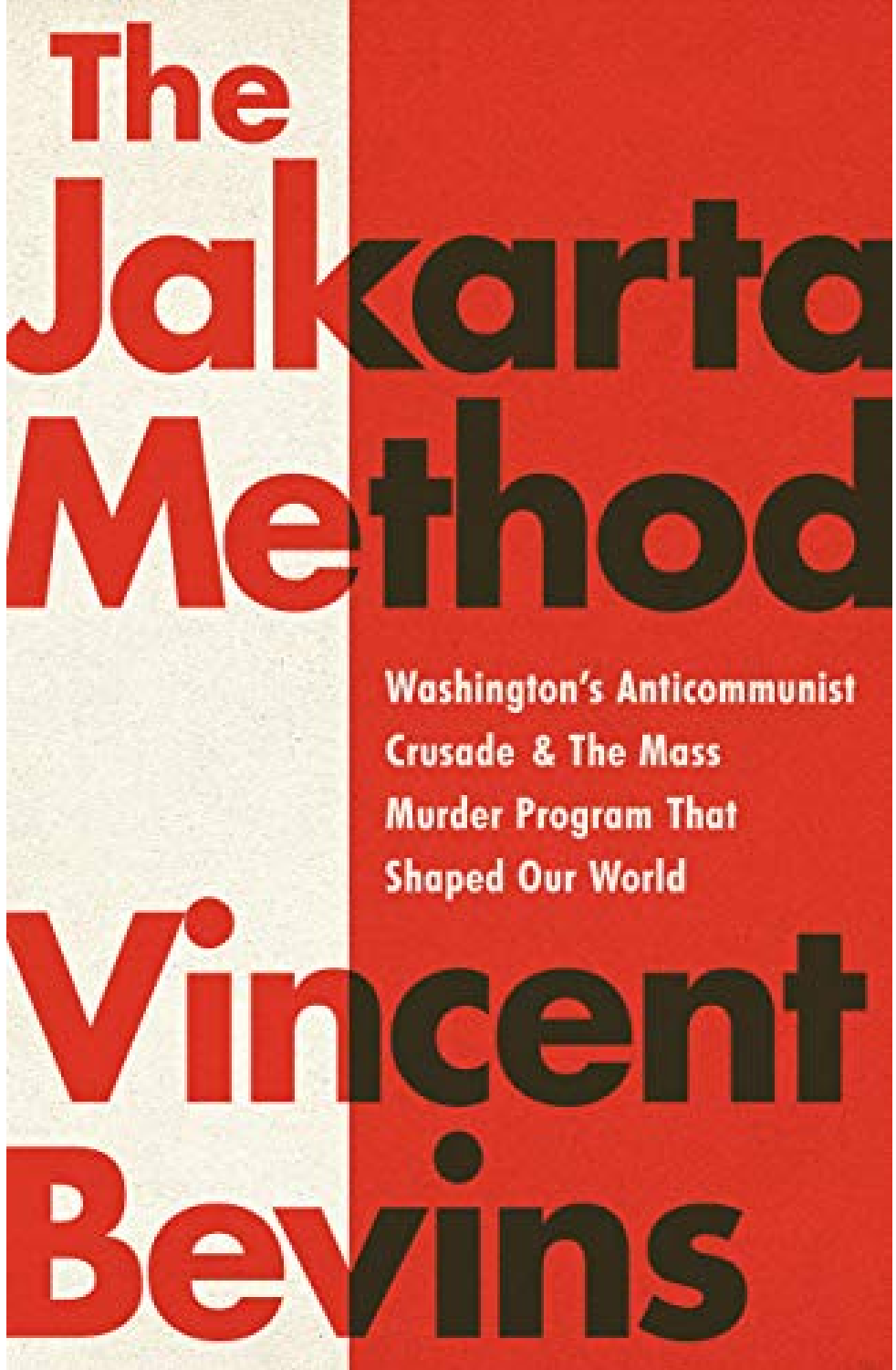
SAMANTH SUBRAMANIAN

THIS DIVIDED ISLAND

STORIES FROM THE SRI LANKAN WAR



'Samanth Subramanian looks set to be one of the new stars of Indian non-fiction' WILLIAM DALRYMPLE


The
Jakarta
Method
Washington's Anticommunist
Crusade & The Mass
Murder Program That
Shaped Our World
Vincent
Bevins

A COMPLICATED WAR



THE HARROWING OF MOZAMBIQUE

WILLIAM FINNEGAN

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

The Hundred Years' War on PALESTINE

A History of Settler Colonialism and Resistance, 1917–2017

Rashid Khalidi

Author of *Palestinian Identity*



Tomorrow

- Are the laws of war now obsolete?

ICC chief prosecutor defends Netanyahu arrest warrant in BBC interview

5 September 2024

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Ido Vock and James Gregory
BBC News



Kharim Khan said he was being consistent in seeking arrests of Israeli and Hamas leaders

The chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court has told the BBC that justice must be seen to be done after seeking an arrest warrant for Israel's prime minister and defence minister.

Putin welcomed in Mongolia despite ICC arrest warrant

3 September 2024

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Ruth Comerford
BBC News



Mongolia's president Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh welcomed the Russian president in a ceremony in the capital

Russian President Vladimir Putin has arrived in Mongolia, his first visit to an International Criminal Court (ICC) member since it issued a warrant for his arrest last year.

Questions?