

Philippe Le Billon

Associate Professor

Department of Geography & Liu Institute for Global Issues

University of British Columbia

1984 West Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z2, Canada

www.geog.ubc.ca/~lebillon/ Email: lebillon@geog.ubc.ca

Phone: 1.604.822.9935, Fax:1.604.822.6150

Education

Oxford University, D.Phil. in Geography (1999)

Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris I University, M.B.A. (1990)

Angers University, M.Sc. (1989)

Brest University, B.Tec. (1987)

Employment

Associate Professor (2007-present, with tenure) and Assistant Professor (2002-2007)

Department of Geography and Liu Institute for Global Issues, University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Research Associate (2001-2002), International Institute for Strategic Studies, London

Research Associate (1999-2001), Overseas Development Institute, London

Doctoral fellow (1999), UN-World Institute for Development Economics Research, Helsinki

Field Monitor (1996), United Nations Department of Peace-Keeping Operations, Croatia

Humanitarian Attaché (1994-95), French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Croatia

Technical Advisor (1993-94), International Development Research Centre, Cambodia

Consultancies, including with ICTJ, IISD, IUCN, DFAIT, DfID, World Bank.

Publications and presentations

Monographs

Fuelling war. Natural resources and armed conflicts, Adelphi Paper 373, 2005. London: Routledge. (Monograph distributed to 2,500 individual members and 450 corporate and institutional members of the International Institute for Strategic Studies drawn from more than 100 countries).

The Geopolitics of 'Resource Wars'. Resource Dependence, Governance and Violence. London: Frank Cass, 2005.

Journal articles

2009 "Oil prices, scarcity and geographies of war", *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* (with A. Cervantes).

2009 "Building peace with conflict diamonds? Merging security and development in Sierra Leone's diamond sector", *Development and Change* (with E. Levin).

- 2009 “China’s weapons trade: from ships of shame to the ethics of global resistance”, *International Affairs*, 85(2): 323-346 (with S.J. Spiegel).
- 2008 “Angola’s petro-militarism and external relations”, *Politique Africaine*, 110: 102-121 (with A. Vines and A. Malaquias).
- 2008 “Corrupting peace? Corruption, peacebuilding and reconstruction”, *International Peacekeeping*, 15(3): 344-361.
- 2008 “Diamond wars? Conflict diamonds and geographies of resource wars”, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 98(2): 345-372.
- 2007 “Ending ‘resource wars’: Revenue sharing, economic sanction, or military intervention?” *International Peacekeeping*, 14(5): 613-632 (with E. Nicholls).
- 2007 “Guerres pour les ressources: une face visible de la mondialisation”, *Ecologie et Politique*, 34: 11-31 (with C. Serfati).
- 2007 “Filières industrielles et conflits armés: le cas du tantale dans la région des Grands Lacs”, *Ecologie et Politique* 34: 83-92 (with C. Hocquard).
- 2007 “Peace in the wake of disaster? Secessionist conflicts and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami” *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers* 32: 411-427 (with A. Waizenegger).
- 2007 “Securing transparency: Armed conflicts and the management of natural resource revenues”, *International Journal* Winter 2006/7: 93-107.
- 2007 “Geographies of war: Perspectives on ‘resource wars’”, *Compass* 1(1): 1-20.
- 2006 “Fatal Transactions: conflict diamonds and the (anti)terrorist consumer”, *Antipode* 38(4): 778-801.
- 2005 “Corruption, reconstruction and oil governance in Iraq”, *Third World Quarterly* 26(4): 679-698.
- 2005 “Reconstructing and reforming the financial system in conflict and ‘post-conflict’ economies”, *Journal of Development Studies* 41(4): 704-720 (with Addison, T., A. Geda, and S.M. Murshed).
- 2005 “Aid in the midst of plenty: oil wealth, misery, and advocacy in Angola”, *Disasters* 29(1): 1-25.
- 2004 “The geopolitical economy of ‘resource wars’”, *Geopolitics* 9(1): 1-28.
- 2004 “From free oil to ‘freedom oil’: terrorism, war and US geopolitics in the Persian Gulf”, *Geopolitics* 9(1): 109-137 (with F. El Khatib).
- 2003 “Matières premières, violences et conflits armés”, *Tiers Monde* XLIV (174): 297-321.
- 2003 “Buying peace or fuelling war: the role of corruption in armed conflicts”, *Journal of International Development* 15 (4), 413-26.
- 2003 “The political ecology of war and resource exploitation”, *Studies in Political Economy* 70: 59-95.

- 2003 “Conflict in Africa: the cost of peaceful behavior”, *Journal of African Economies* 11(3): 365-86 (with T. Addison and M. Murshed).
- 2002 “Logging in muddy waters: the politics of forest exploitation in Cambodia”, *Critical Asian Studies* 34(4): 563-586.
- 2001 “The political ecology of war: natural resources and armed conflicts”, *Political Geography* 20(5), 561-584. (Most downloaded article for this journal in 2004)
- 2001 “Angola’s political economy of war: the role of oil and diamonds 1975-2000”, *African Affairs* 100: 55-80.
- 2001 “Finance in conflict and reconstruction”, *Journal of International Development* 13: 951-64 (with T. Addison and M. Murshed).
- 2000 “The political ecology of transition in Cambodia 1989-1999: war, peace and forest exploitation”, *Development and Change* 31(4): 785-805.
- Book chapters*
- 2009 “Economic and Resource Causes of Conflicts”, in Jacob Bercovitch, Victor Kremenyuk, and I William Zartman (eds) *Sage Handbook of Conflict Resolution*.
- 2007 “Managing Revenues from Natural Resources and Aid”, (with R. Auty) in O. Brown (ed) *Trade, Aid and Security*. London: Earthscan, pp. 158-189.
- 2007 “Between War and Peace: Violence and Accommodation in the Cambodian Logging Sector”, (with S. Springer) in Wil de Jong (ed) *Extreme Conflict and Tropical Forests*. New York: Springer.
- 2006 “Fatal Transactions: Conflict Diamonds and the (Anti)terrorist Consumer”, in D. Gregory and A. Pred (eds) *Violent Geographies: Fear, Terror, and Political Violence*. New York: Routledge. (reprint of *Antipode* article).
- 2005 “Resource Wealth and Angola’s Uncivil Wars”, in Cynthia J. Arnson and I. William Zartman (eds) *Rethinking the Economics of War. The Intersection of Need, Creed, and Greed*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press and Woodrow Wilson Center Press, pp. 107-139.
- 2005 “The Geography of ‘Resource Wars’”, in C. Flint (ed.) *The Geography of War and Peace*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, pp. 217-241.
- 2003 “Getting It Done: Instruments of Enforcement”, in I. Bannon and P. Collier (eds) *Natural Resources and Violent Conflict*. Washington DC: World Bank, pp. 215-86.
- 2003 “Natürliche Ressourcen und die politische Ökonomie des Krieges“, in Werner Ruf (ed.) *Politische Ökonomie der Gewalt. Staatszerfall und Privatisierung von Gewalt und Krieg*. Leverkusen: Leske und Budrich.
- 2000 “The oil industry and the state of war in Angola”, in Bergesen, H.O., A Edide, and P.R. Goyer (eds) *Human rights and the oil industry*. Antwerp: Intersentia, pp. 115-138.

2000 “Cambodia: genocide, autocracy, and the overpoliticised state”, (with K. Bakker) in Nafziger, E.W., F. Stewart, and R. Vayrinen (eds) *War, Hunger, and Displacement: The Origins of Humanitarian Emergencies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Volume 2, pp. 53-88.

2000 “The political economy of resource wars”, in Cilliers, J. and C. Dietrich (eds) *Angola’s War Economy: The Role of Oil and Diamonds*. Johannesburg: Institute for Strategic Studies, pp. 21-42.

Policy papers (selected)

2008 *Resources for Peace? Managing Revenues from Extractive Industries in Post-Conflict Environments*. Public Finance in Post-Conflict Environments series, February. Center on International Cooperations, New York University and Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts.

2004 *Conflict Diamonds: Taking Stock, Looking Ahead*. Report for the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Vancouver: Liu Institute for Global Issues.

2004 *The 3D Approach: Building Coherence and Synergies between Defence, Diplomacy and Development initiatives in ‘Fragile States’* (with C. Hoskins and S. Sharma) Report for the Canadian International Development Agency, Vancouver: Liu Institute for Global Issues.

2002 *Controlling illicit resources flows to civil wars: a review and analysis of current policies and legal instruments* (with J. Sherman, and M. Hartwell). New York: International Peace Academy.

2000 *The political economy of war: what relief agencies need to know*. Humanitarian Practice Network paper No. 33. London: ODI.

Op-eds and letters to editors: “Debating Iraq’s winners”, *Foreign Policy*, May/June 2007; “Vers une gestion responsable des ressources énergétiques”, *Le Devoir*, 24 September 2005. Op-ed; “Head Scarves, Yes”, *Globe and Mail*, 2 September 2004. Op-ed.

Press, radio and television interviews: *Christian Science Monitor* (2004, 2005), *Globe and Mail* (2003), *Georgia Straight* (2007), Mark Briemberg on *Coop-Radio*, Vancouver 30 April 2005; Dan Burns on *CiTR*, Vancouver, 15 August 2005; *FairChild TV*, Vancouver, May 2006.

Teaching and graduate supervision

Undergraduate lecture courses: Introduction to Political Geography; Geographies of Africa.

Graduate seminar courses: Environmental Sustainability; Environment, Development and Security; Human Geography Seminar.

Graduate supervision

PhD thesis supervision

Dawn Hoogeveen, *Extractive industries and North-South relations*, 2008 - on-going (with J. Sundberg)
 Simon Springer, *Post-conflict violence and neoliberalism*, 2005-2009 (with J. Peck) – SSHRC funded
 Ian Baird, *Ethnic minorities and spatiality of colonialisms*, 2003-2008 – SSHRC funded

MA thesis supervision

Jessica Lehman, *Post-conflict diamond sectors*, 2008 – on-going (with J. Sundberg)
 Sara Helder, *Fair trade coffee and producer health*, 2008 (with H. Zerriffi)
 Samuel Spiegel, *Political ecology of artisanal gold mining*, 2006-2008 (with M. Veiga) – Trudeau Fellowship

Arno Waizenegger, *Natural disasters and conflict termination – Aceh*, exchange student from U. Cologne, completed 2008 (with F. Kraas)

Estelle Levine, *Diamond sector reforms in Sierra Leone, 2002-2005* (with J. Robinson) Commonwealth funded

Committee Member

Noah Quastel, PhD, 2007 – on-going; Sara Koopman, PhD, 2005 – on-going; Richard Oppong, PhD 2005 – on-going; Bjoern Surborg, PhD, 2005 – on-going; Simon Hendelsman, PhD, 2003 – on-going; Tihut Yirgu Asfaw, PhD, 2003-2008; Shadan Mohajerin, MA, 2004-2005; Michael Zelmer, MA, 2002-2005; Vance Culbert, MA, 2002-2004; Rachel Speiran, MA, 2002-2004.

Grants, awards, fellowships

- HSS/College for Interdisciplinary Studies Research Grant, *Crises and commodities*, 2008, \$6,850.
- International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), *Transnational justice and development*, 2008, \$5,000.
- Killam Research Fellowship, *Study leave award*, 2008, \$18,000.
- Center for International Cooperation, *Resource sectors and post-conflict public finances*, 2007, \$5,000.
- Hampton Research Grant, *Post-conflict violence survey of 1200 households in Cambodia*, 2006, \$20,000.
- HSS/Hampton Large Research Grant, *Post-tsunami conflict resolution in Aceh*, 2006, \$6,600.
- International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), *Aid and resource revenue management*, 2005, \$20,000.
- Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies (PWIAS) Early Career Scholar, *Award*, 2004, \$6,500.
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), *Natural resources and armed conflicts*, 2004, \$89,550.
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), *Defense, diplomacy and development*, 2003, \$6,8000.
- HSS New faculty, 2003, \$1,833.
- World Bank, *Regulation of resource-based war economies*, 2002, \$23,000.
- International Institute for Strategic Studies and Ford Foundation, *Natural resources and armed conflicts*, 2001, \$39,600.
- Economic and Social Research/Department for International Development, *Regulating businesses during armed conflicts*, 2000, \$28,800.
- UNU/WIDER Doctoral fellowship, 1999.
- Green College, Oxford, *Graduate Student Award*, 1996.

Service and memberships

Reviewer

American Political Science Review (2007; 2008; 2009), World Politics (2005), Journal of Conflict Resolution (2008), Civil Wars (2008), World Development (2006), Journal of Peace Research (2003, 2006, 2007, 2008), Review of International Political Economy (2006), Studies in Political Economy (2005), African Affairs (2004), Peace and Change (2004), Journal of Conflict, Security and Development (2002). *Geography*: Annals of the AAG (2008, 2009); Transactions (2002, 2007), Economic Geography (2007), Geojournal (2005), Geoforum (2004, 2007), Geopolitics (2004, 2006), Environment and Planning D (2004), Environment and Planning A (2003), Political Geography (2002, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2009), Professional Geographer (2007).

University of British Columbia

African Studies minor, UBC, Committee Member (since 2005, advisor in 2007/8).
 Member of the International Relations Program Coordinating Committee (since 2004).
 Faculty associate of the Institute for Resources Environment and Sustainability (since 2005).
 Faculty associate of the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies (since 2004).
 Member of Promotion and Tenure joint committee IAR/Liu Institute (2007).
 Member of the colloquium committee of the Department of Geography (2005/6, 2006/7).
 Member of search committee for the Human Security Chair, Liu Institute (2006).
 Member of the executive council of Canadian Consortium on Human Security, Liu Institute (since 2005).
 Member of search committee for the Ivan Head South/North Chair, Liu Institute (2005).
 Member of Liu Institute teaching committee and coordinator MA Program in Global Policy proposal (since 2003).
 Member of the selection committee of the Olav Slaymaker Scholarship in Environment, Liu Institute (since 2004).

Other

Association of American Geographers, member since 2005.
 Political Geography Study Group of the Association of American Geographers, member since 2005.
 Africa Study Group of the Association of American Geographers, member since 2006.
 Africa Awareness, UBC, board member since 2005.
 Editorial Board of Political Geography, member since 2006.
 Guest co-editor of special issue of *Ecologie et Politique* (2007).
 Guest editor of a special issue of *Geopolitics* (Winter 2003/4).

Other information

Languages: French and English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), Khmer (basic).
Fieldwork experience: Angola, Bosnia, Cambodia, Colombia, Croatia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Thailand, Vietnam.