

About This Issue's Authors

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Charity Butcher is a Professor of Political Science and the Interim Director of the School of Conflict Management, Peacebuilding, and Development at Kennesaw State University. She received her PhD in Political Science from Indiana University. She conducts research on conflict and human rights, as well as on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning. She is author or co-author of three books, including *NGOs and Human Rights* (University of Georgia Press, 2021), *Understanding International Conflict Management* (Routledge, 2020), and *The Handbook of Cross-border Ethnic and Religious Affinities* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019). She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles in a variety of journals, including the *Journal of Human Rights*, *International Studies Perspectives*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *Democratization*, and *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*.

Deniz Gumustekin completed an MA in Political Science at Georgia State University and earned her Ph.D. in International Conflict Management at Kennesaw State University. Currently, Dr. Gumustekin is a part-time faculty member for both Interdisciplinary Studies Department and Political Science Department at Kennesaw State University. Her research has a substantive focus on international relations and comparative politics, particularly on peace, conflict, and terrorism in Middle East politics. She is the author of *Kurds Under Threat: The Role of Kurdish Transnational Networks During Peace and Conflict* (Lexington Books, 2021).

Shalom Charles Malka, PhD, is a professor of management at Sullivan University's College of Business and Technology, in Louisville, KY. Malka is a former president of numerous franchises in several states, and an acknowledged entrepreneur with extensive work experience in both business and academia for more than three decades. He taught at Haifa University and Ottawa University prior to joining Sullivan University. He earned a B.S.W from the University of Haifa, an M.A from the University of Tel-Aviv, an MBA from Ottawa University, and a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh.

Malka's teaching and research interests focus on business strategy, entrepreneurship, workforce development, and shareholder activism. Dr. Malka is the author of an eclectic body of research published in peer-reviewed journals, including the Proceedings of the Academic Organization for Advancement of Strategic and International Studies; Journal of Advancements in Economics, Finance & Accounting (IAABR's journal); Vocational Evaluation and Work Adjustment Association Journal; Journal of Evaluation and Program Planning; Journal of Advancements in Applied Business Research (IAABR's journal); Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals Journal; Journal of Administration in Social Work; and The Journal of Conflict Management. He is twice the recipient of SU faculty research grants for independent research projects ((2012 and 2020), and he is the Co-editor of the 2022 book - Back to a new normal: Searching for stability in an era of pandemic disruption – insights from practitioners and academics. IAP Publishing.

Travis Summers Travis Summers is the Infrastructure Lead for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research Development Test and Engineering (DASN (RDT&E)), responsible for

infrastructure initiatives and related policy for the Navy Warfare Centers and Laboratory. He currently chairs the Laboratory Quality Enhancement Program for Infrastructure for the Department of Defense. Prior responsibilities include Chief Business Strategist for Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, and Infrastructure Manager for Naval Sea Systems Command Warfare Center Headquarters within the Department of the Navy. He received the Department of Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service in 2005, and the Department of Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award (Navy's third highest civilian award) in 2020. His work has been focused on engineering, infrastructure, and related strategies for three decades. His work on infrastructure readiness has been published in the *Journal of Defense Management*. Current and future work is focused on how infrastructure attributes support an innovative climate.

His academic background includes a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Purdue University (1996), a Master of Public Affairs from Indiana University (2008), and he is currently working on his doctorate in Strategic Management at Sullivan University. Travis is a Certified Energy Manager as well as a Professional Engineer and Registered Land Surveyor in the State of Indiana. He serves or has served on three utility boards and an economic development board over the past 15 years. In his leisure time, he enjoys running, exercising, reading, and golfing. Travis and his wife Leslie reside in Loogootee, Indiana with their daughter Brooklyn. In addition to being a long-term infrastructure manager, Travis owns and operates a consulting company focused primarily on engineering and land surveying.