

Jean-Baptiste
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French citizen, born 25 September 1978

Curriculum Vitae

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Dr. Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer is director of the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) at the French Ministry for the Armed Forces, after having served as Policy officer on “Security and Global Affairs” at the Policy Planning Staff (CAPS) of the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs (2013-2016). Trained in three disciplines—philosophy (Bachelor, Master, Ph.D.), law (Bachelor, LL.M., post-doctorate) and in political science (Ph.D.)—, he has held positions at the Faculty of Law at McGill University, Canada (2011-2013), at the department of War Studies of King’s College, London (2010-2011), at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale University (2008-2009), at the French Embassy in Turkmenistan (2007-2008), and at the University of Montreal (2005-2007).

His is an auditor of the 68th national session on “Defense Policy” of the Institute for Higher National Defense Studies (IHEDN), a member of the Academic Advisory Board of the NATO Defense College, and a lecturer at Sciences Po and the ENS Ulm. He has received numerous awards, including the “Maréchal Foch” prize from the *Académie française* in 2013, and was selected as a Munich Young Leader at the Munich Security Conference in 2018.

The author of one hundred articles and almost twenty books, he published on international relations theory (notably on realism and Raymond Aron), collective security (UNSC, veto restraint), military interventionism (Libya, Syria, Ukraine), R2P, the law of armed conflict, the humanitarian debate on nuclear weapons (TPNW), remote warfare (targeted killings, armed drones, lethal autonomous weapon systems), international criminal justice (ICC, in particular in its relationship to Africa), “hybrid warfare”, information manipulation, human rights, totalitarianism, the Horn of Africa (Eritrea) and the recent mutations of the international order.



Ministry for the
Armed Forces,
FRANCE

Director of the Institute for Strategic Research (*Institut de recherche stratégique de l'École militaire, IRSEM*) – appointed by ministerial decree:

June 2016-
present

- **Management of a diverse, 45-person team**, comprising of researchers (Ph.Ds in political science, law, geography, economics, philosophy, history), military personnel (general officer, senior officers from the Army, the Navy and the Air Force, armament engineer), civil servants, and university professors.
- **Management of an operating budget of several hundred thousand euros** (excluding salaries) to finance postdoctoral fellowships, consulting contracts, a hundred missions abroad and a hundred events per year.
- **Supervision of publications** (dozens of reports, studies, and articles per year) on geographically and thematically diverse subjects.
- **Travel missions** in Europe (EU, Belarus, Ukraine), Russia, Turkey, North America (Canada, United States), Asia Pacific (Australia, China, South Korea, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Vietnam), Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar, Morocco, Sudan)

→ “A reform of the IRSEM has been conducted with talent and success. Dear Jean-Baptiste Jeangène-Vilmer, I take this opportunity to thank you and your teams for the breath and vitality that you have been able to give to this institution that cultivates this double culture, academic and operational, so precious for our Armies” (Florence Parly, Minister for the Armed Forces, speech of November 26, 2018)



Ministry of Foreign
Affairs, FRANCE

Policy officer on “Security and Global Affairs” at the Policy Planning Staff (*Centre d'Analyse, de Prévision et de Stratégie, CAPS*):

2013-2016

- Collective security: UNSC, Libya, Syria, Ukraine, R2P, veto restraint;
- International law (use of force, self-defense, universal jurisdiction, the International Criminal Court), human rights and democracy;
- Targeted killings, armed drones, autonomous weapons;
- Horn of Africa;
- Strategic communication (the developing to French government discourse, especially on Syria and Ukraine);
- Travel on missions in Europe, North America (Canada, United States), Asia (China, Taiwan), Africa (Morocco, Niger) and South America (Brazil).



McGill University,
CANADA

Researcher at the Faculty of Law, McGill Center for Human Rights & Legal Pluralism, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow (Canadian Government Postdoctoral Fellowship) - Research on armed drones, targeted killings and military robotization (autonomous weapon systems).

2011-2013



King's College
London, UK

Lecturer in International Relations at the Department of War Studies – Courses: International Relations Theory, Concepts and Methods, Causes of War, War in the International Order.

2010-2011



**Ecole Normale
Supérieure,
FRANCE**

Postdoctoral researcher, assistant to the director – creation of the PSL Research University (*Paris Sciences et Lettres*), organization of the Night of Philosophy.

2010



**Yale University,
USA**

Postgraduate fellow (Ph.D. student) at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies - last year of doctoral dissertation on humanitarian intervention under the supervision of prof. Thomas Pogge.

2008-2009



**Ministry of Foreign
Affairs, posted in
TURKMENISTAN**

**Attaché to the French Embassy in Turkmenistan,
Ashgabat**

2007-2008



**University of
Montreal,
CANADA**

Lecturer at the Department of Philosophy – Courses: Critical thinking and Argumentation, Introduction to ethics.

2004-2007

EDUCATION

2015-2016 – Auditor of the 68th Defense Policy Session of the Institute of Advanced National Defense Studies (IHEDN) - title conferred by Prime Ministerial Decree
 2013 – Postdoctoral Fellow, McGill University, Canada
 2009 – Ph.D. in Political Science, School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences (*Ecole des Hautes études en sciences sociales*, EHESS) and Ph.D. in Philosophy, University of Montreal (joint supervision). Dissertation: *In the name of humanity? History, law, ethics and politics of military intervention justified on humanitarian grounds*.
 2009 – Certificate from The Hague Academy of International Law, The Netherlands, Public International Law Program
 2009 – Visiting Fellow, Amsterdam Center for International Law (ACIL), Amsterdam Law School, Universiteit van Amsterdam
 2008-2009 – Postgraduate Fellow, MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies, Yale University, USA
 2008 – LL.M. (Master of Laws) in International Law, McGill University, Canada
 2007 – Visiting Scholar, *Maison Française d'Oxford* (MFO), University of Oxford, UK
 2003 – LL.B. (Bachelor of Laws), Faculty Jean Monnet, University Paris-XI Orsay
 2001 – DEA (postgraduate degree aimed to prepare for advanced doctoral studies) in Philosophy, University Paris-IV Sorbonne
 2000 – MA in Philosophy, University Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne
 1999 – BA in Philosophy, University Paris-I Panthéon-Sorbonne
 1996 – *Baccalauréat* (high school diploma) in sciences, specializing in mathematics

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Selected for the High-level invitation program of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (2019)
- Munich Young Leaders (promising professionals under-40, selected by German embassies worldwide and then by the Körber Foundation and the President of the Munich Security Conference) (2018)
- Holder of the first Chair of War Studies in France, Foundation House of Human Sciences (*Fondation Maison des sciences de l'homme*, FMSH) (2014-2018)
- Maréchal Foch Prize of the Académie française (2013)
- Olivier Debouzy Prize of the Club des juristes (French lawyers association) and the August & Debouzy law firm (2012)
- Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship, the most prestigious postdoctoral fellowship program of the Canadian government, ranked 1st out of 70 laureates and 658 international applications (\$ 140,000 for two years, 2011-2013)
- Aguirre-Basualdo Prize in Law and Political Science of the Chancellery of Paris (€ 10,000, 2010)
- Prize for the best dissertation of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, the University of Montreal, Canada (\$ 1500, 2010)
- Prize for the best doctoral dissertation in international relations of the University of Montreal, Canada (\$ 1000, 2010)
- Dean's Honor List, Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, University of Montreal, Canada (2009-2010)
- Jean-Walter Zellidja scholarship from the Académie française (7000 €, 2008-2009)

- MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies Scholarship, Yale University, USA (\$ 20,000, 2008-2009)
- Maison française d'Oxford Scholarship, UK (£ 250, 2007)
- Frontenac Award, French Ministry of Higher Education and Research (\$ 13,500, 2006-2009)
- University of Montreal Center for Ethics Research Grant (CREUM, \$ 7,000, 2006-2007)
- Paule Rolland-Thomas Grant, University of Montreal, rewarding the best doctoral student in the Department of Philosophy (\$ 500, 2006)
- University of Montreal Philosophy Department Excellence Fellowship (\$ 20,000, 2004-2007)

Offers declined:

- Associate Professor position with tenure at the Faculty of Philosophy, Saint Paul University, Ottawa, Canada (2013)
- Melbourne Law School McKenzie Postdoctoral Fellowship, Australia (\$ 210,000 for three years, 2011-2014)
- Munk School of Global Affairs Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of Toronto, Canada (\$ 50,000 for one year, 2011-2012)

PUBLICATIONS (selection)

19 books, including:

- *Dictionnaire de la guerre et de la paix*, with General Benoît Durieux and Frédéric Ramel (eds.), PUF, 2017 (1500 p., 300 entries, 200 contributors).
- *La Responsabilité de protéger*, PUF, 2015 (126 p.).
- *Erythrée, un naufrage totalitaire*, with Franck Gouéry, PUF, 2015 (334 p.).
- *Ethique des relations internationales. Problématiques contemporaines*, with Ryoa Chung (eds.), foreword by Pierre Hassner, PUF, 2013 (474 p.).
- *La Guerre au nom de l'humanité. Tuer ou laisser mourir*, foreword by Hubert Védrine, PUF, 2012 (596 p.).
- *24 heures chrono. Le choix du mal*, PUF, 2012 (168 p.).
- *Pas de paix sans justice ? Le dilemme de la paix et de la justice en sortie de conflit armé*, Presses de Sciences Po, 2011 (304 pages).
- *Turkménistan*, CNRS Editions, 2010 (479 p.).
- *Réparer l'irréparable. Les réparations aux victimes devant la Cour pénale internationale*, PUF, 2009 (200 p.).

One hundred articles, including:

- "The Responsibility Not To Veto: A Genealogy", *Global Governance: A Review of Multilateralism and International Organizations*, 24:3, 2018, p. 331-349.
- "Successfully Countering Russian Electoral Interference: 15 Lessons Learned from the Macron Leaks", *CSIS Brief, Center for Strategic and International Studies*, Washington D.C., June 2018.
- "Aron's Oxymorus International Ethics", in Olivier Schmitt (ed.), *Raymond Aron and International Relations*, Routledge, 2018, p. 70-92.
- "France and the American Drone Precedent: A Consequentialist Response to a Polemical Critique", in Daniel R. Brunstetter and Jean-Vincent Holeindre (eds.), *The Ethics of War and Peace Revisited*, Georgetown University Press, 2018, p. 97-116.
- "The French Turn to Armed Drones", *War on the Rocks*, 22 September 2017.
- "The African Union and the International Criminal Court: Counteracting the crisis", *International Affairs*, 92:6, 2016, p. 1319-1342.
- "Autonomous Weapon Diplomacy: The Geneva Debates", *Ethics & International Affairs*, 27 September 2016.
- "Ten Myths About the 2011 Intervention in Libya", *The Washington Quarterly*, 39:2, 2016, p. 23-43.
- "Frogs of War: Explaining the New French Military Interventionism", avec Olivier Schmitt, *War on the Rocks*, 14 October 2015.
- "Terminator Ethics: Should We Ban 'Killer Robots'?", *Ethics and International Affairs*, 23 mars 2015.
- "Humanitarian Intervention and Disinterestedness", *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*, 19:2, 2007, p. 207-216.

An interministerial report: *Information Manipulation: A Challenge for our Democracies*, with Alexandre Escorcía, Marine Guillaume and Janaina Herrera, report by the Policy Planning Staff (CAPS) of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) of the Ministry for the Armed Forces, Paris, August 2018 (available for download on both MFA and MoD websites).

Twenty lectures a year (on average) since 2006 at international conferences in France and abroad (Europe, Brazil, Canada, South Korea, China, United States, Madagascar, Morocco, India).

Regular Op-Eds in newspapers, mostly in French in *Le Monde*. See also "The Kairos of European Defence", *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, 17 February 2018.

Media experience: over 200 interviews (press, radio, television) with international media since 2008 (RFI, France Culture, France Inter, Radio Canada, TV5 Monde, RTBF, France 24, Public Sénat, Canal +, France 5, France 3, *Le Monde*, *Libération*, *Le Temps*, *Ouest-France*, *Le Devoir*, *Il Foglio*, *La Tribune*, *L'Express*, *Sciences humaines*).

AFFILIATIONS

Member of the Academic Advisory Board of the NATO Defense College (2015-2018)
Founder, former vice-president and member of the scientific council of the French Association for Studies on War and Strategy (AEGES)
Member of the Interdisciplinary Center for Nuclear Studies and Strategy (CIENS) of the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Paris
Member of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) of San Remo
Member of the International Studies Association (ISA)
Member of the French Association of Political Science (AFSP)
Associate member of the Raoul-Dandurand Chair in Strategic and Diplomatic Studies at the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM)
Expert in the Peace Operations Research Network (ROP) of the Université de Montréal

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sciences Po (2013-2019)**, Paris School of International Affairs, Master in International Security & Master in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action: *International Humanitarian Law* (Lecture, Fall) and *War and the International Order* renamed *War Studies* (Seminar, Spring).
- **Ecole Normale Supérieure Ulm (2015-2018)**, Interdisciplinary Center for Nuclear Studies and Strategy (CIENS), Research Seminar on Ethics and Nuclear Weapons, with Nicolas Roche and Hubert Tardy-Joubert.
- **Université Paris-2 Panthéon-Assas (2015-2016)**, Master in International Relations & Master's Degree in Security and Defense: Ethics of Arms and Geopolitics and Strategic Relations (seminars).
- **Université catholique de Louvain (2014-2016)**, Faculty of Economic, Social, Political and Communication Sciences (ESPO), André Molitor Chair of Political, Administrative and International Reforms: Ethics and the Law of War (Lectures).
- **War College (2014-2015)**: mentoring of a group of 15 Air Force trainees.
- **Ecole Spéciale Militaire de Saint-Cyr (2013-2014)**, Honour's course: *The Ethics and Laws of War* (seminar for foreign cadets).
- **McGill University (2012-2013)**, Faculty of Law: *International Humanitarian Law* (LLB/LLM, seminar).
- **Université de Montréal (2012-2013)**, Faculty of Law: *International Humanitarian Law* (LLB/LLM, seminar).
- **King's College London (2010-2011)**, Department of War Studies: *War in International Order* (BA, Lecture, Fall and Spring), *Causes of War* (Lecture, BA, Fall and Spring), *Concepts and Methods in International Relations* (MA, Seminar, Spring), *Theories of International Relations* (MA, Seminar, Fall). Supervision of one Ph.D. dissertation, 8 MA students, and 2 BA students.
- **Université de Montréal (2004-2007)**, Department of Philosophy: *Critical thinking and Argumentation* (BA, lecture) and *Introduction to ethics* (BA, lecture).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Director of the publication *Champs de Mars. Revue d'études sur la guerre et la paix*, IRSEM's peer-reviewed academic journal, published with the Presses de Sciences Po (2017-2019).
- Creator and co-director of the TV analysis series "La series des séries" at the Presses Universitaires de France (PUF) – 24 volumes published between 2012 and 2018.
- Co-founder of the AEGES collections: "Guerre et stratégie" at CNRS Editions and "Engagements" at Armand Colin.
- Reviewer for several academic journals: *Review of International Studies* (Cambridge University Press), *International Affairs* (Chatham House), *Global Governance* (Brill), *Canadian Yearbook of International Law* (Cambridge University Press), *African Security Review* (Routledge), *Critique internationale* (Presses de Sciences Po), *Etudes internationales* (HEI Laval), and *Ethics and Information Technology* (Springer).
- Member of several doctoral dissertations juries in France and abroad.
- Member of the "Imagining the Future of Canada" Committee of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) "to identify the major challenges that Canada will face in a changing globalized world" (2012-2013).

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Travel Photography

- 4 photography books published on Djibouti (2017); Eritrea (2015); Danakil, Ethiopia (2011); Turkmenistan (2009).
- Photo essays published in *Grands Reportages*, *L'Express* and *La Chronique* (Amnesty International France monthly).
- Finalist of Médecins Sans Frontières Photography Competition 2012 with a photo taken in the Danakil depression (Ethiopia).