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978-1-107-04735-8 - Power Politics and State Formation in the Twentieth Century:
The Dynamics of Recognition

Bridget Coggins

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Power Politics and State Formation in the Twentieth Century

The Dynamics of Recognition

From Kurdistan to Somaliland, Xinjiang to South Yemen, all secessionist movements hope to secure newly independent states of their own. Most will not prevail. The existing scholarly wisdom provides one explanation for success, based on authority and control within the nascent states. With the aid of an expansive new dataset and detailed case studies, this book provides an alternative account. It argues that the strongest members of the international community have a decisive influence over whether today's secessionists become countries tomorrow and that, most often, their support is conditioned on parochial political considerations.

Bridget Coggins is an International Affairs Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, sponsored by The Asan Institute for Policy Studies. Her research examines the intersections of domestic conflict, international security, and international order. Her work has appeared in journals including *International Organization*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *Foreign Policy* magazine, as well as in several scholarly edited volumes. She is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, where she received her BA in international relations, and of Ohio State University, where she received a PhD in political science. Previously, Coggins taught in the government department at Dartmouth College.

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