

Regimes, Institutions, and Change: Post-Soviet Eurasia in Comparative Perspective

Helsinki, Finland

University of Helsinki Main Building, Fabianinkatu 33, Helsinki

June 10-11, 2016

Friday, June 10

09:00 – 09:15 **Opening Remarks (Sali 6)**

09:15-11:00 **I. Political Institutions**

Discussants:

Vladimir Gel'man, *European University at St. Petersburg; University of Helsinki*

“Political Foundations of Post-Soviet Bad Governance: Toward a Research Agenda”

Ora John Reuter, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee* (co-authors: **Timothy Frye**, *Columbia University; Higher School of Economics, Moscow* and **David Szakonyi**, *Columbia University*)

“Vote Brokers, Clientelist Appeals, and Voter Turnout in Russia”

Andrey Starodubtsev, *University of Helsinki*

“Intergovernmental relations in the context of political uncertainty in an authoritarian state (the case of the Russian Federation)”

11:00 **Coffee Break**



11:30-13:00 **II. Political Institutions in Ukraine (Sali 6)**

Discussants:

Erik S. Herron, *West Virginia University*

“Ukrainian Politics and the Failures of Accountability”

Sergiy Kudelia, *Baylor University*

“Cohabitation Without a Bang: Why Has Ukraine’s Divided-Executive Turned Quiet?”

Oxana Shevel, *Tufts University* (co-author: **Maria Popova**, *McGill University*)

“Why Donbas? Explaining violent rebellion in Ukraine”

13:00 **Lunch break**

14:30-16:00 **III (Panel A): Political Economy (Sali 6)**

Discussants:

Hilary Appel, *Claremont McKenna College*

“Flat Tax Diffusion in the Post-Communist World: How a Neoliberal Reform Lost its Partisan Identity”

Juliet Johnson, *McGill University*

“Currency Crises in Post-Soviet Russia”

Anna Lowry, *University of Helsinki*

“Russia’s Economic Diversification and the Future of Development: Eurasian Integration Initiatives amid Shifts in Global Governance”

14:30-16:00 **III (Panel B): Identity and Politics (Sali 14)**

Discussants:

Julie A. George, *Queens College*

“Conflict Management and Contested Territory: Public Opinion, State Reforms and Secessionist Movements in Georgia and Moldova”

Harris Mylonas, *George Washington University*

“Post-Ottoman Nation-Building Policies: Legacy or Geostrategic Choice?”



Nona Shahnazarian, *National Academy of Sciences, Armenia*

“Eligibility and Political Representation in Armenia: How to Get More Women to Run?”

16:00 Coffee Break

16:30-18:00 IV: Authoritarian Backsliding (Sali 6)

Discussants:

Ivan Kurilla, *European University at St. Petersburg*

“Volgograd Inhabitants, From Voice to Exit: Trajectory of Political Response to Authoritarian Development in the Post-Soviet Era”

Kelly McMann, *Case Western Reserve University*

“Erosion of Democratic Rights and Institutions in Post-Soviet States”

Cory Welt, *George Washington University*

“In the Shadow of Revolution: Authoritarian Hardening in Azerbaijan”

Saturday, June 11

09:30 – 11:30 V (Panel A): Protest and State Response (Sali 6)

Discussants:

Samuel A. Greene, *King’s College London*

“From Boom to Bust: Revisiting Russia’s Social Contracts in a Time of Hardship”

Scott Radnitz, *University of Washington*

“The Pitfalls of Peaceful Protest: Why Nonviolence Isn’t All It’s Cracked Up to Be”

Regina Smyth, *Indiana University*

“Movement Resilience and Patterns of Protest in Contemporary Autocracy”

Joshua A. Tucker, *New York University* (co-authors: **Sergey Sanovich**, *New York University*, and **Denis Stukal**, *New York University*)

“Turning the Virtual Tables: Government Strategies for Addressing Online Opposition with an Application to Russia”



09:30 – 11:30

V (Panel B): Authoritarian Practices and Legitimacy (Sali 14)

Discussants:

Henry Hale, *George Washington University*

“Rallying Behavior in Conflict: Evidence from a Panel Survey in Russia 2012-15”

Marina Khmel'nitskaya, *University of Helsinki*

“Strategic policy plans of the Russian state: the “hollow paradigm” perspective”

Jussi Lassila, *University of Helsinki*

“Populism and the Kremlin’s Missing Political Identity”

Andrey Makarychev, *University of Tartu, Estonia*

“Entertain and Govern: From Sochi 2014 to FIFA 2018”

11:30

Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00

VI: Foreign Influences on Democratization (Sali 6)

Discussants:

Yuriy Matsiyevsky, *Ostroh Academy National University, Ukraine*

“Western Leverage, Russia’s resistance and Breakdown of Yanukovych’s Regime”

Alexandra Yatsyk, *Kazan Federal University*

“Beyond the West: Democracy Promotion and its Spill-over Effects in Georgia”

13:00

Lunch break



14:00 – 15:30

VII: Social Bases for Authoritarian Policies (Sali 6)

Discussants:

Mikhail Alexseev, *San Diego State University* and **Henry Hale**, *George Washington University*
“Crimea Come What May: Sources of Social Support for Costly Territorial Expansionism”

Sean R. Roberts, *George Washington University*

“The Everyday Practices of Authoritarianism: Social Capital as a Deterrent to Democratization in the Post-Soviet Space”

John Schoeberlein, *Nazarbayev University*

“Saving Society from Suspect Religion: Secularism and Popular Views of the Need for State Intervention in the Religious Sphere in Kazakhstan and Neighboring Countries”

