

David Sichinava

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Substantive: voting behavior, political power and the urban environment, spatial and temporal aspects of inequality;

Methodological: spatiotemporal modeling, experimental and quasi-experimental methods, big data, survey methods

EDUCATION

Tbilisi State University

Ph.D. in Human Geography, *summa cum laude*, March 2015.

- Dissertation: "Spatial Aspects of Electoral Behavior in Georgia (Based on 2008-2014 Elections)"
- Advisor: Dr. Giorgi Gogsadze

M.A., Human Geography (with honors) July 2010

B.A., Social Sciences (specialization: Human Geography) July 2008

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2018 ASEEEES Regional Scholar Travel Grant
- Fulbright visiting scholar at the University of Colorado Boulder (September 2016 - February 2017)
- Shota Rustaveli Georgian National Science Foundation travel grant, 2016
- Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Scholarship for young social scientists, 2013
- Participant of Open World Leadership Program run by the Library of Congress, 2013

RESEARCH GRANTS

- [*Principal Investigator*] 12K Georgian lari research grant "Elites, Historical Legacies, and Electoral Behavior in Georgia" funded by the Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Tbilisi State University, 2018
- [*Senior Researcher*] 15K Georgian lari research project "Spatial Aspects of Urban Development of Tbilisi: The Influence of Mobility on Change of Social Environment" implemented by the Department of Human Geography at Tbilisi State University (TSU), 2015
- [*Project Lead*] 100K Swiss frank research grant "Social Contents of Changing Housing Landscapes of the Capital Metropolises of Armenia and Georgia: Institutions, Stakeholders, Policies?" in collaboration with the Department of Human Geography at Tbilisi State University and Yerevan State University funded by the Academic Swiss Caucasus Network (ASCN), 2014-2016
- [*Senior Researcher*] 50K Swiss frank research project "Coping with Marginality and Exclusion: Can IDP (Internally Displaced Person) Communities Successfully Integrate into Mainstream Urban Societies in Georgia?" implemented by the Department of Human Geography at Tbilisi State University (TSU) in cooperation with Academic Swiss Caucasus Network (ASCN), 2011-2013

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CRRC-Georgia, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia

- *Senior Policy Analyst*
- *Senior Researcher*
- *GIS and Database Analyst*
- *Database Consultant*

March, 2017 - present
January, 2015 - August, 2016
January, 2011 - December, 2014
January, 2009 - December, 2010

At CRRC-Georgia, I have participated in or supervised over 50 research projects, including large scale survey data collection efforts for: the National Democratic Institute, National Opinion Research Center, OECD, the World Bank, and The Europe Foundation. I was also responsible for developing a computer-assisted (CAPI) survey data collection method by adapting open-source software to CRRC-Georgia's needs. Further tasks included cleaning and analyzing survey data, maintaining databases for the Online Data Analysis Tool (ODA), designing desktop and web mapping applications.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Department of Human Geography, Tbilisi State University

- *Assistant Professor* **March, 2017 - present**
- *Adjunct Professor* **March, 2013 - July, 2016**
- *Project Leader* **March, 2014 - December, 2016**
- *Senior Researcher* **January, 2011 - December, 2015**
- *Project Assistant* **October, 2008 - October, 2009**

Courses Taught:

- Introduction to the Social Science Research Methods (undergraduate)
- Quantitative Research Methods: Introduction to Applied Statistics (graduate)
- Data Analysis Using R (graduate)
- Master's Thesis Design (graduate)

International School of Economics at Tbilisi State University (ISET)

- Adjunct Professor **March, 2018 - present**

Courses Taught:

- World Regional Geography (undergraduate)

International Black Sea University

- Adjunct Professor of quantitative research methods class **October, 2017 - February 2018**
- Supervisor of graduate research papers **March, 2018-present**

School of Media and Mass Communications at Georgian Institute of Public Affairs (GIPA)

- Instructor of Graduate Research Papers **March, 2013- July 2017**
- Teacher of graduate level research methods class **March, 2013 - July, 2015**

CONSULTANCY

- National Democratic Institute - Ukraine. Conducted trainings on mapping and mobile data collection tools

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Sichinava, D. (2018). Cleavages, Electoral Geography and the Territorialization of Political Parties in the Republic of Georgia. *Eurasian Geography and Economics*. doi: 10.1080/15387216.2018.1442734

[Forthcoming book chapter:] Sichinava, D. (2018). Elections, Political Parties and Social Change in Georgia (2003-2016). Indiana University Press.

[Forthcoming book chapter:] Sichinava, D., & Salukvadze, J. (2018). Changing Times, Persistent Inequalities? Patterns of Housing Infrastructure Development in the South Caucasus. In T. Tuvikene, C. S. Neugebauer, & W. Sgibnev (Eds.), *Post-Socialist Urban Infrastructures*. Routledge.

- Sichinava, D. (2015). Cleavage Theory and the Electoral Geographies of Georgia". In Nodia, G. & C. Stefes (Eds.), *Security, Democracy and Development in the Southern Caucasus and the Black Sea Region, Interdisciplinary Studies on Central and Eastern Europe, Vol. 14*, 27-44. Bern: Peter Lang
- Salukvadze, J., Sichinava, D., & Gogishvili, D. (2015). Socio-economic and Spatial Factors of Alienation and Segregation of Internally Displaced Persons in the Cities of Georgia. *Spatial Inequality and Cohesion: Studia Regionalia*, 38, 45–60.
- Chkhaidze, V., Gogsadze, G., Salukvadze, J., & Sichinava, D. (2008). General Characteristics and Regional Patterns of Electoral Behavior: 2008 Presidential Elections in Georgia. *Region and Regionalism*, 9(2), 65–78.
- OTHER PUBLICATIONS AND MEDIA APPEARANCES [In Estonian:] Sichinava, D. (2018). Gruusia sotsioloog: Venemaa õonestab Gruusiat parempopulistide kaudu. Interview by Krister Paris. *Eesti Päevaleht*
- Berikishvili, E., & Sichinava, D. (2018). Transformation of Urban Protests in Tbilisi: From Spontaneous Activism to Social Movements. In Neuburg, K., Pranz, S., Tseretelli, W., et al. (eds.), *Archive of Transition*. Niggli Verlag Publishers. Salenstein, Switzerland.
- Sichinava, D. (2018, March 5). Polarisation in Georgia's Media Landscape. OC Media.
- Sichinava, D. (2017, October 18). Will an Independent Mayoral Candidate Bring Political Change to Georgia? New Eastern Europe.
- Gilbreath, D., & Sichinava, D. (2017, April 10). Georgia: Proposed Reform Could Tilt Electoral Field Toward Incumbents Eurasianet.
- Gilbreath, D., & Sichinava, D. (2016, October 6). Georgia is Voting This Saturday. Here Are 7 Things You Should Know Washington Post's Monkey Cage blog.
- [As a special editor:] Sichinava, D. (2016). Cities in the South Caucasus. *Caucasus Analytical Digest*, 87.
- [in Georgian:] Berikishvili, E., Chigholashili, D., Sichinava, D. & Zazanashvili, N. (2016). Anthology of Urban Protests in Tbilisi. *South Caucasus Bureau of the Heinrich-Böll-Foundation*
- Sichinava, D. (2015). Understanding Voter Decision-making in the Urban Context of Tbilisi. In H. Gutbrod (Ed.), *From Private to Public: Transformation of Social Spaces in the South Caucasus*. Tbilisi: South Caucasus Regional Office of the Heinrich Böll Foundation.
- Gilbreath, D., & Sichinava, D. (2015). NGOs and the Georgian Public: Why Communication Matters. *Caucasus Analytical Digest*, 73.
- Sichinava, D. (2013). The 2012 Parliamentary Elections in Georgia and Changing Attitudes toward Russia. *Caucasus Academic Digest*, 48.
- Sichinava, D. (2012). Shades of Red and Blue - Regional Characteristics of Georgia's 2012 Parliamentary Elections. *Caucasus Analytical Digest*, 43.
- SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS Sichinava, D., & Salukvadze, J. (2017). *Spatial Patterns of Emerging Inequalities in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia*. Presented at the 7th International Urban Geographies of Post-Communist States Conference (CAT), Kyiv-Dnipro, Ukraine.

Sichinava, D., & Salukvadze, J. (2017). *Spatial Patterns of Emerging Inequalities in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) Boston, MA.

Sichinava, D., & Salukvadze, J. (2016). *Housing Inequalities and Migrant Remittances in the Capital Cities of the Post-Soviet Eurasia*. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers (AAG) San-Francisco, CA.

Sichinava, D. (2015). *Housing Inequalities in the South Caucasus - Cases of Yerevan and Tbilisi*. Presented at the 6th International Urban Geographies of Post-Communist States Conference (CAT), Prague, Czechia.

Sichinava, D. (2015). *Housing Inequalities in the Soviet South – Cases of Yerevan and Tbilisi*. Presented at the 47th Annual Convention of Slavic, East European, Eurasian Studies at the University of Pittsburgh (ASEEES), Philadelphia, PA.

Sichinava, D., & Salukvadze, J. (2013). *Coping with Marginality and Exclusion: Can IDP Communities Successfully Integrate into Mainstream Urban Societies in Georgia*. Presented at 2nd ASCN annual conference "Political Transformation and Social Change in the South Caucasus". Yerevan, Armenia.

Sichinava, D. (2012). *Cleavage Theory and the Electoral Geographies of Georgia*. Presented at the international conference "Security, Democracy and Development in the South Caucasus and the Black Sea Region"; Istanbul, Turkey.

TRAINING COURSES ATTENDED *University of Colorado Boulder* **September-December 2016**
Courses: GIS modeling, advanced topics in spatiotemporal modeling, web mapping

Annual IPSA-NUS Summer School for Social Science Research Methods at National University of Singapore **July 2016**
Courses: experimental methods; advanced quantitative public policy analysis

Workshop on academic communications **July 2014**
Organized by Academic Swiss Caucasus Network (ASCN), Yerevan

Summer school in research methods organized by ECPR (European Consortium on Political Research) at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia; **August 2013**
Courses: qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) with fuzzy sets; introduction to R

AREMSIS summer school in advanced regression analysis at Koç University, Istanbul **July 2012**
Courses: introduction to statistics, limited dependent variable models, applied regression analysis.

Training in NVIVO, qualitative data analysis software **June 2012**
Organized by Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU).

COMPUTER SKILLS

- Statistical packages: STATA, R, SPSS, and CPro (professional proficiency);
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS): ArcGIS and QGIS (professional proficiency);
- Platform for mobile data collection: Open Data Kit (ODK) (professional proficiency)
- CAQDAS: QSR NVIVO (professional proficiency);
- Web applications: HTML and Javascript libraries - Google Maps API, OpenLayers, HighCharts (basic skills);
- Languages: Visual Basic for Applications, Python (basic skills);
- Applications: common Windows word processing, spreadsheet, presentation and database software, L^AT_EX, Zotero (reference management)

LANGUAGES	Georgian (Native), English (full professional proficiency), Russian (professional working proficiency)
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of American Geographers (AAG) • Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)
COMMUNITY SERVICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led classes in data visualization for the local chapter of R-Ladies Global