

David Szakonyi
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Political Science
George Washington University 2016-present
Affiliated Faculty, Institute for Russian, European, and Eurasian Studies
Affiliated Faculty, Institute for International Economic Policy

Research Fellow, International Center for the Study of Institutions and Development (ICSID)
Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia 2011-present

Academy Scholar, Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies
Harvard University 2017-2018, 2020-21

EDUCATION

PhD, Political Science, Columbia University 2016
Dissertation: Renting Elected Office: Why Businesspeople Become Politicians in Russia
Finalist, Ronald Coase Best Dissertation Award, Society for Institutional & Organizational Economics
Winner, Robert C. Tucker/Stephen F. Cohen Dissertation Prize, Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (outstanding dissertation in Soviet/Post-Soviet politics and history)
Winner, Gabriel A. Almond Award for the Best Dissertation in Comparative Politics, American Political Science Association

B.A., Political and Social Thought (High Distinction), University of Virginia 2006

RESEARCH

Published Articles

Ora John Reuter and David Szakonyi. "Elite Defection under Autocracy: Evidence from Russia." *American Political Science Review* (Forthcoming).

David Szakonyi. 2018. "Businesspeople in Elected Office: Identifying Private Benefits from Firm-Level Returns." *American Political Science Review*. 112 (2), 322-338.

Timothy Frye, Ora John Reuter, and David Szakonyi. 2018. "Hitting Them with Carrots: Voter Intimidation and Vote Buying In Russia." *British Journal of Political Science*. FirstView, 1-25.

Ora John Reuter and David Szakonyi. 2015. "Online Social Media and Political Awareness in Competitive Authoritarian Regimes." *British Journal of Political Science*, 45 (01), 29-51.

Timothy Frye, Ora John Reuter, and David Szakonyi. 2014. "Political Machines at Work: Voter Mobilization and Electoral Subversion in the Workplace." *World Politics*, 66 (2): 195-228.

David Szakonyi and Johannes Urpelainen. 2014. "Who Benefits From Economic Reform? Firms and Distributive Politics." *Journal of Politics*, 76 (03), 841-858.

David Szakonyi and Johannes Urpelainen. 2014. "Veto Players and the Value of Political Control: A Theory with Evidence From Energy Privatization." *Comparative Political Studies*, 47 (10), 1384-1415.

Under Review

David Szakonyi. *Private Sector Politics: The Logic and Consequences of Businesspeople Becoming Politicians*. Completed Book Manuscript.

David Szakonyi. "Princelings and Political Rents: The Value of Nepotism." Accepted at *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*

Michael Best, Jonas Hjort, and David Szakonyi. "Individuals and Organizations as Sources of State Effectiveness, and Consequences for Policy Design."

Timothy Frye, Ora John Reuter, and David Szakonyi. "Vote Brokers, Clientelist Appeals, and Voter Turnout: Evidence from Russia and Venezuela." Revise and Resubmit at *World Politics*

David Szakonyi. "Private Sector Policymaking."

Working Papers

David Szakonyi. "Anti-Corruption Campaigns and Political Selection: Evidence from Russia."

Ora John Reuter and David Szakonyi. "Electoral Manipulation and Regime Support: Survey Evidence from Russia."

David Szakonyi. "Candidate Filtering: The Strategic Use of Electoral Fraud in Russia."

Timothy Frye, Ora John Reuter, and David Szakonyi. *Political Machines at Work: Voter Mobilization and Electoral Subversion in the Workplace*. Book Project.

Policy and Popular Writings

"Here's What You Can Expect from Putin's Next 6 Years" *Monkey Cage, Washington Post*, March 22, 2018 (with Noah Buckley-Farlee)

"What Another Six Years of Putin Spells for Russia's Economy" *EurasiaNet*, March 11, 2018

"Why Did Trump Let the Russians Off the Hook?" *Newsweek*, February 11, 2018

"Governing Business: The State and Business in Russia" *Foreign Policy Research Institute's Russia Political Economy Project*, January 2018, 1-32

"Why Russian Oligarchs Remain Loyal to Putin, *Moscow Times* , December 8, 2017

"Monopolies Rising: Consolidation in the Russian Economy" *PONARS Policy Memo*, #491, November 2017

"Sanctions", *Russian Analytical Digest*, #205, July 2017

"New Rules, New Members, Same Results? A Look at the New Russian Duma" *Wilson Center Cable*, #22, May 2017

"State Duma Elections in Crimea", *Russian Analytical Digest*, #203. May 2017

"Here's What a Study of Russian Business Leaders in Politics can Tell Us About Donald Trump" *Monkey*

Cage, Washington Post, September 26, 2016

“Putin Is Still Standing” *Foreign Affairs*, July 26, 2016.

“In Russia, the Political Impact of Social Media Varies by Platform” *Monkey Cage, Washington Post*, December 31, 2014. (with Ora John Reuter)

Books

Trier, Tom, Hedvig Lohm, and David Szakonyi. *Under Siege: Inter-ethnic Relations in De Facto Abkhazia*, New York: Columbia University Press, 2010

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

University Facilitating Fund, GWU, \$19,291	2018
GWIPP Policy Scholar, GWU, \$11,000	2018
National Science Foundation, Research Grant, \$410,191 (with Timothy Frye and Ora John Reuter)	
“Political Machines at Work: Voter Mobilization and Electoral Subversion in the Workplace”	2014-2017
Mellon Interdisciplinary Graduate Fellowship, Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics (INCITE), Columbia University	2014-2016
International Growth Centre, Bihar Office, \$50,000 (with Johannes Urpelainen)	
“The Benefits of Solar Technology Adoption for Street Vendors in Bihar”	2014-2015
CIBER Summer Research Grant, \$3,500	2014
National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship	2011-2014
SSRC Eurasia Program Pre-Dissertation Award, \$2,500	2012
Harriman Institute / Pepsico Fellowship for Research Travel, \$3,000	2010, 2011, 2012
Center for the Study of Development Strategies Summer Research Grant, \$2,500	2010
Jefferson Scholarship (full merit scholarship), University of Virginia	2002

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks

2019 - University of Wisconsin-Madison ; 2018 - NYU, University of Colorado - Boulder, USC - Moore School of Business, Higher School of Economics, Northwestern University, IADB ; 2017 - PONARS New Voices in Russian Politics, Oxford University ; 2015 - Higher School of Economics ; 2013 - Perm State University ; 2012 - New Economics School

Conferences

American Political Science Association Annual Conference (2011-2017); ASEEES Annual Conference (2011-2016); Annual ICSID Conference, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia (2011-2016); Strategy and the Business Environment Conference (2016); Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis (2013); Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference (2013, 2014); Academy of Management Annual Conference (2015, 2016); European Political Science Association (2017)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Editorial Boards

Nationalities Papers, 2018-

Reviewer

American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, World Politics, British Journal of Political Science, Comparative Political Studies, Comparative Politics, Economics and Politics, European Journal of

International Relations, Party Politics, Problems of Post-Communism, Post-Soviet Affairs, Public Choice, Economic Systems

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Member, Program on New Approaches to Research and Security in Eurasia (PONARS).	2017-present
Member of Advisory Board, Envest Microfinance Loan Fund.	2008-present
Compass Volunteer.	2017-present
Research Associate, National Endowment for Democracy.	2008-2009
Evaluation Officer, Association of Scientific and Technical Intelligensia, Khujand, Tajikistan	2008
Program Manager, European Center for Minority Issues, Tbilisi, Georgia	2007-2008
Research Assistant, SOVA Center, Moscow, Russia	2006-2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PSC 3192W (GWU): Money and Influence Around the World	Fall 2016, Spring 2017
PSC 2366 (GWU): Russian Politics	Fall 2016, Fall 2018
Comparative Political Economy (Higher School of Economics), co-taught annually	2011-2018

OTHER SKILLS

Languages:	Russian - Professional Fluency, Spanish - Intermediate
Analytical:	STATA, R, ArcGIS, Python, SQL, MongoDB, Latex, HTML
Field Research Experience:	Russia, Georgia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Czech Republic