

Silviya Nitsova

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Manchester, Manchester, UK
British Academy International Fellow, May 2024-
Department of Politics

National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine
Visiting Researcher, 2021-2022
Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
Ph.D. in Political Science, May 2024
Comparative Politics and Political Methodology

Committee: Graeme Robertson (chair), Alexander Volfovsky (external), David Szakonyi (external), Cameron Ballard-Rosa, Lucy Martin

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC
M.A. in Global Studies, 2017

Leiden University, Leiden, Netherlands
M.Sc. in Political Science, 2012

Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, Sofia, Bulgaria
B.A. in European Studies, 2010

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Comparative politics, political economy, money in politics, oligarchs, corruption, policymaking, reform, Eurasian and East European politics, social network analysis.

BOOKS & MONOGRAPHS

Nitsova, Silviya, Grigore Pop-Eleches, and Graeme Robertson. 2018. *Revolution and Reform in Ukraine: Evaluating Four Years of Reform*. PONARS Eurasia. 70 pages.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Nitsova, Silviya. 2021. “Why the Difference? Donbas, Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk after Ukraine’s Euromaidan Revolution.” *Europe-Asia Studies*, 73:10, 1832-1856.

WORK IN PROGRESS	“Oligarchic Networks of Influence and Legislatures in Developing Democracies: Evidence from Ukraine.” <i>Working paper</i> .	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Winner, Beth Holmgren Graduate Student Essay Prize, Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, 2024. – Winner, James W. Prothro Best Paper Award, UNC Political Science, 2024. – Winner, Best Doctoral Paper Award, Association for the Study of Nationalities, 2023. – Honorable mention, Lubomyr Hajda Graduate Student Paper Prize, American Association for Ukrainian Studies, 2024. 	
	<p>“Attitudes towards Redistribution from the Extremely Rich: Evidence from Ukraine at War.” <i>Working paper</i>. [Pre-Analysis Plan]</p> <p>“The Extremely Rich during the Politics of the Extraordinary: Oligarchic Networks of Influence and the Russo-Ukrainian War” <i>Working paper</i>.</p>	
OTHER PUBLICATIONS	<p>Nitsova, Silviya. Ukraine’s oligarchs are united against Russia. That wasn’t the case in 2014. Monkey Cage: Washington Post. April 5, 2022.</p>	
	<p>Conte, Simon, Graeme Robertson, Yuliya Shypilova, Kate Marple-Cantrell, Mariana Akyshina, Silviya Nitsova, and Kostiantyn Gieser. Parliamentary Strengthening in Ukraine: A Field Assessment for Learning, Evaluation and Research Activity II (LER II). USAID. March 2020. <i>Responsible for survey design and analysis</i>.</p>	
	<p>Nitsova, Silviya. Applied Field Experience. Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center. August 2, 2016.</p>	
AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS	Awards	
	People’s Choice Winner, 3 Minute Thesis, UNC Political Science	2023
	External Research and Academic Fellowships	
	International Fellowship, The British Academy <i>£331,285</i>	2024-2027
	Graduate Sabbatical Grant, Institute for Humane Studies <i>\$15,000</i>	2023
	World Politics & Statecraft Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation <i>\$7,500</i>	2023
	Publication Accelerator Grant, Institute for Humane Studies <i>\$5,000</i>	2023
	Box-Steffensmeier Scholarship, Society for Political Methodology <i>\$2,300</i>	2020
	Rotary Peace Fellowship, Rotary Foundation <i>\$47,200 (plus tuition)</i>	2015-2017

Internal Research and Academic Fellowships

Summer Research Funding, UNC Political Science	2023
Research Award, UNC CSEEEES	2023
Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship, UNC Graduate School (x2)	2023
Chair's Top-Up Award, UNC Political Science	2022
Harold J. Glass USAF Fellowship, UNC Graduate School	2021-2022
Alumni Excellence Research Fellowship, UNC Political Science	2021
Summer Funding Award, UNC Political Science	2018-2021
Davie Circle Summer Research Fellowship, UNC Graduate School	2020
Uhlman Research Fellowship, UNC Political Science	2020
Summer Research Grant, UNC Global Studies	2016

Travel Grants

Professional Travel Award, UNC CSEEEES	2023
Travel & Accessibility Grant, American Political Science Association	2023
Travel Grant, American Political Science Association	2023
Travel Award, Women's Caucus for Political Science-Midwest	2023
Travel Award, UNC Graduate and Professional Student Government	2023
Travel Grant, UNC Political Science	2022
Graduate Student Transportation Grant, UNC Graduate School	2022
Hayek Fund Grant, Institute for Humane Studies	2022
Travel Grant, American Political Science Association	2022
Travel Grant, Copenhagen Business School	2022

CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Paper presenter (P), Discussant (D), Award winner (A)	
ASEEEES Annual Convention. Boston, MA. (A)	2024
Political Economy Political Science Institutions (PEPSI) Launch Conference. University of Essex, Colchester, UK. (D)	2024
Danyliw Research Seminar. Ottawa, Canada. (P)	2024
APSA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. (P)	2024
LSE-NYU Annual Conference in Political Science & Political Economy. London, UK. (P)	2024
Politics & Political Economy of Eurasia Workshop, MPSA. Chicago, IL. (P, D)	2024
ASEEEES Annual Convention. Philadelphia, PA. (P, D)	2023
APSA Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. (P, D)	2023
ASN Annual World Convention. New York, NY. (P, A)	2023
Midwest Eurasian Political Economy Workshop, MPSA. Chicago, IL. (P)	2023
Women in Legislative Studies Annual Conference. Houston, TX. (P)	2022
APSA Annual Meeting. Montréal, Canada. (P)	2022
CBS Money in Politics Conference. Copenhagen, Denmark. (P, D)	2022
14th Annual Rotary Peace Center Conference. Chapel Hill, NC. (P)	2017

INVITED TALKS

CEES Seminar, University of Glasgow. <i>Scheduled.</i>	2025
RESC Politics Seminar, University of Oxford. <i>Scheduled.</i>	2025
Democracy & Elections Seminar, University of Manchester.	2024

	Winter Graduate Conference, Institute for Humane Studies (online)	2024
	Uhlman Family Seminar, UNC-Chapel Hill	2024
	WOCUP Workshop, George Washington University	2024
	Political Power and Persuasion Workshop, UNC-Chapel Hill	2023
	Slavic-Eurasian Research Center, Hokkaido University	2023
	Japanese Association of Ukrainian Studies	2023
	Department of International Economics, Government and Business, Copenhagen Business School (online)	2022
IN THE NEWS	Financial Times (UK), “The crackdown on Ukraine’s oligarchs.” November 29, 2023.	
	L’Express (France), “Guerre en Ukraine : les oligarques rentrent dans le rang.” August 24, 2022.	
	Neue Zürcher Zeitung (Switzerland), “Welche Rolle spielen die ukrainischen Oligarchen im Abwehrkampf gegen Russland?” May 2, 2022.	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Department of Political Science, UNC Research Assistant for Lucy Martin and Timothy Ryan, May-Aug 2023 Research Assistant for Graeme Robertson, 2016-2020.	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Primary Instructor, Department of Political Science, UNC POLI 281 Data in Politics: An Introduction, Spring 2024, Spring 2021 (online). Teaching Assistant, Department of Political Science, UNC POLI 130 Introduction to Comparative Politics, Fall 2022, Spring 2020 (partially online), Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018. Grader, Department of Political Science, UNC POLI 281 Data in Politics: An Introduction, Fall 2020. POLI 235 The Politics of Russia and Eurasia, Fall 2017.	
OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE	Trainee, Council of Europe Office in Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine (2016). Expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia, Bulgaria (2011-2015). Trainee, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium (2013-2014). Short-term election observer, OSCE/ODIHR, Armenia (2013), Albania (2013), Ukraine (2014), Tajikistan (2015).	
FIELDWORK	Ukraine (Kyiv), Sep 2021-Feb 2022. Dissertation research. Formal and informal elite interviews. Ukraine (Kyiv), Jun-Jul 2019. Pre-dissertation exploration. Informal elite interviews. Ukraine (Kyiv, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Slovyansk), May-Jul 2016. Master’s thesis research. Formal and informal elite and non-elite interviews.	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan, 2020 (online). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Network Analysis: Advanced Topics; – Advanced Bayesian Modeling; – Data Science and Text Analysis. 	
METHODS TRAINING	Ordinary least squares, generalized linear models, multilevel modeling, social network analysis, causal inference (regression discontinuity, instrumental variables, difference-in-differences), game theory.	
LANGUAGE & TECHNICAL SKILLS	Bulgarian (native), English (proficient), Russian (advanced), Ukrainian (intermediate). Statistical computing in R , Python, Stata, Qualtrics, \LaTeX .	
LAB MEMBERSHIP	The Authoritarian Politics Lab (UNC-Chapel Hill), 2019-2024 Volfovsky Lab Group (Duke University), 2019-2024	
PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP	American Political Science Association (APSA), Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA), Political Networks (POLNET), Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN), Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Women in Legislative Studies	
SERVICE	Reviewer, <i>American Political Science Review</i> , <i>American Journal of Political Science</i> , <i>East European Politics</i> , <i>Nationalities Papers</i> . Expert, Chapel Hill Expert Survey , 2019-present. Rotary Evaluator, Rotary Peace Fellowship , 2022-present. Researcher, Data for Ukraine . Guest Lecturer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Central European University, Invisible University for Ukraine, Course: Research Methods for the Social Sciences (BA, MA, PhD students), Lecture: “Introduction to Social Network Analysis,” Dec 12, 2024 (online); – Kyiv School of Economics, Course: Introduction to Public Policy (MA students), Lecture: “Oligarchic Networks of Influence and Ukraine’s Verkhovna Rada since the Euromaidan,” Nov 13, 2024 (online). 	
REFERENCES	Graeme Robertson Professor of Political Science Department of Political Science UNC-Chapel Hill graeme@email.unc.edu	Alexander Volfovsky Assoc. Prof. of Statistical Science Department of Statistical Science Duke University alexander.volfovsky@duke.edu

David Szakonyi

Assoc. Prof. of Political Science
Department of Political Science
George Washington University
dszakonyi@gwu.edu

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