

1
Communist and Post-Communist Studies
Volume 44, Issue 1, March 2011,

1. A game-theoretic model for protest in the context of post-communism by **Konstantin Ash**^a University of California, San Diego, United States

Abstract

In recent years, large-scale protests have forced several incumbent governments in former Soviet countries from power. Scholarly examinations of these events have lacked a cohesive explanation of the reasons for the success of certain movements and the failure of others. This study uses prior research on the dynamics of protest to formulate a game-theoretic model for why protest takes place and how its eventual outcome comes about. The model is tested through logistic regression analyses of monthly protest data. The statistical analysis shows that elections, prior protests and government transgressions increase the likelihood of anti-government protests.

2. Fighting corruption in public procurement in post-communist states: Obstacles and solutions Original Research Article

Abstract

Anti-corruption efforts in Europe's post-communist states have been less successful than anticipated. Criticism has been raised against the role of the international community in promoting anti-corruption programmes. Besides, such programmes have been deemed vague and "all-inclusive". They have largely failed to address local factors "informing" corrupt behaviour in post-communist states, such as (a) negative perceptions of law, and (b) informal practice.' I'd be grateful if you could retain the original sentence as it is more precise.

3. Expediency always wins over ideology: Putin's attitudes toward the Russian Communist Party by Vladimir Shlapentokh^a

Abstract

Vladimir Putin provides us with an excellent example of a politician whose attitude toward ideology is instrumental to his political longevity. He has shown that in the fight between ideology and political expedience, to maintain authority and control within the country, or to achieve geopolitical ambitions in the international arena, ideology will almost always lose the battle. It is well known that the major threat to political power stems often not from the adversary who holds diametrically opposite views, but from the rivals who share almost the same ideological position. The closer the ideological position is of a rival, the more intense the competition. For just this reason Putin is implacable toward Communists who share many of his views. He tries as much as possible to reduce the political role of the Communist party – the most serious opposition to the regime – by using the same underhanded tactics which are used against the liberals.

4. Assessing civil society in Putin's Russia: The plight of women's crisis centers by Janet Elise Johnson^a and Aino Saarinen^b

Abstract

The article assesses civil society in Putin's Russia through the lens of the small social movement working against gender violence. Based on questionnaires distributed to movement organizations in 2008–2009, we find significant retrenchment among the NGO segment of the movement, adding evidence to the claim of Russia's turn toward authoritarianism. However, this innovative, midlevel analysis--not the typical society-wide surveys nor the small number participant observation--also shows that the women's crisis

center movement has made some in-roads in transforming the state, revealing that some democratic opportunities remain at the local level.

Keywords: Russia; Civil society; Social movements; Domestic violence; Gender; Putin; Post-communism

5. Legitimizing totalitarianism: Melodrama and mass politics in North Korean film **Alexander Dukalskis^a** and **Zachary Hooker^b**

Abstract

This article attempts to analyze the construction and maintenance of political legitimacy in North Korea through the lens of its state-produced films. After classifying North Korea's regime as totalitarian, we then discuss the strategies of legitimation available given this classification, and highlight the importance of ideology therein. Next, we demonstrate the importance of film within North Korea's ideological apparatus and thematically analyze six North Korean films dating from 1948–2006. From this analysis, we situate the social role of film in contemporary North Korea and argue that it will remain a crucial force amongst the country's various attempts to maintain legitimacy.

Keywords: North Korea; Totalitarianism; Legitimacy; Ideology; Film studies

6. Printmedia poll reporting in Poland: Poll as news in Polish parliamentary campaigns, 1991–2007 **Robert Szwed^a**

Abstract

Information about the support given by the public opinion to political actors has become a constant element of the public debate in Poland after the fall of Communism. Very soon polls became an argument in debates, a premise, or a way to justify decisions. At the same time they were criticized both by politicians and journalists convinced that polls can significantly influence the election results. But the fact was not noticed in Poland that all debates about the influence of polls on election outcomes should be preceded by a discussion of the way they are presented in the media. The present article joins this debate by subjecting to analysis the polls published in the Polish press during parliamentary campaigns in the dimensions of the role they played during the recent several years, the quality of methodological information, and of the way the polls were used in the media.

7. As opposed to European and American analyses, no improvement in the conformity to standards of minimal disclosure in newspapers' reporting of public opinion polls was noticed, although—like in other countries—a dramatic increase in the number of polls reported was observed.

Timothy K. Blauvelt^a

Abstract

Lavrentii Beria built up one of the most powerful patronage networks in Soviet history. Its success represents a unique case in Soviet history in which a regionally based secret police patron-client network, comprised primarily of representatives of ethnic minorities, took control first of the civilian leadership of one of the major regions of the Union, and then of the most powerful institution in the USSR, the national secret police, and subsequently became one of the main competing factions in the "crypto-politics" of the late-Stalin era. The fact that the Beria network emerged from the secret police gave it certain advantages in the political struggles of the period, but it also held weaknesses that played a role in Beria's final undoing. The evolution and political struggles of Beria's network also shed light on the inner workings of the competition among informal networks that made up the crypto-politics of the period. Using recent memoirs, new archival sources and interviews, this article will examine how Beria developed, managed and advanced his informal network, giving particular attention to the specific and unique outcomes that resulted from the rooting of this network in the secret police, at five critical junctures in Beria's career.

Keywords: Patron–client relations; Clientelism; Beria; Secret police; Informal networks; Mingrelian affair; Soviet Union

8. Georgian readiness for NATO membership after Russian-Georgian armed conflict

Zdeněk Kríž^a and Zinaida Shevchuk^a

Abstract

The history of the cooperation between Georgia and NATO had started long before the Rose Revolution. Nowadays, Georgia belongs to the countries which want to join NATO. This article gauges the Georgian readiness for its accession to NATO. Study on NATO enlargement provides requirements on future members of NATO, even though it avoids such an explicit formulation. This article concludes that Georgia is not yet ready to join NATO because it has serious deficiencies in the area of democracy building, military readiness, and settling territorial disputes with its neighbours. The only area where the situation is satisfactory is the support of the public for the accession.

Keywords: Georgia; Readiness; NATO enlargement

9. The view from city hall: Local perceptions of intergovernmental fiscal relations in the Czech Republic

Scott M. Smith^a, Phillip J. Bryson^a and Gary C. Cornia^a

Abstract

This article analyzes perceptions of inter-governmental fiscal relations as held by local officials of the Czech Republic. The field study probes local perceptions of progress toward fiscal decentralization in the Czech Republic. A statistical analysis is based on a scaling of cities according to size and according to a generalized, multi-part measure of fiscal autonomy. This measure is effective in discriminating high and low autonomy cities by size, types of expenditures, and funding sources. Cities of diverse sizes are divided into groups reflecting perceptions of greater or lesser autonomy. The implications of the findings are discussed.

Keywords: Fiscal decentralization; Local fiscal autonomy; Economic transition; Property tax; Revenue autonomy; Profiling autonomy perceptions

Mobility Citizenship, Inequality, and the Liberal State

Author- Steffen Mau

Abstract

This article analyzes the issue of cross-border mobility of persons viewed from a social inequality perspective. After considering the significance of social closure and border control for the historical development of modern states and citizenship, it offers a critique of restrictions on mobility rights enforced by liberal states. On the basis of empirical data on visa regulations, it demonstrates that mobility

rights are distributed highly unequally, favouring citizens from rich democracies. This tendency has been accelerated and driven by the processes of globalization.

Symbolic Power and (In)Security

Author- Kirsti Stuvøy

Abstract

The general role of symbolic power in contributing to the legitimacy of security has been acknowledged, and this article seeks, more specifically, to advance the understanding of gendered power dynamics and (in)security. It demonstrates how, through their first decade of existence, nonstate crisis centers in Northwest Russia contributed to security but also to the (unintentional) marginalization of women's security. Their emphasis on victims acting on their own behalf, inducing them to becoming acting subjects, is a misrecognition of the effect of symbolic power in this field.

3

International Studies Perspectives

Vol 12 Issue 1, February 2011

Technology and Global Affairs

Author- Stefan Fritsch

Abstract

Technology has always played an important role in global politics, economics, security, and culture. It has continuously shaped the structure of the global system, its actors, and the interactions between them and vice versa. However, theories of International Relations (IR), and in particular those of International Political Economy (IPE), have performed little to theoretically conceptualize technology as a powerful factor within explanations of change in global affairs. Although technology often is implicitly present in the theories of IR and IPE, it is often interpreted as an external, passive, apolitical, and residual factor. This essay argues that to develop a better understanding of transformation in global affairs, technology has to be integrated more systematically into the theoretical discussions of IR/IPE. Technology should be understood as a highly political and integral core component of the global system that shapes global affairs and itself is shaped by global economics, politics, and culture.

Nonreciprocal Trade Agreements and Trade

Author- Tina M. Zappile

Abstract

The recent proliferation of preferential trade agreements, reaching almost 400 in number, has made it increasingly important to determine their effects on trade flows. This study advances our understanding of the effect of a particular type of trade agreement, a nonreciprocal agreement between a major economic power and less developed countries often used as a foreign policy/foreign aid tool by the major power and allowable under WTO Special and Differential Treatment. The study tests the effect of a recently implemented nonreciprocal agreement between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa, the 2000 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), on trade.

4

International Political Sociology

Vol 5 Issue 1 March 2011

Armed Resistance and Self-Esteem

Author- Lætitia Bucaille

Abstract

This paper is intended to compare the subjective experiences of two sets of veterans, one having taken part in the ANC's struggle against apartheid (1980–1990) and the other having joined the Fatah uprisings of 1987 against Israel. The apartheid system has been entirely dismantled and the ANC now governs South Africa. The Palestinians, by contrast, remain under Israeli control, and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation has failed to create an independent Palestinian state. And yet, surprisingly, ANC activists tend to see themselves as victims, while those of Fatah usually see themselves as heroes. I shall offer the hypothesis that the heroization or victimization of self is drawn from a collective political imagination and is related to the construction of self-esteem.

Peace Through Recognition

Author- Thomas Lindemann

Abstract

The outbreak of war is usually explained in terms of utility-maximizing behavior on the part of statesmen and states. In this article, I propose an alternative model for explaining war, which focuses on the struggle for recognition. As I will argue, wars are not only motivated by a pursuit of utility maximization but also

by the quest to gain recognition for the identities and norms of respect to which domestic and international lay claim. As I will demonstrate in two case studies, peaceful management of international crises depends heavily on the capacity of actors to engage in politics of recognition.

5

The British Journal of Politics & International Relations

Vol 12 Issue 3, August 2010

Belarus, Ukraine and Russia

Author- Stephen White

Abstract

Belarus and Ukraine are 'lands in between', pulled by their language, religion and history towards the west but also towards the former Soviet republics in the east with which they were for so long associated. The evidence of national representative surveys between 2000 and 2010 suggests that feelings of 'Europeanness' have been declining, as is also the case in Russia; so has the wish to join the European Union (although it remains a popular option) or NATO. 'Soviet nostalgia' has been declining in parallel, more so in Belarus and Ukraine than in Russia; but there is a strong wish in all three countries to associate more closely within the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Community-Based Restorative Justice in Northern Ireland

Author- Cillian McGrattan

Abstract

This article critically assesses the scholarly representation of community-based restorative justice (CBRJ) schemes in Northern Ireland. These schemes, which emerged in working-class areas following the republican and loyalist ceasefires of the 1990s, have been the subject of intense political debate and a growing body of academic literature. I argue that the academic depiction of the schemes in republican areas ignores the substantial progress made by revisionist political scientists and historians in understanding Provisional republicanism.

6

Journal of Conflict Resolution

February 2011, 55 (1)

Does Globalization Breed Ethnic Discontent

Author- Susan Olzak

Abstract

This article examines how different components of globalization affect the death toll from internal armed conflict. Conventional wisdom once held that the severity of internal conflict would gradually decline with the spread of globalization, but fatalities still remain high. Moreover, leading theories of civil war sharply disagree about how different aspects of globalization might affect the severity of ethnic and nonethnic armed conflicts.

Selection, Availability, and Opportunity

Author- Jennifer Kavanagh

Abstract

Poverty is often identified as a determinant of terrorist group participation, but existing research reveals mixed support for this relationship. Some studies find that macroeconomic decline is associated with increased production of terrorists, but micro-level research suggests terrorists have above average socioeconomic status and educational attainment. In this article, the author argues that poverty should increase terrorist group participation only for individuals with high education. The author suggests that as a result of terrorist group selection preferences and the lower opportunity costs for militant group membership in economically depressed environments, the likelihood of terrorist group participation should be highest for the highly educated, poor members of any population.

China: An International Journal

Volume 8, Number 1, March 2010

1. The Impact of China's Market Reforms on the Health of Chinese Citizens: Examining Two Puzzles

Martin King Whyte

Zhongxin Sun

Abstract:

China's post-1978 market reforms were accompanied by a drastic decline in the coverage of the Chinese population by medical insurance as well as by sharp increases in charges for medical treatments, tests, and prescriptions. Since the 1990s, these trends have produced widespread condemnation of the current Chinese medical care system for being too costly and unequal. This article attempts to answer two questions: 1) Why did changes in the healthcare system precipitated by market reforms not lead to the kind of deterioration in the health of Chinese citizens that market reforms produced in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union? 2) In view of the increased inequalities in access to, and insurance coverage for, medical care since 1978, and particularly the growing rural-urban gap, why do Chinese villagers and migrants rate their current health better than do urban citizens?

2. Health Reform and *De Facto* Federalism in China

Christina S. Ho

Abstract:

Understanding China as a de facto federalism can generate explanations and recommendations concerning the path of China's health reform. The first section reviews how de facto federalism drove the historical development of the problems plaguing China's health system. The next section shows how certain features of the current reform plan, namely, the plan's ambivalence between government and market approaches and its lack of strong centralisation, can be explained by de facto federalism. The third section uses the hypothesis of de facto federalism to generate two courses of action — one cautionary; the other, aspirational — that could be considered for the future. The consequences for the health sector of under-articulated federalism are clarified and point to the need for discursive reasoned elaboration, as opposed to political bargaining alone, in federalism

3. Turning Points in China's AIDS Response

Ioan Kaufman

Abstract:

China's AIDS response has evolved from one of denial and inaction to an aggressive and humanitarian policy based on international best practices. This article analyzes the events both internal and external that led to the policy shifts, highlighting key turning points in attitudes and action. A combination of domestic advocacy, international pressure, changing epidemic dynamics and fall-out from the SARS epidemic coaxed the government to greater transparency and deliberate action on prevention and treatment. However, a number of important challenges remain which will influence the ultimate success of China's much improved AIDS response

4. Population Policy and Eugenic Theory: Implications of China's Ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Carole J. Petersen

Abstract:

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is the first new human rights treaty of the 21st century. China was an early supporter of the CRPD and became East Asia's first State Party in 2008. This article discusses how the CRPD protects the rights of persons with disabilities to life, marriage and procreation, and analyses China's population policy, which continues to reflect eugenic theories. As China did not file any reservations, it is now obligated to reform laws and policies that conflict with the CRPD

5. From Decentralised Developmental State Towards Authoritarian Regulatory State: A Case Study on Drug Safety Regulation in China

Peng Liu

Abstract:

This paper attempts to answer three questions about the contemporary Chinese drug safety regulation system: why did the Chinese government reform its drug safety monitoring system and build a regulatory regime at the end of the 1990s? What obstacles will it face? What unique characteristics does it possess? Was it the collapse of the Interest Community of Government, Enterprise and Shiye Unit (ICGES) that fostered the rise of the regulatory regime in contemporary China's drug safety monitoring field? Three major structural obstacles threaten the building of a high-quality regulatory regime: problematic regulatory independence caused by decentralised developmentalism, an administration-reliant regulatory style and rent-seeking corruption brought about by the authoritarian political system. The author is inclined to characterise the current Chinese drug safety regulatory regime as an "authoritarian regulatory state" and argues that Chinese drug safety regulatory regime-building is still a work in progress

6. Family Members' Informed Consent to Medical Treatment for Competent Patients in China

Ding Chunyan

Abstract:

The right of competent patients' family members to make medical decisions on their behalf does not result from cultural factors. Rather, it serves as a tool to secure payment of medical expenses and to mitigate the risk of radical malpractice liability which could be better resolved through less costly alternatives such as expanding medical insurance coverage and improving the records of informed consent made by patients

7. China's Health Diplomacy in Africa

Jeremy Youde

Abstract:

In recent years, Africa has regained a level of prominence in China's overall foreign policy strategy. Health diplomacy helps pave the way for Chinese oil companies to win mining rights for oil, platinum and other natural resources. However, a successful soft power strategy will need to consider public opinion and provide a means for connecting the health diplomacy with the larger goals.

8

The Political Quarterly

Vol 82 Issue 1, January-March 2011

The Coalition Programme

Author-PETER TAYLOR-GOOBY

Abstract

The Coalition programme includes restructuring public provision through reforms and cuts which will take public spending in the Britain below that in the US. This article explores whether the Coalition agenda is best understood as a new approach to Britain's deep-seated economic short-comings or simply as the normal politics of gaining and retaining power. It analyses the current government's programme, identifies the common features across the range of policies and discusses how they are likely to develop as they encounter set-backs.

The Expenses Scandal and the Politics of Electoral Reform

Author- ALAN RENWICK

Abstract

The scandal over MPs' expenses that erupted in 2009 was followed by a surge in discussion of electoral reform. A range of reforms to Westminster's existing electoral system are now high on the political agenda. This article examines the extent and the nature of the scandal's impact on the electoral reform debate and draws out comparative implications for the sorts of conditions that can force politicians to accept electoral reforms that they do not want. It finds that the expenses scandal significantly changed debate about some electoral reform topics, but not about others. It proposes three factors likely to increase the impact of scandal in sparking reform: that the scandal is seen as harming ordinary people in their daily lives; that reforms can readily be understood as likely to mitigate the sources of scandal; and that those reforms do not seriously harm politicians' own perceived interests.

9

American Foreign Policy Interests

Volume 33, Issue 1, 2011

The Role of the United States in Sudan at a Moment of Peril and Opportunity

Author-Richard S. Williamson

Abstract

With Sudan at a critical juncture, indeed at the precipice between continued, albeit halting, progress and a return to war, the author, a former presidential special envoy to Sudan, reviews recent United States policy toward the country. After assessing the performance of both the George W. Bush and the Barack Obama administrations as well as surveying likely scenarios going forward, he makes the case for a robust approach, fully engaging the United States, to implement the provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement.

Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security in a Multipolar World

Author- Adrian Pabst

Abstract

This article argues that the reorientation of United States foreign policy from Europe to Asia opens up new opportunities for a pan-European security community. Under President Obama's leadership, the United States is no longer looking at the world through a predominantly European prism. Washington is shifting focus from Europe to the Asian-Pacific "rimland" where America is competing with China for transregional hegemony. This shift in emphasis marks an unprecedented disengagement from Europe and European security since 1917. That puts the onus on Europe's key powers, including the European Union, Russia, and Turkey.

10

Comparative Political Studies

April 2011, 44 (4)

Cross-Cutting Issues and Party Strategy in the European Union

Author- Till Weber

Abstract

Has European integration affected national electoral politics beyond the margins? Experts describe its main impact as empowerment of radical voices. Mainstream parties avoid European Union (EU) issues that divide their left-or right-based organizations; extreme parties attack the EU and the center's silence. But EU issues also generate important dynamics *inside* mainstream parties. The authors theorize cross-cutting EU issues as an example of a general model of *cross-issue interference*. Two mechanisms of interference alter party strategizing. When electoral victories have strengthened leaders, cross-cutting issues produce *muffling* of more recently emerged issues.

Capitalist Systems, Deindustrialization, and the Politics of Public Education

Author- Carsten Jensen

Abstract

Recent years have seen a number of studies on the determinants of educational spending. Almost all of the existing work emphasizes the importance of left-wing governments as a motor of expansion because such expansion allegedly ensures both redistribution and the facilitation of a supply-side economy. The existing literature thereby corroborates the power resource theory. Against this common wisdom the article presents an argument building on the varieties of capitalism approach.

11

International Relations **24 (2).June 2010**

The Liberal Divide over Trade, Peace and War

Author- Edwin van de Haar

Abstract

In IR it is almost common knowledge that a strong relation exists between liberalism and the idea that trade promotes peace. This paper shows that this is based on an incomplete view of the liberal tradition. The trade-leads-to-peace hypothesis does not originate in liberalism, while some of the most important liberal thinkers, notably Smith, Hume and Locke, never predicted trade to have a positive influence on peace. The two Scots actually saw a strong relation between trade and war. This has been widely overlooked in IR, largely due to one-sided interpretations of their writings from the early nineteenth century onwards.

Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons Program and Implications for US National Security

Author- Michael Tkacik

Abstract

This article analyzes Pakistan's nuclear weapons program and the characteristics of the environment in which the program is nested. These characteristics include Pakistan's history of internal and external instability; nuclear saber-rattling during crises; support for Islamic terrorism in order to advance state

goals; indigenous production of many elements of its nuclear forces; possession of delivery and command and control systems with destabilizing characteristics; and, finally, nuclear doctrine that appears to advocate first use of nuclear weapons. The article argues that the characteristics of Pakistan's nuclear weapons program generate threats to US national security interests.