

Silviya Nitsova

Department of Politics
University of Manchester
Manchester, M13 9PL, UK

✉ silviya.nitsova@manchester.ac.uk
🌐 www.snitsova.com
🔗 [Google Scholar](#)

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
Certificate in International Peace and Conflict Transformation

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

– Study abroad, Maastricht University, Netherlands

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.

- Included in *Europe-Asia Studies* special collection “Russia’s War Against Ukraine: A Trio of Virtual Special Issues” in May 2022.

WORK IN
PROGRESS

“Oligarchic Networks of Influence and Legislatures in Developing Democracies: Evidence from Ukraine.”

- Winner, Best Doctoral Paper Award, Association for the Study of Nationalities, 2023.
- Winner, James W. Prothro Best Paper Award, UNC Political Science, 2024.
- Honorable mention, Lubomyr Hajda Graduate Student Paper Prize, American Association for Ukrainian Studies, 2024.

“Public Support for the Superrich: Evidence from Ukraine at War”

“The Extremely Rich during the Politics of the Extraordinary: Oligarchic Networks of Influence and the Russo-Ukrainian War”

“Corporate Resilience at Time of War,” with Inna Melnykovska.

OTHER
PUBLICATIONS

Nitsova, Silviya. [Ukraine’s oligarchs are united against Russia. That wasn’t the case in 2014.](#) Monkey Cage: Washington Post. April 5, 2022.

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. *Responsible for survey design and analysis.*

Nitsova, Silviya. [Applied Field Experience.](#) Duke-UNC Rotary Peace Center. August 2, 2016.

AWARDS &
FELLOWSHIPS

Awards

People’s Choice Winner, 3 Minute Thesis, UNC Political Science 2023

External Research and Academic Fellowships

International Fellowship, The British Academy 2024-2027

£331,285

Graduate Sabbatical Grant, Institute for Humane Studies 2023

\$15,000

World Politics & Statecraft Fellowship, Smith Richardson Foundation 2023

\$7,500

Publication Accelerator Grant, Institute for Humane Studies 2023

\$5,000

Box-Steffensmeier Scholarship, Society for Political Methodology 2020

\$2,300

Rotary Peace Fellowship, Rotary Foundation 2015-2017
\$47,200 (plus tuition)

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

APSA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. *Scheduled.* 2024
 LSE-NYU Annual Conference in Political Science & Political Economy.
 London, UK. *Scheduled.* 2024
 Politics & Political Economy of Eurasia Workshop, MPSA. Chicago, IL. 2024
 ASEEES Annual Convention. Philadelphia, PA. 2023
 APSA Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA. 2023
 ASN Annual World Convention. New York, NY. 2023
 Midwest Eurasian Political Economy Workshop, MPSA. Chicago, IL. 2023
 Women in Legislative Studies Annual Conference. Houston, TX. 2022
 APSA Annual Meeting. Montréal, Canada. 2022
 Money in Politics Conference. Copenhagen, Denmark. 2022
 14th Annual Rotary Peace Center Conference. Chapel Hill, NC. 2017

INVITED TALKS

Winter Graduate Conference, Institute for Humane Studies (online) 2024
 Uhlman Family Seminar, UNC-Chapel Hill 2024
 Workshop on Contemporary Ukrainian Politics,
 George Washington University 2024
 Political Power and Persuasion in Europe 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 **Department of Political Science, UNC**
 EXPERIENCE Research Assistant for Lucy Martin and Timothy Ryan, May-Aug 2023
 Research Assistant for Graeme Robertson, 2016-2020.

TEACHING **Primary Instructor, Department of Political Science, UNC**
 EXPERIENCE 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 Trainee, Council of Europe Office in Ukraine, Kyiv, Ukraine (2016).
 PROFESSIONAL Expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia, Bulgaria (2011-2015).
 EXPERIENCE 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 **Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research**
 DEVELOPMENT Summer Program in Quantitative Methods, University of Michigan, 2020 (online).

- 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) Volfovsky Lab Group (Duke University)	
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>East European Politics, Nationalities Papers</i> . Contributor, Data for Ukraine . Contributor, Chapel Hill Expert Survey . Rotary Evaluator, Rotary Peace Fellowship .	
REFERENCES	<p>Graeme Robertson Professor of Political Science Department of Political Science UNC-Chapel Hill graeme@email.unc.edu</p> <p>David Szakonyi Assoc. Prof. of Political Science Department of Political Science George Washington University dszakonyi@gwu.edu</p>	<p>Alexander Volfovsky Assoc. Prof. of Statistical Science Department of Statistical Science Duke University alexander.volfovsky@duke.edu</p> <p>Olga Onuch Professor of Comparative & Ukrainian Politics Department of Politics University of Manchester olga.onuch@manchester.ac.uk</p>