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CURRENT POSITION

American University in Bulgaria

Chair, Department of Politics and European Studies

Co-chair, Department of Politics and European Studies

Associate Professor of Political Science

Assistant Professor of Political Science

Aug. 1998–present

July 2016–present

July 2011–June 2013

July 2008–present

Aug. 1998–June 2008

EDUCATION

University of Notre Dame (U.S.A.)

Ph.D. in Political Science

May 1998

M.A. in Political Science

May 1996

University of National and World Economy, Sofia, Bulgaria

Diploma in International Relations (equivalent to B.A.)

June 1989

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political culture and cultural neuroscience

Teaching and learning in the digital age

Political modernization and democratization

Nationalism, ethnic conflict, and terrorism

Southeast European politics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Introduction to Politics, Introduction to International Relations, Comparative Politics of Southeastern Europe, Southeastern Europe in International Relations, Conflict and Conflict Resolution, Global Political Economy, Globalization and Its Discontents, History and Politics in Southeastern Europe, Culture and Power, The Social Brain

PUBLISHED ARTICLES

"Out of Touch: The Analytic Misconstrual of Social Knowledge." *Critical Review* 27, no. 1 (2015): 89–126.

"From 'Bio-Power' to 'Neuropolitics': Stepping Beyond Foucault." *Techné: Research in Philosophy and Technology* 16, no. 2 (2012): 123–37.

"Social Preconditions for Corruption in Southeastern Europe." *Administracja Publiczna* 9, no. 1 (2007): 77–89.

- “Burnt into the Brain: Towards a Redefinition of Political Culture.” *Democratization* 14, no. 3 (2007): 407–24.
- “Liberal Learning in the Age of Audiovisual Pollution,” *Peer Review* 9, no. 1 (2007): 22–23.
- “‘Civil Society’ and the Limits of Democratic Assistance.” *Government and Opposition* 40, no. 3 (2005): 379–402.
- “Austrian Maps and Bulgarian Territorial Claims.” *National Identities* 3, no. 2 (2001): 187–89.
- “Combatants de la cause nationale: ethnicité et génocide dans les Balkans.” *Balkanologie* 3, no.2 (1999): 7–22.
- Review of *Triumph of the Lack of Will: International Diplomacy and the Yugoslav War*, by James Gow. *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics* 4, no. 4 (1998): 133–4.
- “Identity’s Role in the Serbo-Croatian Conflict.” *Peace Review* 9, no. 4 (Dec. 1997): 461–7.
- “The Turks of Bulgaria: Karpat’s Excursion into Nationalist Rhetoric.” *Nationalities Papers* 24, no. 4 (1996): 743–5.
- “Mandate of History: Serbian National Identity and Ethnic Conflict in the Former Yugoslavia.” In *State and Nation Building in East Central Europe: Contemporary Perspectives*, ed. John C. Micgiel. 17-37. New York: Columbia University, Institute on East Central Europe, 1996.
- “Modern Dilemma: Detribalization or Ethnic Intolerance?” *Michigan Journal of Political Science*, no. 21 (Fall 1996): 107–30.

BOOKS

- Mental Penguins: The Neverending Education Crisis and the False Promise of the Information Age*. Winchester, UK: Iff Books, 2017.
- Power and Liberty in the Modern State: A Reader*. Ivelin Sardamov and Robert Phillips, Jr. (eds.). Sofia: Paradigma, 2011.

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- “The Trouble with Freedom: Allostatic Overload, Norm Erosion, and Democratic Deconsolidation.” Annual Conference of the Northeast Political Science Association, Montreal, 8–10 November 2018.
- “Polanyi’s Prophecy: The Promise of Capitalism and the Curse of Allostatic Overload.” Annual Conference of the Northeast Political Science Association, Philadelphia, 9–11 November 2017.
- “The Pursuit of Martyrdom: The Jihadist Mindset and the Islamic State’s Apocalyptic Appeal.” Annual Conference of the Northeast Political Science Association, Boston, 10–12 November 2016.
- “Disconnected: Sustained Overstimulation and the Crisis of Democratic Governance.” Annual Conference of the Association for Politics and the Life Sciences, Madison (WI), 23–24 October 2015.
- “March of the Analysts: Existential Overload and the Limits of Understanding in the Social Sciences.” International conference “Trends in Interdisciplinary Studies,” Torun (Poland), 8–10 Nov. 2013.
- “Civic Education in the Information Age.” Annual Teaching and Learning Conference of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C., 17–19 Feb. 2012.

- “Reimagining Democratic Societies: A New Era of Personal and Social Responsibility?” (working group on partnerships between universities and local/national/global communities). Conference organized by the Council of Europe and the International Consortium for Higher Education, Civic Responsibility and Democracy, Oslo, 27–29 June 2011.
- “The End of Civics? The Decline of Political Knowledge in the Digital Age.” Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 30 March – 3 Apr. 2011.
- “The ‘Civilizing Process’ in Reverse, or the Out-of-Control Societies of the Future.” 3rd International Deleuze Studies Conference, Amsterdam, 12–14 July 2010.
- “Democracy in Bulgaria: Institutions, Challenges, Prospects.” Biannual Conference of the Hellenic Political Science Association, Athens, 26–28 May 2008.
- “Europe as a ‘Beacon of Democracy?’” (round table convened by Nancy Bermeo). Annual Conference of the Council for European Studies, Chicago, 6–8 March 2008.
- “All the President’s Neurons: Emotions and Decision Making in High Politics.” General Conference of the European Consortium for Political Research, Pisa, Italy, 6–8 Sep. 2007.
- “From Despair to Dejection: Bulgaria’s Transitional Pessimism.” International conference on “Post-Communist Social and Political Conflicts: Citizenship and Consolidation in the New Democracies of South East Europe,” Bucharest, 1–3 June 2007.
- “From ‘Bio-power’ to ‘Neuropolitics’: Stepping beyond Foucault.” Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, 12–15 Apr. 2007.
- “Recipients and Target Groups: Where Are the Limits of External Promotion of Democracy?” (round table). International conference on “Exporting Democracy: Opportunities and Risks in External Democracy Promotion in Fragile States” (organized by the Heinrich Böll Foundation), Berlin, 8–10 March 2006.
- “Political Culture Revisited: Neurocultural Preconditions for Democracy.” First World International Studies Conference, Istanbul, 24–27 Aug. 2005.
- “Fighting Sleaze with a Toothpick: Anti-Corruption Initiatives in Southeastern Europe.” International Convention of the Central and East European International Studies Association and the International Studies Association, Budapest, 26–28 June 2003.
- “History and Politics in Southeastern Europe.” Fourth European Social Science History Conference, The Hague, 27 Feb. – 2 March 2002.
- “Promoting Civil Society in Southeastern Europe.” Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, Chicago, 20–24 Feb. 2001.
- “Ethnic Warriors: Ethnicity and Genocide in the Balkans.” Annual Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, 15–17 Apr. 1999.
- “Conflicting Claims to Self-Determination: Peoples vs. Republics in Yugoslavia’s Disintegration.” Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, Minneapolis, 17–21 March 1998.
- “Facing South Slav Ethnocentrism: Western Theories Confront Balkan Realities.” Annual Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, 24–27 Apr. 1997.

“Roots of the Serbo-Croatian Conflict: Ancient Hatreds or Shrewd Manipulation?” Annual Convention of the International Studies Association, Toronto, March 18–22, 1997.

“Two Types of Nationalism: Civic and Liberal vs. Ethnic and Authoritarian?” European Studies Conference, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 5–7 Oct. 1995.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Erasmus Teaching Staff Mobility Grant (Volda University College, Norway)	Sep. 2011
Midwest Political Science Association Conference Fee Waiver	Apr. 2007
Erasmus Teaching Staff Mobility Grant (Stanislaw Staszic School of Public Administration, Bialystok, Poland)	Sep. 2006
International Studies Association Conference Fee Waiver Award	June 2003
Erasmus Teaching Staff Mobility Grant (Sussex European Institute, University of Sussex, U.K.)	March 2003
Civic Education Project Scholarship	1998–2000
Departmental Dissertation Year Fellowship (University of Notre Dame)	1996–97
Institute for the Study of World Politics Dissertation Fellowship	1995–96
Departmental Language Training Grant	Summer 1995
Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies Research Scholarship (University of Notre Dame)	1994–95
NAFSA Baltic/East Central European Assistance Award	1992–94
Open Society Foundation Travel Grant	Aug. 1992
Hoover Institution Diplomat Training Program Fellowship	Fall 1991
Oxford Colleges Hospitality Scheme for East European Scholars	Summer 1991

RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Member of the Board of the Commission for Educational Exchange Between the United States and Bulgaria (Fulbright Commission)	2004 – 2007
Member of the Advisory Board of the Civic Education Project – Bulgaria	2001 – 2004

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Politics and the Life Sciences
Northeast Political Science Association
Bulgarian Studies Association

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Expert, Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Nov. 1989 – June 1992

LANGUAGES

Bulgarian (native); English (fluent); Russian, Serbian/Croatian, Macedonian (working knowledge)

REFERENCES

Available upon request