

**David Szakonyi**  
2115 G St. NW, Monroe 416  
Washington, DC 20052  
202-994-9231 / dszakonyi@gwu.edu

### 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, 2019-20

### 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

#### Books

David Szakonyi. *Politics for Profit: Business, Elections, and Policymaking in Russia*, Forthcoming at Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Studies in Comparative Politics)

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

#### Published Articles

David Szakonyi. 2020. "Private Sector Policymaking: Business Background and Politicians' Behavior in Office." *Journal of Politics* (Forthcoming).

Timothy Frye, Ora John Reuter, and David Szakonyi. 2019. "Vote Brokers, Clientelist Appeals, and Voter Turnout: Evidence from Russia and Venezuela." *World Politics* 71(4), 710-746.

David Szakonyi. 2019. "Princelings in the Private Sector: The Value of Nepotism." *Quarterly Journal of Political Science* 14(4), 349-381.

Ora John Reuter and David Szakonyi. 2019. "Elite Defection under Autocracy: Evidence from Russia." *American Political Science Review* 113(2), 552-568.

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*. 49 (3), 857-881.

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**

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

David Szakonyi. "Indecent Disclosures: Anti-Corruption Reforms and Political Selection."

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

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

### **Ongoing Projects**

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**

"Banking on Politics: How Russia's Banking Sector Clean-Up Affects Regime Stability" *Point / Counter Point*, May 13, 2019

"Buyer Beware: Evaluating Russian Exports Under Sanctions and Stagnation" *PONARS Policy Memo*, #585, March 2019

"The Effects of State Capitalism on Russia's Business Environment" *Baltic Rim Review*, #2, May 31, 2018

"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)

## FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

National Research Competition, NCEEER, \$9,000	2020
University Facilitating Fund, GWU, \$24,349	2020
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, NYU Shanghai, University of Maryland; 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 (2011-2019); ASEEEES Annual Conference (2011-2019); Annual ICSID Conference, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia (2011-2019); Strategy and the Business Environment Conference (2016); Ronald Coase Institute Workshop on Institutional Analysis (2013); Academy of Management Annual Conference (2015, 2016); European Political Science Association (2017, 2019); Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference (2018, 2019); Midwest Political Science

Association Annual Conference (2013, 2014); Western Political Science Association Annual Conference (2018, 2019); BASEEES Annual Conference (2017, 2018); European Public Choice Society Annual Meeting (2017)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

### Editorial Boards

*Nationalities Papers*, 2018-

### Reviewer

*American Political Science Review*, *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*, *Business and Politics*, *Acta Politica*

## 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.	2017-2019
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, Spring 2019
PSC 2366 (GWU): Russian Politics	Fall 2016, Fall 2018
Comparative Political Economy (Higher School of Economics), co-taught annually	2011-2018

## OTHER SKILLS

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