

Volha Charnysh

vcharnysh @ gmail.com

www.charnysh.net

EDUCATION

Smith College, Northampton, MA 09/2007-05/2009
Bachelor of Arts in Government, Minor in German; GPA: 4.0

Summa Cum Laude and Highest Honors in Government
Dawes Prize 2009 for the best undergraduate work in government
First Group Scholar, Dean's List
Phi Beta Kappa Academic Honor Society
Delta Phi Alpha German Honor Society

Honors Thesis: Russia and Ukrainian Denuclearization: Foreign Policy Under Boris Yeltsin 09/2008-05/2009
Analyzed process of denuclearization of Ukraine as a key to understanding Russia's views on proliferation, evaluating factors involved in a state's bargaining over its nuclear assets, and explaining the success of U.S.-Russia cooperation in the 1990s. Examined documents in Russian, Ukrainian, and US press; interviewed participants on Russian and US sides

Cottey College, Nevada, MO 08/2005-05/2007
Associate of Arts in Journalism, Associate of Sciences in Computer Science; GPA: 3.987

2nd Lei Award 2007 for the graduate who best exemplifies the spirit and ideals of the College
Missouri Leaders of Promise Scholarship 2006-2007 for leadership and academic achievement
P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship 2006-2007 for selected women to promote world peace
1st Place, Composition, 2007 Merry Ann DeVaney Sauls Academic Writing Contest
1st Place, International Business, 2007 FBLA-PBL National Leadership Conference, Chicago, IL
1st Place, In-Depth Reporting, 2006 Missouri College Media Association Conference, St. Louis

FELLOWSHIPS

New Voices Nonproliferation Fellow, Arms Control Association, Washington, DC 11/2009-08/2010
Research nuclear security and states' compliance with the nuclear nonproliferation regime; create fact sheets and reports in preparation for 2010 NPT Review Conference and 2010 Nuclear Security Summit; write articles on nuclear issues for magazine *Arms Control Today*

Salzburg Global Seminar Fellow, The US in the World: New Strategies of Engagement 11/2008
Contributed to the discussion and summary of long-term strategies of US foreign policy at a seminar in Salzburg, Austria for a follow-up briefing in partnership with the "UN Foundation for congressional members and key committee staff" in Washington, DC

Leanna-Brown Fellow, America Abroad Media, Washington, DC 05/2008-09/2008
Awarded the fellowship by Smith Government Department to perform in-depth research and analysis on foreign policy and women's issues at America Abroad Media. Completed projects on US public diplomacy, Muslims in Europe, and Lebanese Politics; created and edited audio for radio shows; organized and conducted interviews with government officials and academia

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

"Russia Drafts European Security Pact," *Arms Control Today*, Vol. 40, No. 1, Jan./Feb. 2010, p. 38-39

"Belarus on the Front Line of Missile Defense," *Belarusian Review*, Vol. 20, No. 3, fall 2008, p. 9

"Brief History of Nuclear Proliferation," Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, *Nuclear Files*, Aug. 2009,
http://www.nuclearfiles.org/menu/key-issues/nuclear-weapons/issues/proliferation/Proliferation_History.pdf

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Writer and Cartoonist, *Across the Aisle*, Partnership for a Secure America**, Washington DC 08/2009-present
Write articles and draw cartoons on security, nuclear proliferation, US-Russia relations, energy policy
- Intern, Global Zero/World Security Institute**, Washington, DC 09/2009-10/2009
Researched nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament; supported Global Zero diplomatic efforts; translated and interpreted from English into Russian; assisted with conference logistics
- Research Intern, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation**, Santa Barbara, CA 06/2009-09/2009
Researched global proliferation trends; wrote and published a research paper on the history of nuclear proliferation; wrote and published briefing papers on nuclear programs in North Korea, Iran, India, Pakistan, and Israel; produced newsletter *The Sunflower*; drew cartoons
- Research Assistant, Jacques Hymans, Government Department**, Smith College 10/2007-05/2008
Created a database of graphic elements on Eastern and Southern European currencies in MS Excel, analyzed and coded currency images; researched biographical data in English, German, Polish; conducted statistical analysis on the data; created charts and tables to represent findings of the research

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES / ORGANIZATIONS

- Executive Editor, *Belarus Digest*** 04/2009-present
Write articles and draw cartoons on Belarusian foreign policy; review and analyze Belarus-related information in international media; edit submissions; manage the website; coordinate publicity
- Editorial Assistant, *Political Sphere***, Vilnius, Lithuania 12/2009-present
Promote the peer-reviewed journal of political science in the United States; communicate with experts on Belarus in the US academic community; edit submissions for the English-language version of the journal and edit the English-language section of the website
- President and Webmaster, Smith College Model United Nations (SMUN)** 09/2007-05/2009
Debated and chaired committees at Model UN conferences; tutored SMUN members in parliamentary debate, organized events; planned budget; designed and maintained the website
- Assistant Opinions Editor and Cartoonist, *The Sophian***, Smith College 09/2007-05/2009
Wrote editorials on international politics and economics; drew political cartoons. Planned topics for the issue, edited submissions, reviewed layout
- Member, Smith College Debate Society, American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA)** 09/2007-05/2008
Participated in debate tournaments; tutored new members in parliamentary procedure; judged debate tournaments. Awarded 5th Place at Boston University Tournament in fall 2007
- Opinion Editor and Cartoonist, *The Spectrum***, Cottey College 09/2005-05/2007
Contributed feature and news articles, wrote staff editorials; drew entertainment and political cartoons; edited submissions; designed and laid out pages
- President, International Friendship Circle**, Cottey College 08/2006-05/2007
Coordinated annual Cultural Festival in Nevada, MO, arranged and presided over meetings, planned campus events; organized campus-wide forums on international issues

SKILLS

Russian (native), Belarusian (native), German (fluent), Polish (reading); C, C++, Java, HTML, Postscript, Python