

# Volha Charnysh

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ACADEMIC            **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)** (July 2018 - )  
APPOINTMENTS    Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

**Princeton University** (2017-2018)  
Fellow, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance

**Social Science Center Berlin (Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin)** (spring 2021)  
Visiting Researcher, Migration, Integration and Transnationalisation Unit

EDUCATION            **Harvard University**, Ph.D., Government (2017)  
  
Dissertation: Migration, Diversity and Economic Development: Post-WWII Displacement in Poland

*2018 APSA Ernst B. Haas Best Dissertation Prize in European Politics & Society*  
*2018 APSA Best Dissertation Prize in Migration & Citizenship*  
*2017 Senator Charles Sumner Dissertation Prize, Harvard University*

Committee: Bart Bonikowski, Tim Colton, Grzegorz Ekiert (co-chair), Ryan Enos, Jeffrey Frieden (co-chair)

**Harvard University**, M.A., Government (2013)

**Smith College**, B.A., Government (2009), *summa cum laude*

**Cottey College**, A.A. and A.S. (2007)

BOOK PROJECT    *Uprooted: How Post-WWII Population Transfers Remade Europe* (In Progress)

PEER-REVIEWED    Charnysh, V. 2022. "Explaining Outgroup Bias in Weak States: Religion and Legi-  
PUBLICATIONS    bility in the 1891-92 Russian Famine." *World Politics*, 1-44.

Charnysh, V. and L. Peisakhin. 2021. "The Role of Communities in the Transmission of Political Values: Evidence from Forced Population Transfers." *British Journal of Political Science*, 52(1): 238-258.

Charnysh, V. 2019. "Diversity, Institutions, and Economic Development: Post-WWII Displacement in Poland." *American Political Science Review*, 113 (12): 423-441.

Charnysh, V. and E. Finkel. 2017. "The Death Camp Eldorado: Political and Economic Effects of Mass Violence." *American Political Science Review*, 111 (4): 801-818.

*Honorable mention, Luebbert Best Article Award, APSA Comparative Poli-*

*tics Section*

Charnysh, V. and S. Markus. 2017. "The Flexible Few: Oligarchs and Wealth Defense in Developing Democracies." *Comparative Political Studies*, 50 (12): 1632–1665.

*2016 APSA Award for Best Paper in European Politics & Society*

Charnysh, V. 2015. "Historical Legacies of Interethnic Competition: Anti-Semitism and the EU Referendum in Poland." *Comparative Political Studies*, 48 (13): 1711-1745.

Charnysh, V., P. Lloyd, and B. Simmons. 2015. "Frames and Consensus in IR: the Case of Human Trafficking." *European Journal of International Relations*, 21 (2): 323-351.

Charnysh, V., C. Lucas, and P. Singh. 2015. "The Ties that Bind: National Identity Salience and Pro-Social Behavior." *Comparative Political Studies*, 48 (3): 267-300.

Charnysh, V. 2013. "Identity Mobilization in Hybrid Regimes: Language in Ukrainian Politics." *Nationalities Papers*, 41 (1): 1-14.

WORKING  
PAPERS

Charnysh, V. and P. Bollen. "Dispute Resolution in Heterogeneous Societies."

Charnysh V. and D. Ziblatt. "Past Experience with Elections and Democratic Stability: Voting in Imperial and Weimar Germany." (Under Review)

Charnysh, V. and Sascha Riaz. "Exposure to Violence against Jews and Attitudes toward Transitional Justice in West Germany."

Charnysh, V. and Max Schaub. "Migration and Social Change: Evidence from post-WWII displacement in Germany."

BOOK CHAPTERS

Charnysh, V. 2023. "Historical Political Economy of Migration." In Jeff Jenkins and Jared Rubin (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Historical Political Economy.*, Oxford University Press.

Charnysh, V. 2022. "Remembering past atrocities – good or bad for attitudes toward minorities?" In Kopstein, Subotic, and Welch (eds.), *Politics, Violence, Memory: The New Social Science of the Holocaust*, Cornell University Press.

Charnysh, V. (Forthcoming.) "The Enemy Within: Divisive Political Discourse in Modern Poland." In Mylonas and Radnitz (eds.), *Enemies Within*, Oxford University Press.

Charnysh, V. and T. Kulakevich. 2017. "Belarusian Political Parties: Organizational Structures and Practices." In Sobolewska-Myslik, Kosowska-Gastol & Borowiec (eds.) *Organizational Structures of Political Parties in Central and Eastern European Countries*, Jagiellonian University Press.

Charnysh, V. 2013. "Nuclear Proliferation: History and Lessons." In Barash (ed.) *Approaches to Peace*, (3rd ed.) Oxford University Press.

Charnysh, V. 2013. "Transnational Networks and Norm Compliance: Stopping Executions in Belarus." In Hodgkinson (ed.) *Capital Punishment: New Perspectives*, Ashgate.

INVITED  
CONTRIBUTIONS

Charnysh, V. 2015. "Poland's Wild West. Forced Migration and Cultural Appropriation of the Oder Region in 1945-1948." Book Review, *Nationalities Papers*, 43(2): 361-363.

Charnysh, V. 2019. "Hegemony and the Holocaust: State Power and Jewish Survival in Occupied Europe. By Ethan Hollander. Protectors of Pluralism. Religious Minorities and the Rescue of Jews in the Low Countries during the Holocaust. By Robert Braun." Book Review, *Perspectives on Politics*, 17(4): 1202 - 1204.

Charnysh, V. 2018. "Intimate Violence: Anti-Jewish Pogroms on the Eve of the Holocaust. By Jeffrey S. Kopstein and Jason Wittenberg." Book Review, *Perspectives on Politics*, 16(4): 1209 - 1210.

Charnysh, V. 2017. "Diversity and Economic Outcomes: Evidence from Poland." *Newsletter of the APSA Comparative Politics Section*, 27 (2): 11-16.

SELECT  
NON-ACADEMIC  
WRITING

Charnysh, V. 2021. "HPE of Climate Change: The Little Ice Age in Europe." *Broadstreet*. (April.)

Charnysh, V. 2020. "Quantitative Social Science and the Holocaust." *Broadstreet*. (Oct.)

Charnysh, V. and H. Mylonas. 2020. "Belarus: A Glimmer of Hope?" *Cambridge Core blog* (Aug.)

Charnysh, V. 2020. "The Consequences of the Epidemic for Belarus Presidential Elections" *ESPI* (Aug.)

Charnysh, V. and E. Finkel. 2018. "Rewriting History in Eastern Europe. Poland's New Holocaust Law and the Politics of the Past." *Foreign Affairs* (Feb.).

Charnysh, V. 2017. "The Rise of Poland's Far Right." *Foreign Affairs* (Dec.)

Charnysh, V. and E. Finkel. 2017. "Property Stolen during the Holocaust Made Some Communities Richer, even 70 years later." *Monkey Cage, Washington Post* (Aug.).

Charnysh, V. 2016. "Police in Belarus: Guardian or Threat?" *Belarus Digest* (Feb.).

Charnysh, V. 2014. "The Real Winner in the Ukraine Crisis: Belarus." *The National Interest* (Apr.).

FELLOWSHIPS  
AND AWARDS

Carolina de Miguel Moyer Young Scholar Award, Council for European Studies at Columbia University (2021)

Visiting Professor Fellowship at Collegio Carlo Alberto (fall 2020, cancelled due to COVID)

John Templeton Foundation Grant ("The Ideal of Self-Governance"), research in Greece (joint with Konstantinos Matakos, King's College London) (2019) [\$15,000]

Ernst B. Haas Best Dissertation Prize, awarded by APSA European Politics & Society Section (2018)

Best Dissertation Prize, awarded by APSA Migration & Citizenship Section (2018)

Senator Charles Sumner Dissertation Prize, Harvard University (May 2017)

Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) funded by the Social

Science Research Council (2014-2015, fieldwork in Poland) [\$16,000]  
 Center for European Studies Graduate Dissertation Research Fellowship funded by the Krupp Foundation (2014-2015, fieldwork in Poland) [\$13,725]  
 Barney and Anne B. Malloy and Anna Marnoy Feldberg Fellowships, Center for Jewish Studies (2014, survey research) [\$3,000]  
 Global Society and Security Fellowship, Weatherhead Center (2012-2014)  
 Weatherhead Summer pre-Dissertation Travel Grant (2013, research in Poland) [\$4,000]  
 Davis Center Graduate Research Travel Grant (2012, fieldwork in Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, and Moldova)  
 Weatherhead Center Language Study Grant (2011, FUBIS, Germany)  
 Douglas Dillon Fellowship, Harvard University (2011-2012)  
 Presidential Scholarship, Harvard University (2010-2016)  
 Merle Fainsod Prize in Russian or Eurasian Studies, Harvard University (2010)  
 Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship (2010-2016) [\$50,000]  
 Dawes Prize for the Best Work in Government, Smith College (2009)

TEACHING AND  
 ADVISING

*17.962. Graduate Second-Year Paper Seminar* (Spring 2020, Spring 2022)  
*17.506. Ethnic Politics* (co-taught with Evan Lieberman, Fall 2019, Fall 2021)  
*17.S951. Historical Political Economy* (Fall 2018, Spring 2022)  
*17.591. Research Seminar in Applied International Studies* (Spring 2019, 2020)

INVITED  
 PRESENTATIONS

**2021:** WZB-MIT Research Seminar (July); Pittsburg Historical Political Economy Speaker Series (January); WZB-IPI Brownbag Seminar (March); USC PIPE Workshop (May), Columbia Comparative Politics Workshop (September), UVA Comparative Politics Workshop (October), MIT Migration Seminar (October), Berkeley Comparative Politics Workshop (November), Vanderbilt Comparative Politics Workshop (December)

**2020:** George Mason Public Choice Seminar Series (December); Boston University Political Science Speaker Series (October); Columbia University Networks & Time Workshop (April); Northwestern University Comparative Politics Workshop (April); Hudspeth Lecture Series at Rice (February); Cottey College Coffin Speaker (January)

**2019:** London School of Economics Political Economy Seminar (November); the University of Warwick Political Economy Seminar (November); Joint Center for the Study of Governance and Society (CSGS) at King's College London (November); Politics Workshop at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (November, scheduled); Comparative Politics Colloquium, University of Wisconsin-Madison (October); Keynote Speaker, Topics in Political Economy of Development, EACES-HSE Workshop, Moscow, Russia (June); Political Science Speaker Series, University of Montreal (April); Comparative Politics Annual Conference, Washington University, St. Louis (April); Political Economy Workshop, Harvard University (March); Comparative Politics Workshop, Columbia University (March)

**2018:** Postcommunist Politics Workshop, George Washington University, Washington (December); Political Theory Project, Brown University (November); KCL

Economics Seminar, King's College London (May); Exploring Historical Legacies Workshop, University of Michigan (March); Comparative Politics Research Workshop, Ohio State University (March); Comparative Politics Colloquium, Temple University (January)

**2017:** Comparative Politics Workshop, Rochester University (November); Comparative Politics Field Lunch, NYU Politics Speaker Series (October); Comparative Politics and Democracy and Development Colloquium, Princeton University (September); Historical Political Economy Conference, London School of Economics and Political Science (February)

**2015:** European Politics Series, George Washington University (October); The Centre for Migration Research, Warsaw, Poland (January)

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS Roundtable "Belarus. The Domestic and International Politics of Democratic Revolution." University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Oct 2020)  
Panel "Reconsidering the Resilience of Authoritarianism in Belarus," Davis Center, Harvard University (Sep 2020)  
Roundtable "Belarus Rising: The Roots and Routes of Revolution," King's College London (Aug 2020)  
Conference on Social Science and Holocaust Research at the University of California, Irvine (Jan 2020)  
Summer Workshop in the Economic History and Historical Political Economy of Russia, University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 2019)  
Conference on State Capacity and Public Goods Provision, Princeton University (Apr. 2019)  
Workshop on "Politics of Fifth Columns," Washington University, Seattle, WA (Feb. 2019)  
Historical Political Economy Working Group, SAIS, Washington (June 2018)  
NYU-Abu Dhabi Legacies of Political Violence Workshop, Abu Dhabi, UAE (Mar. 2018)  
Annotation for Transparent Inquiry Workshop, New York City (Feb. 2018)  
Politics and History Network Conference, Princeton University, Princeton (2016)  
Annual Conference for Europeanists, Council for European Studies (2019; 2017; 2016; 2014; 2013)  
CES Graduate Student Workshop on Comparative Research on Europe, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (2016)  
American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2020; 2019; 2018; 2017; 2016; 2015; 2014; 2013)  
Midwest Political Science Association Annual Convention, Chicago (2016)  
US Holocaust Memorial Museum Summer Research Workshop, Washington (2016)  
International Dissertation Research Fellows Workshop, New Orleans (2016)  
Conference on Cross-Border Research, Lagow, Poland (2014)  
Communities on the Frontier Conference, Collegium Polonicum, Poland (2014)  
Yale Politics and History Conference, New Haven (2014)  
Transatlantic Policy Symposium, BMW Center for German & European Studies, Washington (2014)  
NYU CESS 6th Annual Experimental Political Science Conference, New York (2013)

PSS-ISA Joint International Conference, Budapest, Hungary (2013)  
The Changing Security Environment of the Black Sea Policy Conference, University of Pittsburg, Pittsburg (2013)

PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICE

Referee for: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *International Organization*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *the Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *the Journal of Politics*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *World Politics*, *Electoral Studies*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Political Behavior*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Journal of Genocide Research*; *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Politics*

Editorial Board, *Journal of Historical Political Economy*

Editorial Board, *Broadstreet Blog on Historical Political Economy*, [www.broadstreet.blog](http://www.broadstreet.blog)

Section Officer, APSA Politics and History Section Group (2020-present)

Conference co-organizer, Conference on State Capacity and Public Goods Provision, Princeton University (Apr. 2019)

Selection Committee, International Dissertation Research Fellowship, IDRF (Jan. 2021)

Selection Committee for Dissertation Fellowships, Center for European Studies, Harvard University (Mar. 2021)

Selection Committee, Summer Workshop on the economic history and historical political economy of Russia (July 2021)

DISSERTATION  
COMMITTEES

Matias Giannoni, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Rorisang Lekalake, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Wenyan Deng, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

PROFESSIONAL  
AFFILIATIONS

MIT Global Diversity Lab (2019-present); APSA Politics and History Section Officer (2020-present); Historical Political Economy Working Group (2016-present); Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University (2016- 2017); Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University (2010-2017); Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University (2012-2017; 2019-2020); Center for Geographic Analysis, Harvard University (2013-2014); Kennan Institute, Wilson Center, Washington, DC (2014); University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland (2013-2014); Weatherhead Center for International Studies, Harvard University, (2012-2014); MIT-based Women in International Politics and Security (2010-2015).

SKILLS

**Languages:** Russian (native), Belarusian (native), Polish (fluent), German (fluent)

**Applications:** Spatial analysis (ArcGIS, QGIS); R, Stata, Python