

# Volha Charnysh

---

CONTACT Harvard University *Tel:* (202) 821-2483  
Department of Government *E-mail:* vcharnysh@fas.harvard.edu  
1737 Cambridge St. *Website:* www.charnysh.net  
Cambridge, MA 02138

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

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

EDUCATION **Harvard University**, Ph.D., Government (expected May 2017)

**Dissertation:** *Migration, Diversity, and Economic Development.*

A book-length study of the effects of cultural diversity on social and economic outcomes that leverages an original micro-level historical dataset on post-WWII population transfers in Eastern Europe

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

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

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

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

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS Charnysh, V. and S. Markus. 2017. "The Flexible Few: Oligarchs and Wealth Defense in Developing Democracies." *Comparative Political Studies*.

*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 E. Finkel. "The Death Camp Eldorado: Political and Eco-

conomic Effects of Wartime Property Transfers.” (*R&R, American Political Science Review*)

Charnysh, V. “Diversity, Institutions, and Economic Development: Post-WWII Displacement in Poland.” (*In Preparation*)

Charnysh, V. and L. Peisakhin. “Mechanisms Behind Persistence of Political Behavior: A Natural Experiment.”

Charnysh V. and D. Ziblatt. “A History of Electoral Intimidation and Democratic Stability: the Case of Weimar Germany”

OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS

Charnysh, V. and T. Kulakevich. 2016. “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. 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. 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.

FELLOWSHIPS  
AND AWARDS

Mellon International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF) funded by the Social Science Research Council (2014-2015, fieldwork in Poland)

Center for European Studies Graduate Dissertation Research Fellowship funded by the Krupp Foundation (2014-2015, fieldwork in Poland)

Barney and Anne B. Malloy and Anna Marnoy Feldberg Fellowships, Center for Jewish Studies (2014, survey research)

Program on Global Society and Security Fellowship, Weatherhead Center (2012-2014)

Weatherhead Summer pre-Dissertation Travel Grant (2013, research in Poland)

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)

New Voices Nonproliferation Fellowship, Arms Control Association (2009-2010)

Dawes Prize for the Best Work in Government, Smith College (2009)

TEACHING AND  
ADVISING

Teaching Fellow, *GOV 20: Foundations of Comparative Politics*  
(Prof. Steven Levitsky), Harvard University (Fall 2012; Fall 2013)

Teaching Fellow, *GOV 1203: Capitalism and Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe* (Prof. Grzegorz Ekiert), Harvard University (Spring 2013)

Senior Thesis Advisor in Social Studies and Government (2012-2013; 2015-2016, 2016-2017)

INVITED  
PRESENTATIONS

Historical Political Economy Conference, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK (February 2017)

US Holocaust Memorial Museum Summer Research Workshop, Washington DC (July 2016)

European Politics Series, George Washington University, Washington, DC (October 2015)

The Centre for Migration Research, Warsaw, Poland (January 2015)

Panel “Belarus After Ukraine”, Kennan Institute, Wilson Center, Washington, DC (April 2014)

CONFERENCE  
PRESENTATIONS

Politics and History Network Conference, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (2016)

Annual Conference for Europeanists, Council for European Studies (2016; 2014; 2013)

Third Annual CES Graduate Student Workshop on Comparative Research on Europe, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (2016)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2016; 2015; 2014; 2013)

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Convention, Chicago, IL (2016)

International Dissertation Research Fellows Workshop, New Orleans, LA (2016)

Conference on Cross-Border Research, Lagow, Poland (2014)

Communities on the Frontier Conference, Collegium Polonicum, Slubice, Poland (2014)

Yale Politics and History Conference, New Haven, CT (2014)

Transatlantic Policy Symposium, BMW Center for German and European Studies, Washington, DC (2014)

NYU CESS 6th Annual Experimental Political Science Conference, New York, NY (2013)

PSS-ISA Joint International Conference, Budapest, Hungary (2013)

The Changing Security Environment of the Black Sea Policy Conference, University of Pittsburg, Pittsburg, PA (2013)

SERVICE

**Referee:** *American Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Nationalities Papers*

**Coordinator:** GOV 3006: Graduate Workshop in Comparative Politics (2013-2014); Post-Communist Politics and Economic Workshop (2013-2014)

PROFESSIONAL  
AFFILIATIONS

Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University (2016- ); Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University (2010- ); Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University (2012- ); 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 (advanced)

**Applications:** Spatial analysis (ArcGIS, QGIS); automated content analysis and topic modeling; R, Stata, Python