

# Elizabeth Plantan

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2020- **Assistant Professor of Political Science**, Stetson University, Deland, FL
- 2018-2020 **China Public Policy Postdoctoral Fellow**, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA  
Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation  
Kennedy School of Government

## EDUCATION

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- 2018 **Ph.D. in Government**, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Dissertation: “Authoritarian Politics and Environmental Activism in Russia & China”  
Committee: Valerie Bunce (chair), Andrew Mertha, Ronald Herring, & Kenneth Roberts
- 2015 **M.A. in Government**, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Subfields: Comparative politics (major); International relations (minor)
- 2012 **M.A. in Russian & East European Studies**, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- 2010 **B.A. (with high honors)**, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT  
Government, Russian & East European Studies (majors); Environmental Studies (minor)

## RESEARCH

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### Research & Teaching Interests

Comparative politics; international relations; authoritarian regimes; environmental politics; social movements and contentious politics; civil society and philanthropy; Chinese politics; Russian politics

### Peer-Reviewed Articles & Chapters

2020. “A Tale of Two Laws: Managing Foreign Agents and Overseas NGOs in Russia and China.”  
In Karrie J. Koesel, Valerie J. Bunce, and Jessica C. Weiss, eds., *Citizens & the State in Authoritarian Regimes: Comparing Russia & China*. Oxford University Press.
2018. “Mass Mobilization in China and Russia: From Unexpected Victories to Unintended Consequences,” *Russian Politics*, 3(4).
2015. “Protecting Cultural Heritage: Unexpected Successes for Environmental Movements in China and Russia.” In Carol Hager and Mary Alice Haddad, eds., *NIMBY is Beautiful: Cases of Local Activism and Environmental Innovation Around the World*. NY: Berghahn Books.

### Book Manuscript in Preparation

*Friends or Foes?: Authoritarian Politics and Environmental Activism in China and Russia*  
Status: Proposal submitted

## Works in Progress

- “Why Autocrats Sometimes Relax Censorship: Signaling Government Responsiveness on Chinese Social Media” with Christopher Cairns (Revise & resubmit)
- “Not All NGOs Are Treated Equally: Selectivity in Civil Society Management in China and Russia” (Revise & resubmit)
- “Voice after Exit: How Russian Environmentalists Mobilize Support in Exile” with Laura Henry (Preparing for journal submission in August 2020)
- “Disappearing Research: Academic Censorship in Chinese Universities” with Ning Leng (Conference draft, additional data collection during Summer & Fall 2020)
- “Should We Stay or Should We Go?: How International Foundations Respond to Restrictions in Authoritarian Contexts” (Conference draft)

## Book Reviews

- “Book Review: Ellen Mickiewicz, *No Illusions: The Voices of Russia’s Future Leaders*,” *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review*, 42(2). 2015.

## Related Non-Refereed Publications

- “Partnering for Overseas Development: International NGOs’ Changing Engagement with China.” (with Wendy Leutert and Austin Strange) *Harvard Fairbank Center Blog*. 29 June 2020.
- “Comparing Recent NGO Laws in Russia and China: Do Russia’s Laws Foreshadow China’s Future?” *ChinaFile: The China NGO Project*. 10 August 2017.
- “Putin Joins the Climate Change Deniers.” (with Peter Rutland) *Transitions Online*. 18 April 2017.
- “Rising Temperatures.” *The New York Times*. 12 September 2012. Appeared in print in: *The International Herald Tribune*. 13 September 2012. Page 6.
- “Deep Trouble.” *Transitions Online*. 10 February 2010. Reprinted as: “A Setback for Russia’s Lake Baikal.” *Business Week* (now *Bloomberg*). 12 February 2010.
- Quoted in: *The Moscow Times*, *China Files*, and *La Nación*.

## CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

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### Conferences

American Political Science Association	2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020*
Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies	2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020*
Midwest Political Science Association	2015, 2019

\*Planned, may be virtual due to Covid-19

### Workshops

- China Program postdoctoral fellows’ workshop, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School, May 2020
- Institute for the Study of Institutions and Development Annual Workshop, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia, June 2019 and June 2016
- Competitive Authoritarian Protest Research Network, University of Manchester, UK, June 2019
- Book manuscript development workshop, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School, May 2019
- China Program doctoral fellows’ workshop, Ash Center, Harvard Kennedy School, September 2018
- Workshop on Russian civil society, Harriman Institute, Columbia University, February 2018
- Russia-China Workshop, University of Notre Dame, March 2017
- Graduate Seminar on China, Chinese University of Hong Kong, January 2017
- Russia-China Workshop, Cornell University, September 2016
- Comparative Workshop on Mass Protests, London School of Economics, UK, June 2014

## Invited Talks

Swarthmore College, February 2020

Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, October 2019

Shasha Seminar for Human Concerns, Wesleyan University, October 2019

## TEACHING

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### Stetson University

Introduction to Comparative Politics, Fall 2020 & planned Spring 2021

Russian Politics, Fall 2020

International Environmental Activism (*junior seminar*), planned Spring 2021

Russia, China, & the World, planned Spring 2021

### Cornell University

Grassroots to Global: Politics, Media, and the Environment (*first-year writing seminar*), Fall 2014

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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### Fellowships

Sage Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Government Department, Cornell University, 2017-18

Lee Teng-hui Fellowship (China), East Asia Program, Cornell University, Spring 2016

Luigi Einaudi Fellowship (Russia), Institute for European Studies, Cornell University, 2015-16

Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship (China), 2015-16 (*Declined*)

Blakemore Freeman Fellowship (China), 2015-16 (*Declined*)

Chinese Scholarship Council Fellowship (China), 2015-16 (*Declined*)

FLAS Fellowship (Russian), Institute for European Studies, Cornell University, Summer 2014

FLAS Fellowship (Mandarin), East Asia Program, Cornell University, Summer 2013

Sage Fellowship, Government Department, Cornell University, 2012-13

Byrnes Fellowship, Russian & East European Institute, Indiana University, 2010-12

### Grants

Mercy Corps research grant, with Wendy Leutert and Austin Strange, 2019-2020

Research Travel Grant (China), Graduate School, Cornell University, Winter 2017

International Research Travel Grant (Russia), Einaudi Center, Cornell University, Fall 2015

International Research Travel Grant (Russia), Einaudi Center, Cornell University, Summer 2014

Sustainability Grant (for research), Society for the Humanities, Cornell University, 2013-14

Hu Shih Travel Grant (China), East Asia Program, Cornell University, 2013-14

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE & LANGUAGE TRAINING ABROAD

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June 2020      Research fieldwork, mainland China (*postponed due to Covid-19*)

March 2020      Research fieldwork, Democratic Republic of Congo (*postponed due to Covid-19*)

June 2019      Research fieldwork, Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia

January 2017      Dissertation fieldwork, Hong Kong and mainland China

June-Sept 2016      Dissertation fieldwork, ICSID, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia

Jan-May 2016      Dissertation fieldwork & language training, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Sept-Dec 2015      Dissertation fieldwork, ICSID, Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia

August 2014 Pre-dissertation fieldwork, Moscow and Irkutsk, Russia  
Winter 2014 Pre-dissertation fieldwork, Beijing and Harbin, China  
June-Aug 2013 Princeton in Beijing (language training), Beijing Normal University, Beijing, China  
May 2011 Independent research travel, Moscow, Irkutsk, and Chita, Russia  
July-Aug 2010 Participant, U.S.-Russia Global Environmental Issues project, Tyumen, Russia  
Jan-June 2009 Exchange student at Irkutsk State Linguistic University, Irkutsk, Russia

## **RESEARCH SKILLS**

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**Languages:** Russian (Advanced), Mandarin Chinese (Advanced), French (Elementary)

**Software:** Stata, R, LaTeX

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS**

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**Reviewer for:** *Social Movement Studies*, *Environmental Politics*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Governance and Policy in China*, *Employment and Economy in Central and Eastern Europe*, and *Sibirica: Journal of Siberian Studies*

**Professional Affiliations:** American Political Science Association (APSA); Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES); Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA)

**Committees:** Founding Member, ASEEES Committee on Environmental Sustainability, 2020-