

Elizabeth Plantan

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 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

- 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

Research & Teaching Interests

Comparative politics; international relations; environmental politics and policy; authoritarian governance; social movements and contentious politics; civil society and philanthropy; transnational and domestic activism; Chinese politics; Russian politics

Book Manuscript in Preparation

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

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- Forthcoming. “Activism in Exile: How Russian Environmentalists Maintain Voice after Exit” (with Laura Henry) *Post-Soviet Affairs*. Pre-print published [online](#) in November 2021.
- Forthcoming. “Not All NGOs Are Treated Equally: Selectivity in Civil Society Management in China and Russia,” *Comparative Politics*. Pre-print published [online](#) in August 2021.
2018. “Mass Mobilization in China and Russia: From Unexpected Victories to Unintended Consequences,” *Russian Politics* 3(4).

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- Forthcoming. "Civil Society and Protest." In Darrell Slider, ed., *Putin's Russia: Past Imperfect, Future Uncertain*, 8th Edition. Rowman & Littlefield. (with Alfred B. Evans, Jr.)
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.
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*. Berghahn Books.

Works in Progress

R&R or under review

- "Why Autocrats Sometimes Relax Censorship: Signaling Government Responsiveness on Chinese Social Media" with Christopher Cairns (*Revise & resubmit*)
- "Complementary Partners? Attitudes toward Multi-Actor Development Projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo" with Austin Strange and Wendy Leutert (*Under review*)
- "Puzzling Partnerships: Overseas Infrastructure Development by Chinese State-Owned Enterprises and Humanitarian Organizations" with Wendy Leutert and Austin Strange (*Under review*)

Manuscripts in preparation

- "Pivoting to Overseas Development: INGOs' Changing Engagement with China" with Wendy Leutert and Austin Strange (*Conference draft; aiming to submit in Fall 2021*)
- "Environmental Activism and Party Politics in Electoral Authoritarian Russia" (*Conference draft; aiming to submit in Fall 2021*)
- "Disappearing Research: Academic Censorship in Chinese Universities" with Ning Leng (*Conference draft; additional data collection in Fall 2021*)
- "Funding Foreign Agents" with Lisa McIntosh Sundstrom (*Conference draft; additional data collection in Fall 2021*)
- "Should We Stay or Should We Go?: How International Foundations Respond to Restrictions in Authoritarian Contexts" (*Conference draft*)

Book Reviews

2021. "Book Review: Alexander Libman and Michael Rochlitz, *Federalism in China and Russia: Story of Success or Story of Failure*," *The Russian Review*, 80(2): 343-344.
2015. "Book Review: Ellen Mickiewicz, *No Illusions: The Voices of Russia's Future Leaders*," *The Soviet and Post-Soviet Review*, 42(2).

Other Publications

- "Environmental Activism in Russia." *Russian Analytical Digest*, No. 261. December 2020. Appeared in German in *Russland-Analysen* in October 2020.
- "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.

CONFERENCE & WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

Conferences

American Political Science Association	2014, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020*, 2021*
Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies	2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020*, 2021*
Midwest Political Science Association	2015, 2019

Invited Talks

The Davis Center for Russian & Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, April 2021*
Project for Eastern European Relations, Swarthmore College, February 2020
Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, October 2019
Shasha Seminar for Human Concerns, Wesleyan University, October 2019

Workshops

Politics of Russia and Eurasia Seminar Series (PRESS), discussant on Lauren McCarthy's "Citizen Oversight of the Legal System in Russia," February 2021*
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 2016 and June 2019
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

**Virtual due to Covid-19*

TEACHING

Stetson University

Introduction to Political Science, Fall 2021
Comparative Politics, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, & Spring 2022 (*planned*)
Russian Politics, Fall 2020 & Fall 2021
Chinese Politics, Spring 2022 (*planned*)
International Environmental Activism (junior seminar), Spring 2021
Russia, China, & the World, Spring 2021
Russian Foreign Policy, Spring 2022 (*planned*)

Cornell University

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

MENTORING

Stetson University

Faculty Advisor, Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Grant, Summer 2021, Shadia Muñoz-Najar, “Explaining the Correlation between Compulsory Voting and COVID Death Rates in Latin America”

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

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 DRC research grant, with Wendy Leutert and Austin Strange, 2019-2021
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

June 2020	Research fieldwork, mainland China (<i>postponed due to Covid-19</i>)
March 2020	Research fieldwork, Democratic Republic of Congo (<i>postponed due to Covid-19</i>)
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

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

Software: Stata, R, LaTeX

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AFFILIATIONS

Reviewer

Cambridge University Press; 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); Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)

External Committees or Service Roles

Founding Member, ASEEEES Committee on Environmental Sustainability, 2020-2022
Co-Chair, Division 13: Politics of Communist and Former Communist Countries, APSA 2022

Internal Committees or Service Roles at Stetson University

Assessment Coordinator, Department of Political Science, 2021-2022
Member, Stetson Program in Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies Committee, 2020-present
Member, Asian Studies Committee, 2020-present
Co-Faculty Advisor, Women in Politics Group, Department of Political Science, 2020-present