

BRENDAN MCELROY

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Ph.D. Candidate in Government, Harvard University

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Political Economy of Development, State Formation, East European Politics, Russian and Post-Soviet Politics

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D., Department of Government, expected June 2020

2013–present

Fields: Comparative Politics, Political Economy of Development

Thesis: States and Agrarian Transformations in Eighteenth Century Europe

Committee: Timothy Colton (chair), Peter A. Hall, Torben Iversen, Daniel Ziblatt

Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies (CERES), Georgetown University

M.A., Russian and East European Studies

2012–2013

Georgetown University

B.A., Government, Russian Studies *summa cum laude*

2008–2011

APPOINTMENTS

Teaching Fellow, Department of Government, Harvard University

2015–2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Politics of Europe, GOV 1190, with Daniel Ziblatt

2018

Foundations of Comparative Politics, GOV 20, with Steven Levitsky

2016

Sophomore Tutorial in Government, GOV 97, with Ryan D. Enos and Michael Rosen

2016

Russian Politics in Transition, GOV 1243, with Timothy Colton

2015

Development of Democracy in Europe from the Middle Ages to the EU, GOV 1171, with Peter A. Hall

2015

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Country Expert, [Historical Varieties of Democracy](#) (V-DEM) project, Russia 1789–1920

Field Research, Russia, Latvia

2015–2019

15 months accumulated experience conducting research in the Russian State Historical Archive, State Archive of the Russian Federation, and Latvian State Historical Archive

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Krupp Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship

Minza de Gunzburg Center for European Studies, Harvard University

2018–2019

Mid-Dissertation Research Grant

Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University

2017–2018

Doctoral Fellow

Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy, Harvard Kennedy School 2014–present

Associate Research Fellow

International Center for the Study of Institutions and Development, National Research University – Higher School of Economics, Moscow 2014–2017

Graduate Travel Research Grant

Davis Center for Eurasian and Russian Studies, Harvard University 2014, 2015 and 2017

Merle Fainsod Prize

Department of Government, Harvard University 2013

Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellowship

Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies, Georgetown University 2013

Foreign Language and Area Studies Academic-Year Fellowship

Center for Eurasian, Russian and East European Studies, Georgetown University 2012–2013

PRESENTATIONS

Minorities and Disaster Relief: 1891–1892 Famine in Imperial Russia, with Volha Charnysh

American Political Science Association annual meeting 2019

Minorities and Disaster Relief: 1891–1892 Famine in Imperial Russia, with Volha Charnysh

Summer Workshop in the Economic History and Historical Political Economy of Russia, University of Wisconsin Madison 2019

Political Implications of Noble Economic Decline in Late Imperial Russia

Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies annual meeting 2018

Learning Revolution, with Yuhua Wang

American Political Science Association annual meeting 2018

Representative Institutions and Policy Responsiveness in Autocracies: 1891–1892 Famine in Imperial Russia, with Volha Charnysh

American Political Science Association annual meeting 2018

Famine in Russia, 1891–1892

GIS Winter Institute Workshop, Center for Geographic Analysis, Harvard University 2017

Landed Elites and Human Capital-Promoting Institutions: Evidence from Russian Serfdom

2nd annual Politics and History Workshop, Harvard University 2015

Election Monitoring as Contentious Politics: Monitors and Mobilization in the 2011–2012 Russian Election Cycle

Workshop on Explaining Contentious Politics in Russia: Innovations in Theory and Data Collection, National Research University – Higher School of Economics (invited speaker) 2013

PROJECTS AND WORKING PAPERS

The Extraction-Rebellion Dilemma in Nondemocratic Regimes, with Volha Charnysh

Diversity and Governance in a Crisis: Famine in Russia, 1891–1892, with Volha Charnysh

Learning Revolution, with Yuhua Wang

Political Implications of Noble Economic Decline in Late Imperial Russia

Labor Coercion and Human Capital-Promoting Institutions: Evidence from Russia

SKILLS

Computing

R, Stata, L^AT_EX, ArcGIS

Languages

Russian (fluent), German (fluent), Polish (intermediate reading), French (intermediate reading)

Additional Training

GIS Winter Institute Workshop, Center for Geographic Analysis, Harvard University

2017