

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
4600 POSVAR HALL, PITTSBURGH, PA 15260
PHONE (412) 648-7250 FAX (412) 648-7277
EMAIL: LMP7@PITT.EDU
WEBSITE: WWW.PITT.EDU/~LMP7

EDUCATION

PhD candidate in Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2000- (PhD expected Summer 2006)

Dissertation title: "Polling Predispositions: Forming Attitudes to the EU in the Czech Republic and Slovakia."
Funded by NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant SES-0518408 and IREX-IARO Fellowship

Abstract: How can we account for the strikingly different political preferences of Czechs and Slovaks in the post-communist era, despite a shared half-century of political history and similar political institutions? This project is broadly concerned with what motivates ordinary citizens to support or reject the EU in the new member states of post-communist Europe. I systematically examine the basic nature of political attitudes and their malleability in democracies that are still undergoing massive change via a two-pronged framework. First, I map attitude structure by uncovering the hierarchical linkages between predispositions (i.e., self-interest and identity) and specific policy preferences (i.e., attitude to the EU) using latent variable structural equation modeling (SEM). I then test the strength of attitudes and the likelihood of persuasion using data drawn from an original survey experiment in the Czech Republic and Slovakia and analyzed with multinomial probit and fixed effects regression. I triangulate my methods by analyzing qualitative data from original in-depth questionnaires and focus groups. I show that on the whole, Czechs are motivated chiefly by self-interest when considering the EU, while Slovaks are primarily concerned with improving their symbolic status within the European hierarchy. Furthermore, I find that attitudes rooted in self-interest are more susceptible to persuasion than are attitudes that reflect identity concerns.

Committee co-chairs: Jon Hurwitz and Ronald Linden

Committee members: Alberta Sbragia, David Barker, and Sharon Wolchik (GWU)

Fields of concentration: comparative politics, Europe (East and West) and EU; mass political psychology and behavior

Russian and East European Studies Certificate

Honors BA (double degree, *magna cum laude*), Saint Louis University, 1996-2000

Political Science and International Studies, Russian and East European Studies Certificate

Workshops, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, Summer 2005

LISREL Models: General Structural Equations

Scaling and Multidimensional Analysis

PUBLICATIONS

"Now You See It, Now You Don't: Anti-EU Politics in Central and Southeast Europe" (with Ronald H. Linden). *European Integration* 25(4): 311-334, 2003.

“Public Opinion in the Czech Republic.” In John G. Geer, ed., *Public Opinion and Polling Around the World*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2004.

“Public Opinion in Slovakia.” In John G. Geer, ed., *Public Opinion and Polling Around the World*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2004.

“Czech Republic.” 2003. High School Curriculum Guide, Outreach Resources of the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh. 77 pages. Website: http://www.outreachworld.org/Files/university_of_pittsburgh/crees_czech_guide.pdf.

IN PREPARATION FOR SUBMISSION

“Self-Interest, Values, and the Multiple Faces of Identity: The Origins of Slovak and Czech Attitudes toward the European Union,” to *European Journal of Political Research*.

CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

“Forming Attitudes toward the European Union in Slovakia.” Paper to be presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Washington, DC, November 16-19, 2006.

“Self-Interest, Values, and the Multiple Faces of Identity: The Origins of Czech and Slovak Attitudes toward the European Union.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in Atlanta, GA, January 7, 2006.

“Fears, Hopes, and Expectations: The Etiology of Czech and Slovak Attitudes toward the European Union.” Paper presented at the Women’s Caucus Pre-Conference of the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, DC, August 31, 2005.

“What Membership Means: Czechs and Slovaks on EU Accession, in their Own Words.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 7-10, 2005.

“Reconceptualizing the Debate: Attitudes toward EU Membership in Post-Communist Europe.” Paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the European Union Studies Association in Austin, TX, March 31-April 2, 2005.

“Political Attitude Formation in Post-Communist Europe: The Competition of Values and Elite Influence in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.” Lecture presented at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Institute of Sociology, Prague, Czech Republic, May 13, 2004.

“Political Persuasion and EU Membership in the Czech Republic and Slovakia.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 17, 2004.

“Predicting Persuasion: Attitudes toward EU Membership in Slovakia.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans, LA, January 7-10, 2004.

“Convincing Citizens: Routes to Persuasion and Attitudes toward EU Membership in the Czech Republic.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 3-6, 2003.

“Now You See It, Now You Don’t: Anti-EU Politics in East and Southeast Europe” (with Ronald H. Linden). Paper presented at the Biannual Meeting of the European Union Studies Association in Nashville, TN, March 27-29, 2003.

“Changing Attitudes and EU Membership: A Test of the Elaboration Likelihood Model in the Czech Republic.” Paper presented at the European Union Center at the University of Pittsburgh, November 26, 2002.

“Mass Media Effects on Attitude Change toward EU Membership in the Czech Republic.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in Savannah, GA, November 6-9, 2002.

“To Join or Not to Join: Predicting the Attitudes of Czech and Slovak Citizens toward EU Membership” (with Matthew Stelmack). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 25-28, 2002.

“The Impact of Crime on System Support: A Comparison between Latin American and Eastern European Democracies” (with Lucia Dammert and Mary Fran T. Malone). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago, IL, April 25-28, 2002.

FIELD RESEARCH

Czech Republic and Slovakia. Dissertation research: original in-depth cognitive questionnaires with a semi-representative sample of 23 Czech and 25 Slovak citizens (IREX-IARO Fellowship, Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship), 2003-2004; original survey experiment of 500 Czech and 500 Slovak citizens (NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant), 2005.

Slovakia. Original random, representative survey experiment of 500 Slovak citizens (European Union [EU] Center Grant), 2003.

Czech Republic. Original random, representative survey experiment of 501 Czech citizens (EU Center Grant, Political Science Grant), 2002.

Czech Republic. Original in-depth questionnaires with a semi-representative sample of twenty Czech citizens (EU Center Grant), 2001.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Nominated for Elizabeth Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award, sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh’s Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization, Spring 2005.

Instructor, PS 1211: Legislative Process (Congress); Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2004.

GRANTS

National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant #0518408, SES Division, 2005-2006.

Provost's Development Fund Grant, University of Pittsburgh, 2005-2006.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship, Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh, 2005-2006, 2002-2003.

European Union Center Graduate Summer Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh, 2005, 2003, 2002.

Richard Cottam Dissertation Prize, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2004-2005.

IRES-IARO Research Grant, Czech Republic and Slovakia, 2003-2004.

Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, 2003-2004.

Czechoslovak Room Committee Scholarship, Nationality Rooms Program, University of Pittsburgh, 2002.

Summer Research Grant, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2002, 2001.

Teaching Fellow, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2001-2002, 2004-2005.

Summer Research Grant, Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh, 2001.

Faculty of Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2000-2001.

APPOINTMENTS, SERVICE, AND HONORS

Visiting Scholar, Institute of Sociology, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic, 2003-2004.

Associate, European Union Center of Excellence, University of Pittsburgh, present.

Editorial Assistant, Reviewer, *Political Behavior*. Editors: Jon Hurwitz and Mark Peffley, 2004-2005.

Advisor, *2005 Europe: East and West Undergraduate Research Symposium*, University of Pittsburgh, 2005.

Judge, Panel 2: European and National Identities. *2003 Europe: East and West Undergraduate Research Symposium*, University of Pittsburgh, 2003.

Member, Comparative Political Behavior Faculty Search Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2004-2005.

Roving Judge, *Model United Nations*, University of Pittsburgh; for Pittsburgh area high school students, 2004, 2005.

Member, Graduate Student Executive Committee, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh, 2000-present.

Junior Scholars' Training Seminar at Wye River, MD. Sponsored by East European Studies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and the Committee on East European Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies, 2003.

Best Student in Political Science Award, Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honor Society), Alpha Sigma Nu (Jesuit Honor Society), Saint Louis University, 1999-2000.

LANGUAGES

Czech	Advanced proficiency
Slovak	Advanced proficiency
Russian	Intermediate
French	Intermediate

REFERENCES

Dr. Jon Hurwitz, Professor; Department of Political Science; University of Pittsburgh
hurwitz@pitt.edu

Dr. Ronald Linden, Professor; Department of Political Science; University of Pittsburgh
linden@pitt.edu

Dr. Alberta Sbragia, Professor and Jean Monnet Chair ad personam; Department of Political Science; Director, European Union Center of Excellence; University of Pittsburgh
sbragia@ucis.pitt.edu

Dr. David Barker, Associate Professor; Department of Political Science; University of Pittsburgh
dbarker@pitt.edu

Dr. Martin Votruba, Professor; Slavic Languages and Literature (Slovak and Czech); University of Pittsburgh
votruba@pitt.edu