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EDUCATION

Ph.D. (*kandidat nauk*) in History, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Russian Academy of Sciences, 1998

M.A. (*diplom*) in History, Kabardino-Balkaria State University, Russia, 1992

WORK EXPERIENCE

2018-present Associate Research Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

2014-present Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

2017-present Adjunct Professor, University of Maryland University College

2013-2017 Senior Research Associate, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University

2008 Senior Research Associate, Institute for the Humanities, Nalchik, Russia

2000-2005 Associate Professor, Kabardino-Balkaria State University, Russia

2000-2003 Director, In-Service Teacher Training Institute, Kabardino-Balkaria State University, Russia

1999-2000 Chair, Department of Socio-Economic and Humanities Education, Kabardino-Balkaria State University, Russia

1998-1999 Assistant Professor, Kabardino-Balkaria State University, Russia

BOOKS

Mass Religious Ritual and Intergroup Tolerance: The Muslim Pilgrims' Paradox. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017 (with Mikhail A. Alexseev).

Putin's Olympics: The Sochi Games and the Evolution of Twenty-First Century Russia. New York and London: Routledge, 2017 (with Robert W. Orttung).

Shora Nogma: A Philosophy of History. Nalchik: Elbrus, 2007 (in Russian).

Shora Nogma: A Life. Nalchik: Elbrus, 2002 (in Russian).

Khan-Girey: A Worldview. Nalchik: Kabardino-Balkaria State Academy of Agriculture, 1997 (in Russian).

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- “The Story of Circassian Tobacco: Prehistory of Globalization,” *Journal of Caucasian Studies* 6:3, 2018, 257-295.
- “From Mecca with Tolerance: Religion, Social Re-categorization, and Social Capital,” *Religion, State and Society* 43:4, 2015, 371-391 (with Mikhail A. Alexseev).
- “The Movement Toward a Monolingual Nation in Russia: The Language Policy in the Circassian Republics of the North Caucasus,” *Journal of Caucasian Studies* 1:1, 2015, 39-81 (with Şener Aktürk).
- “The 2014 Sochi Olympic Mega-Project and Russia’s Political Economy,” *East European Politics* 30:2, 2014, 175-191 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “Munich Syndrome: Russian Security in the 2014 Sochi Olympics,” *Problems of Post-Communism* 61:1, 2014, 13–29 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “Ethnic and State Sports in the Context of the 2014 Sochi Olympics,” *National Identities* 17:2, 2014, 113-126.
- “Dancing the Nation in the North Caucasus,” *Slavic Review* 62:2, 2013, 502-524 (with Charles King).
- “Making and Breaking the Political Machine in Kabardino-Balkaria,” *Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization* 21:4, 2013, 531-557 (with Georgi M. Derluguian).
- “The Birth of Modern Circassian Nationalism,” *Nationalities Papers* 40:1, 2012, 502-524.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- “The North Caucasus and Nearby Border Regions,” in Olga Oliker ed., *Religion and Violence in Russia: Context, Manifestations, and Policy*. New York and London: Rowman and Littlefield, 2018, 197-232 (with Sergey Markedonov and Akhmet A. Yarlykapov).
- “The North Caucasus: How Islam and Nationalism Shaped Stability, and Conflict in the Region,” in Katya Migacheva and Bryan Frederick eds., *Religion, Conflict, and Stability in the Former Soviet Union*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2018, 35-64.
- “Putin and the 2014 Sochi Olympics: Russia’s Authoritarian Sports Diplomacy,” in Craig R. Esherrick, Robert E. Baker, Steven Jackson, and Michael Sam eds., *Case Studies in Sport Diplomacy*. Morgantown: West Virginia University Press, 2017, 101-120 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “New Minority Ideology on the Post-Soviet Space: A Case Study of Circassian Nationalism,” in Sergiu Musteață ed., *Two Decades of Development in Post-Soviet States: Successes and Failures*. Iași: Institutul European, 2014, 313-328.
- “Circassian World: Responses to New Challenges,” in Nago Ercan Parlak ed., *Exile: May 21 1864*. Ankara: Kafdav Yayrnlan, 2011, 425-434.
- “Life and World Outlook of Khan-Girei,” in Marat Gubzhokov ed., *Khan-Girei: Selected Works and Documents*, Maikop: Yug, 2009, 7-32 [in Russian].
- “Social Theories of Bekmurze Pache,” in Khamid Karmokov and Inal Pshibi eds., *Life and Works of Bekmurze Pache*, Nalchik: Elbrus, 2009, 117-196 [in Circassian].
- “The Kabardino-Crimean War of 1720-21 and its Historical Significance,” in Barasbi Bgazhnokov ed., *The Battle of Kanzhal and the Political History of Kabarda in the First Half of the 18th Century*, Nalchik: Institute of Humanity Studies, 2008, 113-138 [in Russian].

RECENT POLICY ESSAYS, ARTICLES, AND COMMENTARY

- “Outsiders and Locals: The Kremlin’s Policy of Appointing Governors in the North Caucasus,” *Russian Analytical Digest* 222, 2018, 5-10.
- “How Monotony Transforms into Dichotomy: East-West Division in the Post-Soviet North Caucasus,” *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures* 27(1), 2018, 115-120.
- “The Kremlin’s New Policy Toward the U.S.,” *Russian Analytical Digest* 194, 2016, 5-8.
- “Putin Backs Doping, Hacking with Few Consequences,” *PONARS Eurasia*, August 1, 2016 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “Why Has Putin Spared Ekho Moskvyy?” (Op-Ed) *The Moscow Times*, August 9, 2015 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “Migrant Workers and the Sochi Olympics,” *Russian Analytical Digest* 143, 2014, 8-12.
- “The 2014 Sochi Olympics and Russia’s Civil Society,” *Euxeinos: Governance and Culture in the Black Sea Region* 12, 2013, 26-35 (with Robert W. Orttung).
- “Nationalism and Islam in Russia’s North Caucasus,” *Russian Analytical Digest* 131, 2013, 2-5.
- “Managing the Threat of an Olympics Boycott: International Pressure and Russia’s Response,” *PONARS Eurasia* 290, 2013.
- “Recognition Without Independence: Abkhazia’s International Context,” *PONARS Eurasia* 245, 2012.
- “Does Abkhazia Need a Foreign Policy Makeover?” *Open Democracy*, September 12, 2012.
- “Syrian Circassians: Failed Hopes” *Voice of Kabarda*, May, 2012 [in Russian].
- “Quadriga Prize: The Circassian Dimension,” *Open Democracy*, July 28, 2011.
- “Direct Impact: The Influence of the Arab Spring on the Circassian World,” *PONARS Eurasia* 180, 2011.
- “The Sovereign Trend: Russia’s Victory Could Turn into Defeat if it Continues its Neo-colonial Policy,” *Caucasus Security Insight* 4, August, 2011.
- “The Kabardino-Balkaria Insurgency: A Comparative Analysis of Ideological Trends in the North Caucasus,” *PONARS Eurasia* 156, 2011 (with Jean-François Ratelle).
- “One Thousand Years of Islam in Kabarda: An Experiment in Periodization,” *Anthropology and Archaeology of Eurasia* 49:4, 2011, 54-71.
- “The Circassian Question in Russian-Georgian Relations,” *PONARS Eurasia* 118, 2010.
- “Russia and Georgia: The Circassian Question,” *Open Democracy*, November 9, 2010.
- “Sochi: A City with No Mosque,” *Open Democracy*, October 22, 2010.
- “Skating on Thin Ice in Sochi,” *Open Democracy*, June 4, 2010.
- “The Circassian Dimension of the 2014 Sochi Olympics,” *PONARS Eurasia* 65, 2009.
- “Why Young People Turn to Islam in the North Caucasus,” *PONARS Eurasia* 30, 2008.
- “The Beginning of Circassian Historiography,” in Vadim Trepavlov ed., *History of the Nations of Russia in Research and Documents*, Moscow: Russian Academy of Science’s Institute of Russian History, 2007, vol. 2, 126-141 [in Russian].

SELECTED MEDIA

- “World Cup for Putin,” *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty*, June 15, 2018.
- Interview on a Moscow court’s ban of Telegram, a Russian instant messaging service, *Al Jazeera English*, April 6, 2018.
- Interview on the U.S. Sanctions Against Russian Oligarchs, *Al Jazeera Arabic*, April 6, 2018.
- “The Linkages Between Intergroup Tolerance and Socialization in Religious Rituals,” *PONARS Eurasia podcast, Episode 8, March 6, 2018*.
- “Accusations Against Kremlin,” Interview for *RFE/RL*, February 24, 2018 [in Russian].
- “Islamic Universities Have Role in Fighting Extremism,” by Wagdy Sawahel, *University World News*, February 23, 2018.
- Interview on the Change of Russian policy in Syria, *Al Jazeera English*, January 20, 2018.
- Interview on the Exchange of POW between Kiev and Donbas, *Al Jazeera English*, December 27, 2017.
- Interview on the Meeting Between Trump and Putin, during the G20, *Al Jazeera English*, July 7, 2017.
- “Investments that were thrown away,” Interview for *RFE/RL*, June 18, 2017 [in Russian].
- “Unforgotten Circassian Genocide,” *Caucasus Times*, May 16, 2017 [in Russian].
- Interview on the U.S.-Russia Relations, in the Syrian Context, *Al Jazeera English*, April 10, 2017.
- “Russian Propaganda Efforts Helped Spread ‘Fake News’ During Elections, Experts say,” by Craig Timberg, *Washington Post*, November 24, 2016.
- “Olympic Inbox: To Dope or Not to Dope?” *Elliott School of International Affairs*, August 9, 2016.
- “Russian Roulette: The North Caucasus,” *Center for Strategic and International Studies*, Podcast Episode 5, June 6, 2016.
- “Russia & The Coalition Against ISIS,” TV Program, On The Line, hosted by Philip Alexiou, *Voice of America*, October 23, 2014.
- “Putin’s Russia After Sochi,” TV Program, On The Line, hosted by Ayesha Tanzeem, *Voice of America*, February 26, 2014.
- “Now What? A City Fears a Flameout: Sochi Olympics Construction Weighs on City’s Future,” by David Segal, *New York Times*, February 23, 2014.
- “Russia’s President Stakes His Political Future on Sochi Success,” by Kathrin Hille, *Financial Times*, February 7, 2014.
- “Sochi Winter Games Sharpen Focus on Fate of Russian’s Circassian Community,” by Kathrin Hille, *Financial Times*, February 3, 2014.
- “Deadly Threat of ‘Black Widows’ Haunts Sochi Olympics,” by Courtney Weaver and Geoff Dyer, *Financial Times*, January 31, 2014.
- “Putin’s Olympic Fever Dream,” by Steven Lee Myers. *New York Times Magazine*, January 26, 2014.
- “Putin’s Party” by Brett Forrest. *National Geographic*, 225, No.1 (January), 2014 pp. 110-129.
- “Putin Promises 'Total Annihilation' for Terror Groups,” *NPR - Takeaway Radio*, January 2, 2014.

RECENT BOOK REVIEWS

- Iwona Kaliszewska and Maciej Falkowski, *Veiled and Unveiled in Chechnya and Dagestan*. London: Hurst & Company, 2016. *The Russian Review* 76:2, 2017, 394-395.
- Arthur Tsutsiev, *Atlas of the Ethno-Political History of the Caucasus*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014. *Journal of Historical Geography* 51:4, 2015, 393-395.
- Walter Richmond, *The Circassian Genocide*. Rutgers University Press, 2013. *Slavic Review* 73:2, 2014, 393-395.

TEACHING (UNDERGRADUATE COURSES)

- POLI 475 Politics in the Former Soviet Union (Fall 2017)
- HIST 488 Europe, 1914 to the Present (Fall 2016)
- HIST 487 Europe, 1815-1914 (Fall 2018)
- HIST 484 German History, 1914 to the present (Fall 2017)
- HIST 468 The Age of Enlightenment (Spring 2016)
- HIST 465 World War II (Spring 2018)
- HIST 392 History of the Contemporary Middle East (Fall 2017)
- HIST 389 Islamic Culture and Society (Fall 2015, Fall 2018)
- HIST 364 The Rise of Islam (Spring 2014)

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2018 Kennan Alumni Grant, *Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars* (\$7,000)
- 2018 Honourable Mention for the 2018 Harriman ASN Rothschild Book Prize for *Mass Religious Ritual and Intergroup Tolerance: The Muslim Pilgrims' Paradox*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2017 (with Mikhail A. Alexseev).
- 2017 Research Project, Religion and Violence in Russia, *The Center for Strategic and International Studies* (\$4,000)
- 2017 Grant team member: Foundation to Promote Open Society, *Open Society Foundation* (\$60,668)
- 2016 Research Project, Religion, Conflict, and Stability in the Former Soviet Union, *RAND Corporation* (\$4,000)
- 2013-2016 Grant team member: International Peace and Security Program, *MacArthur Foundation* (\$250,000 for 2014-16 and \$155,000 for 2013-14)
- 2012 Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow, Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies, *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum* (\$9,500)
- 2011-2012 Scholar Rescue Fund Fellowship, *Institute for International Education* (\$25,000, awarded twice; recognized as 2016 Featured Scholar)
- 2011-2012 Hayward Isham Fellowship, Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, *George Washington University* (\$25,000)
- 2005-2006 Fulbright Fellowship, Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies, *Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars* (\$20,000)

EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

- 2013-2017 Content Manager and Editor, *PONARS Eurasia* website (leading online platform for academics advancing new approaches to research on security, politics, economics, and society in Russia and Eurasia), Washington, DC
- 2011-2012 Editor-in-Chief, *Golos Kabardy* (monthly Russian-language print and on-line newspaper), Nalchik, Russia
- 2006-2007 Editor-in-Chief, *Kabardino-Balkarskaia Pravda* (leading daily regional newspaper), Nalchik, Russia
- 2000-2003 Editor-in-Chief, *Pedagogical Papers* (leading regional academic journal on education), Nalchik, Russia

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (2013-present),
Association for the Study of Nationalities (2012-present).
Program on New Approaches to Research and Security in Eurasia (2008-present).
Central Eurasian Studies Society (2011).

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

- Editorial Board: *Journal of Caucasian Studies*, 2015-present.
Referee (Presses): Palgrave Macmillan.
Referee (Journals): *Post-Soviet Affairs*, *Slavic Review*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Russian Review*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Demokratizatsiya: The Journal of Post-Soviet Democratization*, *National Identities*, *Nations and Nationalism*, *Journal of Historical Geography*, *Journal of Caucasus Studies*, *Religion, State and Society*.

SELECTED RECENT PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 “The Religious Dimension of the Ukraine - Russia Conflict,” Religious Freedom Institute and George Washington University, Washington, DC, July 12.
- 2018 “Introduction to Islam in the Former Soviet Union,” National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Washington, DC, May 8; February 20.
- 2018 “Russia’s North Caucasus: Inner Decolonization, Nationalism, and Islam,” Institute for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies, George Washington University, Washington, DC, March 30.
- 2018 “Religion, Conflict, and Stability in the Former Soviet Union,” RAND Corporation and George Washington University, Washington, DC, February 7.
- 2017 “Circassian Issue: The Legacy of the Sochi Olympics and Future Trajectories,” Circassians in the 21st Century: Identity and Survival, Malmö University, Sweden, November 23-24.
- 2017 “Urban Islam in Russia,” Russia and the Caucasus Regional Research (RUCARR), Malmö University, Sweden, November 22.
- 2017 Book presentations and roundtables, *Mass Religious Ritual and Intergroup Tolerance: The Muslim Pilgrims’ Paradox*. Cambridge University Press, 2017 (with Mikhail A. Alexseev):
- 2017 ASEES Annual Convention, Chicago, November 10.
 - George Washington University, Washington, DC, October 27.
 - The Center for Islam and Religious Freedom (CIRF), Washington, DC, September 25.

- 2017 Book presentations and roundtables, *Putin's Olympics: The Sochi Games and the Evolution of Twenty-First Century Russia*, Routledge, 2017 (with Robert W. Orttung):
- 2017 ASEEEES Annual Convention, Chicago, November 11.
 - School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, June 15.
 - ASN World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY, May 5.
 - Southern Conference on Slavic Studies, Alexandria, VA, April 7.
 - North East Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Conference, New York University, New York, NY, April 1.
 - George Washington University, Washington, DC, March 22.
- 2017 “Islam in the Contemporary Caucasus,” School of Global and International Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, June 16.
- 2017 “Introduction to Islam in the Former Soviet Union,” National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Washington, DC, October 16; August 21; April 17; February 21.
- 2017 “The North Caucasus: Security, Conflicts and Violence,” Religion and Violence in Russia, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Washington, DC, January 30.
- 2016 “Russkii vs Caucasus Games: Sports and Ethnic Identity in Russia,” 2016 ASEEEES Annual Convention, Washington, DC, November 17-20.
- 2016 “Islam and Nationalism in Russia’s North Caucasus,” National Foreign Affairs Training Center, Washington, DC, August 19; May 27.
- 2016 “Power, Identity, and Belonging in the North Caucasus,” ASN World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY, April 14-16.
- 2016 “The North Caucasus Insurgency and Syria,” Center for Strategic International Studies and International Crisis Group, Washington, DC, April 13.
- 2016 “A Path Through the Mountains: Nationalism and Islam in the North Caucasus,” Religion and Stability in the Former Soviet Union, RAND Corporation, Washington, DC, March 25.
- 2016 “East-West Dichotomy in Russia’s North Caucasus,” National Defense University and the College of International Security Affairs, Washington, DC, January 28.
- 2015 “Conflict with Historical Reality and the Search for Utopic Society: Caucasus Literature in the First Third of the 20th Century,” 2015 ASEEEES Annual Convention, Philadelphia, November 19-22.
- 2015 “Development of Nationalism and Islam in Russia's North Caucasus,” Davis Center, Harvard University, October 15-16.
- 2015 “2014 Sochi Olympics and Annexation of Crimea,” PONARS Eurasia Policy Conference, George Washington University, Washington, DC, September 17-19.
- 2015 “From Cooperation to Competition: The Future of U.S.-Russian Relations,” U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, April 15.
- 2014 “From Mecca with Tolerance: Religion, Social Recategorization, and Social Capital,” PONARS Eurasia Policy Workshop, New York University in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, December 10-12.
- 2014 “Adyge Jegu: Revival and Invention of National Traditions among Circassians,” 2014 ASEEEES Annual Convention, San Antonio, TX, November 20-23.
- 2014 “Political Islam in the North Caucasus,” Carnegie Endowment For International Peace, Washington, DC, November 5.

- 2014 “Kremlin’s Methods towards Migrant Workers: A Case Study of Preparations for the 2014 Olympics,” Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference, Columbia University, New York City, October 23-26.
- 2014 “Migrant Workers and the Sochi Olympics,” PONARS Eurasia Workshop: Nationalism, Minorities, and Migration, George Washington University, March 21-22.
- 2014 “The Legacy of the Sochi Olympics and Putin’s Russia,” Spring 2014 Lecture Series: Sochi and the Olympics, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Washington, DC, February 27.
- 2014 “Sochi: Olympic Flame in the Caucasus,” Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, January 13.
- 2013 “Security in the Northern Caucasus,” Professionals in Russian, Eastern European and Eurasian Affairs, Georgetown University, Washington, DC, November 25.
- 2013 “The 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics: Implications for Russia’s Politics, Economics, and Society,” 2013 ASEES Annual Convention, Boston, MA, November 21-24.
- 2013 “Terrorism and Insurgency in the North Caucasus and the Russian Response,” IERES Visiting Scholar Roundtable Series, George Washington University, Washington, DC, November 14.
- 2013 “Olympics on the Verge of Boycott: Kremlin’s Policy Dealing with International Pressure,” Harriman Institute, Columbia University, New York City, NY, September 25.
- 2013 “Managing the Threat of an Olympics Boycott: International Pressure and Russia’s Response,” PONARS Eurasia Policy Conference, George Washington University, September 23.
- 2013 “The Boston Attack and the ‘Russian Connection’: An Assessment,” Inter-University Center for Terrorism Studies, Potomac Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, DC, June 12.
- 2013 “Security, Religion, and the State in the North Caucasus,” ASN World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY, April 18- 20.
- 2013 “Rescue of Children in the North Caucasus During the Holocaust,” New Research on Children and the Holocaust, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, February 26-27.
- 2012 “Circassian Literature in Russian Language: Intellectuals and Empire in the North Caucasus in the 19th Century,” 2012 ASEES Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, November 15-18.
- 2012 “Mega-Project, Mini-Outcome: The Political Economy of the Sochi 2014 Olympics,” Mega-events in Eastern Europe, Universität St. Gallen (Switzerland) and Center for Urban History of East Central Europe (Ukraine), Lviv, Ukraine, October 29- 31.
- 2012 “Rescue and Muslim-Jewish Relations in the North Caucasus during the Holocaust,” The Role of Azerbaijan in the WWII and the Holocaust in the Caucasus, Yahad - In Unum and The European Azerbaijan Society, Baku, Azerbaijan, October 17-19.
- 2012 “Recognition without Independence: Abkhazia’s International Context,” The Caucasus: A Changing Security Landscape, CSIS and PONARS Eurasia Policy conference, George Washington University, Washington, DC, September 13.
- 2012 “The Putin Regime and the Sochi Olympics: Will the Dark Predictions Come True?” Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Washington DC, September 11.
- 2012 “The Islamic Factor in Circassian Socio-Political Dynamics,” Future of the Caucasus, Kafkas Vakfi, Istanbul, Turkey, May 12th.
- 2012 “Rescue and Muslim-Jewish Relations in the North Caucasus during the Holocaust,” United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, June 17.

- 2012 “East-West Dichotomy: Different Patterns of Nationalism and Islam in the North Caucasus,” ASN World Convention, Columbia University, New York, NY, April 19-21.
- 2012 “The Circassians: Nationalism and Political Islam,” Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington, DC, February 22.
- 2012 “The Munich Syndrome: Russian Security and the 2014 Sochi Olympics,” DC Area Postcommunist Politics Social Science Workshop, George Washington University, Washington, DC, January 26.

Previous lectures and presentations at Hokkaido University, George Washington University, Ohio State University, Center for Strategic and International Studies, American University of Central Asia, Russian Academy of Sciences’ Institute of World Economy and International Relations (IMEMO), University of St. Andrews, Georgetown University, and Northwestern University.

LANGUAGES

English
Russian
Circassian