

The Russian Invasion of Ukraine: an Update

A presentation of the European & Eurasian Studies Program, FIU
and
The Center of European Policy Analysis (CEPA), Washington DC

Florida International University | Live Zoom Webinar

Thursday, October 12, 2023 | 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Participants: Biographical Notes

GUEST SPEAKERS



Elina Beketova

*In-Residence fellow with the Democracy Fellowship Program
Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA)*

Elina Beketova is an in-residence fellow with the Democracy Fellowship program at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA). Her research will focus on temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine after Russia's full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022. Elina Beketova started her career as a journalist in Feodosia, Crimea, working for the local newspaper. Later she participated in Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellowship in Wake Forest University and Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in the University of Mississippi. Elina Beketova worked as a journalist, editor and TV-anchor for different news stations in Kharkiv and Kyiv, Ukraine. As a part of International Insight, the TV-program Elina hosted, she conducted in-studio, Skype and field interviews with the following guests: Kurt Volker, Jens Stoltenberg, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, Carl Bildt, Pat Cox, John Bolton, Wesley Clark, Lech Wałęsa, Aleksander Kwaśniewski, Andrew Wilson, Edward Lucas, Radoslaw Sikorski, Anne Applebaum, Steven Pifer, John Herbst, Fareed Zakaria and other respected people of the world.

Now Elina contributes to the translator's team of Ukrainska Pravda, the biggest Ukrainian online newspaper founded by Georgii Gongadze, creating the content for the international audience.

Elina Beketova holds a Master's degree in journalism from Kharkiv National University and Master's degree in clinical psychology from the Kyiv Institute of Modern Psychology and Psychotherapy.



Sam Greene, Ph.D.

Director, Democratic Resilience

Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA)

Professor of Russian Politics at King's College London

Sam Greene is Director for Democratic Resilience at the Center for European Policy Analysis (CEPA).

Sam is also a Professor of Russian Politics at King's College London. Before joining CEPA, he founded and directed the King's Russia Institute for ten years. Prior to moving to London, Sam lived and worked for 13 years in Moscow, as Director of the Center for the Study of New Media & Society at the New Economic School and as Deputy Director of the Carnegie Moscow Center. He is the author of *Moscow in Movement: Power & Politics in Putin's Russia* (Stanford, 2014) and *Putin v. the People: The Perilous Politics of a Divided Russia* (Yale, 2019, with Graeme Robertson), as well as numerous academic and policy papers.

An American and British citizen, Dr. Greene holds a PhD and MSc from the London School of Economics and a BSJ from Northwestern University and is an elected fellow of the British Academy of Social Sciences.



Tatiana Kostadinova, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Politics and International Relations

Director, European & Eurasian Studies Program

Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs

Florida International University

Professor Kostadinova received her Ph.D. from the Florida State University in 2000. Her research and teaching interests include political institutions with a special emphasis on electoral systems and reform, East European democratic transition, and comparative public policy. She has been the recipient of several grants, among which the American Political Science Small Research Grant (2002) and a Fellowship Program Award from the German Marshall Fund of the United States (2003-2004). Professor Kostadinova's first book, *Bulgaria 1879-1946: The Challenge of Choice* (Columbia University Press), explores Bulgarian parliamentary elections, party strategies, and voter behavior. Her 2012 book, *Political Corruption in Eastern Europe: Politics After Communism* (Lynne Rienner) analyzes the emergence of corruption as a major obstacle to successful democratic transition. Other publications include book chapters and journal articles in *American Journal of Political Science*, *Electoral Studies*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *European Journal of Political Research*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Party Politics*, and *Europe-Asia Studies*.

Professor Kostadinova's primary teaching area is comparative politics. At the undergraduate level, she teaches courses in Russian and Eastern European politics, electoral behavior, and research methods. Her graduate level courses include seminars on institutional choice, democratic transitions, political parties, and advanced research.



Markus Thiel, Ph.D.

*Director, Miami-Florida Jean Monnet Center of Excellence
Professor, Politics & International Relations
Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs
Florida International University*

Markus Thiel is professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, Miami and director of FIU's Jean Monnet Center of Excellence. Dr. Thiel's research interests are the political sociology of the EU and European (Union) Politics more generally, as well as Nationalism & Identity Politics. He graduated with a Ph.D. from the University of Miami in 2005 and has published several EU-related articles and book chapters in peer-reviewed journals. In addition, his research on the political sociology of the EU produced the monograph, 'The Limits of Transnationalism' (Palgrave, 2011), and 5 co-edited volumes on: 'Diversity and the European Union' (with Lisa Pruegl, Palgrave, 2009), 'Identity Politics in the Age of Globalization' (with Roger Coate, Lynne Rienner/First Forum Press, 2010), 'European Identity & Culture: Narratives of Transnational Belonging' (with Rebecca Friedman, Ashgate, 2012), 'Sexualities in World Politics: How LGBTQ Claims Shape International Relations' (with Manuela Picq, Routledge, 2015) and 'EU Development Policies between Norms and Geopolitics' (with Sarah Beringer & Sylvia Maier, Palgrave, 2019). Most recently, he published a book on the linkage of European transnational civil society groups with the EU Fundamental Rights Agency: 'EU Civil Society and Human Rights Advocacy' (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017). He supervises doctoral students in the areas of EU Politics and International Organizations.

MODERATORS

Drs. Tatiana Kostadinova and Markus Thiel