ELENA SIROTKINA

esirotkina@unc.edu | Google Scholar | Website

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, U.S. — present
Graduate Student, Department of Political Science

> Concentrations: Comparative Politics, Quantitative Methodology
>
> Fields: Computational Political Behavior, Political Communication, Comparative Political Psychology
>
> Region of Specialization: Post-Soviet Space

Higher School of Economics (HSE), Moscow, Russia — 2013
M.A. in Political Science (with distinction)

Moscow State Linguistic University, Moscow, Russia — 2009
B.A. in Political Science

Academic Affiliation

Authoritarian Politics Lab, UNC — 2019-present
Team Member

Data Science Lab at the Hertie School (Berlin, Germany) — 2023-2024
DAAD Scholar

Ronald F. Inglehart Laboratory for Comparative Social Research, HSE — 2014-2019
Research Fellow

Laboratory for Regional Political Studies, HSE — 2012-2015
Research Fellow

Research Interests

computational political behavior, public opinion in autocracies, contentious politics, moral politics, political cognition, text-as-data, images-as-data, audio-as-data

Publications

- How Biased Media Generate Support for the Ruling Authorities: Causal Mediation Analysis of Evidence from Russia.
  European Journal of Communication. 2020. Vol.36. N.2. P.183-200.
- When the Party's Over: Political Blame Attribution under an Electoral Authoritarian Regime.
  Post-Soviet Affairs. 2020. Vol.36. N.1. P.36-60. (with Margarita Zavadskaya)
- A Top-down Movement with Grass-Roots Effects? Alexei Navalny's Electoral Campaign.
  Social Movement Studies. 2018. Vol.17. N.5. P.618-625. (with Jan Dollbaum and Andrei Semenov)

Book chapters

- Active Urbanites in an Authoritarian Regime. In: Regina Smyth, Jeremy Morris, Andrei Semenov (eds.): *Urban Activism in Contemporary Russia*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press. (with Jan Dollbaum and Andrei Semenov), 2023.
- Varieties of Russian Activism: State-society Contestation in Everyday Life. Katie Stewart, Madeline McCann, Carola Neugebauer, Irina Shevtsova, Daniela Zupan, Irina

Meyer-Olimpieva, Katherine Hitchcock, John P Burgess, Anna Zhelnina, Anna A Dekalchuk, Ivan S Grigoriev, Eleonora Minaeva, Jan Matti Dollbaum, Guzel Yusupova, Elena Sirotkina. *Indiana University Press*, 2023.

Working papers
- Observability Obstructs Motivated Reasoning in Autocracy, *Under review*
- Autocrat versus Challenger: Implicit and Explicit Political Support in Autocracies, *Under review*

  James W. Prothro Student Paper Winner
- Media Choice and Audience Reaction: Evidence from Visual Framing of Immigration in News Stories (with Olga Gasparyan), *Under review*
- The Moral Foundations of Approving Political Coercion in Autocracy
- Visual political polarization: How people look at political images and what they see (with Olga Gasparyan), *Under review*
- Using Visual Sentiment Labeling to Address Annotator Bias (with Olga Gasparyan)

Work in progress
- Costly Collective Action and Persistent Protesting in Autocracy
- COVID-19 and Healthcare Bureaucracy in Autocracies: Evidence from Street-Level Bureaucrats in Russian Regions (with Olga Gasparyan)
- Emotions Recognition (with Olga Gasparyan)
- Informational Ecosystems and Political Knowledge in Autocracies
- Personality and Support for Political Coercion in Autocracies
- A Theory of Guided Propaganda
- Autocratic Mobilization at Subnational Level: Inter-Elite Conflicts and Governors' Political Machines. Evidence from Russia

Conferences and Talks

VWAR, APSA, PolMeth (2023), Columbia/Harriman workshop (2022), PONARS (2019), ASA (2017), ICSID (2017, 2018), ASEEES (2016), Tartu Conference on Russian and East European Studies (2016), VDNKH at European University at St. Petersburg (2016), EBES-LCSR training workshop (2015), ECPR Graduate Conference (2014), April International Academic Conference at HSE (2013-2019)

Grants, Awards, Fellowships

Thomas M. Uhlman Fellowship, UNC Political Science	2019-2024
Summer Research Fellowship, UNC Political Science	2019-2024
Assistantship Award, UNC Political Science	2019-2024
DAAD Research Fellowship for Doctoral Candidates	2023-2024
Horizon Europe (HORIZON-HLTH-2021-ENVHLTH-02-03), project member	2023-now
Harold J. Glass USAF Graduate Fellowship, UNC	2022-2023
Graduate Tuition Incentive Scholarship (GTIS), UNC	2023
Humane Studies Fellowship (IHS)	2023
Graduate Student Transportation Grant, UNC	2023
Travel Grant, Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) x2	2023
IHS Junior Fellow, Institute for Humane Studies (IHS)	2023
Intensive Language Course Award (German), DAAD	2023
Understanding Modern Russia and Ukraine Grant, ASEEES (*declined*)	2022
James W. Prothro Student Paper Winner, UNC and SAPOR	2022
UNC Priority Candidate for DAAD Research Grant	2022
Gibbs Fellowship, Institute for Humane Studies (IHS)	2022
UNC Departmental Summer Research Support	2022, 2023

Hertie School Faculty Activity Fund Award (Germany), Co-PI   2021-2022
Carnegie Corporation/Harriman Institute Research Grant   2021, 2022
Mercatus Center Research Grant, George Mason University   2021
Adam Smith Fellow, Mercatus Center at George Mason University   2021-2022
Summer Research Award, UNC Center for Slavic, Eurasian,
and East European Studies (CSEEES)   2020, 2021
Russian Academic Excellence Project '5-100', Lab Research Grant   2014-2019
Russian Foundation for Humanities (RFH), Group Research Grant   2016-2018
Center for Basic Research Program, HSE, Group Research Grant   2012-2014

Research Skills	Languages	Russian (native), English (fluent), French (intermediate)
	Software	R, Python, Stan, Java, TeX, Octave, STATA
	Reviewer	Post-Soviet Affairs (*in English*), Polis (*in Russian*)