

# Ryan Kennedy

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## Education

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**The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH.** Ph.D., June 2008. M.A., 3.9 GPA, 2004.

Major Field: Comparative Politics

Minor Field: Political Economy

**Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.** Certificate in Polish language and culture, 2003.

**Truman State University.** B.A. magna cum laude and general honors, 3.8 GPA, 2001.

Major Fields: Political Science and Russian

Minor Field: International Studies

**Institute of Youth, Moscow, Russia.** Certificate in Russian language and culture, 2001.

## Employment

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**Assistant Professor.** University of Houston, 2008-present.

**Research Associate.** University of Houston Center for Public Policy, 2008-present.

**Contributing Analyst.** Oxford Analytica, 2006-present.

**Freelance Analyst.** Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 2006-2007.

## Publications

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### Peer Reviewed Articles

Kennedy, Ryan. Forthcoming. "Survival and Accountability: An Analysis of the Empirical Support for 'Selectorate Theory.'" *International Studies Quarterly*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2007. "Fragments of Economic Accountability and Trade Policy." *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 3(2): 145-169.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2006. "A Colorless Election: The 2005 Presidential Elections in Kazakhstan and What it Means for the Future of the Opposition." *Problems in Post-Communism*, 53: 46-58.

Ishiyama, John T. and Ryan Kennedy. 2001. "Mixed Electoral Systems, Super Presidentialism, Candidate Recruitment and Political Party Development in Russia, Ukraine, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan." *Europe-Asia Studies*, 53(8): 1177-1191.

Kennedy, Ryan and John T. Ishiyama. 2001. "Writing Rights: Factors Influencing the Strength

of Rights Clauses in Post-Communist Countries.” *The Journal of Political Science*, 29: 1-29.

### **Book Chapters**

Kennedy, Ryan. Forthcoming. “Moldova’s Quiet Revolution.”

Kennedy, Ryan. Forthcoming. “The Effect of Chinese Investment in the Kazakhstani Oil Sector.”

### **Analysis and Opinion Articles**

Kennedy, Ryan. 7 October 2008. “Moldova/Russia: Transnistria talks gain momentum.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2 May 2008. “Moldova: Transnistria talks offer no quick solutions.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2 April 2008. “Moldova: Chisinau-Gagauzia tensions remain strained.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 15 January 2008. “Moldova: Old challenges represent themselves in 2008.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 24 December 2007. “Moldova: Christmas row is sign of deeper tensions.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 21 November 2007. “Moldova: HIV/AIDS is at point of becoming a pandemic.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 8 August 2007. “Moldova: Contrary forces favour policy short-termism.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 18 July 2007. “Moldova: Press freedoms remain problematic.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 28 June 2007. “Moldova: Local Elections Show National Trends.” *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova Report*, 9(15).

Kennedy, Ryan. 25 June 2007. “Moldova: Communists lose ground in local elections.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 14 May 2007. “Moldova: Voronin pins hopes on encouraging investment.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 3 May 2007. “Talk of Transdnistr Agreement Sparks Speculation.” *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report*, 9(11). (also produced for online and radio presentation)

Kennedy, Ryan. 27 April 2007. “Moldova/Russia: Reported Transnistria deal is unlikely.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 5 April 2007. “Counting Losses as Russian Wine Ban Lingers.” *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report*, 9(10).

Kennedy, Ryan. 30 March 2007. “Moldova/Romania: Visa Row May Result in Looser Ties.” *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 22 March 2007. “What’s Behind Harsh Criticism of Romania.” *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report*, 9(1).

Kennedy, Ryan. 5 March 2007. “Moldova: Government action hinders media freedom.” *Oxford Analytica*.

- Kennedy, Ryan. 22 February 2007. "Moldova's Broadcast Privatization -- Reform or Censorship?" *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova Report*, 9(4). Re-published in *The Moldova Foundation's Weekly News Bulletin*, 27 February 2007, 3(31). Re-published again in *In Focus* magazine. (also produced for online and radio presentation)
- Kennedy, Ryan. 9 February 2007. "An EU Invasion Waiting to Happen." *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova Report*, 9(4). (also produced for online and radio presentation)
- Kennedy, Ryan. 11 January 2007. "Tricky year begins for new EU neighbour." *Oxford Analytica*.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 5 January 2007. "Unprecedented Opportunities, Challenges Posed by \$1.2 Billion Aid Package." *RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova Report*, 9(1).
- Kennedy, Ryan. 21 December 2006. "Tirsapol line hardens ahead of negotiations." *Oxford Analytica*.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 29 November 2006. "Kazakhstan Learns to Love Borat." *Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst*.
- Marcus, Ustina, Nigmat Ibadildin, and Ryan Kennedy. 30 November 2005. "Vested Interests to Determine Kazakhstan's Presidential Race." *Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst*.

## **Book Manuscript**

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**Title:** *Lifting the Curse: Distribution and Power in Petro-States.*

**Abstract:** While the empirical correlation between fuel exports and authoritarianism has become conventional wisdom, influencing both academics and policy-makers, the answer for why fuel exporters tend to be more authoritarian has remained elusive. My book examines this question using a multi-method approach, including statistical analysis of 166 countries from 1965-2001, a formal model of government distribution, and an in-depth case study of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova. I find that income from fuel exports is generally stabilizing, especially for authoritarian regimes, while fuel dependence is destabilizing, especially for democracies. The primary reason for this is the importance of government distribution in fuel exporting countries. In countries which have high per-capita fuel export income, fuel revenues are stabilizing for authoritarian regimes as they provide the resources for maintaining support. In countries which are heavily dependent on fuel exports in the economy, but have a relatively low per-capita income from those exports, the increased importance of distribution in the economy results in greater instability in democratic regimes, since it increases the temptation for both government and opposition parties to lock in their share of relatively scarce resources through exclusionary politics. Based on this, policy recommendations are made for methods of distribution that produce incentives more consistent with democratic governance.

## **Working Papers Under Review**

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Kennedy, Ryan. "The Contradiction of Modernization: A Conditional Probability Interpretation of Democratic Transition."

## Working Papers

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Kennedy, Ryan. "Distribution and Power in Petro-States."

Kennedy, Ryan. "Institutions for Political Survival."

Kennedy, Ryan. "Identity and Political Attitudes: The Cases of Moldova, Ukraine, and Georgia."

Kennedy, Ryan. "Trade, Trains and Transnistria: Russian Influence in Moldova."

## Professional Presentations

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"Institutionalization and the Strength of Leaders in Authoritarian Regimes." Presented at the 2008 American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Boston, MA.

"Identity and Political Attitudes: The Case of Moldova." Presented at the 2008 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

"Institutions for Political Survival." Presented at the 2007 American Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

"On the Clock: Event History Modeling in the Study of Leadership Survival." Presented at the 2007 APSA Summer Methods Meeting.

"Distribution and Power in Petro-States." Presented at the 2007 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL.

"Trade, Trains and Transnistria: Russian Influence in Moldova." Presented at the 2007 Association for the Study of Nationalities World Conference, New York, NY.

"Winning the European Beauty Contest: Comparing Economic and Political Reform in Moldova to Other EU Accession States." Presented at the 2006 International Scientific Conference "Process of European Integration: Opportunities, Costs, Risks and Rewards," State Institute of International Relations, Chisinau, Moldova.

"The Role of Reform in Attracting Foreign Direct Investment." (with Unislawia Wszolek) Presented at the 2004 International Studies Association -- Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

"Sloshed in Translation: The Effect of National Alcoholic Beverages on Economic and Political Reform in post-Communist Countries." Presented at the 2004 International Studies Association -- Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

"Re-Conceptualizing the Social Requisites of Democratization: A Conditional Probability Analysis of Modernization Theory." Presented at the 2004 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, and the 2003 International Studies Association -- Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

"The State as Trade Breaker: Fragments of Economic Accountability and Trade Policy." Presented at the 2003 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, and the 2002 International Studies Association -- Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

"The Influence of Mixed Electoral Systems on Party Nomination Strategies: The Cases of Russia and Ukraine." Presented at the 2001 Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, and the 2001 International Studies Association -- Midwest Annual Conference, St. Louis, MO

"Mixed Electoral Systems, Super Presidentialism, Candidate Recruitment and Political Party

- Development in Russia, Ukraine, Armenia and Kyrgyzstan." (with John T. Ishiyama)  
Presented at the 2000 International Studies Association – Midwest Annual Conference,  
St. Louis, MO
- "Writing Rights: Factors Influencing the Strength of Rights Clauses in Post-Communist  
Constitutions." Presented at the 2000 Midwest Political Science Association Annual  
Conference, Chicago, IL, and the 1999 International Studies Association – Midwest  
Annual Conference, Des Moines, IA
- "The New Communists? An Analysis of the Rhetorical Strategies of the Communist Party of the  
Russian Federation, 1993-1997." Presented at the 1998 International Studies Association  
– Midwest Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

## Honors, Grants and Awards

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### Ohio State University:

SBS Summer Survey Fellowship	2007
NSF Travel Grant for APSA Summer Methods Meeting	2007
Fulbright Research Fellowship (Moldova)	2005-2006
OIA Dissertation Travel Grant	2005
AGGRS Research Grant	2005
F.E. Peacock Award for best paper presented by a graduate student at the International Studies Association - Midwest conference	2003
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship	2003
F.E. Peacock Award for best paper presented by a graduate student at the International Studies Association - Midwest conference	2001
Distinguished University Fellowship	2001
Program for Excellence in Graduate Studies grant	2001

### Truman State University:

Phi Beta Kappa (academic honorary)	2001
Outstanding Student in Political Science	2001
National Champion, National Parliamentary Debate Association	2000
Secretary, Truman State University Student Senate	1999-2000
Phi Kappa Phi (academic honorary)	1999
Omicron Delta Kappa (leadership honorary)	1999
Pi Kappa Delta (speech and debate honorary)	1997
Truman Leadership Award	1997

### Institute of Youth:

Outstanding Student in Russian Studies	2000
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## Research and Teaching Interests

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Comparative politics: Democratization and state building, authoritarian and leadership stability, natural resource politics, political economy, political violence, and post-Communist transitions and elections.

- 1) Taught course on political terrorism at Ohio State University and University of Houston.
- 2) Taught course on economics and political regimes at Ohio State University.
- 3) Taught introduction to comparative politics at Ohio State University.

## Professional Service

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Reviewer: Comparative Political Studies, British Journal of Political Science, NSF.

Executive Officer: International Studies Association – Midwest 2002-2003

Simulation Director: Historic Security Council, American Model United Nations 2002-2004

Discussant: International Studies Association – Midwest 2002, 2003, 2004

Discussant: American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies 2003

## Invited Presentations

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Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo, Norway, Conference on China in Central Asia. 2008

Queens University, Kingston, Ontario, Conference on Frozen Conflicts 2007

Mercer University, Georgia, Department of Political Science 2007

Russia-English Lyceum, Tiraspol, Moldova, Department of English Language 2006

University of Balti, Moldova, Department of Education 2006

University of Comrat, Moldova. Department of Comparative Culture 2006

Kazakhstan Institute of Management, Economics and Strategic Research, Department of Political Science 2005

## Additional Research Experience

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Consultant, GMB Research, Economic Briefs on Moldova and Russia. 2008

Consultant, Oxford Analytica UNAIDS Project, Moldova 2007

Statistical Consultant, Peace Corps Moldova 2006

Special Guest Researcher, Kazakhstan Institute for Management, Economics and Strategic Planning (KIMEP) 2005

Research Assistant, *Professor Tim Frye*, Ohio State University 2004

Research Assistant, *Professor Dean Lacy*, Ohio State University 2004

Research Assistant, *Professor John Ishiyama*, Truman State University 1998-2001

## Languages

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Russian (4.5 years university level study); Polish (2 years university level study); Romanian (reading at elementary level)