

## Dr Vlad Mykhnenko

Lecturer in Human Geography, Urban Adaptation, and Resilience

[School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences \(/schools/gees/index.aspx\)](/schools/gees/index.aspx)

### Contact details

Telephone [+44 \(0\)121 414 9129](tel:+441214149129) (tel:+44 121 414 9129)

Email [v.mykhnenko@bham.ac.uk](mailto:v.mykhnenko@bham.ac.uk) (mailto:v.mykhnenko@bham.ac.uk)

School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences  
University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham  
B15 2TT  
UK



### About

Dr. Vlad Mykhnenko is a scholar, committed to the advancement of **geographical political economy**, with its focus on modern capitalist social formations as spatially and temporally uneven and highly variegated systems. To this end, he combines the theoretical insights and methodologies of Economic Geography, Urban & Regional Economics, and Comparative Political Economy.

Vlad has pioneered research on long-term growth trajectories of Europe's largest urban areas (Turok and Mykhnenko, 2007), in addition to authoring a series of trend-setting publications on shrinking cities (Mykhnenko and Turok, 2008; Haase et al., 2013) and urban resurgence (Turok and Mykhnenko, 2008). Furthermore, he has produced a number of rigorous, innovative, and internationally significant studies, uncovering the impact of the neo-liberal structural adjustment on regional economic performance across Europe (Mykhnenko, 2007; Swain and Mykhnenko, 2007; Birch and Mykhnenko, 2009; Mykhnenko and Swain, 2010; Mykhnenko, 2011; Birch and Mykhnenko, 2013).

Dr. Mykhnenko's recently edited volume on *The Rise and Fall of Neoliberalism* (Zed Books, 2010) has received a critical acclaim across the world, with special foreign editions of the book published in India and Serbia. See comments on this volume in the 'Publications' section.

### Qualifications

B.A. in International Relations, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine

M.A. in International Relations, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine

M.A. in International Relations and European Studies, Central European University, Budapest Campus, Hungary

Ph.D. in Political Economy, Darwin College, University of Cambridge, UK

### Biography

Before completing a Ph.D. at Cambridge in 2005 on the political economy of regional economic development, Vlad had served as an International Policy Fellow at the Centre for Policy Studies, Central European University & Open Society Institute - Budapest. Dr. Mykhnenko subsequently worked as a Research Fellow at the Universities of Glasgow (Centre for Public Policy for Regions) and Nottingham (School of Geography), before taking up the lecturing position at Birmingham on 1 January 2012.

Dr. Mykhnenko has taught undergraduate and postgraduate students at a number of universities both in the United Kingdom and continental Europe, including Kyiv Taras Shevchenko, Kyiv Mohyla Business School, Cambridge, Glasgow, and Nottingham.

For more biographical details, please, see [Vlad's CV \(http://policy.hu/mykhnenko/WebCV-Mykhnenko.pdf\)](http://policy.hu/mykhnenko/WebCV-Mykhnenko.pdf).

### Teaching

Dr. Vlad Mykhnenko leads and contributes to the following research-led modules and teaching activities:

- Urban and Regional Economy - (Undergraduate)
- Planning Field Course - (Undergraduate)
- Dissertations - (Undergraduate)
- Personal Tutorials - (Undergraduate)
- Theoretical Themes for Geographers (Postgraduate)
- Doing Human Geography (Postgraduate)
- Sustainable Cities (Postgraduate)

### Postgraduate supervision

Dr. Vlad Mykhnenko is interested in supervising doctoral research students in the following research areas:

- **Cities:** growth and decline, resilience, resurgence, shrinkage, and alternative development strategies
- **Critical political economy:** cultural political economy, evolutionary economic geography, global production networks, historical-geographical materialism, 'varieties of capitalism', regulation theory
- **Europe:** post-communist transitions, structural adjustment and the knowledge-based economy
- **Local government:** budgetary politics, municipal finance, and urban austerity
- **Regions:** convergence/divergence, economic growth and (un)employment, fiscal federalism, and territorial cohesion

- **Uneven and combined development:** free-market capitalism and the neo-liberal doctrine

Current doctoral students:

- Mr. Bin Li, 'Transition trap in urban regeneration: a case study in Guangzhou, China in the context of transition', School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham

Potential students should contact the Postgraduate Secretary (Gretchel Coldicott, Tel: +44 (0)121 414 6935, Email: [g.coldicott@bham.ac.uk](mailto:g.coldicott@bham.ac.uk) (<mailto:g.coldicott@bham.ac.uk>)) to provide further details.

## Research

### Research groups

- **Centre for Urban and Regional Studies** (<http://www.curs.bham.ac.uk/>)
- **Resilience and Urban Living** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/resilience/index.aspx>)
- **Society, Economy and Environment** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/see/index.aspx>)

### Research interests:

Vlad's current research is aimed at exploring the interrelationship between spatial disparities in economic production, spatial disparities in living standards, and social inequality, both in the core industrially advanced economies as well as in the transition and emerging market economies.

Substantially, his research focusses on the following two subject areas:

- **The urban and regional economy:** local economic development; urban growth, decline, and shrinkage; regional economic convergence and divergence.
- **Income flows and local government finance:** fiscal federalism and local government finance; urban austerity, the spatial distribution of national income, and territorial cohesion; fiscal stress and fiscal resilience.

### Recent research grants

Dr. Mykhnenko's work has been funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the European Union's 7th Framework Programme in Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities (FP7-SSH), and a number of charitable foundations, including the Open Society Institute (OSI) and the Regional Studies Association (RSA). Overall, Vlad has contributed to obtaining £1,262,215 in external research funding, with his personal share amounting to £243,805. This externally-funded research has engaged extensively with policy makers and practice communities and has sought to assist key stakeholders in generating a better understanding of policy alternatives, avoiding the potentially harmful impact of industrial restructuring on the local economy and communities, changing spatial imbalances, and managing the spatial and demographic shrinkage of European cities. Recent grants include:

- **2009-2013:** ESF COST Action - Cities Re-growing Smaller: Fostering Knowledge on Regeneration Strategies in Shrinking Cities across Europe (**CIRES** (<http://www.shrinkingcities.eu/>), TU0803) - Management Committee Substitute Member (UK).
- **2009-2012:** EU FP7-SSH: Shrink Smart - Governance of Shrinkage within a European Context (**SHRINKSMART** (<http://www.shrinksmart.eu/>), FP7-SSH-CT-2009-225193), EU contribution €1,496,092 (€276,128) - UK PI.
- **2010-2011:** RSA: Varieties of Neoliberalism and Alternative Regional and Urban Strategies, £3,000 - Co-I.
- **2006-2008:** ESRC: Neoliberalism, Anti-Neoliberalism and De-ideologisation Research Seminar Series, £15,000 - Co-I.
- **2005-2008:** CPPR: Principal Researcher at the Centre for Public Policy for Regions, University of Glasgow, on the Cities and Regions: **Changing Spatial Imbalances** (<http://www.cppr.ac.uk/centres/cppr/researchthemes/citiesandregionschangingpatialimbalances/>) project.
- **2003-2004:** OSI-IPF: Rusting Away? Steel Politics in Post-Communist States, \$20,753 - International Policy Fellow

## Other activities

Dr. Mykhnenko is professionally affiliated with the following activities and organisations:

- Co-ordinator: The Urban Shrinkage, Adaptation, and Resilience Initiative
- Member, RSA – The Regional Studies Association

## Publications

For the full list of publications, please, see **Vlad's CV** (<http://policy.hu/mykhnenko/WebCV-Mykhnenko.pdf>).

Vlad's bibliometric index is available from Google Scholar Citations **here** (<http://scholar.google.co.uk/citations?user=ZA32ccMAAAAJ&hl=en>).

Haase, A., Rink, D., Grossmann, K., Bernt, M. & Mykhnenko, V. (2014) Conceptualizing urban shrinkage. **Environment and Planning A**, 46(7), 1519-1534. doi: 10.1068/a46269. **Download here** (<http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=a46269>).

Birch, K. & Mykhnenko, V. (2014) Lisbonizing versus financializing Europe? The Lisbon Agenda and the (un-)making of the European knowledge-based economy. **Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy**, 32(1), 108-128. doi:10.1068/c1246r. **Download here** (<http://www.envplan.com/abstract.cgi?id=c1246r>).

Grossmann, K., Bontje, M., Haase, A. & Mykhnenko, V. (2013) Shrinking cities: notes for the further research agenda. **Cities**, 35(December), 221-225. Advance Online publication, doi:10.1016/j.cities.2013.07.007. **Download here**. (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2013.07.007>)

Haase, A., Bernt, M., Großmann, K., Mykhnenko, V., and Rink, D. (2013) Varieties of shrinkage in European cities. **European Urban and Regional Studies**. OnlineFirst published as doi:10.1177/0969776413481985. **Download here** (<http://eur.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/06/11/0969776413481985.full.pdf+html>).

Mykhnenko, V. (2013) Die räumliche Differenzierung der ukrainischen Wirtschaft. Die regionale Ebene. **Ukraine-Analysen** (111), 2-9.[The spatial differentiation of the Ukrainian economy. The regional problem. In German]. **Download here** (<http://www.policy.hu/mykhnenko/UkraineAnalysen111.pdf>).

Кин Берч и Влад Михњенко (2012) *Успон и пад неолиберализма: крај једног економског поретка?* Београд: Завод за уџбенике. 325 pp. ISBN:978-8617179241 (paperback). [The Rise and Fall of Neoliberalism: The Collapse of an Economic Order? In Serbian].

Mykhnenko, V., Soldak, M., Kuzmenko, L., & Haase, A. (2012) Schrumpfende Ukraine: Bevölkerungsentwicklung und dilemmata der politik. **Ukraine-Analysen** (105), 2-14. [Shrinking Ukraine: population change and policy dilemmas. In German]. **Download here** (<http://www.policy.hu/mykhnenko/UkraineAnalysen105.pdf>).

Mykhnenko, V., Padvalkava, K., Kuzmenko, L., Soldak, M., & Myedvyedyev, D. (2012) *The governance of shrinkage in Donetsk and Makiivka (Ukraine): the case of local government finance*. Shrink Smart: The Governance of Shrinkage within a European Context (Revised ed., 118 pp.). Birmingham: School of Geography, Earth and

Rink, D., Rumpel, P., Slach, O., Cortese, C., Violante, A., Bini, P. C., . . . Krzysztofik, R. (2012) *Governance of shrinkage: lessons learnt from analysis for urban planning and policy*. Shrink Smart: The Governance of Shrinkage within a European Context (47 pp.). Leipzig: Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig.

Mykhnenko, V. (2011) *The Political Economy of Post-Communism: The Donbas and Upper Silesia in Transition* ([http://www.amazon.co.uk/Political-Economy-Post-Communism-Silesia-Transition/dp/3845409347/ref=sr\\_1\\_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1310533597&sr=8-2](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Political-Economy-Post-Communism-Silesia-Transition/dp/3845409347/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1310533597&sr=8-2)). Saarbrücken: LAP Lambert Academic Publishing. 244 pp. ISBN: 978-3845409344.

Mykhnenko, V., & Swain, A. (2010) Ukraine's diverging space-economy: the Orange revolution, post-soviet development models and regional trajectories. *European Urban and Regional Studies*, 17(2), 141-165. doi: 10.1177/0969776409357363 [Download here \(http://eur.sagepub.com/content/17/2/141.full.pdf+html\)](http://eur.sagepub.com/content/17/2/141.full.pdf+html).

Михненко, В. (2010) Неолібералізм в містах: множинність проявів та можливі альтернативи. *Спільне: журнал соціальної критики*, 2 (Листопад), 18-21. [Neoliberalism in cities: a multitude of manifestations and possible alternatives. In Ukrainian].

Birch, K., & Mykhnenko, V. (Eds.). (2010) *The Rise and Fall of Neoliberalism: The Collapse of an Economic Order?* (<http://zedbooks.co.uk/paperback/the-rise-and-fall-of-neoliberalism>) London; New York: Zed Books. 288 pp. ISBN: 978-1848133495 (paperback). ISBN: 978-1848133488 (hardcover).

Reprinted as: Birch, K., & Mykhnenko, V. (Eds.). (2010) *The Rise and Fall of Neoliberalism: The Collapse of an Economic Order?* (India ed.). Bangalore, India: Books for Change. 288 pp. ISBN: 978-8182910900.

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Swain, A., Mykhnenko, V., & French, S. (2010) The corruption industry and transition: neoliberalizing post-Soviet space? In K. Birch & V. Mykhnenko (Eds.), *The Rise and Fall of Neoliberalism: The Collapse of an Economic Order?* (pp. 112-132). London; New York: Zed Books.

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#### PRAISE FOR *The Rise and Fall of Neo-liberalism*

"Since the 1970s, the politics of "neo-liberalism," based on the purported concern to minimize state interference in the economy and thus to unleash "free" markets, have been mobilized at various sites and scales across the world economy. This book provides useful intellectual tools for deciphering the ideological, social and institutional foundations of neoliberalism and its wide-ranging implications for the still ongoing regulatory reorganization of capitalism." - **Neil Brenner**, Professor of Sociology, New York University, USA

"This is an outstanding book not only because of the sophisticated critiques offered by some of the most highly regarded thinkers on the topic of the destruction and misery wrought through neoliberal capitalism, but also because its forward looking emphasis on a more egalitarian and hopeful future offers insights about the work that needs to be done by activists and scholars alike. Moreover, this book helps us recognize that the emergence of any talk of a post-neoliberal era is premature beyond helping to construct a road map for ways citizens of the world can collectively, and deliberately, move forward." - **Nik Heynen**, Associate Professor of Geography, University of Georgia, US

"This timely and wide ranging book traces the changing contours of neoliberalism, demonstrating how market-oriented policies gave rise to a globally hegemonic political-economic project. The emphasis is on identifying the different forms neoliberalism takes and the diverse responses to it. At a juncture when this political-economic project is under increasing scrutiny from supporters and opponents alike, the book challenges existing conceptions of neoliberalism and makes an important contribution to the reinvigorated search for political alternatives." - **Wendy Larner**, Professor of Human Geography and Sociology, University of Bristol, UK

"A timely volume on the nature, varied manifestations, and above all limitations of a an economic order that is failing so spectacularly with the financial crisis. Highly recommended for academics, students, or for that matter anyone interested in the politics of our times." - **Magnus Ryner**, Professor of International Relations, Oxford Brookes University, UK

"A great collection of essays" - **Alan O'Connor**, Director of Cultural Studies, Trent University, Canada

"A valuable set of essays" - *Environment and Planning A*, vol. 42 (9), Sept 2010, p. 2037

"Provides useful insights on the rise to power of neoliberalism to its present state as a beast that lies wounded in front of our eyes" - *Socialist Review*, October 2010

"Brilliantly analysed ... a clear, highly informative, and even entertaining collection ... a fine epitaph for neoliberalism, the political economy of the undead" - *The Hindu*, 11 January 2011

"An important contribution to the current debate" - *Baltic Worlds*, Vol. 2, 2011, pp. 59-60

"Writing on neo-liberalism today is an enormous challenge ... This book manages that risk in a very satisfactory way" - *Journal of Contemporary European Studies*, vol. 19 (4), 2011, pp. 568-569.

"The neoliberal zombie may limp along, but thoughtful interventions like this help us better understand what a proper death might look like" - *Critical Discourse Studies*, vol. 10 (1), 2013, pp. 117-119.

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Turok, I., & Mykhnenko, V. (2008) Resurgent European cities? *Urban Research & Practice*, 1(1), 54-77. doi: 10.1080/17535060701795363 [Download here \(http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17535060701795363\)](http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17535060701795363).

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