

News

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[More news throughout the School of Government and Society \(/schools/government-society/news/index.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/news/index.aspx).

Latest news

[CREES' CASCADE team conduct a joint meeting with a co-ordinator of a sister FP7 project from Switzerland \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2015/01/cascade.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2015/01/cascade.aspx)



Dr Kataryna Wolczuk, Dr Derek Averre, Dr Kevork Oskanian and Nino Kemoklidze discussed their research project and exchanged ideas with former CREES PhD graduate Dr Katharina Hoffman, co-ordinator of CASCADE's sister FP7 project from Switzerland in Birmingham.

Thursday 8th January 2015

[Putin meets the press – as state takes tighter grip of economy \(http://theconversation.com/putin-meets-the-press-as-state-takes-tighter-grip-of-economy-35680\)](http://theconversation.com/putin-meets-the-press-as-state-takes-tighter-grip-of-economy-35680)



Written by Dr Richard Connolly. Vladimir Putin has delivered his annual press conference and at the top of the agenda was the Russian economy, reflecting that the turmoil buffeting the Russian rouble has reached critical levels.

Thursday 18th December 2014

[Huge Russian rate hike plays roulette with the economy \(http://theconversation.com/huge-russian-rate-hike-plays-roulette-with-the-economy-35568\)](http://theconversation.com/huge-russian-rate-hike-plays-roulette-with-the-economy-35568)



Written by Dr Richard Connolly. Russia's Central Bank has raised its key interest rate from 10.5% to 17% in an emergency move that is designed to halt the ongoing collapse of the rouble, which has accelerated in recent weeks. The dramatic intervention comes after the rouble suffered its worst one-day fall since the August 1998 financial crisis.

Tuesday 16th December 2014

[Slovak Expert Visits University of Birmingham \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/12/slovak-expert-visits-birmingham.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/12/slovak-expert-visits-birmingham.aspx)



Leading Expert on Slovak politics, Marek Rybar of Comenius University, visited the University of Birmingham.

Tuesday 16th December 2014

[Russia's economy is failing, but that gives it a chance to reform \(http://theconversation.com/russias-economy-is-failing-but-that-gives-it-a-chance-to-reform-35215\)](http://theconversation.com/russias-economy-is-failing-but-that-gives-it-a-chance-to-reform-35215)



Written by Dr Richard Connolly. Since the summer, the global price of oil has plummeted. After hovering above the US\$100 per barrel level since 2010, prices have declined by around 40% in the space of just a few months. Brent crude has fallen below the \$70 a barrel mark, with OPEC's recent decision to leave production levels unchanged raising the possibility that oil prices may have further to fall.

Tuesday 9th December 2014

[Podcast: The New Challenges and Choices of the South Caucasus: Between Political, Cultural and Economic Priorities \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/challenges-and-choices-of-the-south-caucasus.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/challenges-and-choices-of-the-south-caucasus.aspx)



Dr Denis Dvornikov spoke on the current political situation in the South Caucasus region, focussing on the new challenges linked with geopolitical integration projects such as the Eurasian Economic Union and the Iran factor as well as the situation with the region's non-recognised states (Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and Nagorno-Karabakh). He will also address recent events in Russia – Georgia dialogue and perspectives for economic development.

Friday 5th December 2014

[Focus on the Caucasus \(/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/news/2014/12/focus-on-the-caucasus.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/news/2014/12/focus-on-the-caucasus.aspx)



A roundtable on the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict, a presentation on the challenges and choices of the South Caucasus and participation at conferences in Baku highlight research strengths and interest in the Caucasus.

Thursday 4th December 2014

[Moldova's future in the balance after uncertain election result \(http://theconversation.com/moldovas-future-in-the-balance-after-uncertain-election-result-34895\)](http://theconversation.com/moldovas-future-in-the-balance-after-uncertain-election-result-34895)



Written by Professor Stefan Wolff. Moldova has gone to the polls in a vote seen as crucial for determining the country's future direction. Preliminary results indicate that the pro-European parties together achieved about 44% of the vote, while those parties considered to be more pro-Russia came in

[CREES Annual Report Highlights Vibrancy of the Centre \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/annual-report-2013-14.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/annual-report-2013-14.aspx)



The 2013-14 annual report for the Centre for Russian, European and Eurasian Studies (CREES) has just been published.

Friday 28th November 2014

[Podcast: The Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict: The Uses and Misuses of History \(/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/nagorno-karabakh-conflict.aspx\)](/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/11/nagorno-karabakh-conflict.aspx)



This round-table discussed the Nagorno-Karabakh Conflict which is one of the most complex and protracted ethno-territorial conflicts in the post-Soviet space. It focused on the role of historical narrative in the political discourse of all parties involved in the conflict. The round-table gathered together scholars and policy-makers with a lengthy empirical and political experience of this turbulent region.

Thursday 27th November 2014

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