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News

Keep up to date with the latest news and **events (/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/events/index.aspx)** from around the department and the wide-ranging projects our staff and students get involved with.
More news throughout the School of Government and Society (/schools/government-society/news/index.aspx) .

Latest news

Dr Jeremy Morris shortlisted for prestigious BBC Radio 4 Thinking Allowed Award for Ethnography (/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/news/2014/05/jeremy-morris-shortlisted-thinking-allowed-award-for-ethnography.aspx)

You can hear about his nominated article "Beyond coping? Alternatives to consumption within a social network of Russian workers" on BBC Radio 4's website.

Friday 16th May 2014

Blog: Can the CIS Survive the Ukraine Crisis? (http://creesbham.blogspot.co.uk/2014/05/can-cis-survive-ukraine-crisis.html)

Written by Dr Rilka Dragneva. The death of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) has been foretold many times during its history of (now) more than 20 years. Dissatisfaction with its weak and confusing institutional structure and a failure to promote effective regional integration has become an almost permanent background to its existence. Despite the remarkable resilience of the CIS, there are several signs suggesting that the current crisis is more fundamental and extreme than previous shake-ups.

Monday 12th May 2014

The Conversation: Ukraine separatists engaged in high-risk game as they press on with referendum plan (http://theconversation.com/ukraine-separatists-engaged-in-high-risk-game-as-they-press-on-with-referendum-plan-26279)

Written by Professor Stefan Wolff and Professor Tatyana Malyarenko (Professor of Public Administration at Donetsk State Management University). Vladimir Putin's statements giving qualified support for presidential elections in Ukraine on May 25, calling on separatists in eastern Ukraine to postpone their planned referendums and announcing a pull-back of troops from Ukraine's border, has been greeted with scepticism in Kiev, Brussels, London and Washington.

Friday 9th May 2014

POLSIS Seminar Series 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/departments/political-science-international-studies/events/seminar-series/2013-14/index.aspx)

POLSIS hosts a number of seminars throughout the year which focuses on a number of different topics. Listen to the latest podcasts from our recent events.

Tuesday 29th April 2014

Saving Humans Blog: When facing down Putin, don't let him choose your ground (http://savinghumans.org/2014/04/28/when-facing-down-putin-dont-let-him-choose-your-ground/)

Written by Dr Adam Quinn. American presidents often grow to enjoy foreign-policymaking more than the domestic kind as their time in office goes on. One reason is that they find that the comparative lack of interest it holds for both Congress and the general public allows them scope to make decisions with less need to bend to short-term political pressure. Sometimes, however, events come together in such a way as to thrust foreign policy into the spotlight of the 24-hour news cameras, as they did in Ukraine in February with the overthrow by popular uprising of President Viktor Yanukovych.

Monday 28th April 2014

The Conversation: With Geneva deal dead Ukraine could be pivotal moment for international relations (http://theconversation.com/all-eyes-on-russia-as-ukraine-hurtles-towards-civil-war-25400)

Written by Professor Stefan Wolff and Professor Tatyana Malyarenko (Professor of Public Administration at Donetsk State Management University). The Geneva Agreement appears to be dead in the water. Achieved only a week ago, it was widely considered a surprising breakthrough, albeit one which offered major concessions to Russia.

Friday 25th April 2014

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50 faces of CREES #52 - Paul Barton, B.Com (Russian Studies) 1964-67 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/government-society/departments/russian-east-european-studies/50-anniversary/profiles/paul-barton.aspx)

When I arrived in 1964, the Social Sciences buildings were very new. I returned in 1999, when my daughter was visiting potential universities, and it looked very down-at-heel. One of the great advantages of CREES was having our own library, which served as both a study area and a social centre - a common room of sorts - where students from all the years mixed and chatted.

Thursday 24th April 2014

Blog: Should I stay or should I go? Why the UK should stay out of the Crimea issue (http://polsis.org/2014/04/17/should-i-stay-or-should-i-go-why-the-uk-should-stay-out-of-the-crimea-issue/)

Iván Farías, Doctoral Researcher in the Department of Political Science and International Studies argues why the UK should stay out of the Crimea issue.

Thursday 24th April 2014

Blog: Déjà Vu? Regionalism and Separatism in Ukraine in a Longer Term Perspective (http://creesbham.blogspot.co.uk/2014/04/deja-vu-regionalism-and-separatism-in.html#more)

Written by Dr Kataryna Wolczuk. In 1991 Ukraine emerged as an independent country with strong regional differences. The reconciling of these differences has since represented one of the most profound challenges that Ukraine has faced and failed to address. A lack of effective and systematic efforts to tackle regional diversity has repeatedly presented grave ramifications for Ukraine's political cohesion and territorial integrity.

Monday 21st April 2014

The Conversation: Breakthrough in Ukraine talks is a win-win situation, especially for Russia (http://theconversation.com/breakthrough-in-ukraine-talks-is-a-win-win-situation-especially-for-russia-25346)

Written by Professor Stefan Wolff. The four-party talks on the crisis in Ukraine have apparently produced a significant breakthrough towards the diffusion of an increasingly dangerous situation.

Friday 18th April 2014

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