

MARIA STEFANOVA SPIROVA
Curriculum Vita

Work Address:

Department of Political Science
Leiden University
Wassenaarseweg 52
2333 AK Leiden
The Netherlands
mspirova@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

Education:

Ph.D. in Political Science, August 2004, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Areas of specialization: Comparative Politics and International Relations;
minor concentration: Theory and Methodology

Dissertation Title: Political Parties in Post-communist Systems: Formation,
Persistence, and Change

M.A. in Southeast European Studies, Central European University (CEU), Budapest, 1998

M.A. in Political Science, Central European University (CEU), Budapest, 1997, graduation
with honors

B.A. in International Relations & Political Science and History, American University in
Bulgaria (AUBG), 1996, graduation *cum laude*.

Visiting, Summer and Short-term Programs:

Visiting Fellow, Ghana Center for Democratic Development, June 2007

Visiting researcher, European University Institute, Florence, Italy, Spring 2003

Seminars in public policy, OSI, Budapest, Hungary, March and June 2003

Visiting doctoral student, New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria, Fall 2002

Summer program for junior faculty “Democracy in Multi-ethnic Societies,” Institute for
Strengthening Democracy, Konjic, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Summer 1999

Current Appointment:

Associate Professor (*Universitair Hoofddocent*) in Comparative Politics and International
Relations, Department of Political Science, Leiden University

Previous Appointments:

Consultant, Department of Political Science, Leiden University, July 2009 – December 2009

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Leiden University, 2008 -2009

Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of Political Science, Leiden University, 2006 – 2007

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Gettysburg College, 2004-2005

Instructor, UWM Political Science Department, Summer 2000 and Summer 2003.

Teaching Assistant, UWM Political Science Department, 1998-1999, 2001-2002 and 2003-2004

Political Science Tutor, UWM Tutoring Center, 2001.

Researcher, the Balkan Minorities Project, Minority Rights Group – Greece, 1998-2000

Research Interests:

Party Politics

Patronage and Clientelism

Ethnic politics and minority policy

Research Tools:

Quantitative: Basic and Advanced Statistical Techniques

Languages: Bulgarian (native); English (fluent); Dutch (Level 5/6);
Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian (certificate for Level 2/4 from Azbukum Serbian Language Program, Novi Sad), Macedonian (good), Russian (good), French (basic)

Field Research Experience:

Elite Interviews:

State administration personnel, academics, journalists and activists on issues related to party patronage in Ghana (June 2007), and Bulgaria (November 2006 and February 2007);

Leaders of the major political parties in Bulgaria and Hungary; observation and participation in several party events in Bulgaria, 2002-2003;

Leaders of the Roma community in Bulgaria, 2003.

Focus groups:

Organization of focus group sessions and face-to-face interviews with Bulgarian citizens, (1996-1997)

Teaching Experience:

Seminars:

Institutions and Institutionalism: Political Perspectives (Research Master's Level)

Political Parties and Particularism (Research Master's Level)

Diversity and Representation (Research Master's Level)

Great Debates in Political Science (MSc Level)

European Integration and Europeanization (MSc Level)

MSc Thesis Seminar: Parties, Elections and Democracy
MSc Thesis Seminar: International Perspectives on Ethnicity and Conflict
MSc Thesis Seminar: Ethnicity and Political Institutions
Political Parties and Corruption (MA Level)
Political Corruption (MA Level)
Ethnic Diversity and Political Institutions (BA level)
Development and Democratization in East Asia (BA Level)
Political Corruption (BA level)
Diversity: Conflict and Consensus (minor)

Survey Courses:

Politics and Government of China

Methodology Courses:

Social Data Analysis
MA International Relations and Diplomacy Thesis Lab
Research Design (MA level)

Introductory Courses

Introduction to Political Science
Introduction to Comparative Politics

Theses Supervision: 4 PhD supervisions, all completed, participation in PhD Dissertation Committees at Leiden University (opposition) and University of Amsterdam. Master's theses and Bachelor projects at Leiden University as first and second reader

Other Professional Service:

Book Reviews Editor, *East European Politics*
Workshop co-director ECPR Workshop on Clientelism and Public Policy, Salamanca April 2014
Member of the Editorial Board, *Contemporary Southeastern Europe*
Associate Editor, *Southeast European Politics Online* <http://www.seep.ceu.hu>, 2000- 2005
Editorial assistant, *AcEvents*, Association for the Study of Nationalities, 1999
Reviewer, *Democratization*, *Party Politics*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *Crime, Law and Society*, *Journal of Common Market Studies*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Political Studies*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Journal of Political and Military Sociology*, *European Sociological Review*

Research Grants Awarded:

NWO ASPASIA grant, 2014 for research on ethnicity and representation

Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Leiden University, grant for a one-year pilot research project “Unintended Consequences: Minority Integration Policies in Comparative Context” (with Frank de Zwart, Jan Erk, and Liza Nell), 2008

Gettysburg College Faculty Development Grant, Fall 2004

International Policy Fellowship, OSI- Budapest, Hungary, 2003

UWM Preparing Future Faculty Grant, Spring 2000

Research Grant, Center for International Studies, UWM, 1999-2000

Other Grants

SPSA Artinian Award for participation at the SPSA Annual Meeting, 2007

Leiden University Funds Travel Grant for participation in the ECPR Joint Sessions, 2006

ISA Annual Meeting Travel Grant, 2006

APSA Travel Grants, 1999 and 2003

UWM Graduate School Fellowships and Dissertation Fellowship, 1999-2000 (declined) and 2001-2002, and 2002-2003

Soros Supplementary Grant for studies at UWM, 2000-2002

UWM Graduate School Travel Grants, 2000 and 2002

FLAS fellowship, Department of Education, for summer language study, Summer 2000

Open Society Foundation scholarship for studies at CEU, 1996-1998

Awards and Honors:

Member of Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honor Society

UWM Chancellor’s Award, 2003

Administrative and Leadership Experience

Director of Studies and Member of the Board of the Institute of Political Science, 2017-2020

Director of Research and Member of the Board of the Institute of Political Science, August 2014-2016

Member, Voorlichting en Werving Committee, 2013-2014

Member, MScPS admission committee, 2013-2014

Chair, MScPS admission committee, 2010- 2013

Member, MIRD admissions committee, 2010-2013,

International Affairs Concentration Committee, Gettysburg College, 2004-2005

Member, UWM Travel Grant Committee, 2003-2004

President, Political Science Graduate Students Association, 1999-2001

Member, AUBG Student Senate, 1995-1996

Publications:

Refereed Monograph:

Political Parties in Post-Communist Systems: Formation, Persistence, and Change, New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007

Refereed Edited Book:

Clientelism and Democratic Representation in Comparative Perspective, (with Ruth-Lowell S.P.) Rowman and Littlefield International.

Party Government and Party Patronage in European Democracies, (with Petr Kopecký and Peter Mair), Oxford University Press, 2012

Refereed Journal Articles:

“Juggling friends and foes: Prime Minister Borissov’s surprise survival in Bulgaria,” (with Radostina Sharenkova-Toshkova) *East European Politics*, 2021 37:3, 432-447, DOI: 10.1080/21599165.2021.1883589

“Parties between thresholds: State subsidies and party behaviour in post-communist democracies,” (with Fernando Casal Bertoa), *Party Politics*, Maria Spirova First Published June 15, 2017

“Party Patronage in Contemporary Democracies. Results from an Expert Survey in 22 Countries in Five Regions”, *European Journal of Political Research* 55(1), 2016, 416–431 (with G. Scherlis, F. Panizza, M. Spirova, J-H. Meyer-Sahling and Ch. Schuster)

“Party Regulation and the Conditioning of Small Political Parties: Evidence from Bulgaria” (with Ekaterina R. Rashkova), *East European Politics*, 2014 30:3, 315-329

“European Integration and Minority Politics: Ethnic Parties at the EP Elections,” *East European Politics*, Vol. 28 (1) March 2012. pp 76-93

“The European Dimension of Minority Political Representation: Bulgaria and Romania Compared” (with Boyka Stefanova), *East European Politics and Societies*, Vol 26(1) February 2012, pp 75-93.

"Jobs for the Boys: Patterns of Party Patronage in Post-Communist Europe" (with Petr Kopecký), *West European Politics*, Vol. 34, No. 5, 897–921, September 2011, pp 897-922

“Corruption and Democracy: The Color Revolutions in Georgia and Ukraine,” *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, Vol. 4, No.2, December 2008, pp 75-89.

- “The Communist Successor Party in Bulgaria: the Long Road to Europe,” *Communist & Post-Communist Studies*, Vol. 41, no.3, December 2008, pp 481-495.
- “Europarties and Party Development in EU Candidate States: the Case of Bulgaria.” *Europe-Asia Studies*, vol. 60, no.5, July 2008, pp 81-109.
- “The Roma: a “European minority? The EU Accession Process and the Roma Minority in New and Soon-to-be Member States” (with Darlene Budd). *Comparative European Politics*, Vol. 6, no 1, April 2008, pp 81-101.
- “Parliamentary Opposition in Post-Communist Democracies: Power of the Powerless” (with Petr Kopecký), *Journal of Legislative Studies*, Vol. 14 No. 1, January 2008, p.133-150.
- “Political Parties in Bulgaria: Organizational Trends in Comparative Perspectives.” *Party Politics*, 11(5), September 2005, pp 601-622.
- “The Break-Up of Yugoslavia in the Bulgarian Media” (in Bulgarian), *Balkanistic Forum*, Issue 1-2 1996.

Refereed Book Chapters:

- “Coalition Governance in Central Eastern Europe.” (with Romyana Kolarova). In: Bergman T, Ilonszki G., Müller W.C. (red.) 2019, *Coalition Governance in Central Eastern Europe.*: Oxford University press.
- “Bulgaria since 1989.” (with R. Sharenkova-Toshkova), in Ramet S.P., Hassenstab C.M. (red.) *Central and Southeast European Politics since 1989*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 449-476.
- “Patrons or Champions? The Organizational Strategies of Ethnic Parties,” (with Petr Kopecký). In: Ruth-Lowell S.P. , Spirova M. (red.) *Clientelism and Democratic Representation in Comparative Perspective.*: Rowman and Littlefield International.
- “Conclusion.” In: Ruth-Lowell S.P. , Spirova M. (red.) *Clientelism and Democratic Representation in Comparative Perspective.*
- “Combatting corruption.” (with Tatyana Kostadinova) In: Fagan A., Kopecký P. (red.) *The Routledge Handbook of East European Politics*. Oxon: Routledge.
- “Beyond the Ethnic Vote: the Movement for Rights and Freedoms in Bulgaria” in Sabrina Ramet and Marco Valenta, eds, *Ethnic Minorities and Politics in Post-socialist South-eastern Europe*, Cambridge University Press, 2016.
- “Ethnic Party Regulation in Eastern Europe” (with Ekaterina Rashkova) in I. van Biezen and H. ten Napel (eds.), *Regulating Political Parties: European Democracies in Comparative Perspective*, Leiden University Press, 2014.
- “A Tradition We Don’t Mess With’: Party patronage in Bulgaria” in Kopecký, Mair and Spirova, *Party Government and Party Patronage in European Democracies*, Oxford University Press, 2012
- “Measuring party patronage through structured expert interviews” (with Petr Kopecký) in Kopecký, Mair and Spirova, *Party Government and Party Patronage in European Democracies*, Oxford University Press, 2012

- “Party Management and State Exploitation in post-Communist Europe: the Ambiguous Impact of the European Union” (with Petr Kopecký) in Paul G Lewis and Radoslaw Markowski, eds, *Europeanizing Party Politics: Comparative Perspectives on Central and Eastern Europe*, Manchester University Press, 2011. pp 25-44
- “Bulgaria” in Sabrina P. Ramet (ed.), *Central and Southeastern Europe since 1989* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010, pp.401-421.
- “Hungary: the Post-communist Frontrunner,” (with James Derleth) in W. Phillips Shively, ed. *Comparative Governance: Political Structure and Diversity across the Globe*, McGraw-Hill Primis, 2007.
- “Bulgaria: the Challenges of Building a Stable Democracy,” (with James Derleth) in W. Phillips Shively, ed. *Comparative Governance: Political Structure and Diversity across the Globe*, McGraw-Hill Primis, 2007.
- “Bulgaria and the Disintegration of Yugoslavia (1991-1999): Between Ethnic Affinity and International Commitment,” in Albrecht Schnabel, ed. *South East European Security: Threats, Responses, Challenges*. Huntington, NY: Nova Science Publishers, 2002.

Other Academic Publications:

- “Bulgaria: Political development and data for 2020,” *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook* Vol 59(1)
- “Bulgaria: Political development and data for 2018,” *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook* Vol 58(1)
- “Bulgaria 2016,” (with Rумыана Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, September 2017, Wiley DOI: 10.1111/2047-8852.12178
- “Nations in Transit 2017: Bulgaria” yearly report of the Freedom House, https://freedomhouse.org/sites/default/files/NiT2017_Bulgaria_0.pdf
- “Bulgaria 2015,” (with Rумыана Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, 2016, 55 (1).
- “Nations in Transit 2016: Bulgaria” yearly report of the Freedom House, <https://freedomhouse.org/report/nations-transit/2016/bulgaria>
- Book review of Margit Tavits’ *Post-Communist Democracies and Party Organization*, in *Slavic Review*, vol. 74, no. 4 (Winter 2015), pp 912-3.
- “Nations in Transit 2015: Bulgaria ” yearly report of the Freedom House, <https://freedomhouse.org/report/nations-transit/2015/bulgaria>
- “Bulgaria 2014”, *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, 2015, 54 (1) forthcoming
- “Nations in Transit 2014: Bulgaria ” yearly report of the Freedom House, 2015.
- “Bulgaria 2013”, (with Rумыана Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, 2014, 53 (1)

- “Nations in Transit 2013: Bulgaria ” yearly report of the Freedom House, 2014.
- “Bulgaria 2012”, (with Romyana Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, 2013, 52
- “Bulgaria 2011”, (with Romyana Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research Political Data Yearbook*, 2012, 51 (1), pp. 922-927.
- “Party Regulation in Post-Communist Bulgaria” (with Ekaterina R. Rashkova), Working Paper Series on the Legal Regulation of Political Parties, No. 21. April 2012
- “Bulgaria 2010” Political Data Yearbook, (with Romyana Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research*, 2011, 50 (7-8), pp. 922-927.
- “Bulgaria 2009” Political Data Yearbook, (with Romyana Kolarova), *European Journal of Political Research*, 2010, 49 (7-8), pp. 913-916.
- “The 2009 parliamentary elections in Bulgaria” *Electoral Studies*, 29 (2010), pp. 276–279
- “Bulgaria 2008” Political Data Yearbook, *European Journal of Political Research*, 2009, 48 (7-8), pp. 913-916.
- “Conceptualizing and Measuring Party Patronage,” (with Petr Kopecný and Gerardo Scherlis) Working Paper 25, Series of the Committee on Concepts and Methods, IPSA, September 2008
- “Bulgaria 2007,” Political Data Yearbook, *European Journal of Political Research*, 2008, 47(7-8), pp. 929-934.
- “Bulgaria 2006,” Political Data Yearbook, *European Journal of Political Research*, 2007, 46 (7-8), pp. 901–908.
- “The parliamentary elections in Bulgaria, June 2005” *Electoral Studies*, 25(3) September 2006, pp. 616-621.

Popular Publications:

- “Mission impossible in Bulgaria,” (with Emilia Zankina) November 20th, 2014, Blog entry for Party Systems and Governments Observatory
<http://whogoverns.eu/mission-impossible-in-bulgaria/>

Selected Peer-reviewed Paper Presentations::

- “Vote where your heart is: Ethnic Voting in the European Union”(with Femke Bakker), paper presented at the 8th International Conference on Transatlantic Studies Democracy and Electoral Systems: a Transatlantic Conversation, Alcalá de Henares, October 22-23, 2015
- Party Patronage East and West: is Party Patronage a Post-communist Phenomenon?*, (with Petr Kopecný) paper presented at the 2015 CES Conference, Paris July 7-10, 2015
- “*Patrons or Champions? The Organizational Strategies of Ethnic Parties*” (with Petr Kopecný), Paper presented at the 2014 ECPR Workshop on Clientelism and Public Policy, Salamanca April 2014

- “Patronage East and West, “(with Petr Kopecký) Research Session on Patronage in New Democracies, July 10-12 2014, University of Essex*
- Parties between Thresholds: State Subsidies and Party Behavior in Post-Communist Democracies* (with Fernando Casal Bértoa), Paper prepared to be presented at the APSA Annual Conference, Chicago, 29 August-1 September 2013
- Patrons or Champions? The Organizational Strategies of Ethnic Parties* (with Petr Kopecký), Paper presented at the 2013 CES Conference, Amsterdam, June 25-28, 2013
- Beyond Numbers? The Electoral Strategies of Ethnic Minority Parties*, Paper presented at the 2012 CES conference, Boston, MA 22-25 March 2012 and ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, Antwerp, April 13-16 2012.
- Ally or Perish? Party Financing as a Constraint on Party Behavior in post-Communist Political Systems*, Paper presented at the 2011 ECPR Joint Sessions, St Gallen, 12-17 April 2011.
- Beyond the Cartel Party: Party Patronage and the Nature of Parties in New Democracies*, (with Petr Kopecký and Gerardo Scherlis), Paper prepared for the Joint IPSA/ECPR conference, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 16-19 February 2011
- Exploiting the State: Patterns of Party Patronage in the Post-Communist Europe* (with Petr Kopecký), paper prepared for presentation at the 2010 MPSA Annual meeting, Chicago, IL April 22-25, 2010
- Jobs for the Boys: Patterns of Party Patronage in the Post-Communist Europe* (with Petr Kopecký), paper presented at the workshop on ‘Party patronage, governance and reform’, conference of the Political Studies Association, Edinburgh 29 March – 1 April 2010.
- Winning Elections the Democratic Way? Political Parties and Internal Party Democracy in post-Communist Europe*, paper accepted for poster presentation at the 2009 APSA Annual Meeting, Toronto, September 3-6, 2009.
- The European Dimension of Minority Representation: Convergence in Minority Empowerment through the European Elections?* (with Boyka Stefanova), paper accepted for presentation at the EUSA Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, April 23-25, 2009.
- Minority Parties and European Elections: Trends from Bulgaria and Romania*, (with Boyka Stefanova), paper accepted for presentation at the MPSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2-5, 2009.
- Party Patronage in New Democracies: a Post-communist Pattern?*, (with Petr Kopecký and Gerardo Scherlis), paper presented at the 2008 APSA Annual Meeting, Boston, August 28- 31st, 2008.
- Cleaning-up Politics: Parties and Corruption in the “New” Europe* (with Carolien van Ham), paper presented at the 2007 APSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 29- Sept 2, 2007.
- Party Patronage in New Democracies: Institutional Location and Policy Sector Relevance* (with Petr Kopecký and Gerardo Scherlis), paper presented at the 2007 APSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, August 29- Sept 2, 2007.

- Political Parties and Women MPs in Bulgaria*, paper presented at the 2007 SPSA Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, January 3-7, 2007.
- Political Parties and Patronage in Bulgaria: a Case Study of the 2005 "Red Sweep"*, paper presented at the ECPR Joint Sessions, Nicosia, April 25-30, 2006.
- Party Electoral Strategies in Post-communist Systems: the Impact of International Actors*, paper presented at the 2006 ISA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 22-26, 2006.
- The Roma: a "European minority"?*(with Darlene Budd), paper presented at the 2006 ISA Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 22-26, 2006.
- The EU and Minority Policy in Pre-Accession Countries*, paper presented at the 2005 ISA Annual Meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, March 1-5, 2005.
- Determinants of Voter Turnout among Roma Minorities in Eastern Europe*, paper presented at the 2004 APSA Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 29-31, 2004.
- Political Representation of Ethnic Minorities: Electoral Institutions and Ethnic Parties in Eastern Europe*, paper presented at the MPSA Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 15-18, 2004.
- Party Organization and Party Development in Post-Communist Systems: Bulgarian Parties in Comparative Perspective*, paper presented at the APSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, August 28-31, 2003.
- Formation of Political Parties in Post-communist Systems: the Role of Organizational Development*, paper presented at 19th IPSA World Congress, Durban, South Africa, June 27-31, 2003.
- Legal Foundations of Individual Rights: Judicial Reform and Support for Democracy in Russia*, (with Tatyana Karaman and Eric Browne) poster presented at the 2002 APSA Annual Meeting, Boston, MA August 29 – September 2, 2002.
- Women Empowerment in Eastern Europe: Attitudinal and Institutional Barriers*. (with Darlene Budd) paper presented at the SWPSA, New Orleans, March 25-31, 2001.
- 'Losers' or Believers: Support for the BSP in Bulgaria*, poster presented at the 2001 APSA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, August 28- September 2, 2001.
- Roma in Eastern Europe: the Scapegoat of Reform*, poster presented at the APSA Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., August 30 – September 3, 2000.
- The Bulgarian Media and the Disintegration of Yugoslavia (1991-1999)*, poster presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 27-30, 2000.
- Discrimination against Roma Minorities in Eastern Europe: an Attempt at Quantitative Analysis of its Determinants*, paper presented at the 1999 annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, April 12-15, Columbia University.
- The Bulgarian Independent Media*, paper presented at the 1997 annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, (ASN), April 1997, Columbia University.

Invited Paper Presentations:

- Caretaker governments – definitions and classifications*, (with Torbjörn Bergman), presented at the “Vague concepts and poor operationalization – solutions to measurement problems in studies of government formation” at Arlanda Airport, Wednesday September 16 to Friday September 18, 2015
- Are Ethnic Party Bans Futile? Ethnic Party Regulation in Eastern Europe* (with Ekaterina Rashkova), Paper prepared for presentation at the 'Ethnic Politics and Electoral Democracy' workshop, Zurich 14-16 June 2012
- Coalition Government in Bulgaria* (with Romyana Kolarova) paper prepared for presentation at the Stockholm Conference on Coalition Government, June 13-15, 2012.
- “The Politicization of Agencies in Eastern Europe,” (with Petr Kopecký), EGPA/NISPAcee Trans-European Dialogue Conference Keynote Speech, 2-3 February 2012, Budapest
- The EP Elections as an Arena for Ethnic Minority Representation: Evidence from New EU Member States*, Paper prepared for the PIREDEU Final User Community Conference, Brussels, 18-19 November 2010
- Party Patronage in Post-Communist Countries: Bulgaria and the Czech Republic*, (with Petr Kopecký), paper presented at the Workshop on Political Parties and Patronage in Contemporary European Democracies, Leiden, 11-12 December 2008.
- Corruption and Democracy: the “Color” Revolutions in Georgia and Ukraine*, paper presented at the Workshop “Reflections on Four Decades of European Democratization -- Lessons for Other Young Democracies,” Prague, 10-11 October 2008.
- Party Management and State Exploitation in post-Communist Europe* (with Petr Kopecký), paper presented at the Conference on Emerging Party Systems and the European Context, Sofia, 12-13 September 2008.
- Party Patronage in New Democracies: Preliminary Empirical Results and Analysis*, (with Gerardo Scherlis and Petr Kopecký), paper presented at the workshop on Political Parties and Patronage in Contemporary European Democracies, Florence, 22-23 November 2007.
- The Europeanization of the Bulgarian Political Party System: the Bad News* (with Romyana Kolarova), paper presented at the Sussex European Institute Conference “The Successful Laggard: Opportunities and Challenges from Bulgaria’s Membership to the European Union,” May 11, 2007.
- European Federations and the Bulgarian Party System*, paper presented at a seminar on Europeanization in Bulgaria, Sofia University, February 5, 2007
- The Europeanization of the Bulgarian Party System: The Impact of Europarties on Bulgarian Party Development*, The EU’s South-Eastern Enlargement Romania and Bulgaria in Comparative Perspective, European Studies Research Institute, University of Salford, 26-28 January 2007

Consolidating the Post-communist Party Systems: Political Parties in Bulgaria, paper presented at the 5th Annual Kokkalis Workshop, Harvard University, February 7, 2003.

Support for the BSP and Democratization in Bulgaria, paper presented at the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Conference, Belgrade, Serbia, April 18-22, 2002