

# Ryan Kennedy

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, June 2008.  
M.A., Department of Political Science, The Ohio State University, 2004.  
Certificate, Polish Language and Culture, Jagiellonian University (Krakow), 2003.  
B.A. (Magna Cum Laude, General Honors, and Phi Beta Kappa), Political Science and  
Russian with minor in International Studies, Truman State University, 2001.  
Certificate, Russian Language and Culture, Institute of Youth (Moscow), 2001.

## EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor: University of Houston, 2014-present.  
Assistant Professor: University of Houston, 2008-2014.  
Founding Director: Center for International and Comparative Studies (CICS).  
Research Associate: Hobby Center for Public Policy.  
Affiliate: Harvard University Institute for Quantitative Social Science, 2013-2015.  
Visiting Assistant Professor: Northeastern University, 2013-2014.  
Lazer Lab for Computational Social Science  
Department of Political Science  
Contributing Analyst: Oxford Analytica, 2006-present.  
Freelance Analyst: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, 2006-2007.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed Articles

Kennedy, Ryan, Stefan Wojcik, and David Lazer. 2017. "Improving Election Prediction Internationally." *Science* 355(6324): 515-520.  
Wang, Wei, Ryan Kennedy, David Lazer, and Naren Ramakrishnan. 2016. "Growing Pains for Global Monitoring of Social Events." *Science* 353(6307): 1502-1503.  
Kennedy, Ryan. 2016. "The Limits of Soft Balancing: The Frozen Conflict in Transnistria and the Challenge to EU and NATO Strategy." *Small Wars and Insurgencies* 27(3): 512-537.  
Kennedy, Ryan. 2015. "Making Useful Conflict Predictions: Methods for Addressing Skewed Classes and Implementing Cost-Sensitive Learning in the Study of State Failure." *Journal of Peace Research* 52(5): 649-664.  
Lazer, David M., Anand E. Sokhey, Michael A. Neblo, Kevin M. Esterling, and Ryan Kennedy. 2015. "Expanding the Conversation: Multiplier Effects from a Deliberative Field Experiment." *Political Communication* 32(4): 552-573.  
Kennedy, Ryan, Eric Forbush, Brian Keegan, and David Lazer. 2015. "Turning Introductory Comparative Politics and Elections Courses into Research Communities Using Wikipedia: Improving Both Teaching and Research." *PS: Political Science and Politics*

- 48(2): 378-384.
- Lazer, David, Ryan Kennedy, Gary King, and Alessandro Vespignani. 2014. "The Parable of Google Flu: Traps in Big Data Analysis." *Science* 343(6176): 1203-1205.
- Cantir, Cristian and Ryan Kennedy. 2015. "Balancing on the Shoulders of Giants: Moldova's Foreign Policy Towards Russia and the European Union." *Foreign Policy Analysis*, 11(4): 397-416.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2014. "Fading Colours? A Synthetic Comparative Case Study of the Impact of 'Colour Revolutions'." *Comparative Politics* 46(3): 273-292.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2013. "The Role of Supranational Identity in Promoting Democratic Values." *European Union Politics* 14(2): 228-249.
- Kennedy, Ryan and Lydia Tiede. 2013. "Economic Development Assumptions and the Elusive Curse of Oil." *International Studies Quarterly* 57(4): 760-771.
- Kennedy, Ryan and Matthew Dickenson. 2013. "Beyond East and West: An Analysis of Turkish Foreign Policy Attitudes." *Foreign Policy Analysis* 9(2): 171-188.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2010. "Supranational Identity, Democratic Attitudes, and Political Participation: The Case of Moldova." *European Union Politics*, 11(4): 511-532.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2010. "The Contradiction of Modernization: A Conditional Model of Endogenous Democratization." *Journal of Politics*, 72(3): 785-798.
- Neblo, Michael A., Kevin M. Esterling, Ryan P. Kennedy, David M. Lazer, and Anand E. Sokhey. 2010. "Who Wants to Deliberate – and Why?" *American Political Science Review*, 104(3): 566-583.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2009. "Survival and Accountability: An Analysis of the Empirical Support for 'Selectorate Theory.'" *International Studies Quarterly*, 53(3): 695-714.
- 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

- Dickenson, Matthew and Ryan Kennedy. 2011. "Attitudes Towards East and West in Turkish Public Opinion." In Kilic Kanat, Kadir Ustun, and Nuh Yilmaz (eds). *History, Politics, and Foreign Policy in Turkey*. Ankara, Turkey: SETA.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2010. "A Quiet Revolution? Moldova's 2005 Parliamentary Elections and the Influence of the Colour Revolutions." In Donnacha O'Beachain and Abel Polese (eds.), *The Colour Revolutions in the Former Soviet Republics*. London: Routledge.
- Kennedy, Ryan. 2010. "In the 'new Great Game,' who is getting played? The effect of Chinese investment in Kazakhstan's oil sector." In Andrea Kendall-Taylor, Heidi Kjaernet, and Indra Overland (eds.), *Caspian Petro-Politics: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan*. London: Routledge.  
(Re-published by the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs as a 2009 *RussCasp*

*Working Paper.)*

Book Reviews

Kennedy, Ryan. 2013. "Book Review: Moldova: Arena of International Influences." *East European Politics* 29(2): 253-254.

Editor Reviewed Articles (Links Available on Website)

Kennedy, Ryan, David Lazer and Oren Tsur. 6 January 2016. "What He Talked About." *Politico Magazine* 3(2).

Kennedy, Ryan, David Lazer, Katherine Ognyanova, Oren Tsur. 14 November 2015. "What to Expect in the Dem Debate? We Crunched the Last One." *Politico*.

Lazer, David and Ryan Kennedy. 1 October 2015. "What We Can Learn from the Epic Failure of Google Flu Trends." *Wired*.

Kennedy, Ryan, David Lazer, Katherine Ognyanova, Oren Tsur. 21 September 2015. "Debate Data Reveals It's Still the Trump Show." *Politico*.

Kennedy, Ryan, David Lazer, Katherine Ognyanova, Oren Tsur. 13 August 2015. "DATA: Trump Won the Debate – or at Least Talked the Most." *Politico*.

Kennedy, Ryan and Halil Bilecen. 12 September 2014. "Turkey's Ambivalence Toward Joining a US Coalition Against IS Reflects the Country's Difficult Strategic Position." *The London School of Economics and Political Science European Politics (EUOPP) and Policy Blog*. <http://bit.ly/1swbqdl>

Kennedy, Ryan. 13 January 2012. "Moldova: Separatist Settlement is Still a Distant Goal." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan and Lydia Tiede. 2011. "Oil and Good Governance: Do Oil Resources Lead to Weak Institutions?" Norwegian Institute of International Affairs – RussCasp Working Paper.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2011. "Privatization and Nationalization in Oil and Gas: Foreign Policy and Oil Contracts in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan." Norwegian Institute of International Affairs – RussCasp Working Paper.

Kennedy, Ryan and Lydia Tiede. 2011. "Nationalization of the Oil Sector: A Political Economy Perspective." Norwegian Institute of International Affairs – RussCasp Working Paper.

Kennedy, Ryan. 20 August 2010. "Moldova: Referendum Campaign Previews Challenges Ahead." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan and Adilzhan Nurmakov. 2010. "Resource Nationalism Trends in Kazakhstan, 2004-2009." Norwegian Institute of International Affairs – RussCasp Working Paper.

Kennedy, Ryan. 4 December 2009. "Moldova: AEI scores early foreign policy success." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 28 September 2009. "Moldova: Sharp remittance falls darken outlook." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 26 August 2009. "Moldova: Former Communist emerges as kingmaker." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 29 July 2009. "Moldova: New elections are unlikely to break deadlock." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 9 April 2009. "Moldova: Protests galvanize youth, heighten tensions." *Oxford Analytica*.

Kennedy, Ryan. 24 October 2008. "Moldova: Parties manoeuvre ahead of elections."

- Oxford Analytica.*
- 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 Transdnestr 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* 6(23):8-9.

### **BOOK MANUSCRIPT IN PROGRESS**

Lazer, David and Ryan Kennedy. *Parables of the Big Data Age*.

### **WORKING PAPERS**

- Lin, Yu-Ru, David Lazer, and Ryan Kennedy. "The Geography of Money and Politics: Population Density, Social Networks and Political Contributions."
- Abrahms, Max, Matthew Ward, Ryan Kennedy. "Terrorist Networks and Target Selection."
- Kennedy, Ryan. "Reference Societies and Liberalization: An Explanation of Democratization Through Cross-National Comparison."
- Kennedy, Ryan, Anand Sokhey, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, Kevin Esterling, and William Minozzi. "Who Can Be Persuaded? Exploring the Conditionality of Mass-Elite Communication."
- Kennedy, Ryan, Anand Sokhey, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, and Kevin Esterling. "Gender, Deliberation and (Equal?) Voice: Evidence from Online Town Halls."
- Kennedy, Ryan, Lydia Tiede and Matthew Ward. "Nationalization of the Oil Sector: A Political Economy Perspective."
- Kennedy, Ryan. "Income and Democratic Citizenship: A Multilevel Re-evaluation."
- Alkon, Meir, Ryan Kennedy and Johannes Urpelainen. "Partisan Politics and the Tragedy of the Commons: Groundwater Depletion in India's Breadbasket."
- Alkon, Meir, Ryan Kennedy and Johannes Urpelainen. "Partisan Alignment and Development Outcomes in a Federal System: Evidence from India's Rural Electrification, 2001-2011."
- Kennedy, Ryan and Cristian Cantir, "Foreign Policy Socialization: A Big Data Evaluation."
- Ward, Matthew, Gregory Weiher, and Ryan Kennedy. "The Myth of Millennial Muslims."

### **SELECTED PROJECTS IN PROGRESS**

- Kennedy, Ryan (with ISI at USC), "SAFE – SIGINT Anticipation of Future Events."
- Kennedy, Ryan, David Lazer, Stefan Wojcik, Gary King, Alessandro Vespignani (with Microsoft). "Search Data and Disease Reporting: Linking Searches to Survey Data on Disease Prevalence."
- Kennedy, Ryan, Kevin Esterling, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, and William Minozzi (with the Congressional Management Foundation and Democracy Fund). "Congress 3.0"
- Sokhey, Anand, Christina Ladam, and Ryan Kennedy (with the Colorado Civic Engagement Roundtable), "Public Voice in Public Finance."

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

- Comparative Politics: democratization, political economy, post-communist politics, oil politics, democratic diffusion.
- International Relations: foreign policy analysis, political terrorism, and socialization.
- Methodology: computational social science, multilevel models, Bayesian analysis, agent-based

modeling, duration analysis, machine learning, and panel data.

Classes Taught:

Graduate Course, "Democratization," University of Houston.

Undergraduate Course, "Democratization," University of Houston.

Undergraduate Course, "International Energy Politics," University of Houston.

Undergraduate Course, "Political Terrorism," University of Houston and The Ohio State University.

Undergraduate Course, "Statistics for Political Scientists," University of Houston.

Undergraduate Course, "Introduction to Comparative Politics," The Ohio State University.

Undergraduate Course, "Model United Nations," The Ohio State University.

## GRANTS

Kennedy, Ryan. 2017. Fulbright Specialists Program, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Kennedy, Ryan, Kevin Esterling, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, and William Minozzi. 2016.

"Intellectual Humility and Discursive Participation in Politics: A Field Experiment with Members of Congress and their Constituents." Templeton Foundation, subcontracted through the University of Connecticut. (\$225,000)

Kennedy, Ryan. 2016. "SIGINT-based Anticipation of Future Events (SAFE)." Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA), subcontracted through Northeastern University. (\$50,000)

Kennedy, Ryan, Kevin Esterling, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, and William Minozzi. 2016.

"Congress 3.0: Testing Deliberative Platforms for Improving Constituency Communication." University of Houston Hobby School for Public Policy. (≈ \$10,000)

Kennedy, Ryan, Kevin Esterling, David Lazer, Michael Neblo, and William Minozzi. 2015.

"Congress 3.0." Congressional Management Foundation and Democracy Fund. (\$60,000)

Research fellowship in computational social science. Northeastern University and Harvard University, 2013-2014.

Weiher, Greg, Phillip Bossert, and Ryan Kennedy. 2009. "National Security Studies Minor at the University of Houston." University of Houston Faculty Development Initiative Program.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2009. Travel Grant for "Junior Scholar Training Session." Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2009. "Supranational Identity and the Spread of Democratic Attitudes in Moldova." University of Houston New Faculty Grant.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2007. "Supranational Identity, Political Attitudes, and Participation: The Case of Moldova." The Ohio State University SBS Summer Research Grant.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2007. "On the Clock: Event History Modeling in the Study of Comparative Politics." National Science Foundation Travel Grant for the American Political Science Association Summer Methods Meeting.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2005-2006. "Explaining Competitive Politics in Moldova." Fulbright Research Fellowship in Moldova.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2005. "Oil and Authoritarian Politics in Kazakhstan." The Ohio State University Office of International Affairs Travel Grant.

Kennedy, Ryan. 2005. "Oil and Authoritarian Politics in Kazakhstan." The Ohio State University AGGRS Research Grant.

Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Grant. 2003. Summer Study of Polish Language and Culture at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

## **HONORS**

### University of Houston

Ross M. Lence Teaching Excellence Award, 2013.

Heinz I. Eulau Award for best article published in the *American Political Science Review* in 2010.

### The Ohio State University

F.E. Peacock Award for best paper presented by a graduate student at the International Studies Association – Midwest conference, 2003.

F.E. Peacock Award for best paper presented by a graduate student at the International Studies Association – Midwest conference, 2001.

Distinguished University Fellowship, 2001-2006.

Program for Excellence in Graduate Studies Grant, 2001-2006.

### 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, 1997-2001.

### Institute of Youth

Outstanding Student in Russian Studies, 2000.

## **SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES**

### Discipline

Section Chair, Comparative Politics, Southwest Political Science Association, 2016.

Section Chair, International Security Section, Midwest Political Science Association, 2014.

Executive Officer, International Studies Association – Midwest, 2002-2003, 2012-2014.

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

### University

Undergraduate Research Mentor, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2014-2015. (Supervised 3 SURF and 3 PURS grants.)

Faculty Development Initiative Program Committee, 2011, 2013.

Student Fulbright Grant Committee, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012.

Student Preparatory Interview Participant for Rhodes and Marshall Finalists, 2010, 2011.

### Department

International Relations Search Committee: 2015.

Technology Committee (Chair): 2014-present.

Undergraduate Studies Committee: 2011-2013.

Graduate Studies Committee: 2008-2010.

Comparative Politics Search Committee: 2009, 2011.

### Community

Advisory Board, North American University, 2013-present.  
Advisory Board, Houston Area Model United Nations, 2015-present.  
Occasional news radio and television commentary, 2009-present.  
Glenbrook Valley historic committee, 2009-2011.

### **CONSULTANCIES**

Oxford Analytica. Unrecognized Territories Project, 2011.  
Norwegian Institute for International Affairs, RussCasp Working Paper Series, 2010-2011.  
GMB Research, Economic Briefs on Moldova and Russia, 2008.  
Oxford Analytica UNAIDS Project, HIV/AIDS in Moldova, 2007.

### **REFEREE/REVIEWER**

*American Political Science Review, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Politics, American Journal of Political Science, British Journal of Political Science, Millennium, Social Science Quarterly, National Science Foundation, International Studies Quarterly, EU Politics, and others.*

### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, International Studies Association, and others.

### **LANGUAGES**

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

### **PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES**

R, Stata, Octave/MatLab, Python, Perl, Visual Basic