# Valery Dzutsati, Ph.D.

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Department of Social Sciences
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## Academic Appointments

2025- Assistant Professor
Department of Social Sciences, Augusta University

2023-2025 Assistant Professor of Practice
School of Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology, Southern Illinois University

2021-2023 Visiting Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science, University of Kansas

2020-2021 Visiting Postdoctoral Researcher
Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado Boulder

2019-2020 Postdoctoral Research Scholar
Center for the Study of Economic Liberty, Arizona State University

## Education

2017 Ph.D., Political Science, Arizona State University, AZ

2009 M.P.P., Public Policy, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

2000 B.A., History, North Ossetian State University, Vladikavkaz, Russia

## Books

2022 David S. Siroky, Valery Dzutsati & Lenka Bustikova. *Defection Denied: A Study of Civilian Support for Insurgency in Irregular War*. Cambridge Elements Series in Experimental Political Science. Cambridge University Press, doi

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

2026 Valery Dzutsati, Stephen Bloom, Oleg Golishnikov & Odil Gafarov "The Politics of Perception: Identity, Media, and Major-Power Attitudes in Central Asia" (*Ethnopolitics*) doi

2025 Valery Dzutsati & Dinara Rakhmatullayeva "Browsing and Believing: Divergent Effects of Internet Use on Government Trust in Central Asia" *Central Asian Survey*, 44(3), 393–414 doi

2024 Valery Dzutsati & Michael Wuthrich "Liberalism of religious Muslims in illiberal Muslim-majority and minority societies: evidence from Azerbaijan and Georgia" *Politics and Religion*, 17(4), 605–626 doi

2024 Hannah Chapman, Margaret Hanson, Valery Dzutsati & Paul DeBell. "Under the Veil of Democracy: What Do People Mean When They Say They Support Democracy?" *Perspectives on Politics*, 22(1), 97–115, doi, *The 2025 Heinz I. Eulau Award for Best Article in Perspectives on Politics*

2023 Valery Dzutsati. "Explaining Diversionary Domestic Conflict: Inequality and Communitarianism in Russia" *Ethnopolitics*, 22(3), 290–314, doi

2022 Valery Dzutsati. "Secessionist Conflict as Diversion from Inequality: the Missing Link between Grievance and Repression" *Conflict Management and Peace Science*, 39(6), 706–730, doi

2021 Valery Dzutsati. "Social alienation and cultural distance in the context of secession in the South Caucasus" *Nations and Nationalism*, 27(4), 1127–1148

2021 Valery Dzutsati. "Geographies of Hybrid War: Rebellion and Foreign Intervention in Ukraine" *Small Wars & Insurgencies*, 32(3), 441–468

2021 Valery Dzutsati & Carolyn M. Warner. "The Socio-Economic Matrix of Support for Sharia: a Cross-National Study of Muslims' Attitudes" *Religion, State & Society*, 49(1), 4–22

2021 Valery Dzutsati. "Ethnicity or Religion?: A Theory of Identity Choice with Evidence from the Russian North Caucasus" *Nationalities Papers*, 46(1), 30–53

2016 Valery Dzutsati, David S. Siroky & Khasan Dzutsev. "The Political Economy of Support for Sharia: Evidence from the Russian North Caucasus," *Politics and Religion*, 9(4), 695–719

2015 David S. Siroky & Valery Dzutsati. "The Empire Strikes Back: Ethnicity, Terrain and Indiscriminate Violence in Counterinsurgencies," *Social Science Quarterly*, 96(3), 807–829

2013 David S. Siroky, Valeriy Dzutsev & Michael Hechter. "The Differential Demand for Indirect Rule: Evidence from the North Caucasus," *Post-Soviet Affairs*, 29(3), 268–286

2013 Valeriy Dzutsev & Khasan Dzutsev. "Comparative analysis of public opinion and hostage attack victims' attitudes: evidence from Beslan, September 2004," *Caucasus Survey* 1(1), 27–42

2012 David S. Siroky & Valeriy Dzutsev. "Rational or Reckless? Georgia's Zugzwang in the Caucasus," *Nationalities Papers* 40(3), 303–314

### Select Editor-Reviewed Articles

2018 Emil A. Souleimanov and Valery Dzutsati. "Russia's Syria War: A Strategic Trap?" *Middle East Policy* XXV(2), 48–50

2018 Valery Dzutsati and Emil A. Souleimanov. "Schrecken ohne Ende Russland im Syrienkrieg" *Osteuropa* 10-12, 381–392

### Published Working Papers

2018 Emilia M. Wysocka, Valery Dzutsati, Tirthankar Bandyopadhyay, Laura Condon, and Sahil Garg. "Building Models for Biopathway Dynamics Using Intrinsic Dimensionality Analysis," arXiv:1804.11005v3

2015 Valery Dzutsati. "An Agent-Based Model of Corruption: A Micro Approach." *CoMSES Computational Model Library*, comses.net

### Works in Progress

"Economic Liberalization and State Repression: The Role of Elite Dynamics and State Capacity" with Haeyong Lim
"The Varieties of Liberalism and Democratic Commitment"
"Signs of Trouble: Opportunity Closure, Repression, and Interstate Conflict"
"The Military After Empire: Post-Imperial Loss and Territorial Revisionism in Russia"
"Religiosity, Media Consumption, and Perceptions of Islamist Threat in Central Asia"
"From Secession to Incorporation: Explaining Resistance to Absorption in Abkhazia and South

Ossetia"
"Defining Democracy: The Origins of Democratic Conceptualization" with Hannah Chapman, Margaret Hanson, & Paul DeBell

## Recent Teaching

2026. Fall SECR 7601. Introduction to Statistical Analysis for Security Studies
SECR 7109. Foreign Policy Analysis
2026. Spring SECR 7603. Advanced Stats for Security Studies
SECR 7106. International Conflict and Security
2025. Fall SECR 7601. Introduction to Statistical Analysis for Security Studies
SECR 7107. Nationalism and Ethnic Conflict
2025. Spring POLS 270. Introduction to International Relations
POLS 372i. Politics of Global Economy
POLS 569. Graduate Seminar on Ethnic Politics and Nationalism
2024. Fall POLS 270. Introduction to International Relations
POLS 460. European Politics
POLS 580. Graduate Seminar on Interstate War
2024. Spring POLS 372i. Politics of Global Economy
POLS 416. Civil War
POLS 475. International Law
2023. Fall POLS 270. Introduction to International Relations
POLS 570. Pro-Seminar in International Relations
2023. Spring POLS 689. Conflict: Russia & Neighbors
REES 220-221. Societies and Cultures of Eurasia

## Grants, Honors & Awards

2025 Heinz I. Eulau Award for Best Article, *Perspective on Politics*
2025 David Hughes Memorial Award for best faculty paper, Kentucky Political Science Association
2016 U.S. Department of State, Title VIII Fellowship
2016 American Political Science Association, Graduate Student Travel Stipend in Comparative Politics
2014 Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Main Archive, Researcher in Residence
2014 Arizona State University, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Graduate Excellence Award
2014 Smith Richardson Foundation, World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship
2012 Jamestown Foundation, Washington, DC, Senior Non-Resident Fellow
2008 Human Rights Watch, Washington, DC, Hellman/Hammett Grant
2007 U.S. Department of State, College Park, MD, Edmund S. Muskie Graduate Fellowship

## Invited Talks

2026 "Life in an Empire: North Caucasus and Russia," *Tulane University, New Orleans, LA*
2025 "Contingent liberalism of religious Muslims in illiberal Muslim-majority and minority societies: evidence from Azerbaijan and Georgia;" "Inequality, Threat of Redistribution, and Interstate Conflict," *University of Florida, Gainesville, FL*

2025 "Ethnic Identities, Language, and Major Powers: A Study of Public Opinion in Central Asia," *University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS*

2025 "Inequality, Threat of Redistribution, and Diversionary Interstate Conflict," *Augusta University, Augusta, GA*

2022 "Political Science Theories and Russian Foreign Policy," *Missouri State University, Springfield, MO*

2020 "After insurgency and separatism: recent developments in the Russian North Caucasus," *Foreign Service Institute, Washington, DC*

2019 "Secession, expansion, hybrid war, and anomie," *University of Kent, Canterbury*

2019 "Secession, expansion, hybrid war, and anomie," *University of California, San Diego*

2019 "The Power of Alienation: Anomie and Cultural Distance during Secession in the South Caucasus," *Postwar Voters: Violence, Loss, and Exile as Electoral Currencies, University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg*

2018 "Does international mediation work to resolve conflict? Research design challenges," *University of Oxford, Oxford*

2018 "Salafi-jihadism," *Charles University, Prague*

2017 "The Russian-Georgian War of 2008," *Charles University, Prague*

2014 "The Political Economy of Islam in a Muslim-Minority Country," *Université libre de Bruxelles, Brussels*

2014 "Russia and the North Caucasus After the Sochi Olympics," *Jamestown Foundation, Washington, DC*

2012 "Who Are the Islamists and the Separatists in the North Caucasus?" *Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, Cambridge*

2012 "The Circassian Factor in Preparations for the Sochi Olympics," *Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC*

2007 "Forgotten, Not Frozen: A Roundtable on Violent Conflict in Chechnya and the North Caucasus," *Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, Princeton*

**Recent Conference Presentations**

2026 "Post-Imperial Nostalgia and Geopolitical Revanchism: Explaining the Support of the Military for Empire Restoration in Russia" *The European Political Science Association, Prague, Czech Republic*

2026 "Inequality, Threat of Redistribution, and Diversionary Interstate Conflict." *The Southern Political Science Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA*

2025 "Ethnic Identity, Language, and Support for Major Powers: A Study of Public Opinion in Central Asia." *The Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, Annual Convention, Washington, DC*

2024 "Ethnic Identities, Language, and Major Powers: A Study of Public Opinion in Central Asia,"

2024 *The Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Conference, Chicago, IL* "Divergent Effects of Internet Use on Government Trust and Political Participation in Central Asia," *The Association for the Study of Nationalities, World Convention, New York*

## Original Data Collection

2025 "Bilateral Treaties between Russia, Abkhazia, and South Ossetia"

2018 "Hybrid War in Ukraine" (crowdsourced geo-referenced data on the heavy military equipment losses)

2016 "Secessionist movements since the end of WWII"

2015 "Civilians and Insurgents: Evidence from Dagestan using Endorsement Experiments", with Lenka Bustikova (co-P.I.) and David S. Siroky (co-P.I.)

## Field Research

2016 Interviews and language training in Armenia, with the financial support of the U.S. State Department Title VIII Fellowship.

2014 Interviews, data collection, and archival work conducted in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Serbia, Macedonia, Kosovo, Bosnia, Croatia, and Slovenia, with the financial support of the World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship from the Smith Richardson Foundation.

## Service

books Review: "Organized crime, political transitions and state formation in post-Soviet Eurasia" by Alexander Kupatadze, Palgrave Macmillan, 2012, *East European Politics*, 29(2), 255-256

conferences Paper reviewer for the *Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing* annual conference

journals Article reviewer for *American Journal of Political Science*, *Caucasus Review*, *Central Asian Survey*, *Comparative Political Studies*, *Connexe Les espaces postcommunistes en question(s)*, *Dynamics of Asymmetric Conflict*, *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *Ethnopolitics*, *Journal of Comparative Politics*, *Journal of Economic Interaction and Coordination*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Nationalities Papers*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Studies*, *Politics & Religion*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Security Studies*

## Additional Training

2016 Behavioral Models of Politics, University of Pittsburgh

2015 Complex Systems Summer School, Santa Fe Institute

2014 Summer Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Syracuse University

2012 Summer Workshop in Quantitative Methods, Social Science Research Council, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

## Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association
Association for the Study of Nationalities
European Political Science Association
International Studies Association
Southern Political Science Association

## Skills

*Languages*: English (Fluent), Ossetian & Russian (Native), Armenian (Beginner), German (Beginner), Italian (Beginner)
*Computational*: GIS, LaTeX, NetLogo, Python, $\mathcal{R}$, Stata, & Qualtrics

Last updated: November 16, 2026

http://www.dzutsati.com