



BULLETIN

The Fulbright Program
in Ukraine

Winter 2018
18





**Institute of International Education • Kyiv Office
Fulbright Program in Ukraine**

20 Esplanadna str, office 904
Kyiv, 01001, Ukraine

Тел.: +380 (44) 287 07 77
office.ukraine@iie.org
www.iie.org • www.fulbright.org.ua



37

In 2017-2018 a total of 36 American Fulbrighters are hosted by Ukrainian Universities and research Institutions, including 12 scholars, 10 specialists, 7 students, 6 English teaching assistants, 2 public policy fellows.





Fulbright PDO with DCM George Kent, U.S. Embassy Kyiv, September 15, 2017



Will Davis

Fulbright Public Policy Program

Decentralization | Effects of Decentralization Implementation

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, The Office of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, Kyiv

September 2017, 10 months

William.davis@fulbrightmail.org

Will Davis draws on a range of political experience. He has worked in advocacy at Amnesty International and at a Washington, DC government affairs firm. Will also has experience engaging stakeholders in the US Congress as well as in the Departments of State and Justice. Most recently, Will worked with US political campaigns on finance and compliance issues.

Will is embedded in the Office of European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine. He supports their communications work and provides background research on a range of issues.

Will arrived in Ukraine with the intention of better understanding the obstacles that encumber Ukraine's adoption and implementation of the reforms required for fulfillment of the Association Agreement that it signed with the European Union in 2014. A survey of the status of adoption and implementation of the necessary reforms deepened Will's understanding of the obstacles and introduced him to new challenges as well as their various delaying effects.

Reflecting on the review and on his own experiences, Will returned to two political maxims, "all politics is local" and the "government that's closest, governs best." Consequently, Will began researching decentralization and how it has impacted government at the local level from an administrative perspective as well as how the relationship between a local population and its local government has changed.

Productive decentralization is bound to yield diverse and unanticipated effects, and if completed effectively the benefits will be manifold: better governance, stronger public servants, a larger pool of productive politicians from which national politics can draw, a stout EU-Ukrainian relationship but most importantly a stronger or perhaps the first genuine social contract between Ukrainians and their state.

Through investigation, Will has learned that the quality of government at the local level varies widely, and consequently impacts the view of the broader reform process at the local level. Will is attempting to isolate the variables that make one local administration more effective than another. A stronger grasp of what empowers and restrains effective government where people live will hopefully provide insight to the current EU-Ukraine relationship and its future.



Sophia Farion

The College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, Ivano-Frankivsk

September 2017, 9 months

ssfari@wm.edu

Recently graduated from the College of William and Mary, Ms. Sophia Farion holds a B.A. with majors in English and Government. Her interest in Ukraine stems from her Ukrainian-American identity and research on the political relationship between free media and civic engagement. In 2016, Sophia interned at the U.S. Department of State where she worked on Moldovan, Belarusian, and Ukrainian affairs. This experience strengthened her resolve to continue building global relations between the United States and Ukraine through an English Teaching Assistantship.

During her grant, Sophia teaches English language courses in the International Relations department at the Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, and crafting club meetings

around cultural studies and professional development to prepare her Ukrainian students for a successful future in translation and diplomacy. Sophia seeks to deepen her understanding of the Ukrainian ethos while facilitating intercultural dialogue. She has lectured on social media and civic engagement at universities in Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk, participated in voice lessons focused on Ukrainian art songs, taken courses at a local culinary school, as well as volunteered with the Ivano-Frankivsk State Puppet Theater, where she translated for their international festival. Sophia plans to establish a monthly "open mic" event where young musicians, poets, and artists from the community have the space to perform their art—an opportunity that does not readily exist in the city.



**Elizabeth Fawcett**

Luther College, Decorah, IA

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

Volodymyr Vynnychenko Central Ukrainian State Pedagogical University,

Kropyvnytskyi

September 2017, 9 months

facweb 01@luther.edu

Ms. Fawcett graduated from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa with a major in Political Science and a minor in Psychology. During her time as an undergraduate, she became increasingly interested in politics, specifically local politics in smaller cities and towns. Ms. Fawcett has brought that interest in local politics and her interest in how other young people interact with their political system to Ukraine.

Ms. Fawcett became interested in Ukraine while she was a Nobel Peace Prize Scholar in Norway during the summer of 2016. There, alongside 26 other students from 16 countries. Ms. Fawcett explored the use of dialogue as a tool for peacemaking in high conflict areas. During the experience, Ms. Fawcett's interest in Ukraine was sparked by three of her closest friends who shared with her their country: its struggles, its beauty, and its potential.

After her summer in Norway, Ms. Fawcett applied for a Fulbright with the hopes of deepening her understanding of Ukraine. Ms. Fawcett is using her Fulbright experience to meet as many people as she can, to learn their stories and hear their perspectives.

Currently, Ms. Fawcett is teaching English as a Second Language to future teachers and translators at Volodymyr Vynnychenko Central Ukrainian State Pedagogical University in Kropyvnytskyi. Working alongside her students, Ms. Fawcett explores how to use the English Language classroom as a venue to empower young people to change their communities.

When she is not teaching, you can find Ms. Fawcett at a local coffee shop meeting with students, learning Russian and Ukrainian (but mostly surzhyk), and reading local and national Ukrainian news. Ms. Fawcett is also documenting her Ukrainian adventures in a blog aimed at helping people back home learn about and come to appreciate Ukraine.



Nina Fontana

University of California, Davis, CA

Ecology | Exploring Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the Carpathian Mountains

Ukrainian National Forestry University, Lviv

September 2017, 9 months

nmfontana@ucdavis.edu

Nina Fontana is interested in understanding how traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) can better inform and address conservation management and policy decision-making. TEK is a dynamic, intergenerational knowledge well based on careful observation and innovative response to an ever-changing environment.

The Carpathian Mountain range, one of Europe's last fully undeveloped landscapes, is home to over 200 endemic plant species and a principle source of subsistence to 16 million people. Since the Middle Ages, Hutsuls, traditional pastoral highlanders of the Ukrainian Carpathians, have engaged in various traditional ecological practices such as gathering non-timber forest products, NTFPs, like wild mushrooms and plants. The practice of cultivating NTFPs is critically important because they contribute to a growing local economy, diversify diets, present possibilities for genetic research and development in new domesticated crops, and provide a lens for understanding cultural identity. There has never been a systematic or comprehensive study of NTFP uses and management techniques in this region. Such lack of information hinders the future of social and environmental sustainability in the Carpathians, as well as in other NTFP-dependent regions of the world.

Ms. Fontana's three main research objectives are: (1) to co-create with Hutsuls an ethnobotanical database within their region, highlighting the gathering and managing of NTFPs (*descriptive*),

(2) to document how Hutsul TEK has adapted to environmental challenges including ecosystem changes, climatic changes and cultural changes (*qualitative*) and, (3) to investigate to what extent various management techniques affect plant population dynamics (*quantitative*).

Based on preliminary data, there are common medicinal plants being sold at mountain markets that are listed as endangered (such as *Rodiola rosea*, *Gentiana lutea*). By understanding how forest-dependent community management affects plant vital rates and population growth, specific parameters defining sustainable harvesting emerge. Participatory action research scaffolds her methodological approach as the success of this research is based on building trust, understanding, and active participation through continual and transparent dialogue with Hutsul communities.

Nina hypothesizes that long-term Hutsul management of NTFPs, safeguards their productivity and availability, thus creating a nutritional, socioeconomic safety net to sustain them in times of scarcity and today's regional, political uncertainty. As a PhD student, Nina is working at the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at University of California, Davis. Upon her return, Nina plans to complete her dissertation (with an emphasis on Human Ecology), continue to collaborate with Ukrainian counterparts, and publish articles based on her findings.



Joseph Haberman

Yale University, New Haven, CT

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

Kherson State University, Kherson

September 2017, 9 months

Joseph.haberman@yale.edu

Joseph Haberman graduated from Yale University in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in Russian and East European Studies. Throughout his studies he had a particular interest in contemporary international relations in the former Soviet space, writing his undergraduate thesis on the diplomatic developments around the Minsk Accords and the ongoing peace process in eastern Ukraine. To supplement this research, Mr. Haberman spent the summer of 2016 volunteering in Kyiv with internally displaced people who have fled the conflict in the Donbas. It was during this time that he gained his first experience teaching English, working with children at the center and helping them learn basic vocabulary through various games and activities.

Now he is pursuing this newfound interest in education as an English Teaching Assistant at Kherson State University in southern Ukraine. In addition to work with professors in the classroom, he leads three weekly discussion groups at the university: two general speaking clubs for students and professors outside the Foreign Languages department and a cinema club focusing on American society through the lens of film. He is hoping to use this year to learn more about Ukrainian society and the experience of its diverse residents. There is only so much you can learn in the classroom or through foreign media, and working on the ground is invaluable to understanding the depth and breadth of any country.





Mark Isaac

Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), Baltimore, MD

Arts: Photography and Video | A Multimedia Exploration of Harmony Achieved by Ethnic Minorities in Mykolayiv

Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University, Mykolayiv

September 2017, 9 months

markisa8@gmail.com

Isaac, a photographer, video artist, and consultant from Washington, DC, is working collaboratively with his wife, Gabriela Bulisova, a documentary photographer, multimedia artist, and professorial lecturer at the Corcoran School of the Arts of George Washington University, to conduct an investigation of the culture and traditions of the diverse ethnic groups in Southern Ukraine that live side by side in harmony. The city of Mykolayiv is a unique melting pot in which more than 130 different ethnic groups have lived together peacefully for many generations. In a community-wide engagement project, the artists are working closely with local residents to create portraits, photographs of objects or places that are important to their culture, and explanatory oral histories. They are also exploring how the capacity to express ethnic identity has changed over time, with a special emphasis on the differences between the Soviet era and the contemporary moment. At a time when both the United States and Ukraine are embroiled in conflicts, the final project will celebrate peaceful coexistence in a multicultural community, and it will communicate with residents of both nations about useful strategies for embracing diversity as an asset.

Since arriving in Mykolayiv, the artists have also become focused on the importance of water to this former shipbuilding center, which is at the confluence of the Southern Bug and Ingul rivers. They are using several strategies to document what water means to local residents and, among other initiatives, are creating a video documentary focused on the current proposal to flood Buszky Gard National Park to provide additional cooling water to an aging nuclear power plant. Proponents of the flooding argue that: a larger water reserve is needed in light of climate change; needed jobs will be created by additional power generating capacity; there is an ongoing need for energy independence; and a steadier flow of water will benefit local villages. Opponents of the flooding include an unusual coalition of veterans, ecologists, historians, archaeologists, proponents of tourism,

and individuals of Kozak heritage. They argue that: nuclear power is unsafe and Ukraine should turn toward alternative energy sources instead of extending the life of aging Soviet-era nuclear plants; the Park contains protected plants and animals, important archaeological discoveries, and sites that are of great importance to Ukrainian history; and more jobs will be created in the long term by focusing on recreational opportunities such as climbing, rafting, kayaking, and hiking. By bringing additional attention to this specific impending decision, the artists hope to provoke a wider dialogue about the importance of water and other natural resources, and to promote new strategies for achieving civic dialogue and decision-making in Ukraine and around the world.





Alana Jaskir

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

National Institute of Water and Environmental Engineering, Rivne

September 2017, 9 months

alana.jaskir@gmail.com

Ms. Jaskir graduated from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science and a minor in Cognitive Science. She is teaching at the National University of Water and Environmental Engineering in Rivne. Her research interests involve understanding the computation behind how humans quickly learn, generalize information, and make decisions. She is looking forward to sharpening her teaching skills and the exposure to different pedagogical practices in Ukraine. During her time at university, she served as a one-on-one tutor for computer science and taught mathematics at an elementary school during an internship in Tanzania. She also volunteered with the University Student Government's BigSibs program, a community-approach mentorship program for middle school students that focuses on literacy and empowerment.

She has a love for learning new languages and immersing herself in other cultures, having spent a semester at University College London and participating in a language intensive in France. She plans to dedicate time while in Ukraine to studying the Ukrainian language and exploring more deeply her Ukrainian heritage. Ms. Jaskir also looks forward to continuing her passion for female empowerment through technology by organizing a Technovation group in Rivne. Technovation is an international competition where girls ages 10 to 18 build a mobile application to solve a problem in their local community. She plans to pair the given curriculum with additional leadership, empowerment, and team-building workshops.



Taylor Johnson

University of Richmond, Richmond, VA

Ternopil National Pedagogical University, Ternopil

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

September 2017, 9 months

taylor.johnson@richmond.edu

Taylor Johnson is teaching English Ternopil National Pedagogical University. Her deep interest in Ukrainian culture and language and considerable relevant academic and work experience, has been ranging from her Slavic-based course of study at the University of Richmond to teaching (ESL, Russian, and writing) and experience learning three different languages (Russian, Ukrainian and Spanish). Taylor has worked very closely with a Ukrainian college student for the past 15 months, allowing her insight into the specific set of challenges that a Ukrainian ESL student faces.

While teaching English is Ms. Johnson's primary focus during her time in Ukraine, she is also striving to make connections with the local community to foster better cultural understanding between Ukrainians and Americans. Her attempts to foster cultural understanding between Ukraine and America relies not exclusively on bringing American culture to Ukraine. The other important piece is bringing Ukrainian culture to America.







Aaron Kennet

University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Catonsville, MD

TEFL/Applied Linguistics | English Teaching Assistantship

Sumy State University, Sumy

September 2017, 9 months

aaken1@umbc.edu

Mr. Kennet graduated from University of Maryland, Baltimore County, with degrees in Political Science and Modern Languages and Linguistics. Aaron has had extensive experience studying and working in both Peru and Israel. Prior to coming to Ukraine, Aaron worked as an English teacher at the American Home, a private educational institution in Vladimir, Russian Federation. There, he taught students of all ages (children and adults included), hosted cultural seminars for the citizens of Vladimir, and led workshops for regional teachers and pedagogues. Aaron is particularly excited to be able to take part in civic engagement projects in Sumy. He is eager to partner with organizations and get involved in building a more active civil society.

Mr Kennet's interest in Ukraine largely stems from his family's Jewish-Slavic heritage, and his desire to understand another perspective from the one he had been given in Russia regarding political and cultural affairs in Ukraine. Mr. Kennet plans to establish a Spanish club open to the citizens of Sumy to promote dialogue regarding American multiculturalism, and volunteer with the local Jewish "Chesed" organization to assist the maintenance of intercultural dialogue in Sumy. Throughout his time in Ukraine, Mr. Kennet seeks to study and attempt to understand the fundamentals of Ukrainian identity through the lens of minority communities.



Amber Nickell

Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

History | "We Wander" Together:

Jews and Ethnic Germans on the Eurasian Steppes

Odesa I.I. Mechnikov National University, Odesa

September 2017, 9 months

anickell@purdue.edu

They come to your house. They kill you and say we're not guilty." Ukrainian popstar Jamala sang these words at the Eurovision contest in May of 2016, which she won. The song, "1944," draws on her grandmother's experience during the Soviet deportation of the Crimean Tatars. Many listeners and media sources drew a clear correlation between the 1944 deportation and Russia's recent imperial maneuvering in the so-called "Novorossiya" region. However, as Jamala's song reminds us, Russia's carefully constructed narrative of Russian ethnic dominance and peaceful coexistence in the region, which it cites as the basis for its territorial encroachment, ignores the extremely violent policies of its predecessor empire and the long-term impact of these policies on the peoples of Ukraine. Historical analysis of these policies and their impacts, like Amber's project, serve as a corrective to the Russian state's historical amnesia.

Amber's project examines changing relationships between two major minority groups in Southern Ukraine, ethnic Germans and Jews, from the late imperial period through the immediate postwar. They lived alongside one another in the region for over a century prior to the Russian Revolution of 1917. For the most part, they enjoyed normalized, relatively amicable or indifferent relationships with one another. However, like so many of the populations in this borderland, at the edge of four crumbling empires, they were caught in the violent social, economic, and political upheavals of the twentieth century. The imperial jockeying of Russia and Germany tore them asunder and pushed them together in profound ways. This project seeks a better understanding of these experiences, addressing the following research questions: How did the ethnic, social, and geographic displacement caused by multiple regime changes shape relationships between the two groups during the period discussed? How did shifting state and occupation policies towards and treatment of both groups alter the ways they viewed and treated one another?

Employing a qualitative approach, she is primarily interested in identifying state, local, and individual perceptions of, approaches to, and conversations about both groups and using them to gain a greater understanding of shifting state policies, discrepancies between state policy and local application, and changing group perceptions of neighboring ethno-national groups. To do this, she is analyzing state and local level administrative documents; the Extraordinary State Commission investigations, propaganda; memoranda from local, national, and transnational Jewish and German ethnic and religious organizations; personal letters sent from members of both groups to their loved ones and local government officials; census data; memoirs; postwar trials of local collaborators; newspapers; and other archival materials in German, Russian, Yiddish, and Ukrainian. During her Fulbright, Amber is collecting primary and secondary source materials (which are unavailable at US institutions) from regional archives and libraries in Southern Ukraine, including the State Archives of the Odesa Region, State Archives of the Mykolaiv Region, and State Archives of the Kherson Region. She is also conducting oral histories and anthropological observations in the region.



Christopher Obermeyer
Fulbright Public Policy Fellowship
Public Health | Improving LGBT Health
Ministry of Health of Ukraine, Kyiv
September 2017, 10 months
chris.a.obermeyer@gmail.com

Chris Obermeyer is a Fulbright Public Policy Fellow at the The Ukrainian Ministry of Health provides opportunities for U.S. citizens to serve in professional placements in foreign government ministries or institutions in partner governments.

Chris earned his bachelor's degree in biology and religious studies at Western Kentucky University before moving to Washington, DC. In Washington, Chris earned his master's degree in education from American University and a postgraduate certificate in LGBT health policy and practice from the George Washington University. While studying, Chris taught high school biology in DC Public Schools and devoted his time outside the classroom to address the health needs of LGBT young people. Chris' advocacy efforts led to new legislation requiring suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention training for school based personnel and reformed health education standards that address the needs for LGBT young people.

Chris' first visit to Ukraine was in December 2015 when he came as a tourist to Kyiv and Odesa. He immediately fell in love with the country and its people. In August 2016, Chris moved to Odesa as a Peace Corps Response volunteer to strengthen the capacities of local and national nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to address the growing HIV epidemic among men who have sex with men (MSM). During his year in Peace Corps, Chris worked with his organization to conduct trainings on HIV prevention and epidemiology and venue based outreach. He was able to develop a condom distribution program that has distributed thousands of condoms and lubricants to key populations at high-risk for HIV and led a mobile based educational initiative that reached more than 2,000 MSM and connected more than 700 to local testing sites. Chris also worked on supporting children and families affected by HIV and organized and participated in more than ten day camps across Ukraine, reaching hundreds of children and their caregivers.

Building on his Peace Corps experience, Chris started his Fulbright Public Policy Fellowship at the Ministry of Health in September 2017. At the Center for Public Health, Chris is a co-investigator on the national assessment of the HIV surveillance system. The assessment will help Ukraine identify strengths and weakness of the current system and implement new procedures and protocols to collect strategic information useful in preventing and tracking epidemiological trends as well as increasing quality of care for people living with HIV. Additionally, Chris is the lead investigator in the first national bio-behavioral surveillance survey of transgender people in Ukraine. The survey will be used to determine the prevalence of HIV in the transgender population, the size of the transgender population, and insights into how Ukraine can prevent HIV within this population and support transgender persons living with HIV.

Chris also supports the efforts of various NGOs working on HIV prevention among MSM. He has assisted in the introduction of PrEP (preexposure prophylaxis), a pill that if taken daily nearly eliminates the risk of the sexual transmission of HIV. In collaboration with another organization, Chris provided technical and research support for a grant proposal to systematically reduce stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV and those who are part of key populations at increased risk for HIV. In advance of the International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, Chris is working with various stakeholders to review abstracts and increase participation at the conference of organizations and governments in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Next Fall, Chris will begin his doctoral work at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine where he will research the impact of stigma and discrimination in healthcare settings on access and utilization of HIV services by MSM in Ukraine.



Christopher Robinson

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

Environmental Studies/Molecular Ecology | Effects of Radiation Contamination by Cesium-137 on Fungal Communities in Forest Soil

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv,

Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine, Kyiv

September 2017, 9 months

crrobinmsmicro@gmail.com

Christopher Robinson is an Environmental Studies student researcher grantee and is conducting field and lab work in the 10 and 30-kilometer Exclusion Zone around the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Station. He is based at the Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv and will be collaborating closely with Dr. Iryna Kozeretska of the Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine. The main goal of his project is to document potential differences in the structures and diversity of the soil fungal community (mycobiota) by comparing samples collected along a gradient of cesium-137. At the Institute of Molecular Biology and Medicine, he will aid in teaching classes on genetics and biotechnology related to medicine. In addition to his primary research goals, Mr. Robinson is hoping to create an English-speaking biology club, aiming to promote scientific literacy and to teach Ukrainian university students basic laboratory methods in molecular biology and microbiology through hands-on experience.

Beyond primary and secondary consumption of fungal fruiting bodies (mushrooms) by humans, fungi play a significant role in environmental health through carbon and nitrogen cycling, the sequestration of some environmental contaminants, and the rapid decomposition of plant and animal matter. Cesium-137, one of the radioisotopes released during the explosion of the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Station, is particularly problematic due to its ability to persist and move throughout the environment, leading to long-term radiation exposure. Changes in the soil fungal community can drastically affect soil conditions, leading to dramatic changes in vegetation.

Soil samples will be collected in several pine forests inside and outside the Exclusion Zone. Radioactively contaminated ('hot') soil will be processed at the Chornobyl Ecocenter. Analysis will be done by measuring the pH, soil organic carbon, and water content of the soil. DNA will be extracted from the soil, which will be later used for metabarcoding and genetic analysis to tease apart any differences that cesium-137 contamination may have on fungal species present. The overall aim of his project is to produce a report for scientific publication while simultaneously raising interest and support for further studies into the Chornobyl Exclusion Zone.



Mr. Robinson graduated in 2015 from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology. As an undergraduate, Mr. Robinson worked in malarial and later plant disease research laboratories. He was awarded the National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates, a grant which allowed him a three month internship at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. He conducted field and lab work on a three-way relationship between orchids, a symbiotic fungal partner associated with the orchid root, and an unknown bacteria that resided within fungal cells. There, he practiced with molecular methods that are crucial to his work in Ukraine. Since graduation, Mr. Robinson has held various positions at the United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service. This is Mr. Robinson's first time in Ukraine (and Europe), and he looks forward to the immersion within Ukrainian culture.



Sagatom Saha

Johns Hopkins University, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC

Energy | What Does Progress Look Like?

Quantitative Benchmarks for Reform in Ukraine's Energy Sector

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Kyiv

September 2017, 9 months

sagatom.saha@gmail.com

Sagatom Saha's research seeks to develop a novel set of quantitative variables to benchmark energy-sector progress in Ukraine. Energy reform is necessary for Ukraine's success. Enduring corruption and market distortions in the energy sector have generated pernicious budget deficits, eroded sovereignty, and limited economic potential. But now, Ukraine is at a turning point. Its government has passed legislation that could reverse these trends and bring prosperity by lowering increasing domestic energy production, lowering consumer costs, and bringing needed international investment. However, most structural reforms are incomplete, and continued progress is not guaranteed. Going forward, quantifiable measures of progress can be essential tools in determining priorities in domestic legislation, disbursing conditional aid from international financial institutions, and designing technical assistance with foreign governments. These benchmarks will help policymakers differentiate between political lip service and sincere, enduring policy changes.

Sagatom was most recently the research associate for energy and U.S. foreign policy at the Council on Foreign Relations where he helped direct its Program on Energy Security and Climate Change. He also interned with the economic section of the State Department's Afghanistan office and the German Marshall Fund's energy security program. Sagatom has authored a chapter in a peer-reviewed volume on global energy shifts, as well as sixteen op-eds and two forthcoming papers on energy policy.

In Kyiv, he is a visiting fellow at DiXi Group, a Ukrainian think tank dedicated to advancing energy reform. In this role, he advises Ukrainian lawmakers on energy policy and reform legislation. Sagatom also receives research support from the Institute of International Relations at Taras Shevchenko National University where he occasionally lectures on U.S. energy security. While in Ukraine, he is also co-authoring a paper on bolstering Ukraine's energy security by increasing domestic natural gas production. Sagatom graduated from American University with a bachelor's in business administration and international studies.





Nadia Tarnawsky

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio

Ethnomusicology | Lifetime of Song:

Ukrainian Folk Music Traditions throughout a Woman's Life

Petro Tchaikovsky National Music Academy of Ukraine, Kyiv

September 2017, 9 months

nadiatarnawskyfulbright@gmail.com

Nadia Tarnawsky is a professional singer, theatre artist and music educator. In 2002 she received a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship which allowed her to travel to Ukraine to collect folk songs and folklore. She has taught workshops and lessons in Ukrainian folk singing to individuals, workshop participants, choral ensembles and choral pedagogues throughout the United States and Canada. As a theatre artist, she has performed in theatre works for Yara Arts Group in New York City, Cleveland Public Theatre in Cleveland, OH, Annex Theatre in Seattle, WA and at Fringe Festivals in New York, NY, Cincinnati, OH and New Orleans, LA. In 2011 she

received a Traditional Arts Fellowship from Artist Trust and an Artist Support Residency from Jack Straw Productions. She sang under the tutelage of Yevgeny Yefremov with Ensemble Hilka of New York in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Chornobyl disaster in Ukraine. A recording of this repertoire was released on the Smithsonian Folkways label in 2016. The goal of her Fulbright project is to collect traditional Ukrainian folk songs which focus on the rituals within a woman's life.

Soon after birth, one of the first sounds a girl might hear is the sound of her mother's voice singing a lullaby. For a child born into a traditional Ukrainian village setting, this will be the first of many songs that will accompany events in her life. As an unmarried woman, she might participate in the ritual of the "kusta" in which a young girl is adorned with green leaves and led from house

to house in the village. Her procession through the village is underscored with song. In a traditional wedding, a maiden would be dressed in her bridal clothing by the women of her village. The women would sing as they dressed her. Her walk to church and back would occur under a canopy of song. As a wife, she would no longer sing the songs of her youth, but would pass on the lullabies sung to her as a child to her own children. As her children grew, she might be called upon to sing the songs of the korovai, the highly decorated Ukrainian wedding bread. This bread is made by seven women who are called korovainytsi. These are women who are married, have children, and have great abundance on their homestead. It is believed that these positive traits are passed on into the bread by the makers of the korovai. As a widow, a woman would go to her husband's grave and sing lamentations. Her own death would also be infused with song as her children would come to sing lamentations at her graveside. While these songs of traditional Ukrainian life are the focus of her research, Ms. Tarnawsky is also interested in studying vocal production and how it varies from village to village and is influenced by regional dialects. To help maximize her research efforts on this project, she has also partnered with the ensemble

Rozhanytsia and the Ivan Honchar Museum in Kyiv in addition to her affiliation with the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music.

During her non-village time in Ukraine, Ms. Tarnawsky has offered numerous workshops in both traditional American and Ukrainian folk songs. She has also presented lectures at the Ukrainian National Tchaikovsky Academy of Music in Kyiv and the Ukrainian Catholic University in L'viv, Ukraine. Most recently, she has been working with Yevhen Khudzyk, theatre director and actor of the Les Kurbas Academic Theatre and director of the student theatre group at the Ukrainian Catholic University of L'viv, on a production featuring the poetry of Taras Shevchenko and traditional folk songs of the Poltava region of Ukraine.





Elena Yi

The University of California, Berkeley School of Law, Berkeley, CA

Law | Cultivating the Rule of Law by Combating Domestic Violence: Ukraine after Revolution

National Law Academy of Yaroslav Mudryi, Kharkiv

September 2017, 9 months

elenaxyi@gmail.com

Elena Yi's research seeks to document and analyze the nascent development of a new body of domestic violence law in Ukraine, in the context of the ongoing project of judicial reform. Domestic violence, a traditionally private issue in Ukraine, is now increasingly made an area of public concern by legislation to punish and regulate abusers. With corruption and rule of law as longstanding concerns in the Ukrainian judicial system, the particular arena of domestic violence as a legal and criminal justice problem becomes a highly relevant, concrete example of the presence (or absence) of growth in the rule of law within Ukraine's legal system.

Many Ukrainians continue to profess little faith in the court system to conduct fair trials and deliver just enforcement. Nowhere is this better illustrated than in the circumstances surrounding the ongoing campaign against domestic violence. Women's rights groups in Ukraine have long organized against DV, resulting in some of the first specifically anti-domestic violence legislation in Ukraine being passed even before the Orange Revolution. Domestic violence victims may avail themselves of the criminal, civil, and even administrative law to seek justice and compensation in court. Yet studies on domestic violence in Ukraine continue to describe bottlenecked, overly delayed, and under-enforced justice. In 2014, spousal abuse remained extremely prevalent in Ukraine—at sixty-eight percent, Ukraine could attest to one of the highest rates of spousal abuse in Europe. Despite this, low trust in the legal system leads only one in four victims to seek judicial assistance. Ukraine's deficient ability to enforce the law against violence and abuse in the home has indicated a severe dearth of legal efficacy on high and low registers: on the high end, there is a philosophical failure of the rule of law, while on the low end, victims (mainly vulnerable women, children, and the elderly) continue to be hurt.

The project involves a questionnaire and interview process of both the courts and police, and the research done is in the midst of an entirely new reform. The government of Ukraine passed two new laws, one "On Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence" and the other consisting of amendments to the Civil and Criminal Procedural Codes of Ukraine in compliance with the first, only in January. These new laws herald great legal upheaval with respect to how domestic violence should be treated by both the police and courts. At this early stage, however, whether the changes will all result in successful, positive reforms has yet to be seen. The new laws adopt European standards on domestic violence, as embodied in the Istanbul Convention on domestic violence, but with very little deliberate work to integrate the new standards with the existing Ukrainian legal framework. With the courts and



police undergoing major reform at the same time, now is a curious window in which to investigate the current efficacy of combating domestic violence, an essential and deeply individualized facet of law enforcement.

Through interviewing judges and police officers, Elena Yi's project aims to generate a practice-based model as to how a given case might be handled, particularly in the context of these major reforms and new laws. The research aims to ascertain how well the attitudes of law enforcement, whether police officers or judges, match the extent of the new legal sanction; what measures law enforcement will take for victim safety; what each stakeholder believes to be problems and successes of the whole process; and what concerns and support each stakeholder has for the newest set of reforms regarding domestic violence. Along this vein, there are three major

questions the project aims to answer. First, how equipped are the courts and police to readily adopt and enforce these newer, stronger prohibitions on domestic violence? Second, do these newest reforms contribute to the rule of law, or is their contribution hampered by the disjuncture between the international standards espoused by the new laws and the existing Ukrainian legal and cultural framework? Third and finally, what assistance and succor can victims of domestic violence come to expect from the courts and police following these newest reforms?

**Institute of International Education • Kyiv Office
Fulbright Program in Ukraine**

**Esplanadna str, 20, office 904
Kyiv, 01001, Ukraine
Tel: +380 (44) 287 07 77
office.ukraine@iie.org
www.iie.org • www.fulbright.org.ua**

Inna Barysh, Editor
Marian Luniv, Designer