

## Contact Information

E-mail: zeller\_michael@phd.ceu.edu

## Current Enrolment

Central European University (Hungary)

Ph.D. Candidate – Doctoral School of Political Science, Public Policy, & International Relations  
Comparative Politics track  
Autumn 2017 – present

## Qualifications

University of Glasgow (United Kingdom)

M.A. *with distinction* 2015 – Russian, Central & East European Studies

Corvinus University of Budapest (Hungary)

M.A. *with distinction* 2015 – Political Science

University of Louisville (United States)

B.A. *summa cum laude* 2013 – Political Science

## Employment

Associate Researcher, Building Resilience Against Violent Extremism and Polarisation (BRaVE) project, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, February 2019 – present

- In conjunction with the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies (European University Institute), contributing to policy research on polarisation and extremism, and preventative strategies
- Developing conceptual frameworks of policy analysis and collecting data on relevant policies, including qualitative interviews with policy experts
- Contributing to the production, dissemination, and presentation of project reports and papers

Research Assistant, Faculty of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Central European University, September 2018 – present

- Conducting background research of sociological literature, supporting the completion of article manuscripts
- Assisting the head of department in administrative duties, including study programme design

Research Fellow, Eurasian Research and Analysis Institute, October 2015 – January 2017

- Non-resident fellowship for research and commentary on socio-political phenomena within countries or regions or all of Eurasia

Immigration Services Officer, U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, December 2015 – January 2017

- Researching and interpreting an extensive spectrum of sources—immigration laws and regulations, legislative history, precedential decisions, international treaties and other legal references—in order to apply immigration law
- Process immigration applications and petitions, interview applicants for benefits in order to assess credibility

Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of Louisville Dept. of Political Science, August 2015 – December 2015

- Responsible for marking student essays and term papers, as well as occasionally delivering course lectures and conducting class discussions

Education Resources Coordinator, Louisville Metro Government, August 2015 – November 2015

- Liaised with community stakeholders to advance municipal educational attainment goals
- Researched and advised best practices for local government support to education, and assisted preparation of grant applications for government initiatives

Project Assistant, Society ‘Memorial’ (Russia), December 2011 – September 2012

- Organised a new initiative to exhibit Samizdat materials including recently collected photographs and journalistic accounts of dissident activity in the late Soviet period from western correspondents, news agencies, and media outlets
- Contributed to and supervised the uploading of Memorial’s “Chronicle of Current Affairs” (a record of repression and human rights activity in the USSR) to an online database
- Assisted the preparation of grant applications for Memorial and its programs

Student Representative, University of Louisville Residency Review Committee,

October 2009 – May 2011

- Reviewed cases of students of the University of Louisville applying for a change in official residency status in the state of Kentucky for the purpose of financial dispensation
- Responsible for a thorough knowledge of Kentucky state residency law

## **Scholarships, Grants, & Awards**

Central European University Doctoral Scholarship (2017-2020)

Institute for Humane Studies PhD Scholarship (2017)

Erasmus Mundus Scholar (2013-2015), University of Glasgow

Freeman Foundation Student-Faculty Fellowship (2013-2014)

Political Research Grant (2014), Corvinus University of Budapest

McConnell Scholarship for Political Leadership (2009-2013), Univ. of Louisville

American Political Science Association Howard Penniman Scholarship (2013)

Phi Beta Kappa of Kentuckiana Outstanding Graduate (2013)

Best Undergraduate Thesis Award (2013), University of Louisville

Jean & Eleanor O’Sullivan Award (2013), University of Louisville

Boren Scholarship (2011-2012), National Security Education Program

Etscorn Summer Research Award (2011), University of Louisville

Hershberg Scholarship (2011), World Affairs Council of Kentucky and S. Indiana

International Studies Grant (2011), Global Studies Foundation

International Studies Grant (2011), Foundation for Global Scholars

Charles Braver Language Exploration Grant (2011), School of Russian & Asian Studies

Trustees Scholarship (2009), University of Louisville

## **Affiliations**

Central European University, Political Behaviour Research Group (2017-present)

Eurasia Foundation Young Professionals Network (2016-2017)

University of Glasgow Queen Margaret Union Society (2013-2015)

University of Glasgow Central and East European Studies Society (2013-2015)

Honors Scholar, University of Louisville (2009-2013)

Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society (2010-2013)

Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honors Society (2011-2013)

Delegate, Stanford U.S.-Russia Forum (2012-2013)

Mortar Board Honors Society (2012-2013)

Shanghai Jiao Tong University (2012)

Debate Coach, Louisville Middle School Student Debate League (2009-2011)

Secretary (2010) and Treasurer (2011), University of Louisville Rotaract (2009-2011)

Visiting Scholar, University of Cambridge Churchill Archives (2011)

Volunteer Coach, Highland Youth Recreation (2007-2010)

Moscow State Institute for International Relations (2010)

World Scholars Program, University of Louisville (2009)

## **Languages**

English: native

Russian: advanced (reading, writing); proficient (speaking)

German: proficient (reading); intermediate (writing, speaking)  
French: intermediate (reading); basic (writing, speaking)  
Hungarian: basic

## Publications & Presentations

- Zeller, M.C. (2019). "Parastatal Intervention and the Stability of Putin's Regime." *Slovo: Russian, Eastern European and Central Asian Affairs*, Manuscript under review.
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "Nationalism in Hungary's Constitution." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/nationalism-in-hungarys-constitution/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "The Last Domino: Germany and the Alternative für Deutschland." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/the-last-domino-germany-and-the-alternative-fur-deutschland/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "Promise and Peril: Crisis power delegations in Ukraine." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/promise-and-peril-crisis-power-delegations-in-ukraine/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "Good-Bye to All That." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/good-bye-to-all-that/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "Battle for the Base: How the Manas basing crisis illustrates Russian behavior in the conduct of foreign affairs." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/battle-for-the-base-how-the-manas-basing-crisis-illustrated-russian-behaviour-in-the-conduct-of-foreign-affairs/>
- Zeller, M. C. (2016). "Shifting Political Dynamics and Democratic Disillusionment in Hungary's Political Youth." Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/shifting-political-dynamics-and-democratic-disillusionment-in-hungarys-political-youth/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2016). "The Labour Reshuffle: Auspice of the New Dynamism of British Politics" Available at: <http://www.erainstitute.org/the-labour-reshuffle-auspice-of-the-new-dynamism-of-british-politics/>
- Zeller, M.C. (2015). "Engines of the Right: A comparative examination of Hungarian right-wing party youth groups." Master's Thesis, Corvinus University of Budapest.
- Zeller, M. C. (2015). "Democracy in the Post-Soviet Region: Ten years after the color revolutions." Available at: [http://www.icdt.hu/documents/publications/Zeller\\_ICDT-Paper.pdf](http://www.icdt.hu/documents/publications/Zeller_ICDT-Paper.pdf)
- Zeller, M. C., Floyd, M. M., & Abbott, J. (2014). "Living without Recognition: A case study of Burmese refugees in Malaysia." *Center for Asian Democracy*, 1(1), 1-41. Available at: <https://louisville.edu/asiandemocracy/homepage/research/Living Without Recognition.pdf>
- Zeller, M., Floyd, M., & Abbott, J. (2014, April 11-13). "The State of Suspension: Refugee life in absentia of global norms and models for resolution." Paper presented at 2014 Asia Network Conference: Engaging Diversity, Chicago.
- Zeller, M. (2013). "Assessing the Role of International Networks of Support in Color Revolutions: Successes and failures in Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia." Paper presented at 2013 Kentucky Political Science Association (KPSA) Conference: Lexington (KY).
- Zeller, M. C., & Wilson, J. (2013). *Georgian Politics: Major Issues and Personages*. Available at: [http://www.sras.org/georgian\\_politics\\_people](http://www.sras.org/georgian_politics_people)
- Zeller, M. C., & Wilson, J. (2013). *Moldovan Politics: Major Issues and Personages*. Available at: [http://www.sras.org/moldovan\\_politics\\_people](http://www.sras.org/moldovan_politics_people)
- Zeller, M. (2012). "Cooperative Ventures of Russian Civil Society: Three case studies from the Memorial Human Rights Group." *Vestnik: The Journal of Russian and Asian Studies*, 12(1), 3-12.