

Anna Zhelnina, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

PhD, Sociology, 2020 (The Graduate Center, City University of New York).

Dissertation Title: "Engaging Neighbors: Housing Strategies and Political Mobilization in Moscow's Renovation". Committee members: James M. Jasper (Chair), Sharon Zukin, Philip Kasinitz, Jan Willem Duyvendak *

* Best Dissertation Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements

MA, Sociology, 2006 (European University at Saint Petersburg/ University of Helsinki)

BA, Social Anthropology, 2005 (Saint Petersburg State University, Russia)

AWARDS AND HONORS

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| 2021 | Best Dissertation Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements |
| 2020 | Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award, American Sociological Association, Section on Collective Behavior and Social Movements |
| 2019-2020 | Dissertation Year Award, CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2019-2020 | Provost's University Fellowship, CUNY |
| 2018 | Doctoral Student Research Grant, CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2017 | W. R. Hearst Graduate Assistantship at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society, CUNY Graduate Center |
| 2014-2019 | The Graduate Center Fellowship (GCF), City University of New York |
| 2016, 2018 | Conference Presentation Support Fund (The Graduate Center, CUNY). |
| 2012-2013 | Andrew Gagarin Fellowship at the Andrew Gagarin Center for Human Rights at Bard/ Smolny, St. Petersburg State University. |

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Forthcoming. *Gains and Losses: How Protestors Win and Lose*, with Jasper, James, Luke Elliott-Negri, Isaac Jabola-Carolus, Marc Kagan, Jessica Mahlbacher, and Manès Weiskircher. Oxford University Press.

Peer Reviewed Articles

Forthcoming. Urban Anthropology – Russia. *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*.

- Forthcoming. With James Jasper. Identity and Emotions. *Oxford Handbook of Political Participation*. Maria Grasso, Marco Giugni (eds.).
2020. "The Apathy Syndrome: How We Are Trained Not to Care about Politics." *Social Problems*, Volume 67, Issue 2, May 2020, Pages 358–378, <https://doi.org/10.1093/socpro/spz019> *
- * Mayer N. Zald Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship Student Paper Award 2020. Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section, American Sociological Association
2020. "Strategic interaction sequences: the institutionalization of participatory budgeting in New York City," with Jabola-Carolus, Isaac, Luke Elliott-Negri, James M. Jasper, Jessica Mahlbacher, Manes Weisskircher. *Social Movement Studies*. 19, no. 5-6. P. 640-656. <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14742837.2018.1505488>
2019. National and Urban Politics Converge in Moscow: Will Local Activism Prevail? *Metropolitics*. October 1, 2019. <https://metropolitics.org/National-and-Urban-Politics-Converge-in-Moscow-Will-Local-Activism-Prevail.html>
2019. "Beyond Loyalty and Dissent: Everyday Politics in Contemporary Russia," with Karine Clément. *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*. No. 33. P. 143-162. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10767-019-9319-0>.
2019. Introduction to the Special Issue: "Imagining a Link Between Local Activism and Political Transformation: Inventions from Russia and Eastern Europe," with Karine Clément. *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*. Vol. 33. P. 117-124. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10767-019-9318-1>.
2019. "Beyond the Global North and South: contemporary studies of local activism in post-soviet Russia," with Elena Tykanova. In: Čamprag, Nebojša and Suri, Anshika (eds.): *Three Decades of Post-socialist Transition. Conference Proceedings*. Darmstadt, tprints, <http://tprints.ulb.tu-darmstadt.de/9222/>
2015. "In the District': Youth Solidarities on the Urban Periphery," with Aleksey Zinoviev and Margarita Kuleva. *Russian Education & Society* 57 (2): 84–96.
2014. "'Hanging Out', Creativity, and Right to the City: Urban Public Space in Russia Before and After the Protest Wave of 2011-12." *Stasis* 1: 228–59.
2013. "Learning to Use 'Public Space': Urban Space in Post-Soviet St. Petersburg." *The Open Urban Studies Journal* 1 (6): 57–64.
2011. "'It's Like a Museum Here' Here': The Shopping Mall as Public Space." *Laboratorium: Russian Review of Social Research* 3 (2): 48–69.
2009. "From Barakholka to Shopping Mall: Transformation of Retail Spaces in St. Petersburg." *Anthropology of East Europe Review* 27 (1): 51–64.

Work under review:

“Mobilizing Urban Affect: The Emotional Politics of Urban Renewal Struggles”

“Bring Your Own Politics: Life Strategies and Mobilization Against Urban Redevelopment”

In preparation

“Gender dilemma in a housing mobilization”

Comparative paper on civic infrastructures in Russia, Finland, and the US

Book Chapters

Forthcoming. “The River of Urban Resistance: Renovation and new civic infrastructures in Moscow,” In *Urban Activism*, edited by Regina Smyth. Indiana University Press.

2016. “Polittusovka — An Alternative Public Space of Young Politicians in Contemporary Russia.” In *Eastern European Youth Cultures in a Global Context*, 235–50. Springer.

2015. “Citizenship of Russian Youth: The Search for an Effective Methodology,” with Elena Omelchenko and Yana Krupets, in: “In Search of ...” *New Methodological Approaches to Youth Research*, 295-318. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholar Publishing.

2014. “Risks and Pleasures in the Youth Activist Scenes in Contemporary Russia,” with Elena Omelchenko. In *Hopeless Youth*, edited by Francisco Martinez and Pille Runnel, 119–40. Tartu: Estonian National Museum.

Book Chapters in other languages

2014. “I’m not into this”: perception of the “private” and the “public” among Russian youth before the elections. In *Politics of the Apolitical: Civic movements in Russia in 2011—2013*, edited by Svetlana Yerpilyova and Artemy Magun, 143-181. Moscow: NLO (In Russian)

2014. “Iron, mica, and people’s lives”: past and present in an industrial city over the Polar Circle. In *Microurbanism. Cities in detail*, edited by Oksana Zaporozhets and Olga Brednikova, 256-281. Moscow: NLO (In Russian)

2012. Creative activities for insiders: social exclusion and the creative spaces of Saint Petersburg. In *Creative Industries: challenges, projects, solutions*, 42-55. St. Petersburg: Levsha. (In Russian)

2010. Mobilization of the University Community: the politicization of the apolitical. In *Galateya – Galina Starovoitova memorial essay competition. Best essays 2000-2009*, 566-574. St. Petersburg: Norma. (In Russian)

2008. The Metamorphoses of Retail Trade Practices in a Russian Megapolis as a Reflection of Post-Socialist Transformations. In *PS Landscapes: Optics for Urban Studies*, edited by Nerius Milerius and Benjamin Cope, 148-169. Vilnius: EHU (In Russian)

Articles in other languages

2019. (With Elena Tykanova). Zhelnina A., Tykanova E. (2019) Formal’nyye i neformal’nyye grazhdanskiye infrastruktury: sovremennyye issledovaniya gorodskogo lokal’nogo aktivizma v Rossii [Formal and informal civic infrastructure: contemporary studies of urban local activism in Russia]. *Zhurnal sotsiologii i sotsialnoy antropologii* [The

- Journal of Sociology and Social Anthropology], 22(1): 162–192 (in Russian).
<https://doi.org/10.31119/jssa.2019.22.1.8>
2015. “Creativity in the City: Reinterpreting the Public Space.” *Zhurnal Sociologii I Socialnoy Antropologii* 18 (2 (78)): 45–59. (In Russian)
2014. “‘Polit-Tusovka’–alternative Public Space in Youth Politics Realm.” *Sociological Studies* 3 (3): 80–88. (In Russian)
2013. Polit-Tusovka. Jugend und Gegenöffentlichkeit in St. Petersburg. *Osteuropa*. 11-12: 183-197. (In German)
2013. (With Aleksei Zinoviev and Margarita Kuleva) In the block: youth solidarities in the urban periphery. *Sotsiologicheskie issledovaniia*, 10: 69-76. (In Russian)
2010. (With Alla Bolotova.) “Industriestädte Des Russischen Nordens Sozialistischer Stadtraum in Der Postsozialistischen Epoche.” *Archithese* 40 (5): 56. (In German)
2010. The social and cultural significance of the consumption spaces in the post-soviet city (an example of the shopping-centers in St. Petersburg). *Vestnik SPBU*. Vol. 1, March: 330-336. (In Russian)
2006. [Malaya Sadovaya Street in St. Petersburg: an experience of public space development](#). *Communitas* 1: 53-71. (In Russian)

Book Reviews

2020. Maxim Trudolyubov. *The Tragedy of Property: Private Life, Ownership and the Russian State*. 2018. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 4. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12972>
2020. Eleonora Pasotti. *Pasotti, Eleanora. Resisting Redevelopment: Protest in Aspiring Global Cities*. Cambridge University Press. 2020. Mobilization.
2020. Michał Murawski. *The Palace Complex: A Stalinist Skyscraper, Capitalist Warsaw, and a City Transfixed*. Indiana University Press. 2019. *Anthropological Journal of European Cultures*. <https://doi.org/10.3167/ajec.2020.290211>
2014. Stephanie Taylor, Karen Littleton. *Contemporary Identities of Creativity and Creative Work*. Farnham: Ashgate, 2012. *Antropologicheskiiy Forum* (23). (In Russian)
2013. Monika Grubbauer and Joanna Kusiak, eds. *Chasing Warsaw: Socio-Material Dynamics of Urban Change since 1990*. Frankfurt-on-Main: Campus Verlag, 2012. *Laboratorium* (1): 160-162. (In Russian)
2012. Heinz Bude, Thomas Medicus und Andreas Willisich, Hrsg. *ÜberLeben im Umbruch. Am Beispiel Wittenberge: Ansichten einer fragmentierten Gesellschaft*. Hamburg: HIS, Hamburger Edition, 2011. *Laboratorium* (2): 218–220. (In Russian)

TEACHING

2015-2017 Hunter College, City University of New York, NY, USA, Department of Sociology. Course: Social Movements, 2015-2017

2011-2014 St. Petersburg State University, Russia, Department of Liberal Arts and Sciences (Bard/ Smolny). Courses: Political Sociology, Social Movements, Qualitative Research Methods

2008-2014 National Research University – Higher School of Economics in Saint Petersburg, Russia, Department of Sociology. Courses: Urban Sociology, Sociology of Consumption, Cultures of Consumption

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2016 Research Assistant. Community Needs Assessment, Community Board 6, Brooklyn, New York. Project Leader: Prof. Mary Lutz, City College, CUNY.

2011-2014 Researcher. MYPLACE: Memory, Youth, Political Legacy, and Civic Engagement. Funded by the European Commission Seventh Framework Programme (FP7). Project Leader: Hilary Pilkington, Warwick University, UK. 2011-2014.

2012-2013 Researcher. Youth Citizenship. Funded by the Basic Research Programme of the Higher School of Economics (HSE). Project Leader: Elena Omelchenko, HSE, Russia. 2012-2013.

2011-2012 Researcher. Youth Solidarities in Global and Local Context. Funded by the Basic Research Programme of the Higher School of Economics. Project Leader: Elena Omelchenko, HSE, Russia. 2011-2012.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY/ PARTICIPATION

Panels Organized

2019 Conference of the ISA Research Committee 21 (RC21). “In and Beyond the City: Emerging Ontologies, Persistent Challenges and Hopeful Futures.” Stream (2 panels): S11 “Large Housing Estates: (re)structuring urban inequalities and civic life.” September 18 – 21, 2019, Delhi, India.

2017 Conference of the ISA Research Committee 21 (RC21) “Sociology of Urban and Regional Development”, “Rethinking Urban Global Justice”. Panel “Social Production of Urban Periphery/ High-rise Suburbia” (with Oksana Zaporozhets)

Papers Presented

2019 Association of Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) 51st Annual Convention. November 23-26, 2019, San Francisco, CA. “The River of Urban Resistance: Renovation and new civic infrastructures in Moscow”

2019 American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, New York, August 10-13. Paper: “Urban renewal in Moscow and the new life of housing activism”

2018 International Sociological Association, World Congress, Toronto, Canada, July 15-21. Paper: “Urban “Improvement” as an Instrument of Injustice: Renewal Projects in 1950s New York and 2017 Moscow”. Presentation at the RC21 semi-plenary “Post-Communist cities in the Post Transition countries.”

- 2016 Association of Slavic, Eastern European and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) 2016 Congress. Washington, D.C. Paper: "Urban activism virtual and real: social media and urban interventions in contemporary Russia."
- 2015 85th Annual Meeting, Eastern Sociological Society (ESS). February 26-March 1, 2015 New York. Paper: "Mechanisms of Political Apathy: Powerlessness or Indifference"
- 2013 12th Nordic Youth Research Symposium (NYRIS 12) "Changing Societies and Cultures: Youth in the Digital Age." 12-14 June 2013. Tallinn, Estonia. Paper: "Place-based solidarities? Local identities of youth and urban public space in St. Petersburg."
- 2013 Conference "Street Art in the Changing City: Theoretical Perspectives," Moscow, June 7-8 2013. Paper: "Reinterpreting the Public Space: Creativity in the City"
- 2012 Conference "Blackbox Youth: New Perspectives on East-European Youth Cultures," 2-4 November 2012, Free University, Berlin, Germany. Paper: "Young Politics? The Emergence of the Social Network of Young Politicians in St. Petersburg"
- 2012 International Sociological Association (ISA) 2nd Forum "Social Justice and Democratization," 1-4 August 2012, Buenos-Aires, Argentina. Paper: "Public Spaces as Spaces of Fear and Alienation"
- 2011 RC 21 Conference "The struggle to belong. Dealing with diversity in 21st-century urban settings". Session Belonging, exclusion, public and quasi-public space. Amsterdam (The Netherlands), July 7-9 2011. Paper: "Learning to use the public space": perception of the urban spaces in the post-soviet context."

Invited talks

- 2018 "The Housing Question: The way we live now:" Public lecture, New Holland Lectorium in Social Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 8, 2018. [YouTube](#).
- 2013 "Artists, Art Communities and Creative Initiatives in the Urban Spaces of Russia and Europe." Seminar of the Young Scholars Council, May 15th, 2013. St. Petersburg. "Self-Organizing Urban Initiatives"
- 2012 "Common places in the study of public places: on the methodology in urban studies." Presentation at the seminar "Critical social and human sciences". St. Petersburg State University, 1 April 2012.

POPULAR WRITINGS

[Urbaner Aktivismus in Russland: »gewöhnliche« Bürger:innen, erfahrene Aktivist:innen und Gründe für vorsichtigen Optimismus](#). Russland-Analysen, Ausgabe 399, 09.03.2021. doi: 10.31205/ra.399.02

[What do the latest studies tell us about political views among young people in Russia?](#) "The Question," 2017.

[Fortress Under Siege: Moscow's Renovation](#); "Republic" (in Russian), 2017.

[Mortgage Ghettos](#); "Republic" (in Russian), 2017.

[Social Movements Research in Russia: Sociology of the ignored activism](#); "Critical Mass,"
Bulletin of the Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section of the American
Sociological Association, 2015.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Movements, Political Sociology, Urban Sociology

ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

International Sociological Association (ISA): Research Committee 21 "Urban and Regional
Development" (RC21), Board Member

American Sociological Association (ASA): Community and Urban Sociology, Collective Behavior
and Social Movements

Association for Slavic, East European, & Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

European Sociological Association (ESA)

SERVICE

Reviewer for: Antipode, Journal of Housing and the Built Environment, Land Use Policy,
Mobilization, Social Problems, Space and Culture, Symbolic Interaction

Colloquium Committee 2015/2016; Faculty Membership Committee 2019/2020 (Sociology,
CUNY Graduate Center)

Steering Committee Member, Civil Society Workshop at the Center on Philanthropy and Civil
Society, CUNY Graduate Center

SPECIAL SKILLS

Languages German/ fluent; Russian/ native

Software SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences); Stata; NVivo; Atlas.ti (Computer-based
analysis of qualitative data); QGIS