

Anna Zhelnina, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Helsinki, Faculty of Social Sciences
Institute of Urban and Regional Studies

anna.zhelnina@helsinki.fi

<http://annazhelnina.com/>

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)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

- 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

2022. *Gains and Losses: How Protestors Win and Lose*, with Jasper, James, Luke Elliott-Negri, Isaac Jabola-Carolus, Marc Kagan, Jessica Mahlbacher, and Manès Weisskircher. New York: Oxford University Press. [Link](#).

Peer Reviewed Articles

Forthcoming. "Naughty," "Nice" or "Homo Sapiens:" Gendered Political Toolkits in a Housing Mobilization." *Sociological Forum*.

Forthcoming. "Making urban futures at your kitchen table: temporality of urban redevelopment in Moscow." *City and Community*.

2022. "Bring Your Own Politics: Life Strategies and Mobilization Against Urban Redevelopment." *Sociology* 56 (4): 783-799. [Link](#).
2021. "Social Movement Gains and Losses: Dilemmas of Arena Creation." With Elliott-Negri, Luke, Isaac Jabola-Carolus, James Jasper, Jessica Mahlbacher, and Manès Weisskircher. *Partecipazione e Conflitto* 14 (3): 998-1013. [Link](#).
2020. "The Apathy Syndrome: How We Are Trained Not to Care about Politics." *Social Problems*, 67 (2), May 2020: 358-378. [Link](#) *
- * 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 (5-6): 640-656. [Link](#).
2019. National and Urban Politics Converge in Moscow: Will Local Activism Prevail? *Metropolitics*. October 1, 2019. [Link](#).
2019. "Beyond Loyalty and Dissent: Everyday Politics in Contemporary Russia," with Karine Clément. *International Journal of Politics, Culture, and Society*, 33: 143-162. [Link](#).
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*, 33: 117-124. [Link](#).
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. [Link](#).
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.

Book Chapters

- Forthcoming. The River of Urban Resistance: Renovation and new civic infrastructures in Moscow. In *Varieties of Russian Activism: State-Society Contestation in Everyday Life*, edited by Regina Smyth, Jeremy Morris, and Andrey Semenov. Indiana University Press.
2022. With James Jasper. Identity and Emotions. *Oxford Handbook of Political Participation*. Maria Grasso, Marco Giugni (eds.). Oxford University Press.

2021. Urban Anthropology – Russia. *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. [Link](#).
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.

Sociological Fiction

2022. “Day X.” *The Sociological Review Magazine*. March 8. [Online]. [Link](#).

Pedagogical Writing

2021. [A Practical Guide For Teaching The Sociological Imagination](#). With Nga Than, Sebastián Villamizar-Santamaría, Karen Okigbo, and Isabel Gil-Everaert. The Teach@CUNY Handbook, The GC Teaching and Learning Center.

TEACHING

- 2022 Qualitative Research Skills. University of Helsinki, MA program “Contemporary Societies”
- 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

THESIS SUPERVISION

- Master program “Contemporary Societies” (University of Helsinki), Master program “Urban and Spatial Planning” (University of Helsinki)

PEDAGOGICAL TRAINING

2021. University Pedagogy 1 Certificate “Learning in Higher Education” at the University of Helsinki (5 cr)
- 2018-2020 Writing Across the Curriculum (fellowship program to support writing as a pedagogical tool), City University of New York, Lehman College

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2018- 2021 Co-PI. Russian Science Foundation grant (RSF № 18-78-10054) “Mechanisms of interests coordination in the urban development processes,” PI: Elena Tykanova.
- 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.
- 2012-2013 Researcher. Youth Citizenship. Funded by the Basic Research Programme of the Higher School of Economics (HSE). Project Leader: Elena Omelchenko, HSE, Russia.
- 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.

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 “Class, gender, and urban future-making,” at “Think&Drink” Colloquium, Humboldt University, Berlin. October 24, 2022.
- 2021 “Arenas of co-creation” at the SPARCS webinar: “Citizen engagement in public-private partnerships for sustainable transition,” November 19, 2021.
- 2021 “Civic engagement and Political Cultures,” at Cultura Foundation (Helsinki). October 30, 2021.
- 2021 “Urban activism and urban mobilizations in Russia: The Housing Renovation Program in Moscow,” Institute for European Urban Studies, Bauhaus University Weimar, Germany. December 7, 2021.
- 2018 “The Housing Question: The way we live now:” Public lecture, New Holland Lectorium in Social Sciences, St. Petersburg, Russia, June 8, 2018. [YouTube](#).

PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

Writing:

[Civic Participation in Urban Development](#). *Urbaria Summaries Series* 2020/8. ISSN 2670-2363.

[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.

Other:

Hosting for the New Books Network podcast. [Profile](#).

[Propaganda, protest, and repression in Russia: an insiders look with Anna Zhelnina](#). International Horizons podcast. May 9, 2022.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Movements, Political Sociology, Urban Sociology, Qualitative Methods

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

European Sociological Association (ESA)

SERVICE

Reviewer for: American Sociological Review, Antipode, Journal of Housing and the Built Environment, Land Use Policy, Mobilization, Social Problems, Sociological Forum, Space and Culture, Symbolic Interaction, City & Community

Board Member: Research Committee 21 “Urban and Regional Development” (RC21)

Internal book manuscript review: Polity Press

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

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