

# Mihail Chiru

*Curriculum Vitae*

## PERSONAL DETAILS

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*Address* DPIR, Office 160, Manor Road, OX1 3UQ, Oxford, United Kingdom  
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*Media* Google Scholar profile; Twitter

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D. in Political Science** 2010-2015  
*Central European University, Budapest*

Dissertation titled 'Rethinking Constituency Service: Electoral Institutions, Candidate Campaigns and Personal Vote in Hungary and Romania'. Awarded *Summa Cum Laude*.

**ECPR Virtual Summer School** 2021  
*ECPR in association with KU Leuven*

Course on 'The Statistics of Causal Inference'

**Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis** 2015  
*University of Essex, Colchester*

Course on 'Advanced Survey Data Analysis and Survey Experiments'

**ECPR Summer School on Parliaments** 2012  
*ISCTE-IUL, Lisbon*

**Erasmus visiting student** 2012  
*Leiden University, Leiden*

**M.A. in Political Science** 2008-2010  
*Central European University, Budapest*

Certificate in Electoral Politics, graduated second in the series.

**B.A. in Political Science** 2005-2008  
*University of Bucharest, Bucharest*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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**Lecturer in Politics** 2021-  
*Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford*  
Departmental Lecturer and College Tutor at Christ Church College.

**Lecturer in East European Politics** 2019-2021  
*Russian and East European Studies, University of Oxford*  
Departmental Lecturer and College Advisor at Saint Antony's College; Deputy Programme Director of REES (October 2020 - August 2021).

**MOVE-IN Louvain Post-Doctoral Fellow** 2017-2019  
*Catholic University of Louvain*  
Own research project, *The impact of parliamentary activities on the re-selection and re-election of Members of European Parliament*, funded by Marie Curie COFUND.

**Visiting Lecturer** 2019

*University of Southampton*

Convenor of two BA courses.

**Visiting Lecturer**

2018

*Central European University, Budapest*

Convenor of one MA course; collaborator in the ERC project POLPART.

**Research Director**

2012-2017

*Median Research Centre, Bucharest*

Researcher in the project 'Less Hate, More Speech: An Experimental and Comparative Study in Media and Political Elites' Ability to Nurture Civil, Tolerant, Pro-Democratic Citizens', funded by the EEA Financial Mechanism. Project manager for the Parliamentary Monitoring Tool, *Parliament Transparent* and the 2012/2016 versions of the Vote Advice Application, *Testvot*.

**Associate Researcher**

2013-2016

*Lucian Blaga University, Sibiu*

Associate Researcher in the project: 'Re-thinking Individual Representation: Campaign Personalization and Legislative Behaviour', funded by the Romanian National Science Foundation (UEFISCDI).

**External collaborator**

2011-2013

*Mannheim Center for European Social Research (MZES)*

Responsibilities: data collection, coding and elite interview assistance for the project: 'Euro-parties Heading East. The Influence of Euro-parties on East European Parties and Party Systems'

**Research Fellow**

2010-2012

*Center for the Study of Imperfections in Democracies (DISC), CEU*

Responsibilities: organizing conferences and seminars; data collection and analysis for a research project on the 'Development of Comparative Politics in CEE'

## **RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS**

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2013; 2017 Co-investigator (with Dr. Marina Popescu) of the Romanian Candidate Study I and II – survey of the politicians running at the 2012 and 2016 national parliamentary elections, part of *The Comparative Candidates Survey* (CCS).

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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- 2021 (January-March) contribution to *Contemporary Russian and East European Studies Part 1*, for the MPhil and MSc degrees of the Russian and East European Studies Programme, University of Oxford; tutorial on *Theories of Populism* for Hertford College.
- 2020 (October-December) *Politics of EU and Eastern Europe*, MPhil elective course; contributions to *Research Methods for Area Studies* and *Contemporary Russian and East European Studies Part 1*, for the MPhil and MSc degrees of the Russian and East European Studies Programme, University of Oxford; contribution to *European Governance*, for the MPhil in European Politics and Society, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford.
- 2019 (November-December) series of lectures on *Politics of Central and Eastern Europe*, contributions to *Research Methods for Area Studies* and *Contemporary Russian and East European Studies Part 1*, for the MPhil and MSc degrees of the Russian and East European Studies Programme, University of Oxford
- 2019 (February - May) *Comparative Party Politics* and *Comparative Political Institutions*, BA courses at the Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Southampton
- 2018 (January - March) *Parties in Parliament and Legislative Behaviour*, MA course at the Department of Political Science, CEU Budapest

- 2014 (January - April) Teaching Assistant for *Topics and Methods in Comparative Politics*, MA course at the Department of Political Science, CEU Budapest
- 2011 (September - December) Teaching Assistant for *Quantitative Methods*, MA course at the Department of Political Science, CEU Budapest

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **Articles in international peer review journals**

1. 'Democratic backsliding as a catalyst for polity-based contestation? Populist radical right cooperation in the European Parliament', forthcoming in *Journal of European Public Policy* (with Wunsch, N.).
2. 'Introducing COMEPELDA: Comprehensive European Parliament Electoral Data covering MEPs, parties and candidates', forthcoming in *European Union Politics* (with Däubler, T. and Hermansen, S.).
3. 'Political opportunity structures and the parliamentary entry of splinter, merger and genuinely new parties', *Politics*, 2021, 41(3): 316-333 (with Popescu, M., and Szekely, I.).
4. 'Who wants technocrats? A comparative study of citizen attitudes in nine young and consolidated democracies', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 2021, First View, DOI: 10.1177/13691481211018311 (with Enyedi, Z.).
5. 'The Allocation of Committee Chairs and the Oversight of Coalition Cabinets in Belgium', *Government and Opposition*, 2021, First View, DOI: 10.1017/gov.2021.27 (with De Winter, L.).
6. 'Does Electoral Reform Change MPs' Behavior? Evidence from Romania', *Political Studies Review*, 2021, 19(3): 355-375.
7. 'The Electoral Connection Revisited: Introduction to the Special Issue', *Political Studies Review*, 2021, 19(3): 327-333 (with Poyet, C.).
8. 'Electoral incentives for territorial representation in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Integration*, 2021, First View, DOI: 10.1080/07036337.2021.1890067.
9. 'Loyal soldiers or seasoned leaders? The selection of committee chairs in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 2020, 27(4): 612-629.
10. 'National Games for Local Gains: Legislative Activity, Party Organization and Candidate Selection', *Journal of Elections, Public Opinion and Parties*, 2020, 30(1): 64-82, (with Gherghina, S.).
11. 'Electoral System Incentives for a Party-Serving Personal Vote: How Can High Personalization Occur under PR?', *Communist and Post-Communist Studies*, 2020, 53(2): 3-24, (with Popescu, M.).
12. 'Liberty - security dilemmas and party cohesion in the European Parliament', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 2019, 57(5): 921-938, (with Stoian, V.).
13. 'Low-cost policy specialization, district characteristics and gender. Patterns of committee assignment in Romania', *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 2019, 25(3): 375-393.
14. 'Committee Chair Selection Under High Informational and Organizational Constraints', *Party Politics*, 2019, 25(4): 547-558, (with Gherghina, S.).
15. 'The Electoral Value Of Constituency Oriented Parliamentary Questions in Hungary and Romania', *Parliamentary Affairs*, 2018, 71(4): 950-969.
16. 'Cheap Talk or Proper Signaling? Styles of Campaigning and Engagement in Constituency Service', *Social Science Quarterly*, 2018, 99(1): 283-295.

17. 'Gerrymandering and Malapportionment, Romanian Style – the 2008 Electoral System', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2017, 31(4): 683-703 (with Giugal, A, Johnston, R., Ciobanu, I. and Gavris, A.).
18. 'The Value of Legislative Versus Electoral Experience and Gender in Explaining Candidate List Placement Under Closed List PR', *Problems of Post-Communism*, 2017, 64(2): 65-78, (with Popescu, M.).
19. 'The vanishing lists: collecting and matching parliamentary candidate data in Romania', *ASK Research and Methods*, 2016, 25(1): 61-76.
20. 'Early Marriages Last Longer: Pre-electoral Coalitions and Government Survival in Europe', *Government and Opposition*, 2015, 50(2): 165-188.
21. 'Multiple Candidacies and the Role of the Lowest Electoral Tier for Individualized Campaigning', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2015, 29(4): 892-914.
22. 'Choosing your own boss: Variations of representation foci in mixed electoral systems', *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 2015, 21(4): 495-514 (with Enyedi, Z.).
23. 'Determinants of Legislative Voting Loyalty under Different Electoral Systems: Evidence from Romania', *International Political Science Review*, 2014, 35(5): 523-541, (with Gherghina, S.).
24. 'Parliamentary Sovereignty and International Intervention: Elite Attitudes in the First Central European Legislatures', *East European Politics*, 2014, 30(1): 21-33 (with Gherghina, S.).
25. 'Electoral Reform - Cui Bono? Attitudes of the Romanian MPs to the Electoral System Change', *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 2013, 19(3): 351-369 (with Gherghina, S., and Ștefan, L.).
26. 'Standing for Re-Election under Different Electoral Rules: Evidence from the Romanian Legislature', *Problems of Post-Communism*, 2013, 60(5): 34-44 (with Gherghina, S., and Ștefan, L.).
27. 'Taking the Short Route: Political Parties, Funding Regulations and State Resources in Romania', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2013, 27(1): 108-128 (with Gherghina, S.).
28. 'Comparative politics in Central and Eastern Europe: mapping publications over the past 20 years', *European Political Science*, 2013, 12(1): 127-145 (with Schneider, C., and Bochsler, D.).
29. 'When Voter Loyalty Fails: Party Performance and Corruption in Romania and Bulgaria', *European Political Science Review*, 2012, 4(1): 29-49 (with Gherghina, S.).
30. 'Keeping the Doors Closed: Leadership Selection in Post-Communist Romania', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2012, 26(3): 510-537 (with Gherghina, S.).
31. 'The First Casting Happens at Home: Role Formation in the European Parliamentary Elections', *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*, 2012, 12(2): 299-314 (with Gherghina, S.).
32. 'Does the EU Confidence Spill-Over Nationally? A Longitudinal Analysis of Political Trust in Central Europe', *Perspectives on European Politics and Societies*, 2012, 13(2): 226-245 (with Gherghina, S.).
33. 'We All Agree that We Disagree Too Much: Attitudes of the Romanian MPs towards Party Discipline', *East European Politics*, 2012, 28(2): 180-192 (with Gherghina, S., and Ștefan, L.).
34. 'Voting after Watching: The Strategic Role of Election Polls', *European Review*, 2012, 20(2): 210-221 (with Gherghina, S.).

35. 'Spinning the European Wheel: Benefits, Welfare and Identity Layers in the Old and New Member States', *Sociologie Românească*, 2011, 9(1): 64-79 (with Gherghina, S.).
36. 'Tribunes vs. Experts? An Analysis of the Romanian MEPs' Questions', *CEU Political Science Journal*, 2011, 6(1): 1-21 (with Dimulescu, V.).
37. 'Practice and Payment: Determinants of Candidate List Position in European Parliament Elections', *European Union Politics*, 2010, 11(4): 533-552 (with Gherghina, S.).
38. 'Promoting Ideology through Social Engineering Experiments: The Danube Black Sea Canal', *Transylvanian Review*, 2010, 19, Supplement No. 5: 259-276 (with Gherghina, S.).
39. 'Legislative Recruitment and Electoral System Change: The Case of Romania', *CEU Political Science Journal*, 2009, 4(2): 192-231 (with Ciobanu, I.).
40. 'Where is the difference? The Profiles of Romanian Candidates for the 2009 European Elections', *Romanian Journal of European Affairs*, 2009, 9(4): 79-99 (with Gherghina, S.).

#### Chapters in edited volumes

1. 'Candidate selection: still a secret garden?' in De Winter, L., Karlsen, R., and Schmitt, H. (eds.) *Parliamentary Candidates Between Voters and Parties. A Comparative Perspective*, Routledge, 2020, pp. 54-77. (with De Winter, L., and Vandeleene, A.).
2. 'Between Parties and Voters: Candidates' Role Conception in the Belgian Partitocracy' in Vandeleene, A., De Winter, L., Baudewyns, P. (eds.) *Candidates, Parties and Voters in the Belgian Partitocracy*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2019, pp. 313-339. (with Janssen, C., and De Winter, L.).
3. 'Exploring the Role of Decentralized Personalization for Legislative Behaviour and Constituency Representation' in Cross, W., Katz, R., and Pruyssers, S., (eds.) *The Personalization of Democratic Politics and the Challenge for Political Parties*, ECPR Press, 2018, pp. 143-161.
4. 'Romania: An Ambivalent Parliamentary Opposition' in De Giorgi, E., Ilonszki, G. (eds.) *Opposition Parties in European Legislatures: Responsiveness Without Responsibility?*, Routledge, 2018, pp. 191-210 (with Gherghina, S.).
5. 'Explaining Change in Party Leadership Selection Rules' in Cross, W., and Pilet, J.-B., (eds.) *The Politics of Party Leadership: A Cross-national Perspective*, Oxford University Press, 2015, pp. 31-49. (with Gauja, A., Gherghina, S., and Rodriguez Teruel, J.).
6. 'Let's not risk too much: The selection of party leaders in Romania', in Pilet, J.-B., and Cross, W. (eds.) *The selection of political party leaders in contemporary parliamentary democracies: A comparative study*, Routledge, 2014, pp. 141-155 (with Gherghina, S.).

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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#### Book reviews

1. Conti, N., Goncz, B., and Real-Dato, J. (eds.), National Political Elites, European Integration and the Eurozone Crisis. *Journal of Contemporary European Research*, 2019, 15(3): 319-322.
2. 'Semenova, E., Edinger, M., and Best, H. (eds.), Parliamentary Elites in Central and Eastern Europe: Recruitment and Representation'. *West European Politics*, 2015, 38(6): 1357-1358.
3. 'Kam, C. Party Discipline and Parliamentary Politics; Heller, W. and Mershon, C., (eds.) Political Parties and Legislative Party Switching', *Party Politics*, 2013, 19(2): 371-374.

## Working papers

1. 'How the European Parliament could improve its selection of committee chairs', 2019, *EUROPP – European Politics and Policy*, London School of Economics.
2. 'Programmatic Europeanization revisited: the role of EP election proximity, EU support and Eastern European patterns', *Working Paper Series 4/2018*, Center for Policy Studies, Central European University, (with Gross, M. & Adascalitei, D.).
3. 'Coalition governments which are formed in advance of elections have better survival prospects', 2014, *Democratic Audit Blog*, London School of Economics.
4. 'Physical Insecurity and Anti-Immigration Views in Western Europe', Centre for Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) Working Paper 98, 2012. (with Gherghina, S.)
5. 'State Resources and Pocket Money: Shortcuts for Party Funding in Romania', *The Legal Regulation of Political Parties*, Working Paper 13, 2011, (with Gherghina, S. & Casal Bertoa, F.).

## INVITED TALKS

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- 2020 Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford
- 2019 Oxford School of Global and Area Studies
- 2019 Nottingham Trent University
- 2019 Queen Mary University of London
- 2019 University of Southampton
- 2019 University of York
- 2017 Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
- 2017 Mannheim Center for European Social Research
- 2016 University of Oslo
- 2016 Oxford Brookes University
- 2016 Nottingham University

## PRIZES AND AWARDS

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- 2021: Exploratory Research Grant, Romanian Ministry of Education (€245,775)
- 2018: Post-doctoral grant, Romanian Ministry of Education (€53,781), declined
- 2018: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Seal of Excellence, European Commission
- 2017: MOVE-IN Louvain Post-Doctoral Fellowship, UCLouvain (€95,356)
- 2015: Academic Award for Advanced Doctoral Students, CEU Budapest
- 2010-2014: Full fellowship: PhD in Political Science, CEU Budapest
- 2012: Erasmus scholarship, Leiden University
- 2010: Grant for research stay at GESIS EUROLAB Cologne
- 2008 - 2010: Full fellowship: MA in Political Science, CEU Budapest.
- 2006-2008: Sur-Place Study Scholarship from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

## SERVICE

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### *Reviewer*

West European Politics, European Politics and Society, Political Studies Review, Politics of the Low Countries, Europe-Asia Studies, Electoral Studies, Political Research Quarterly, Acta Politica, European Journal of Political Economy, Political Science, Journal of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies, Politics & Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Party Politics, Democratization, Government and Opposition, International Political Science Review, European Political Science Review, European Union Politics, Journal of Common Market Studies, Journal of Elections, Public Opinion & Parties, Political Research Exchange, Politics, Representation, Local Government Studies, East European Politics, German Politics, Romanian Journal of Political Science, East European Quarterly, Romanian Journal of Society and Politics. Reviewer profile on Publons

### *Grant*

#### *Reviewer*

National Science Centre, Poland.

## SKILLS

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|------------------|---|
| <i>Languages</i> | Romanian (mother tongue)<br>English (fluent)<br>French (intermediate) |
| <i>Software</i>  | STATA, Qualtrics, LaTeX   |