

Mihail Chiru

Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL DETAILS

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

EDUCATION

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

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'

IMPACT - COMMISSIONED REPORTS

2023 'Parliamentary oversight of governments' response to COVID-19', report commissioned by the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) for Members and staff of the European Parliament. Presented on 31.01.2023 at a hearing of the European Parliament's Special Committee on the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS

2013; 2017, 2021 Co-investigator (with Dr. Marina Popescu) of the Romanian Candidate Study I, II and III – survey of the politicians running at the 2012, 2016 and 2020 national parliamentary elections, part of *The Comparative Candidates Survey (CCS)*.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 (January-March) seminars and tutorials for *European Governance*, core course for the MPhil in European Politics and Society, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford; tutorials on *Introduction to Practice of Politics*, and *Politics in Europe* for undergraduate students;
- 2023 (October-December) lectures for the undergraduate courses *Politics in Europe* and *Politics of EU*, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford; tutorials on *Comparative Government* for Christ Church College undergraduate students; lectures and seminars for *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;
- 2023 (January-March) seminars and tutorials for *European Governance*, core course for the MPhil in European Politics and Society, Department of Politics and International

Relations, University of Oxford; tutorials on *Introduction to Practice of Politics, Comparative Government*, and *Politics in Europe* for undergraduate students;

- 2022 (October-December) tutorials and classes on *Introduction to Practice of Politics* and *Political Sociology* for Christ Church College undergraduate students; lectures for the undergraduate courses *Politics in Europe* and *Politics of EU*, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford;
- 2022 (August) convener of the course *Europe in Crisis? Key Transformations in European Democracies and the European Union*, for the International Politics Summer School, Department for Continuing Education, University of Oxford.
- 2022 (January-March) lectures, seminars and tutorials for *European Governance*, core course for the MPhil in European Politics and Society, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford; tutorials on *Introduction to Practice of Politics* and *Political Sociology* for Christ Church College undergraduate students;
- 2021 (October-December) tutorials and classes on *Introduction to Practice of Politics* and *Comparative Government* for Christ Church College undergraduate students; lectures for the undergraduate courses *Politics in Europe*, *Comparative Government* and *Politics of EU*, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Oxford;
- 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

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Articles in international peer review journals

1. 'The electoral returns of party-sponsored citizen legislative initiatives', *Journal of Politics*, forthcoming (with Giugal, A, Gutoiu, G., Secareanu, G.)
2. 'Clientelism, party organization and intra-party democracy', *Comparative Political Studies*, forthcoming

3. 'Supranational Responses to Democratic Backsliding: Norm Contestation and Discursive Polarisation in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Public Policy*, First View, doi.org/10.1080/13501763.2024.2320270 (with Wunsch, N.).
4. 'Legislative performance and the electoral connection in European Parliament elections', *European Journal of Political Research*, 2024, 63(2): 664-681.
5. 'Seniority and ideological proximity? A longitudinal analysis of the appointment of party group coordinators in the European Parliament', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 2024, 62(1): 127-141.
6. 'The resilience of parliamentary oversight during the COVID-19 pandemic', *West European Politics*, 2024, 47(2): 408-425.
7. 'Democratic backsliding as a catalyst for polity-based contestation? Populist radical right cooperation in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 2023, 30(1): 64-83 (with Wunsch, N.).
8. 'The Allocation of Committee Chairs and the Oversight of Coalition Cabinets in Belgium', *Government and Opposition*, 2023, 58(1): 129-144 (with De Winter, L.).
9. 'Time is on my side? The temporal proximity between elections and parties' salience strategies', *European Political Science Review*, 2022, 14(4): 482-497 (with Gross, M.).
10. 'Introducing COMEPELDA: Comprehensive European Parliament Electoral Data covering MEPs, parties and candidates', *European Union Politics*, 2022, 23(2): 351-371 (with Däubler, T. and Hermansen, S.).
11. 'Who wants technocrats? A comparative study of citizen attitudes in nine young and consolidated democracies', *British Journal of Politics and International Relations*, 2022, 24(1): 95-112 (with Enyedi, Z., shortlisted for the BJPIR John Peterson Best Paper Prize).
12. 'Electoral incentives for territorial representation in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Integration*, 2022, 44(2): 277-298.
13. '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.).
14. 'Does Electoral Reform Change MPs' Behavior? Evidence from Romania', *Political Studies Review*, 2021, 19(3): 355-375.
15. 'The Electoral Connection Revisited: Introduction to the Special Issue', *Political Studies Review*, 2021, 19(3): 327-333 (with Poyet, C.).
16. 'Loyal soldiers or seasoned leaders? The selection of committee chairs in the European Parliament', *Journal of European Public Policy*, 2020, 27(4): 612-629.
17. '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.).
18. '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.).
19. 'Liberty - security dilemmas and party cohesion in the European Parliament', *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 2019, 57(5): 921-938, (with Stoian, V.).
20. 'Low-cost policy specialization, district characteristics and gender. Patterns of committee assignment in Romania', *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 2019, 25(3): 375-393.
21. 'Committee Chair Selection Under High Informational and Organizational Constraints', *Party Politics*, 2019, 25(4): 547-558, (with Gherghina, S.).

22. 'The Electoral Value Of Constituency Oriented Parliamentary Questions in Hungary and Romania', *Parliamentary Affairs*, 2018, 71(4): 950-969.
23. 'Cheap Talk or Proper Signaling? Styles of Campaigning and Engagement in Constituency Service', *Social Science Quarterly*, 2018, 99(1): 283-295.
24. '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.).
25. '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.).
26. 'Early Marriages Last Longer: Pre-electoral Coalitions and Government Survival in Europe', *Government and Opposition*, 2015, 50(2): 165-188.
27. 'Multiple Candidacies and the Role of the Lowest Electoral Tier for Individualized Campaigning', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2015, 29(4): 892-914.
28. '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.).
29. 'Determinants of Legislative Voting Loyalty under Different Electoral Systems: Evidence from Romania', *International Political Science Review*, 2014, 35(5): 523-541, (with Gherghina, S.).
30. 'Parliamentary Sovereignty and International Intervention: Elite Attitudes in the First Central European Legislatures', *East European Politics*, 2014, 30(1): 21-33 (with Gherghina, S.).
31. '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.).
32. '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.).
33. '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.).
34. '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.).
35. 'When Voter Loyalty Fails: Party Performance and Corruption in Romania and Bulgaria', *European Political Science Review*, 2012, 4(1): 29-49 (with Gherghina, S.).
36. 'Keeping the Doors Closed: Leadership Selection in Post-Communist Romania', *East European Politics and Societies*, 2012, 26(3): 510-537 (with Gherghina, S.).
37. '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.).
38. '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.).
39. 'Voting after Watching: The Strategic Role of Election Polls', *European Review*, 2012, 20(2): 210-221 (with Gherghina, S.).
40. 'Practice and Payment: Determinants of Candidate List Position in European Parliament Elections', *European Union Politics*, 2010, 11(4): 533-552 (with Gherghina, S.).

41. 'Legislative Recruitment and Electoral System Change: The Case of Romania', *CEU Political Science Journal*, 2009, 4(2): 192-231 (with Ciobanu, I.).

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 Pruysers, 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.).

Working papers

1. 'Do Public Attitudes on Gender Equality Affect Candidate Selection in PR Systems? Evidence from European Parliament Elections', revise and resubmit at *European Union Politics* (with Däubler, T., and Lühiste, M.)
2. 'Does Ideology Trump Geography? Political Divides and MEP Responses to Democratic Backsliding' (with Wunsch, N.).
3. 'Feel the Heat. Climate-related hazards and attention to climate policy in the European Parliament' (with Buzogány, A.).
4. 'A deluge of climate skepticism? Framing competition in Western European parliaments following the 2021 floods' (with Wyss, R.).

INVITED TALKS

- 2023 University of Liverpool
- 2022 Yale University
- 2022 University of Reading
- 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

- 2023: Achieving Impact Award, Department of Politics and International Relations, Oxford.
- 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

Reviewer

Comparative Political Studies, Research & Politics, Political Studies, European Journal of Political Research, Political Behavior, British Journal of Political Science, Journal of European Public Policy, Journal of European Integration, The Journal of Legislative Studies, Economics & Politics, Swiss Political Science Review, Political Science Quarterly, Politics and Governance, West European Politics, Social Movement Studies, New Perspectives: Interdisciplinary Journal of Central & East European Politics and International Relations, European Politics and Society, Contemporary Politics, Problems of Post-Communism, Political Studies Review, Communist and Post-Communist Studies, Cogent Social Sciences, 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, Journal of European Integration, Political Research Exchange, Politics, Representation, Local Government Studies, East European Politics, Politische Vierteljahresschrift, German Politics, Romanian Journal of Political Science, East European Quarterly, Romanian Journal of Society and Politics. Reviewer profile on Web of Science

Grant

Reviewer

Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (FNRS), call on Fellowships for PhD students (2024)

European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency, for the Programme 'Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values' (CERV) (2023)
National Science Centre, Poland (2020)

SKILLS

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