U.S.-Russia Security Analysis Summer Workshop
Call for Papers

The U.S.-Russia Security Analysis Summer Workshop at Columbia University’s Harriman Institute is pleased to announce a competitive opportunity for Ph.D. students, early-career scholars (untenured), and analysts from both the United States and Russia to participate in a week long summer workshop on U.S.-Russia security and defense issues. The workshop is scheduled for June 22 through June 30, 2019 to be split between New York and Washington, DC.

The Summer Workshop is motivated by the pressing need to develop a shared understanding about security issues. Even as both the United States and Russia have deep concerns about each other’s intentions – dating back years and even decades – they still must engage on numerous security and defense issues, including the Iranian nuclear program, conflict and conflict resolution in Ukraine and Syria, the ever-increasing sanctions regime, understanding the scope of multinational organizations and alliances, China’s military rise and global Belt & Road Initiative, and extraterritorial violations of sovereignty. A list of additional suggested topics can be found below.

Those selected as conference participants will write a policy memo of approximately 2,000 words that will be presented orally to the workshop participants ahead of publication on the Harriman Institute website and in other appropriate online venues. While memos should be theoretically-driven, the Summer Workshop is looking to generate a shared set of defense and security analytic tools and perspectives for both Russian and American scholars to apply to international security issues. Accordingly, the Summer Workshop will feature interactive presentations and lectures by American and Russian academics, industry professionals, and former policymakers on general issues of defense and security analysis. Experts will also present on specific defense and security policy issues, processes, and problems in both Russia and the United States, such as the bureaucratic structure of decision making, the military and intelligence apparatus, the status of alliances, counterterrorism, advances in information operations and information confrontation, and other topics. All speakers will be listed on the Summer Workshop website as they are confirmed.

The Summer Workshop aims to foster lasting connections between current and future generations of Russian and American defense and security scholars. The policy memo presentations of Workshop participants, interactions between speakers and Workshop participants, and additional social gatherings all supplement the formal instruction to provide a basis for a common network of American and Russian defense and security scholars.

We are particularly interested in encouraging security studies scholars to incorporate U.S.-Russia security and defense issues into their research agendas. The competition is open to Ph.D. students, early-career scholars (untenured), and analysts across the social sciences who specialize in any aspect of international relations or foreign or security policy, governance, defense, or economics or political economy with applications to security and defense issues. Participants from either country are not required to be specialists in the other country; indeed submissions from different fields are encouraged.

The Summer Workshop aims to select twenty Ph.D. students, early-career scholars (untenured), and analysts split between both countries. The Harriman Institute will pay all travel-related costs,
meals, and visa expenses (as applicable) for the trip. Participants may extend their visits if they wish but will be responsible for additional lodging and living expenses. Participants should plan on arriving Saturday, June 22 and departing on Sunday, June 30, 2019. Upon completion of an approved (i.e. revised memo) participants will also be paid an honorarium of $500.

To apply, please send to Ryan Kreider (Harriman Assistant Director, rk2780@columbia.edu) by November 30, 2018:

- Current CV
- Brief (no longer than one page) abstract of the memo or project description
- Brief (no longer than one page) recommendation letter

Applicants will be notified about their status by December 14. Selected participants will be asked immediately for materials to begin the process of obtaining a visa. Support for this conference is provided in part by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

**Additional Suggested Topics**

- Competing international orders: unipolarity vs. multipolarity.
- International and regional hierarchies.
- Strategic competition and coordination in Europe, Middle East, and Central Asia.
- Competing international organizations: NATO vs. CSTO; EU vs. EEU.
- Effectiveness or lack thereof in the international sanctions regime against Russia and Russian political, economic, and security responses.
- Foreign policy successes and failures of the Trump Administration towards Russia.
- Foreign policy successes and failures of Putin Administration towards the U.S. since 2000 and since 2016.
- Common issues of international information security and competitive approaches to disinformation and information confrontation.
- The psychological models of foreign policy making: comparing Russia and the U.S.
- Parliamentary sources of foreign policy preferences in Russia (Duma) and the U.S. (Congress).
- Developments in the wars in Ukraine and Syria.
- Technology transfers to allied and proxy forces.
- Reforms and developments in military spending and procurement processes.
- Uses and limitations of private military companies in war zones and as shadow paramilitary organizations.
- The impact of the U.S.-Russia-China strategic triangle on the development of international law, norms and global governance.
- Russian and U.S. reactions and emerging policy towards China’s Belt and Road initiative
- Assessing Russia’s pivot to Asia in the aftermath of the Ukraine crisis.
- The prospects of Russia-U.S.-China cooperation on the North Korean conflict.
- New perspectives and scholarship on global U.S.-Russia-China strategic competition and Cold War interactions around the world (Africa, Middle East, Latin America).